

Publications of the Week

Noncanonical Functions of UGT2B17 Promote Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer Progression

First Author: Tingting Feng and Ning Xie | Senior Author: Xuesen Dong *(pictured)*
The Journal of Clinical Investigation | The Vancouver Prostate Centre, Vancouver General Hospital, and UBC



Androgen deprivation therapy is the primary treatment for advanced prostate tumours. While initially effective, tumour progression to the therapy-resistant stage is inevitable. Paradoxically, UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 2 member B17 (UGT2B17) is upregulated in therapy-resistant tumours. Here, researchers demonstrate that UGT2B17 possesses multiple oncogenic functions independent of androgen catabolism. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Researchers Contribute to Three Major Health Innovation Projects

UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences



Multiple members of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UBC have been awarded funding from the BC Ministry of Health for three interdisciplinary research projects addressing provincial health priorities: AI in healthcare delivery, climate health communication, and improving access to pharmacy-based care for people with opioid use disorder. Nazafarin Esfandiari *(pictured)* is one of the awardees. [Read More](#)

2025/26 Killam Teaching Awards Recognize UBC Applied Science Faculty and Grad Students

UBC Engineering



UBC Applied Science is well-represented among the winners of the 2025/26 Killam Teaching Prize and Killam Graduate Teaching Assistant Award. The recipients of the Killam Teaching Prize are nominated by students, colleagues, and alumni in recognition of their excellence in teaching. This year's recipients are Drs. S. Alireza Bagherzadeh, Gabrielle Lam, and Heather Trajano *(pictured, left to right)*. [Read More](#)

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Local News

FHS Researchers Seek to Improve Long COVID Education in Urgent, Emergent Care Settings in BC

SFU Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS)



A team of researchers based at the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) will develop resources to inform improved emergent and urgent care for people with Long COVID thanks to a grant from the David and Dorothy Lam Foundation. The research team is led by FHS Adjunct Professor Julia Smith *(pictured)* and FHS Research Fellow Kayli Jamieson. [Read More](#)

Recapping the 19th Annual Earl W. Davie Symposium 2025

UBC Centre for Blood Research



On November 6th, 2025, the Centre for Blood Research held its 19th annual Earl W. Davie Symposium. This event brings together a diverse group of scientists, clinicians, and students from all over the world for a full day discussion on the latest topics related to blood research, bleeding disorders, hemostasis/thrombosis, and transfusion medicine. [Read More](#)

New Lab Facilities Add to Vancouver's Life Sciences Infrastructure

Business in Vancouver



New laboratory facilities to support B.C.'s life sciences sector opened in Vancouver, offering move-in-ready spaces for early-stage and growing companies tackling some of the biggest challenges in medicine, agriculture, biodiversity, and defence. The adMare M4 Innovation Centre, a 30,000-square-foot facility, was officially opened on April 17, 2026. [Read More](#)

Appointment of Dr. Donald Griesdale as Director, Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Dr. Donald Griesdale *(pictured)* has been appointed as the Director of the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation (C2E2), effective immediately through March 31, 2030. As Director, Dr. Griesdale will provide strategic leadership for C2E2, advancing Vancouver Coastal Health research priorities and strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration across the health system. [Read More](#)

UBC Researchers Aim to Deliver Earlier Warnings on the Toxic Drug Supply

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Drugs in the unregulated market change constantly. Potency can increase from sample to sample, and additives range from benign to toxic. These chemical changes can be deadly, and too often the healthcare system only learns about them after overdoses happen. Track & Trace, a new UBC pilot program, aims to close that gap. [Read More](#)

Moving Towards Personalized Care to Improve Postsurgical Recovery for Pediatric Patients

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR)



Researchers at BCCHR are investigating ways to improve pain management for pediatric patients to support a smoother recovery. "In examining children's patterns of recovery after a surgery, we wondered whether it would be feasible to collect information from families along their entire surgical journey," says Dr. Matthias Görges *(pictured)*, a BCCHR investigator and Associate Professor at UBC. [Read More](#)

Earth Day 2026: Canadian BioGenome Project Celebrates New Sequencing Milestones in Canadian Biodiversity

Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre



In celebration of Earth Day, the Canadian BioGenome Project has released a new video highlighting its unprecedented mission to sequence, catalog, and protect Canada's rich genomic diversity. As the national branch of the international Earth BioGenome Project, the Canadian initiative is leading the charge to map the genomes of Canada's roughly 80,000 plant and animal species. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Apply for Venture Founder Fall 2026 — Innovation UBC's 16-Week Entrepreneurship Program

Innovation UBC



Have a discovery to commercialize or a startup idea you're ready to build? Whether you're a researcher bridging the gap from lab to market, or a student ready to pressure-test your business idea, Venture Founder gives you the structure, expert mentorship, and founder community to define and validate your venture opportunity and begin building real traction. Applications are open until May 31. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

April 30 4:00 PM	BioConnect BC (D.R.I.N.K.S. Vancouver) BAESIDE @ Mahony's False Creek
April 30 - May 2 4:00 PM	28th Annual Canadian Society of Echocardiography Hybrid Echo Weekend The Westin Bayshore
May 6 7:30 AM	Genome BC's 2026 Annual Genomics Forum: Resilience By Design UBC Robson Square
May 11 8:30 AM	2026 BCRegMed 9th Annual Symposium AMS Student Nest
May 27 9:30 AM	Deciphering and Re-Engineering the Immune Response to Cancer Van Dusen Gardens, Floral Hall

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

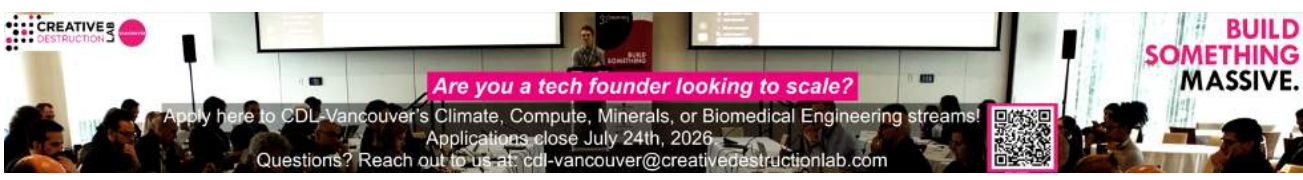
Research & Knowledge Mobilization Coordinator Alzheimer Society of BC and Yukon
R&D Scientist, Novel Ingredients Marine Biologics
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Therapeutic Specialist, Hepatology GSK
Project Manager, Business Development and Collaborative Services Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre

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