

Publications of the Week

Protein Thermal Sensing Regulates Physiological Amyloid Aggregation

First Author: Dane Marijan (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Timothy Audas
Nature Communications | Simon Fraser University



One way that eukaryotic cells react to harsh stimuli is by forming physiological, RNA-seeded subnuclear condensates, termed amyloid bodies (A-bodies). The molecular constituents of A-bodies induced by different stressors vary significantly. Here, researchers identify critical structural elements that regulate heat shock-specific amyloid aggregation. [Abstract](#)

A Pilot Study to Investigate the Clinically Predictive Values of Copy Number Variations Detected by Next-Generation Sequencing of Cell-Free Deoxyribonucleic Acid in Spent Culture Media

First and Senior Author: Gary Nakhuda (*pictured*)
Fertility and Sterility | Olive Fertility Centre



Researchers investigated the positive predictive value and false positive risk of copy number variations (CNV's) detected in cell free DNA from spent culture media for nonviable or aneuploid embryos. The results indicated that embryos associated with other CNVs had sustained implantation rates similar to those with no abnormalities detected. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

UBC Medicine Community Members Honoured with 2024 AFMC Awards

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Two members of UBC's Faculty of Medicine community have been honoured with 2024 Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) Awards for their leadership, excellence, and achievements in academic medicine. The two awardees are Dr. Vincent Wong (*pictured*), an Assistant Clinical Professor, and Dr. Hadal El-Hadi, a second-year resident. [Read More](#)

CTN CIHR Fall 2023 Project Grant Competition Results Announcement

Canadian HIV Trials Network (CTN)



The results of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Fall 2023 Project Grant Competition have been announced. CTN Investigators are leading thirteen of the projects funded in this round, including seven projects under this competition's Priority Announcement. Among this year's winners is Dr. Julie Lajoie (*pictured*), who studies different immune cells to understand and identify markers of natural HPV clearance. [Read More](#)

Drs. Leonard Foster and Sabrina Leslie Awarded CFI Innovation Fund Grants

UBC Michael Smith Laboratories



Drs. Leonard Foster (*pictured, left*) and Sabrina Leslie (*right*) are among ten UBC researchers who have been awarded grants through the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Innovation Fund. The funding awarded to Drs. Foster and Leslie will allow them to acquire new equipment including mass spectrometers, analytical equipment, and higher-resolution imaging technology. [Read More](#)

New CRCs Focus on Human Health

UBC Science



Five new Canada Research Chairs (CRC) have been appointed from UBC Science, with foci that span gene therapies, air pollution policy, natural product derivatives, applying new computational approaches to the experimental sciences, and microbiota health. The new Chairs include Drs. Anna Blakney (*pictured, left*) and Amanda Giang (*right*). [Read More](#)

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Local News

Embracing Opportunities: A Career Reflection with Beatriz Rodriguez of STEMCELL Technologies

Society for Canadian Women in Science & Technology (SCWIST)



Dedicated to empowering scientists worldwide, STEMCELL Technologies provides innovative tools and technologies to advance research and discovery across various fields, including cell biology, immunology, neuroscience, and regenerative medicine. SCWIST sat down with Beatriz Rodriguez, Director of Manufacturing, ISO Products at STEMCELL to learn about her career journey in STEM. [Read More](#)

"From Mentee to Mentor: How to Help Trainees Thrive" Featuring Dr. Nika Shakiba

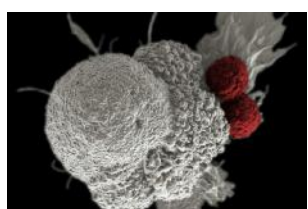
Lab Coats & Life™ Podcast



In this episode of the Lab Coats & Life Podcast, Drs. Nicole Quinn and Daylon James chat with Vancouver's Dr. Nika Shakiba (*pictured*), Allen Distinguished Investigator and Assistant Professor at the School for Biomedical Engineering at the UBC. Nika and the hosts talk about how the landscape of mentorship is changing, the importance of teaching scientific storytelling, and ways to build resilience. [Read More](#)

Life-Saving Cancer Therapy Now Being Provided in British Columbia

Life Science BC



Cancer patients affected by certain advanced leukemias and lymphomas now have better access to Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell (CAR-T) therapy closer to home, as the therapy becomes available in the province. This is a partnership between the Province and BC Cancer, Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services, Vancouver General Hospital, and BC Children's Hospital. [Read More](#)

Vancouver Readies for Its Position as a Global Pharma Capital as BC's Biotech Boom Takes Off

The Globe and Mail



Vancouver's life sciences scene dates to the first biotech boom in the early 1980s. A group of bold companies are bent on establishing Vancouver, and in turn Canada, as a major player in the US\$1.5-trillion pharmaceutical industry, spurring our long-standing reputation as a country of top-notch medical researchers whose breakthroughs get commercialized elsewhere. [Read More](#)

Introducing Dr. Teresa Tsang, New Executive Director at VCHRI

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)



In January 2024, Dr. Teresa Tsang (*pictured*) began her five-year term as Executive Director of VCHRI. Dr. Tsang has a track record of impactful leadership, both clinical and academic. She is a renowned clinician-scientist and has a deep understanding of the evolving needs of our health care system, as well as the challenges facing our research community. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

March 19 12:00 pm	Propels: From Lab to Industry: Navigating the Transition Online
March 20 1:00 PM	Using One Health to Study Highly Pathogenic Coronaviruses: Interactions with Mammals and Development of Countermeasures Life Sciences Centre & Online
March 21 8:00 am	BIG Research Day Life Sciences Institute
March 21 6:00 pm	Science World After Dark Science World
March 26 12:30 PM	CGSHE Trainee Research Symposium: Spring 2024 SFU & Online

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Molecular Biology/Biotechnology Scientist**
BryoSphere Biotechnologies
- Science Facilitator Contract**
Science World
- Science Teaching and Learning Postdoctoral Fellow**
UBC
- Associate, Biomaterials**
Aspect Biosystems
- Senior Research Associate**
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