

Publications of the Week

A Long Noncoding RNA–Based Classifier for Identifying More Aggressive Low-Grade Ta Bladder Cancer with Elevated FGFR3 Activity

First Author: Tran Anh Thu Phung | Senior Author: Ewan Gibb *(pictured)*
European Urology Oncology |



Low-grade, stage Ta (TaLG) non–muscle-invasive bladder cancer is generally nonaggressive; yet, some patients experience recurrence or progression. Researchers previously identified long noncoding RNA cluster 2 (LC2) as an aggressive TaLG subgroup via consensus clustering, which required a cohort-level analysis. Here, researchers developed a single-sample transcriptome classifier for patient-level LC2 identification. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Faculty of Medicine Researchers Honoured with UBC’s 2025 Faculty Research Awards

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Four Faculty of Medicine researchers—Drs. Anne Gadermann *(pictured)*, Jackie Whittaker, Kristin Campbell, and Carl de Boer—have been honoured with UBC’s 2025 Faculty Research Awards. The awards recognize the research excellence and scholarly achievements of faculty from across all disciplines, ranging from medicine and the applied sciences to the social sciences and humanities.

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Marine Virologist, Astrophysicist Earn UBC’s Top Research Prizes

UBC Science



Two of the university’s premier research prizes were awarded to UBC Science faculty members, with Dr. Curtis Suttle *(pictured, left)* receiving the Jacob Biely award, and Dr. Jess McIver *(right)* earning UBC’s Charles A. McDowell award. Dr. Suttle was the first researcher to recognize the abundance of viruses in seawater and elucidated their role as major agents of mortality and drivers of global biogeochemical cycles. [Read More](#)

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Local News

First-in-World BC Patient Successfully Treated for Rare Immune Disease

BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute (BCCH)



A new paper published in *New England Journal of Medicine* details how an 18-year-old patient being treated at BCCH for a rare disease called chronic granulomatous disease became the first person ever to receive and be cured by a gene modification treatment known as “Prime Editing.” Dr. Stuart Turvey *(pictured)*, an investigator and clinician at BC Children’s Hospital, oversaw the treatment.

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Empowering the Future: SBME Scholars Mentoring Girls in STEM

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering (SBME)



Every year on International Women’s Day, SBME celebrates the achievements, resilience, and impact of women around the world. They honour this day by spotlighting members of their community—graduate students, undergraduate students, and PhD candidates—who are mentoring girls in STEM. This includes mentors like Afsoon Mombeini *(pictured)*. [Read More](#)

SFU Study Sheds Light on Clotting Risks for Female Astronauts

SFU News



Just a few days in simulated microgravity can subtly change the way women’s blood clots, sparking bigger questions about health monitoring protocols for astronauts who can spend six months or more in orbit, say SFU researchers. “In this microgravity environment, we found the female participants took longer for their blood to start clotting,” says Dr. Andrew Blaber *(pictured)*. [Read More](#)

Celebrating Changemaking Women in the Faculty of Medicine

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Since the doors of the UBC Faculty of Medicine first opened in 1950, many incredible women have shaped their evolution as a world-class institution and contributed in countless ways to the health of communities in BC, Canada, and throughout the globe. Learn about and celebrate some of the incredible women researchers, clinicians, and educators of our past, present, and future. [Read More](#)

Yeast Can Develop the Next Generation of Speciality Chemicals

Renaissance BioScience



What makes yeast a compelling vessel for producing speciality chemicals? It is familiar to regulators, robust, cost-effective, and easy to manipulate genetically, among a myriad of other reasons. The Vancouver-based biotech Renaissance BioScience is developing a yeast technology platform for three high-value applications: nature-identical aroma and fragrance ingredients, peptides with broad applications, and yeast-based RNA interference biopesticides. [Read More](#)

Resting Brain Activity Reveals Hidden “Signature” of Concussion

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Concussion is common among adolescents, yet clinicians still lack objective, brain-based tools to detect and monitor injury. Diagnosis still relies heavily on symptoms, which can be subjective and inconsistent. In a new study published in *Scientific Reports*, first author Sahar Sattari, a PhD student under the supervision of Dr. Naznin Virji-Babul *(pictured)*, investigated whether a concussion leaves a measurable “signature” in the resting brain. [Read More](#)

UBC Researchers Advancing Next-Generation Sports Monitoring Through Collaborative Research Funding From Samsung Electronics Canada

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering



Researchers at UBC are advancing a transformative new approach to sports and human performance monitoring through collaborative research funded by Samsung Electronics Canada. Drs. Babak Shadgan *(pictured, right)* and Ali Bashashati *(left)* aim to develop novel wearable sensing systems and machine-learning algorithms capable of continuously and non-invasively monitoring muscle metabolic function and physiological performance during exercise. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

March 25 6:30 PM	Science in the Keg Brewing August
March 26 4:00 PM	BioConnect BC (D.R.I.N.K.S. Vancouver) BAESIDE @ Mahonys False Creek
April 26 8:00 AM	2026 PHC Health Ethics Conference SFU Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue
May 11 8:30 AM	2026 BCRegMed 9th Annual Symposium AMS Student Nest
July 10 8:00 AM	Balance and Falls Research Center Inaugural Symposium Balance and Falls Research Center

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