

Publications of the Week

Direct Measurement of Free Glucocorticoids in Small Volumes of Mouse and Rat Serum Using Ultrafiltration and Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry

First Author: Anna Mazurenko | Senior Author: Kiran Soma *(pictured)*
PLOS ONE | UBC



Glucocorticoids are critical steroid hormones secreted from the adrenal glands. In mice and rats, over 90% of circulating corticosterone is bound to proteins such as corticosteroid-binding globulin and albumin, and the rest is unbound (free). Here, researchers developed a method to directly measure free glucocorticoids in a small volume of rodent serum using ultrafiltration and liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry. [Abstract](#)

Clonal Hematopoiesis After 177Lu-PSMA-617 Radioligand Therapy in Prostate Cancer

First Author: Aslı Munzur *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Alexander Wyatt
Clinical Cancer Research | BC Cancer, Vancouver Prostate Centre, and UBC



Clonal hematopoiesis (CH) is a precursor state linked to risk of hematological neoplasms, and may be exacerbated by radiation exposure. Here, researchers aimed to compare CH prevalence after the new radioligand therapy 177Lu-PSMA-617 versus the alternative standard-of-care cabazitaxel chemotherapy in metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

SFU Secures \$4.4M to Drive Innovation and Transform Global Health Outcomes

SFU News



SFU researchers have received over \$4.4 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) through its Project Grant: Fall 2025 program to advance health research and health outcomes. Among the awardees are Drs. Kora DeBeck, Mirza Faisal Beg, Faranak Farzan, and Randy McIntosh *(pictured, left to right)*. With support from CIHR, SFU researchers continue to innovate and deliver solutions that make a real impact. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Fluids, Rest, and a Broad-Spectrum Antiviral

UBC Science



A team of researchers from Dr. François Jean's *(pictured)* lab has discovered two chemical compounds with potent and wide-ranging antiviral activity that protect mice from influenza A infection. Their study provides a valuable starting point for developing new drugs to treat not only influenza but a larger family of viruses that work via the same mechanism. [Read More](#)

Understanding Cholesterol's Role in Muscular Dystrophy

Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI)



Zeren Sun *(pictured)* is a PhD candidate working with Dr. Pascal Bernatchez at HLI. His research focuses on how imbalances in cholesterol levels, both in the blood and within muscle cells, could contribute to the worsening of muscular dystrophy. Sun shared how disruptions in cholesterol can interfere with how muscles process fats, leading to muscle damage. [Read More](#)

Genome BC and UBC Launch Biomining Innovation Partnership to Transform Mining Practices

Genome BC



A new partnership between Genome BC and the UBC Bradshaw Research Institute for Minerals and Mining is set to grow BC's local expertise in biomining while demonstrating how biological tools can solve industry challenges. Announced by Tony Brooks *(pictured, left)* and John Steen *(right)*, this strategic collaboration aims to use microorganisms to extract metals from mineral ores and waste streams. [Read More](#)

Celebrating Women and Girls in Science: Alumni Catch-Up with Dr. Priye Iworima

UBC Michael Smith Laboratories (MSL)



Dr. Priye Iworima *(pictured)* is a Michael Smith Laboratories alum from the lab of Dr. Jamie Piret. She is now working in the biotechnology industry where she supports the advancement of cell-based therapies to address a variety of human health challenges. On International Day of Women and Girls in Science, MSL took the opportunity to catch up with Dr. Iworima to learn more about her research journey. [Read More](#)

SFU Women Research Chairs Share What It Takes to Close the Gender Gap in Science

SFU News



In recognition of International Day of Women and Girls in Science on February 11, 2026, SFU spoke to two Canada Research Chairs in the Faculty of Science about their journeys to become leading science researchers at SFU, and the lessons they have learned along the way. Drs. Lorena Braid *(pictured)* and Aliene MacPherson share the focus of their current research as well as advice to young scientists. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Wall Awards for Graduate Students

UBC Graduate School



UBC has announced the launch of the third annual competition for the Wall Fellowships and Wall Research Awards. These awards represent an investment of approximately \$4 million annually, making this one of the largest internal award programs at any university in North America. Faculty members and graduate students are eligible to apply before the deadline on March 31, 2026. [Read More](#)

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📅 Upcoming Events in Vancouver

February 25
8:00 AM

Annual Access to Innovation: Discovery to Impact: Life Sciences in Action

Vancouver Convention Centre West

February 26
8:00 AM

Annual Access to Innovation: Empowering Innovation, Transforming Health, Shaping Tomorrow

Vancouver Convention Centre West

February 26
4:00 PM

BioConnect BC (D.R.I.N.K.S. Vancouver)

BAESIDE @ Mahonys False Creek

March 6
9:00 AM

The Virtual Brain Node: Personalized Simulations for Cognitive Neuroscience

JW Marriott Parq Hotel

April 26
8:00 AM

2026 PHC Health Ethics Conference

SFU Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue

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BC Cancer

Director, Research Operations, BioProducts Institute

UBC

Laboratory Assistant

ALS

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