



Publications of the Week

Microbiome-Driven Alterations in Tryptophan Metabolism Contribute to Behavioral Comorbidities in the MUC2 Knockout Mouse Model of Chronic Colitis

First Author: Jessica Josephson (pictured) | Senior Author: Deanna Gibson
Gut Microbes | UBC



Globally, the incidence of inflammatory bowel disease is projected to reach 0.5% of the population by 2030. The mechanisms underlying these comorbidities remain unclear but may involve interacting pathways. Here, researchers investigated whether microbiome-associated alterations in neurometabolites are correlated with behavioral changes in a chronic colitis model. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Pharm Sci Researchers Recognized in CIHR and Health Research BC Competitions

UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences



UBC researchers have received \$45.8 million in combined funding in the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant: Spring 2026 competition. Fifty-one projects from UBC received funding through this prestigious competition, including several members from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences like Dr. Ly Yu (pictured). [Read More](#)

DMCBH Researchers Leading Genome BC-Funded Projects That Explore How Data Can Help Detect Disease Earlier and Improve Patient Care

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



DMCBH researchers Drs. Helen Tremlett and Deanna Gibson (pictured) have received funding through Genome BC's Data Access, Integration and Analysis 2 (DAIA2) program. The two researchers are among six project leads who will use the Health Data Platform BC to integrate different sources of health information to better understand disease and improve patient care. [Read More](#)

2026 DMCBH Trainee Award Winners Announced

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



The 2026 Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health Trainee Awards have been announced. These awards recognize excellence in academics and research activities of our trainees. Among the twenty awardees is Sanarya Aljaf (pictured), a PhD student in the Abdelrahman lab who focuses on astrocytic mGluR5 dysfunction that contributes to impaired neurovascular coupling. [Read More](#)

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Local News

St. Paul's Hospital Performs Western Canada's First New Endoscopic Treatment for a Low-Grade Stomach Tumour

The Daily Scan



In March 2026, Dr. Eric Lam and his team at St. Paul's Hospital removed a stomach tumour using an advanced endoscopic technique known as a full thickness resection. Instead of making large incisions, doctors used an endoscope, a thin flexible tube with a camera and light, to reach the tumour from inside the stomach. This was the first incidence of this treatment in Western Canada. [Read More](#)

All Those Getting Lymphatic System Help, Say Eye

Research2Reality



Our eyes are constantly producing and moving fluid to nourish tissues, remove waste, and maintain the pressure needed for healthy vision. This newly identified route, called the posterior ocular lymphatic outflow (P.O.L.O) pathway, connects the back of the eye to the body's lymphatic system. Dr. Neeru Gupta (pictured) from UBC co-led the research. [Read More](#)

Meet Dr. Jeff Dong, Who Is Uncovering the Immune System's Role in Brain Disease

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Dr. Jeff Dong's (pictured) laboratory studies how the immune system contributes to neurodegenerative diseases. His research focuses on oxidized phosphatidylcholines, molecules that are produced when lipids in cells are damaged by oxidative stress. These molecules accumulate in brain lesions in people living with multiple sclerosis, but Dr. Dong's work has shown they are much more than markers of disease. [Read More](#)

Imaging the Retina: A Non-Invasive, Accessible Way of Studying Alzheimer's Disease

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



The eyes are often called "the windows to the soul" — but what if they could also be windows to the brain? Alzheimer's disease-related changes have been observed in both the retina and brain because the retina shares anatomical and functional similarities with the central nervous system. Dr. Joanne Matsubara (pictured) studies how the retina can be used to detect and monitor Alzheimer's disease. [Read More](#)

BC Health Research Pursues Precision, Genetics-Based Care for Three Conditions

Genome BC



A person's DNA can help predict suitable treatments, medications and nutrition for them, leading to better personalized care. Three Genome BC funded projects are putting personalized care into practice; each translating genetic insights for specific medical uses. The projects' academic leads are Drs. Bruce Carleton (pictured), James Johnson, Aly Karsan, and Kevin Song. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Call for Nominations Opens for the 2026 Mitacs Innovation Awards

Mitacs



Nominations are now open for the 2026 Mitacs Innovation Awards. From students and postdoctoral fellows to professors, start-up founders, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders, the awards recognize Mitacs-program participants, the emerging talent who are helping Canada innovate faster, compete globally, and build a resilient economy. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

September 2 6:00 PM	After Dark: Science of Sleight – Magic Edition Science World
September 9 5:00 PM	28th Annual Life Sciences BC Awards Vancouver Convention Centre West
September 17 5:00 PM	An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the World Around Us The Old Auditorium
September 25 4:00 PM	Early Career Stem Cell & Developmental Biology Networking Social Dexter Yard
November 3 - 4 7:30 AM	LSBC's 11th Annual Invest in BC presented by Lumira Ventures Vancouver Convention Centre West

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

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Engineering Leader ScopeSys
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Research Assistant / Technician 2 UBC
Research Data and Infrastructure Lead SFU

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