



Publications of the Week

Oncogenic ETS Fusions Promote DNA Damage and Proinflammatory Responses via Pericentromeric RNAs in Extracellular Vesicles

First Author: Peter Ruzanov | Senior Author: Poul Sorensen *(pictured)*
Journal of Clinical Investigation | BC Cancer Research Centre and the Vancouver Prostate Centre



Aberrant expression of ETS transcription factors characterizes numerous human malignancies. Here, researchers show that aberrantly expressed ETS proteins derepress pericentromeric heterochromatin, yielding pathogenic RNAs which transmit genotoxic stress and inflammation to local and distant sites. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Conclusive Demonstration of Iatrogenic Alzheimer’s Disease Transmission in a Model of Stem Cell Transplantation

First Author: Chaahat Singh *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Wilfred Jefferies
Stem Cell Reports | The Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health, the Vancouver Prostate Centre, Centre for Blood Research, and UBC



These findings underscore the contribution of β -amyloid burden originating outside of the central nervous system to AD pathogenesis within the brain. Researchers conclude that stem cell transplantation from donors harbouring a pathogenic mutant allele can effectively transfer central nervous system diseases to healthy recipients, mirroring the pathogenesis observed in the donor. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Rare Disease Network for Children Receives \$20 Million Federal Investment

UBC Faculty of Medicine



UBC Faculty of Medicine researchers are part of a new national network that recently received \$20 million in federal funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Rare Disease Research Initiative. Dr. Stuart Turvey *(pictured)* is one of five UBC researchers involved in the creation of the RareKids-CAN: Pediatric Rare Disease Clinical Trials and Treatment Network. [Read More](#)

UBC Faculty and Learners Recognized by Medical Alumni Association

UBC Faculty of Medicine



The UBC Medical Alumni Association has announced this year’s award recipients who will be recognized at the UBC Medical Alumni Celebration & Awards. Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell *(pictured)* and Dr. Adrian Yee have received the Honorary Medical Alumni Award. The Student Leadership Award has been given to Valerie Mok and Alvin Qiu. [Read More](#)

Faculty of Medicine Researchers Awarded 2024 BCKDF Funding for Health Research

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Seven Faculty of Medicine researchers have been awarded funding through the BC Knowledge Development Fund (BCKDF) for their work on topics including rare cancers, obesity and diabetes therapeutics, and genome sequencing and analysis. The seven awardees are Drs. François Bénard, Leonard Foster, James Johnson, Steven Jones, Alexander Rauscher, Natalie Strynadka, and Janice Eng *(pictured)*. [Read More](#)

2023/24 Major External and Government-Funded Award Recipients

SFU Graduate Studies



SFU is celebrating all of their 2023-2024 major award winners. Among the numerous award winners is Shabnam Molan *(pictured)*, an Applied and Computational Mathematics Master student in the Faculty of Science. Molan’s research focuses on infectious disease modelling, statistical modelling, and pandemic preparedness. They were awarded the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Master’s Award. [Read More](#)

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Local News

New Research Tools Can Shed Light on an Understudied Organ Essential to Our Lives

BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute



The first three months are key for the health of the fetus, but we don’t know much about what the cells are doing and the role they play. In a paper recently published in *Developmental Cell*, Dr. Alexander Beristain’s *(pictured)* team investigated two state-of-the-art stem cell-based tools that model a human placenta in the first trimester of a pregnancy. [Read More](#)

UBC Program Strengthening STEM Pathways for Indigenous Youth

UBC News



The seed2STEM program is designed to help improve representation of Indigenous students in the academic disciplines of STEM. The program was created by the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD). Shana George *(pictured, left)* participated in the seed2STEM program as a high school student in 2019. She is now in her second year studying biology at UBC Vancouver. [Read More](#)

BC Medical Isotope ‘Trailblazer’ ARTMS Fetches US\$82M in Telix Acquisition

Business in Vancouver



A west coast life sciences firm known for whipping up medical isotopes has whipped up a sizeable asking price for its sale. Australia’s Telix Pharmaceuticals Ltd. announced the close of an US\$82-million acquisition deal for Burnaby-based ARTMS Incorporated. ARTMS specializes in technology that produces the technetium-99m medical isotope. [Read More](#)

BC Government Investment Funds Expansion of MBIM Undergrad Program

UBC Microbiology and Immunology



UBC hosted the Honourable Lisa Beare *(pictured, left)* (BC’s Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills) to highlight the expansion of the undergraduate Microbiology and Immunology program in the Biological Sciences building. The expansion of the undergraduate program was made possible by the B.C. Government Tech seat funding. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Wall Legacy Fund Supports Graduate Student Research

UBC Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies



UBC has launched the inaugural competition for the Wall Fellowships and Wall Research Awards. These awards are valued at approximately \$4 million annually, and have been made possible by the groundbreaking \$100 million Peter Wall Legacy Fund, which was established through generous and recently revitalized donations from Dr. Peter Wall, dating back to 1991. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- April 18**
7:00 AM
Norman Bethune Symposium
UBC Robson Square
- April 25**
9:00 AM
Digital Health Conference
Fairmont Pacific Rim
- May 5**
1:30 PM
A Celebration of Life for Dr. Connie Eaves
Chan Centre
- May 8**
8:00 AM
Living Innovations: BC’s Path to Biological Engineering
Online
- May 16**
8:00 AM
SynBio6.0
AMS Student Nest

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Programmer, Bioinformatics Databases**
Canada’s Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Science Education Specialist**
UBC
- Senior/Principal Scientist, Preclinical Pharmacology**
Abdera Therapeutics
- Scientist / Senior Scientist, RNA**
NanoVation Therapeutics
- Laboratory Coordinator**
bioLytical Laboratories

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