

Publications of the Week

Proteomics and Personalized PDX Models Identify Treatment for a Progressive Malignancy Within an Actionable Timeframe

First Author: Georgina D Barnabas | Senior Authors: Rebecca Deyell, James Lim, and Philipp Lange (*pictured*)
EMBO Molecular Medicine | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre, and UBC



Genomics has transformed the diagnostic landscape of pediatric malignancies by identifying and integrating actionable features that refine diagnosis, classification, and treatment. Here, researchers present the case for combining proteomics with patient-derived xenograft models to identify personalized treatment for an adolescent with primary and metastatic spindle epithelial tumour with thymus-like elements. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

A Secreted Tapasin Isoform Impairs Cytotoxic T Lymphocyte Recognition by Disrupting Exogenous MHC Class I Antigen Presentation

First Author: Robyn Seipp | Senior Author: Wilfred Jefferies (*pictured*)
Frontiers in Immunology | Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute and UBC



Endogenous and exogenous antigen processing and presentation through the MHC class I peptide-loading complex are essential for initiating cytotoxic T lymphocyte responses against pathogens and tumours. This study aimed to investigate the role of Tapasin isoforms, particularly soluble isoform 3, in modulating antigen presentation and immune responses, focusing on their effects on MHC class I peptide loading and surface expression. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Govind Kaigala Awarded the UBC Killam Accelerator Research Fellowship

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering



Dr. Govind Kaigala (*pictured*) has been awarded UBC Killam Accelerator Research Fellowship through UBC's 2024 Faculty Research Awards. The award recognizes research excellence and scholarly achievements of faculty from across all disciplines and supports researchers early in their academic careers to launch the next stage of their careers. [Read More](#)

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Local News

UBC Medicine Innovators Join Venture Founder To Transform Industries and Create Lasting Global Impact

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Seven start-up ventures founded by faculty of medicine community members have joined the 49th cohort of UBC's Venture Founder program to help build solutions for some of the world's most persistent challenges in areas such as healthcare, AI, and biotechnologies. The program supports UBC's community whose ideas and scientific breakthroughs are set to transform industries and create lasting global impact. [Read More](#)

SFU Expert Co-Authors New Report on Canada's Critical Role in Global Health

SFU News



As the U.S. retreats from global affairs and the world enters a new era of shifting geopolitics, Canada's role in global health is more important than ever. This is according to a new report co-authored by Dr. Kelley Lee (*pictured*), a Simon Fraser University Professor and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Global Health Governance. [Read More](#)

A Q&A With UBC's New Dean of Science, Chemist Mark MacLachlan

UBC Science



Dr. Mark MacLachlan (*pictured*) is the Canada Research Chair in Supramolecular Materials and the new Dean of Science at UBC. In this Q&A with UBC Science, he discusses his path from small town-BC to UBC, his love of Hawaiian shirts, and the challenges and priorities facing the Faculty. "I think we need to look at enhancing external engagement, improving our success in faculty awards, and bolstering communications," says Dr. MacLachlan. [Read More](#)

The DMCBH at Ten

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



2024 marked the 10th anniversary of the UBC Faculty of Medicine's Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH), Canada's largest integrated brain research and care centre. The Centre's Co-Director Dr. Lynn Raymond reflects on a decade of excellence in research and patient care and discusses the Centre's ambitious future plans. [Read More](#)

UBC Opens Gordon B. Shrum Building, Canada's First Purpose-Built Biomedical Engineering Facility

UBC Faculty of Medicine



The University of British Columbia has officially opened the doors to the Gordon B. Shrum Building, the new home for the School of Biomedical Engineering. As Canada's first purpose-built facility for biomedical engineering, the building brings together researchers, students and industry partners under one roof to advance biomedical research, education and innovation. [Read More](#)

Exploring the Microbiome-Neuroendocrine Connection in Early Life Gut Inflammation

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



The gut microbiome, the community of microbes inhabiting the gastrointestinal tract, continues to surprise scientists with the powerful and unexpected ways in which it interconnects with the rest of the body. In a recent study, the labs of Drs. Carolina Tropini (*pictured, left*) and Annie Ciernia (*right*) report how gut microbiome disruption influences behaviour, sex hormones, and brain structures in a mouse model of pediatric inflammatory bowel disease. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Canada Joins Federated EGA, Establishing a Significant Global Repository for Secure Sharing of Human Genomic and Health Data

BC Cancer Research Institute



In a major milestone for international biomedical research and the future of personalized medicine, the Canadian Genome-Phenome Archive (CGA), part of the Pan-Canadian Genome Library has joined the Federated European Genome-Phenome Archive (Federated EGA), marking the federation's first significant expansion outside of Europe. The CGA is hosted by Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre at BC Cancer. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

April 17 6:00 pm	After Dark: Press Start for Science Science World
April 24 6:00 PM	Cosmic Nights: Space Sustainability H.R. MacMillan Space Centre
April 29 5:00 PM	SFU Cafe Scientifique: Brain Mapping, Brain Function and Evolution Online
May 12 8:00 AM	BC Resuscitation Sciences Series: Organ Donation & Transplantation Symposium Vancouver General Hospital
May 15 8:00 AM	Women in STEM Career Fair Online

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

Research Technician 3 UBC
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Associate Scientist II/III, Radiochemistry Alpha-9 Oncology
Laboratory Assistant Provincial Laboratory Medicine Services
Medical Science Liaison Amgen

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