

Publications of the Week

Interfaces of Malignant and Immunologic Clonal Dynamics in Ovarian Cancer

First Author: Allen Zhang | Senior Author: Sohrab Shah *(pictured)*
Cell | The BC Cancer Agency, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, and UBC



High-grade serous ovarian cancer exhibits extensive malignant clonal diversity with widespread but non-random patterns of disease dissemination. The authors investigated whether local immune microenvironment factors shape tumour progression properties at the interface of tumour-infiltrating lymphocytes and cancer cells. [Abstract](#)

MAP Kinase Signalling: Interplays Between Plant PAMP- and Effector-Triggered Immunity

First Author: Karen Thulasi Davendrakumar | Senior Author: Yuelin Zhang *(pictured)*
Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences | The Michael Smith Laboratories and UBC



Mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) cascades relay signals from membrane-residing immune receptors to downstream components for defense activation. *Arabidopsis* MPK3/6 and MPK4 are activated in two parallel MAPK cascades during PAMP-triggered immunity. The authors findings suggest intricate interplays between PAMP-triggered immunity and effector-triggered immunity via MAPK signaling. [Abstract](#)

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Spotlight

Chloe Gerak Talks Protein-Protein Interaction Inhibition and Cancer



Chloe Gerak *(pictured)* is a PhD candidate in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the UBC Life Sciences Institute. She is co-supervised by Dr. Lawrence McIntosh and Dr. Michel Roberge, and uses a combination of high-throughput screening, computational modeling, and NMR to find and characterize small molecule inhibitors of protein-protein interactions. [Read More](#)

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Awards

May 2018 Award Winners



Dr. Donald Sin *(pictured)*, Professor in the Division of Respiratory Medicine in the Department of Medicine at the University of British Columbia, was awarded a CIHR Planning and Dissemination Grant this past May. Find out which other Vancouver researchers were awarded grants, awards, fellowships, and scholarships last month in our monthly Award Summary. [Read More](#)

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Local News

The Link between Diet, Gut Bacteria, and Kidney Stones

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



In a new BC study of live-in partners—one partner who has recurring kidney stones, the other stone free—Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute scientists found that differences in gut bacteria may account for the difference in kidney stone occurrence. Dr. Dirk Lange leads the ongoing project, which has already studied 17 partners sharing similar diets and daily habits. [Read More](#)

UBC Researchers Create Cannabinoid Eye Drop for Glaucoma

Biotechnology Focus



Glaucoma is an eye disease that is often associated with elevated intraocular pressure leading to loss of vision, even irreversible blindness. Dr. Vikramaditya Yadav, a Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Biomedical Engineering at UBC, has developed an eye drop that may treat this condition while you sleep. [Read More](#)

Rational Design of Universal Heparin Reversal Agent Makes it a Highly Specific Antidote to Heparins

The Centre for Blood Research



Although heparins are effective in preventing blood clots, the risk of bleeding associated with their use is a major clinical concern. Dr. Jay Kizhakkedathu *(pictured)* has developed an antidote to heparins called Universal Heparin Reversal Agent (UHRA). UHRA can be used in a wide range of doses and is highly biocompatible. Also, UHRA can reverse all the clinically used heparins. [Read More](#)

BC TECH and Genome BC Team Up to Nurture Life Sciences Entrepreneurs

Genome BC



HyperGrowth: Life celebrates the graduation of its second cohort — a group that promises to change the way we live, work and play with breakthroughs at the intersection of technology and the life sciences. Recognizing the tremendous potential that exists within the life sciences, in 2016 the BC Tech Association partnered with Genome BC to create HyperGrowth: Life, a program designed to address the gap between research and commercialization in the field. [Read More](#)

Pixelating the Brain

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



Machine learning is an area of study within the broader computer sciences field that uses statistical methods to "teach" computer systems outside of conventional programming methods. Deep learning is a subfield of machine learning, and attempts to mimic the human brain in its ability to recognize patterns and attribute meaning to the data that it interprets. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Gender Equity In Health Research Funding

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research



Dr. Zena Sharman, Director of Strategy at the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR), is an expert in gender and health. In the latest MSFHR blog, she outlines what we know about gender equity in health research funding, what we wish we knew, and the steps MSFHR is taking to foster gender equity in our programs. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- June 6
9:30 AM **Providence Health Care Research Institute Research Day**
Sutton Place Hotel
- June 7 - 8
8:00 AM **Knowledge Translation Canada Scientific Meeting**
Coast Coal Harbour Hotel
- June 11 - 15
9:00 AM **Molecular Biology Workshop for Professionals**
AMBL Lab at Michael Smith Building
- June 12
6:00 PM **The 17th Annual Student Biotechnology Network Soiree**
Telus World of Science
- June 13
4:00 PM **Harold Copp Lecture**
Life Sciences Institute

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