

Publications of the Week

Type-2 Innate Signals Are Dispensable for Skeletal Muscle Regeneration and Pathology Linked to Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy

First Author: Melina Messing (*pictured*) | Senior Authors: Fabio Rossi and Kelly McNaghy
EMBO Reports | UBC



In the genetically inherited muscle disease Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD), muscle regeneration is disrupted. Previously, it has been suggested that type-2 innate immune cells, particularly eosinophils and their production of IL-4, play an essential role in effective muscle regeneration after acute injury. The authors suggest a negligible role for eosinophils and STAT6 signaling in skeletal muscle regeneration after acute or chronic injury. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Killam Prizes in Health Sciences and Engineering Awarded to MSL Faculty Members

UBC Michael Smith Laboratories (MSL)



MSL faculty members Drs. Marco Marra and Peter Zandstra (*pictured*) have been recognized for their impactful research by the Killam Trusts. Among Canada's most distinguished research awards, the Killam Prizes recognize "active Canadian scholars who have distinguished themselves through sustained research excellence, making a significant impact in their respective fields." [Read More](#)

DMCBH Members Receive UBC's 2024 Faculty Research Awards

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



Congratulations to the four DMCBH members, including Dr. Brian Kwon (*pictured*), who received UBC's 2024 Faculty Research Awards. UBC's Faculty Research Awards recognize the research excellence and scholarly achievements of faculty from across all disciplines, ranging from the applied sciences and medicine to the social sciences and humanities. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Certain Bacteria in Breast Tumour Environments May Fuel Cancer Spread

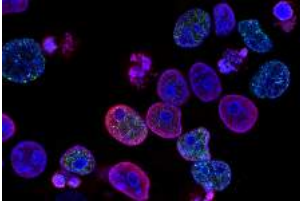
UBC Michael Smith Laboratories



Researchers from BC Cancer and UBC, including Dr. Zachary Gerbec (*pictured*), have discovered that certain bacteria found in breast tumours could be linked to metastasis, or the spread of cancer to other parts of the body. The findings suggest that *Bacillus* bacteria in the tumour microenvironment can play an active role in metastasis. [Read More](#)

New Test Identifies High-Risk Childhood Brain Tumours, Improving Treatment Decisions

UBC News



Canadian researchers have developed an effective new technique for identifying aggressive medulloblastoma—the most common type of malignant brain tumour in children—and potentially sparing young patients from unnecessary treatments and their harmful long-term side effects. The technique can help doctors tailor treatments to individual patients and ensure high-risk cases receive the intensive therapy they need. [Read More](#)

Acuitas Therapeutics Named One of BC's Top Employers

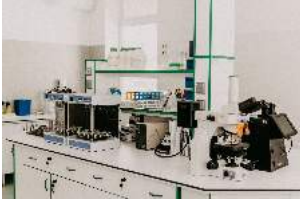
Acuitas Therapeutics



Acuitas Therapeutics has been named one of BC's Top Employers of 2025. The Vancouver-based, privately held biotechnology firm is the global leader in the development of delivery systems for nucleic acid therapeutics based on lipid nanoparticles. "We are honoured to—once again—be named as one of BC's Top Employers," said Chief Operating Officer Abi Coman-Walker. [Read More](#)

UBC Medicine Innovators Join HATCH Venture Builder to Develop Transformative Health Solutions

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Three start-up ventures founded by Faculty of Medicine community members have joined UBC's HATCH Venture Builder to help bring innovative health solutions from the lab into the clinic. The new Faculty of Medicine-affiliated ventures to join HATCH in 2025 are developing solutions to key health challenges, including therapies to address brain and blood disorders, and innovations in nanotechnology. [Read More](#)

UBC Summer Research Program for Indigenous Youth Receives Federal Funding

UBC Faculty of Medicine



An innovative UBC summer research program for Indigenous youth has received federal funding through the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's PromoScience program. The seed2STEM program, created by the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries (ICORD), invites Indigenous youth in grades 9-12 in BC to participate in six-week paid summer internships in research labs on either the UBC Okanagan or UBC Vancouver campus. [Read More](#)

Federal Government Invests \$49.9 Million in STEMCELL Technologies Canada Inc.

STEMCELL Technologies



The Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Innovation, Science, and Industry has announced a \$49.9 million investment through the Strategic Innovation Fund in STEMCELL Technologies Canada Inc. This investment will support the company's \$222 million project to establish large-scale production of essential inputs used to develop and manufacture vaccines, therapies, and diagnostic technologies. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Launch of the New Harmonized Tri-Agency Scholarship and Fellowship Programs

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada



The scholarship and fellowship programs administered by the three federal research funding agencies—the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council—have been streamlined into a new harmonized talent program called the Canada Research Training Awards Suite that will open for applications in summer 2025. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

March 25
4:00 PM

Deciphering Sepsis: Transforming Diagnosis and Treatment Through Systems Immunology
Online

April 2
6:00 PM

Precision Oncology: Bridging Research and Community
Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre

April 7
12:00 PM

SBME Official Opening – Public Open House
School of Biomedical Engineering

April 7
7:00 PM

Post-PhD Connect
Central Library

April 8
9:00 AM

SBME Symposium 2025
School of Biomedical Engineering

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

Research Assistant/Technician 1
UBC

Associate Scientist I, Analytical Chemistry
Alpha-9 Oncology

Scientist II, Biomaterials
Aspect Biosystems

Biologist 1
Bureau Veritas

Scientist/Assistant Professor, Proteomics
BC Cancer

[View 75 Other Science Jobs](#) | [Submit a Job](#)



The University of British Columbia
School of Biomedical Engineering
Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine

You're Invited to the School of Biomedical Engineering Open House
Monday, April 7, 2025 from 12 noon to 3 pm
6085 University Blvd



Submit your articles and events by reaching out to us at info@scienceinvancouver.com.

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