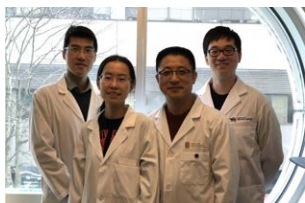


Publications of the Week

Heterochromatin Protein 1 α Mediates Development and Aggressiveness of Neuroendocrine Prostate Cancer

First Author: Xinpei Ci (*second from left*) | Senior Author: Yuzhuo Wang (*second from right*)
Cancer Research | The Vancouver Prostate Centre, BC Cancer Agency, and UBC



Neuroendocrine prostate cancer (NEPC) is a lethal subtype of prostate cancer arising mostly from adenocarcinoma via NE transdifferentiation following androgen deprivation therapy. The authors utilized transcriptomic analyses of patient-derived xenograft models, multiple clinical cohorts, and genetically engineered mouse models to identify 36 heterochromatin-related genes that are significantly enriched in NEPC. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Transition Metal Ions Promote the Bioavailability of Hydrophobic Therapeutics: Cu and Zn Interactions with RNA Polymerase I Inhibitor CX5461

First Author: Kathleen Prosser (*third from right*) | Senior Author: Charles Walsby (*right*)
Chemistry | The BC Cancer Agency and SFU



Low aqueous solubility is a major barrier to the clinical application of otherwise promising drug candidates. The authors demonstrated that this issue can be resolved in medicinal molecules containing potential ligating groups, through the addition of labile transition-metal ions. Incubation of the chemotherapeutic CX5461 with Cu²⁺ or Zn²⁺ enables solubilization at neutral pH but does not affect intrinsic cytotoxicity. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Connie Eaves Awarded 2018 ISSCR Tobias Award Lecture

International Society for Stem Cell Research

The International Society for Stem Cell Research (ISSCR) Tobias Award Lecture recognizes original and promising basic hematology research and direct translational or clinical research related to cell therapy in hematological disorders. Award winner Dr. Connie Eaves (*pictured*) is an internationally recognized leader



and authority on stem cells of the blood-forming system and how their properties change over time and by type. [Read More](#)

Millions Awarded to Inspiring Health Sciences Research

SFU Faculty of Health Sciences



The Faculty of Health Sciences at SFU punches above its weight when it comes to successfully competing for peer-reviewed health research funding from the CIHR Project Grant Program. The Faculty had a 33% success rate, surpassing the national success rate of 15%, and the newly funded projects have potential for local, national and international impact. Winners include Dr. Scott Venners, Dr. Ruth Lavergne (*pictured*), and Dr. John O'Neil. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Strict Eating Schedule Can Lower Huntington Disease Protein in Mice

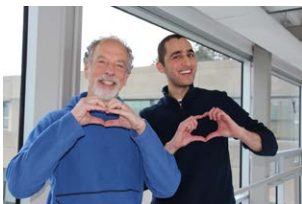
UBC Faculty of Medicine



New research by the UBC Faculty of Medicine suggests that a strict eating schedule can help clear away the protein responsible for Huntington disease in mice. Scientists stimulated autophagy — a process in which the cell cleans out debris and recycles cellular material such as proteins — by restricting access to food in mice with the disease to a six-hour window each day. This led to significantly lower levels of the mutant huntington protein in the brain. [Read More](#)

Exercise May Decrease Heart Drug's Effectiveness

SFU Faculty of Science



Ranolazine is a second-line therapeutic agent prescribed for angina pectoris, for which chest pain is the main symptom. It works to improve blood flow to help the heart work more effectively and also has been effective in treating those with some inherited arrhythmias. Dr. Peter Ruben (*left*) at SFU has discovered that increased body temperature and heart rate reduce the potential effectiveness of Ranolazine to exert its anti-arrhythmic effects in one of the most common forms of inherited arrhythmia. [Read More](#)

UBC Leads Canadian Pancreatic Cancer Research Initiative

UBC Medicine

Dr. Daniel Renouf and Dr. David Schaeffer are leading a five-year project that aims



to improve personalized treatments for patients with pancreatic cancer. The Enhanced Pancreatic Cancer Profiling for Individualized Care (EPPIC) aims to sequence metastatic pancreatic tumours of 400 patients in Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. [Read More](#)

UBC Expands Research into Healthy Aging with \$24 Million Gift

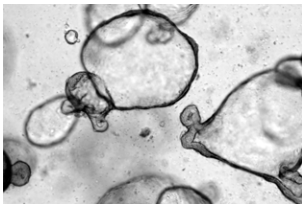
UBC Faculty of Medicine



A \$24-million donation to the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Medicine will expand research aimed at helping people live longer and enjoy a better quality of life in their later years. The donation, from businessman, philanthropist and UBC alumnus Edwin S.H. Leong, is the largest gift that UBC's medical school has ever received from an individual. [Read More](#)

STEMCELL Technologies Signs Exclusive License with IU Innovation and Commercialization Office for Inner Ear Organoid Technology

STEMCELL Technologies



STEMCELL Technologies has signed an exclusive license with Indiana University (IU) Innovation and Commercialization Office for patented rights to groundbreaking inner ear organoid technologies. The inner ear contains organs responsible for detecting sounds and maintaining balance, both of which are mediated by a sensory cell called the hair cell due to its specialized protrusions resembling tiny hairs. [Read More](#)

AbCellera Awarded Multi-Year Contract to Lead the Development of a Rapid Response Platform against Pandemic Viral Threats

Michael Smith Laboratories



AbCellera Biologics Inc. has announced that it has been awarded a contract from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to develop rapid countermeasures against viral outbreaks. Over the four-year contract, AbCellera will receive up to USD \$30 million in funding to establish an end-to-end platform for rapid pandemic response, and will lead an internationally recognized team of experts in virology, antibody discovery, and gene therapy. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Women Encouraged to Pursue STEM Careers, but Many Not Staying

CBC News

There is a drive to get more women interested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields, but keeping them there might be the real challenge.



According to the Society of Women Engineers, more than 20 per cent of engineering graduates are women, but only 11 per cent are practising engineers.

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

March 23
8:00 PM

Science Slam
Cafe Deux Soleils

March 27
7:30 PM

Café Scientifique
Yagger's Downtown

March 29
5:00 PM

Dinosaurs in your Backyard: Exploring BC's Trackways
Beaty Biodiversity Museum

March 29
5:00 PM

Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science
Mahony and Sons, Stamps Landing

March 29
7:00 PM

Dr. Knut Woltjen Public Lecture – Genes and Cells: The Living Drugs of a New Medical Era
Life Sciences Institute, UBC

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

Product and Scientific Support Specialist, Stem Cell Biology
STEMCELL Technologies

Research Technologist (Part-Time Weekends)
STEMCELL Technologies

Communications Specialist
Terry Fox Research Institute

Post Doctoral Fellow, Formulations
The Centre for Drug Research and Development

Statistical Analyst
Providence Health Care Research Institute

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SCIENCE FORWARD. **SO THEY DID.**



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