

Publications of the Week

Decreased Clearance of Low-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol Is Causally Associated with Increased Mortality of Septic Shock

First Author: Nozomi Takahashi | Senior Author: Keith Walley *(pictured)*
Critical Care Medicine | Centre for Heart Lung Innovation and UBC



This study sought to determine whether low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) levels, set by the balance of clearance and production, causally contribute to septic shock 28-day mortality. Researchers measured LDL-C levels and genotypes in patients with septic shock. Using genotyping and genome-wide association study summary statistics from over 150,000 Japanese participants, they genetically predicted pre-infection LDL-C levels. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Professor Niranjan ‘Tex’ Kissoon to Receive Honourary Doctorate at the University of the West Indies

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHR)



Every year, the University of the West Indies (UWI) in Kingston, Jamaica recognizes extraordinary individuals as part of their graduation ceremony. Among the 11 distinguished graduates to be awarded degrees this year was Dr. Niranjan “Tex” Kissoon *(pictured)* from BCCHR and UBC. For Dr. Kissoon, the unexpected honour and recognition from UWI is a wonderful full-circle moment. [Read More](#)

UBC Professor Nozomu Yachie Among Renewed Canada Research Chairs

UBC Faculty of Medicine



UBC's Dr. Nozomu Yachie *(pictured)* has been renewed as the Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Synthetic Biology. Dr. Yachie and his team are focused on “DNA event recording” technologies that collect molecular and cellular information of individual cells and store that information in synthetic “DNA tapes.” The technology will allow researchers to view a historical record of cellular information to see what a cell did at various stages of its life cycle. [Read More](#)

Dr. Xin Tang Awarded Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Computational Cell Biology

UBC Michael Smith Laboratories



Dr. Xin Tang *(pictured)* has been awarded a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Computational Cell Biology. The Canada Research Chairs Program invests approximately \$311 million per year to attract and retain leading researchers in their fields across Canadian universities. Dr. Tang is among eight newly awarded Canada Research Chairs at UBC. [Read More](#)

BC Cancer Researchers Receive 2025 Research Trainee Awards from Michael Smith Health Research BC

BC Cancer Research



Two postdoctoral fellows in the Evgin Lab at the BC Cancer Research Institute are the recipients of the 2025 Research Trainee Awards from Michael Smith Health Research BC. Drs. Pauline Loos *(pictured, right)* and Zachary Morse *(left)* both focus on CAR T-cell therapies. The Research Trainee Program supports health researchers in the training phase of their research career. [Read More](#)

Alexandra Lawson from the Rosin Lab Awarded a CanNRT Fellowship

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Alexandra Lawson *(pictured)*, a graduate student from the Rosin lab, has been awarded a CanNRT Fellowship. The CanNRT Fellowship is a competitive program designed to support trainees in Canadian universities in the field of neurodevelopment. This three-year-long program offered financial support, immersive learning opportunities, and mentorship to just 20 awardees across Canada this year. [Read More](#)

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Local News

New PI Focus: Dr. Jennifer Ritonja Advances Research on Women’s Cancer Prevention

BC Cancer Research



When Dr. Jennifer Ritonja *(pictured)* joined BC Cancer in July 2025 as a scientist, she set out to advance how we detect and prevent cancer in women. Her research focuses on identifying early indicators of cancer in women, particularly for breast and ovarian cancers. As part of this work, Dr. Ritonja studies epigenetic changes to help predict who may be at higher risk of developing cancer. [Read More](#)

AI-Driven Disease Detection Levels-Up Prostate Cancer Surgery

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)



A technology used in advanced brain and lung cancer surgery is now being explored in the removal of prostate cancer. The first-of-its-kind study—led by VCHRI researcher Dr. Miles Mannas *(pictured)*—applied cutting-edge stimulated Raman histology to rapidly analyze tissue biopsies during robotic radical prostatectomy, significantly reducing surgical times while enhancing cancerous tissue removal. [Read More](#)

DNA-Guided Platform Paves Way for More Precise Cancer Treatments

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



A collaborative team led by Drs. David Perrin from UBC and Larry Goldenberg *(pictured)* from the Vancouver Prostate Centre has developed a new method to design safer, more targeted cancer drugs. The platform, called baited-SELEX, uses DNA molecules to mimic antibodies and selectively target cancer cells while minimizing harmful side effects of current therapies. [Read More](#)

Appointment of Dr. David A. Wood as Chief Scientific Officer, Dilwari Cardiovascular Institute

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Dr. David A. Wood *(pictured, right)* has been named as the inaugural Chief Scientific Officer of the Dilwari Cardiovascular Institute, for a five-year term to May 19, 2030. Dr. Wood is a national and international leader in interventional and structural cardiology. He serves as Head of Cardiology at Vancouver General Hospital and UBC Hospital. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| November 5
6:00 PM | VOLCANO: A Science Comedy Show by Ben Miller
Pacific Museum of Earth |
| November 6
7:30 AM | 19th Annual Earl W. Davie Symposium
UBC Robson Square |
| November 6
9:00 AM | Research Day on Aging
SFU |
| November 20
5:00 PM | Beaty Nocturnal
Beaty Biodiversity Museum |
| November 27
4:30 PM | McCarthy Spotlight Speaking Series
McCarthy Tétrault LLP |

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Assistant/Technician 3**
School of Biomedical Engineering UBC
- Computational Biologist, Database Development**
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Research Assistant 2, Research Integrative Oncology**
BC Cancer
- In Vivo Research Technician, Preclinical**
NanoVation Therapeutics
- Instrument Technician, Chemistry**
SFU

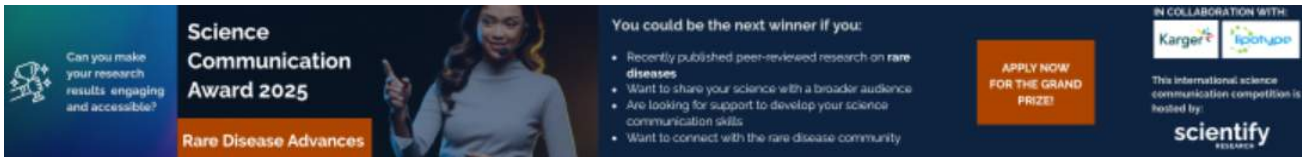
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