

Publications of the Week

A 3D Human iPSC-Derived Multi-Cell Type Neurosphere System to Model Cellular Responses to Chronic Amyloidosis

First Author: Stefan Wendt | Senior Author: Haakon Nygaard (*pictured*)
Journal of Neuroinflammation | UBC



Alzheimer's disease is characterized by progressive amyloid beta deposition in the brain, with eventual widespread neurodegeneration. In this study, researchers used a human 3D iPSC-derived neurosphere model to explore how resident neurons, microglia, and astrocytes and their interplay are modified by chronic amyloidosis induced over three to five weeks. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

April 2025 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver



April showers brought more than May flowers. This month we saw many of Vancouver's life science students, fellows, and researchers recognized for their outstanding contributions to science. On such researcher is Dr. Govind Kaigala (*pictured*), the recipient UBC Killam Accelerator Research Fellowship through UBC's 2024 Faculty Research Awards. See the full list for all April awardees. [Read More](#)

Dr. Lallous Receives U.S. DoD Grant for Prostate Cancer Research

Vancouver Prostate Centre



Dr. Nada Lallous (*pictured*) has been awarded an Idea Development Award – Established Investigator from the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Prostate Cancer Research Program. This \$1.48 million USD grant will support her collaborative project with UBC researchers. This research aims to uncover the distinct molecular features of androgen receptor condensates associated with treatment-resistant forms of prostate cancer. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Long COVID-19 and the Lungs: What Is Happening in the Airways?

Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI)



A research team led by the HLI's Director, Dr. Don Sin (*pictured*), used xenon MRI and single-cell sequencing of lung samples, supported by the HLI's biobank team, to uncover the underlying mechanism behind persistent respiratory symptoms in long COVID patients. These findings were published in three articles in the *European Respiratory Journal*. [Read More](#)

It's a Gap! Addressing Disparities in Genetic Counselling

Centre for Advancing Health Outcomes



In 2003, the Human Genome Project was completed, ushering in a new era of biomedical science focused on understanding how the genome, made up of thousands of DNA sequences, impacts health. With DNA sequencing becoming an increasingly popular diagnostic tool in medicine, it is important to have professionals trained to interpret the results to support patient decision making. This is where genetic counsellors come in. [Read More](#)

Fresh Canadian Produce Year-Round? Gene Editing Could Make It Possible

SFU Department of Biological Sciences



CBC Vancouver broadcasted a story about research in the Mattsson lab at SFU to evolve blueberry production in Canada. Juan Rodríguez Lopez showed how relevant target genes were identified by DNA sequencing and Dr. Jim Mattsson (*pictured*) discussed the use of gene editing to mimic gene variants present in crops such as rice and tomato for precision improvement of blueberry traits. [Read More](#)

New Solution to Treat Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)



People with obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) experience a complete stoppage or a transient reduction in breathing while asleep, which can cause disabling symptoms and long-term health consequences. VCHRI researcher Dr. John Fleetham (*pictured*) and other UBC team members are developing a negative airway therapy device that would provide a novel alternative treatment for OSA. [Read More](#)

Cases of Parkinson's Disease in Canada Set to Rise 69% by 2050

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



By 2050, it is projected that the number of people living with Parkinson's disease globally will be 25.2 million, a 112% increase from 2021. Despite it being the neurological disease with the fastest growing prevalence and disability, much remains unknown about its future trajectory worldwide. Researchers in the lab of Dr. Silke Appel-Cresswell (*pictured*) has provided one of the first comprehensive projections. [Read More](#)

Is a Warmer World a Sicker World?

UBC Microbiology and Immunology



In the lab, Dr. Kayla King (*pictured*) and her team use "evolution experiments" in animal-pathogen models and state-of-the-art genomics in a global change biology framework. They have published research that shows warming temperatures can make pathogenic infections more virulent. Discoveries like this can be used to inform wildlife conservation and get ahead in the race against future pandemics. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Mitacs Elevate Transitions to New Accelerate Model for Postdocs

Mitacs



As part of the ongoing commitment to strengthen and better align organizational priorities with Mitacs' postdoctoral offerings, Elevate as a standalone program has been replaced with a postdoctoral funding model within Accelerate as of March 31st, 2025. A new funding approach launched on April 1, 2025 through the Mitacs Accelerate program. [Read More](#)

Are You an Aspiring Entrepreneur? Applications Are Open!

Innovation UBC



Innovation UBC supports pathways for UBC's research community to bring their inventions to impact. Through their entrepreneurship and venture building team, Innovation UBC unlocks the potential of promising UBC startups, supporting researchers to drive change beyond academia and transform their groundbreaking ideas into real-world impacts. The deadline for the Lab2Market Launch is May 26, 2025. [Read More](#)

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📅 Upcoming Events in Vancouver

May 12 - 13
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

May 22
11:00 AM

SBME Research Seminar: The RNA Folding Problem Remains Open
UBC

May 22
5:00 PM

BC Pharmacy Residency Research Night 2025
Science World

June 2
8:00 AM

VCHRI Research Summit 2025: Shaping the Future of Health Care Through Research
Paetzold Auditorium

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📁 Science Jobs in Vancouver

Research Assistant

BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit

Scientist, Chemoinformatics & Computational Chemistry

HTUO Biosciences

Research Assistant Technician

UBC

Scientist, Experimental Immunology (14 Month Contract)

Amgen

Research Associate 2, Biology (*In Vivo*)

Xenon Pharmaceuticals

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