

Publications of the Week

Sanfetrinem, an Oral β -Lactam Antibiotic Repurposed for the Treatment of Tuberculosis

First Author: Santiago Ramón-García (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Robert Bates
Drug Resistance Updates | UBC



Tuberculosis (TB) is historically the world's deadliest infectious disease. New TB drugs that can avoid pre-existing resistance are desperately needed. The β -lactams are the oldest and most widely used class of antibiotics to treat bacterial infections but, for a variety of reasons, they were largely ignored until recently as a potential treatment option for TB. Here, researchers screened β -lactams against intracellular *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

5'-S-(3-Aminophenyl)-5'-Thioadenosine, a Novel Chemoprotective Agent for Reducing Toxic Side Effects of Fluorouracil in Treatment of MTAP-Deficient Cancers

First Author: Si Zhang | Senior Author: Yuzhuo Wang (*pictured*)
Molecular Cancer Therapeutics | BC Cancer Research Institute, Vancouver Prostate Centre, and UBC



Nucleobase analogue (NBA) drugs are effective chemotherapeutics, but their clinical use is limited by severe side effects. Compelling evidence suggests that the use of S-methyl-5'-thioadenosine (MTA) can selectively reduce NBA toxicity while maintaining efficacy, but MTA can induce hypothermia. Researchers hypothesized that an MTA analogue can retain the protective function of MTA without undesired side effects. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

UBC Medicine Researchers Sarah Hedtrich and Arun John Peter Among New Canada Research Chairs

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Two researchers from the UBC Faculty of Medicine, Drs. Sarah Hedtrich (*pictured, left*) and Arun John Peter (*right*), are among the new Canada Research Chairs recently announced by the Government of Canada. The Canada Research Chairs Program enables Canadian universities to achieve the highest levels of research excellence and become world-class research centres. [Read More](#)

SFU Announces 2025 Honorary Degree Recipients

SFU



SFU's honorary degree is the highest honour conferred by the university. The degrees are awarded to distinguished individuals in recognition of their scholarly, scientific, or artistic achievement, or in recognition of exceptional contribution to the public good. Nine outstanding individuals have been bestowed with honorary degrees, including Dr. Azra Raza (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

2024 SFU Newsmaker Award Winners Share Drive to Inspire Dialogue for Change

SFU News



Engagement is at the heart of creating change, educating the public, and sparking conversations that influence policy. This year's SFU Newsmaker award recipients, which include Dr. Kaylee Byers (*pictured*), all share a passion for using their voices as a vehicle for good. As one of SFU's most-published and quoted media spokespeople in Canada and abroad, Dr. Byers has had a meteoric rise as a science communicator. [Read More](#)

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Local News

New Biorepository at the DMCBH Aims to Accelerate Parkinson's Research

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH)



An innovative new initiative at the DMCBH is set to revolutionize research in Parkinson's disease and related movement disorders. The establishment of the Bjorn Moller Research Repository will allow biological samples to be shared across multiple studies, enhancing research efficiency and expanding scientific inquiry. Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell (*pictured*), the lead researcher behind the project, sat down with DMCBH to explain the inspiration for the repository. [Read More](#)

'A Unique Resource in the World' – How Biobanks at Providence Research Enable Groundbreaking Research

The Daily Scan



Biobanks are collections of biological samples, such as blood, tissue, and DNA, that are donated for research purposes and are often stored with their associated health data. Providence Research has a unique focus on biobanking, positioning it at the forefront of research activities. Embedded within St. Paul's Hospital with direct access to patients, Providence Research is home to a first-in-Canada biobank network collecting a diverse range of samples. [Read More](#)

Unlocking the Mystery of Nephrotic Syndrome in Kids: Q&A With New Investigator Dr. Susan Samuel

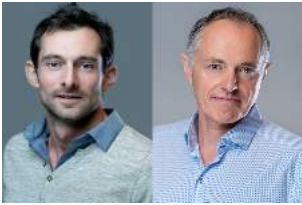
BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Nephrotic syndrome is the most common glomerular kidney disease in children, a condition that damages the kidney filters that clean the blood. The disease primarily affects children aged two to six, causing protein loss in urine and leading to serious complications. Dr. Susan Samuel (*pictured*) is facilitating a research program that seeks to uncover the clinical course of pediatric nephrotic syndrome. [Read More](#)

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

BC Cancer Research



Canadian researchers have developed an effective new technique for identifying aggressive medulloblastoma – the most common type of malignant brain tumour in children. The technique, spearheaded by Drs. Alberto Delaidelli (*pictured, left*) and Poul Sorensen (*right*), can help doctors tailor treatments to individual patients and ensure high-risk cases receive the intensive therapy they need. [Read More](#)

Discovery Offers New Insights to Understand and Treat Prostate Cancer

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)



A new avenue to differentiate between prostate cancers is being investigated by VCHRI researchers Drs. Alexander Wyatt (*pictured*) and Cameron Herberts. This research is one of the first to apply plasma cell-free chromatin immunoprecipitation sequencing (cfChIP-seq) to blood samples from advanced prostate cancer patients, offering new biological insights into why some prostate cancers are more aggressive than others. [Read More](#)

"Researchers Should Work on Research Not Administration": Erin Cherban Named N2 Chair

Centre for Advancing Health Outcomes



Advancing Health's Chief Clinical Research Officer, Erin Cherban (*pictured*), has begun her term as Chair of the Network of Networks (N2). N2 is a not-for-profit organization and a partnership of clinical research networks and organizations across Canada, with the goal of enhancing national clinical research capability and capacity. [Read More](#)

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📅 Upcoming Events in Vancouver

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
April 8 9:30 AM	WYMM Tour: Vancouver Morris J Wosk Centre for Dialogue

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📁 Science Jobs in Vancouver

Laboratory Assistant BC Centre for Disease Control
Medical Laboratory Assistant Lower Mainland Laboratories
Senior Scientist, Immunology BC Cancer Research Centre
Laboratory Technician UBC
Research Scientist Eupraxia Pharmaceuticals Inc.

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NORMAN BETHUNE SYMPOSIUM**
APRIL 10, 2025

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