

Publications of the Week

Molecular Profiling of Hyalinizing Clear Cell Carcinomas Revealed a Subset of Tumours Harbouring a Novel *EWSR1-CREM* Fusion: Report of Three Cases

First Author: Erin Chapman | Senior Author: Tony Ng *(pictured)*
 The American Journal of Surgical Pathology | The BC Cancer Agency, Vancouver General Hospital, and UBC



The authors describe a novel gene fusion, *EWSR1-CREM*, identified in three cases of clear cell carcinoma (CCC) using anchored multiplex polymerase chain reaction, a next-generation sequencing-based technique. CCC is a low-grade salivary tumour recently characterized to have *EWSR1-ATF1* fusions in the majority of cases. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

HAM-TBS: High-Accuracy Methylation Measurements via Targeted Bisulfite Sequencing

First Author: Simone Roeh | Senior Author: Nadine Provencal *(pictured)*
 Epigenetics and Chromatin | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and SFU



The ability to accurately and efficiently measure DNA methylation is critical to advance the understanding of this epigenetic mechanism and its contribution to common diseases. The authors present a highly accurate method to measure methylation using bisulfite sequencing (termed HAM-TBS). This novel method is able to assess DNA methylation in multiple samples with high accuracy in a cost-effective manner. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Discovery of UDP-Glycosyltransferases and BAHD-Acyltransferases in the Biosynthesis of the Anti-Diabetic Plant Metabolite Montbretin A

First Author: Sandra Irmisch | Senior Author: Joerg Bohlmann *(pictured)*
 The Plant Cell | UBC



The acylated flavonol glycoside montbretin A (MbA) and its precursor mini-MbA are potent inhibitors of human pancreatic α -amylase and are being developed as drug candidates for the treatment of type-2 diabetes. MbA occurs in corns of the ornamental plant montbretia, but a system or process to obtain large quantities of MbA is not currently available. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

MSFHR Funds Eight BC Health Researchers Moving Innovations towards Practical Application

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR)

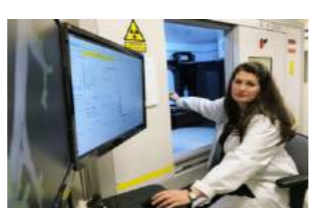


Eight BC health researchers, including UBC's Dr. David Perrin *(pictured)*, have been funded in MSFHR's second Innovation to Commercialization competition. Each will receive funding to advance their medical treatments, diagnostic tools and assistive technologies towards practical application to improve health outcomes and enrich the health innovation ecosystem in BC. [Read More](#)

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Awards

UBC Makes Life-Changing Discovery for COPD Patients

Biotechnology Focus



Dr. Tillie-Louise Hackett *(pictured)*, Associate Professor in UBC's Faculty of Medicine, has discovered that permanent lung damage caused by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) starts before patients even begin showing symptoms. The finding will drastically change how patients are treated for COPD, which is the leading cause of hospital admissions in BC and Canada. [Read More](#)

New Step for TxCell's Lead CAR-Treg Program in the Prevention of Transplant Rejection

TxCell



TxCell, a developer of cellular immunotherapies based on regulatory T cells (Tregs) for inflammation, autoimmunity and transplantation, has in-licensed the intellectual property rights of UBC onto the HLA-A2 CAR-Treg program. The product originated in the laboratory of Dr. Megan Levings *(pictured)*, who established the first preclinical proof of concept with human HLA-A2-specific CAR-Treg cells in a preclinical model of graft versus host disease. [Read More](#)

Four Therapeutic Lung Studies Now underway at St. Paul's

Centre for Health Evaluation and Outcome Sciences (CHÉOS)



Four new inflammatory airway disease trials are underway with the support of CHÉOS. Three of the studies are examining treatment for asthma while the fourth is testing a novel treatment for chronic bronchitis, a form of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Dr. Del Dorscheid, a critical care and respiratory physician at St. Paul's Hospital and researcher at the Centre for Heart Lung Innovation, is the principal investigator for all four of the studies. [Read More](#)

Multiple Sclerosis Patients Had Higher Incidence of Other Conditions: UBC Study

CTV News



Conditions such as sleep problems, irritable bowel syndrome and depression are more common among multiple sclerosis (MS) patients – five years before they develop medically recognized signs of the disease, a new study from UBC suggests. Dr. Helen Tremlett *(pictured)* is the lead author of the largest-ever study to examine the medical records of people who accessed care for various symptoms that aren't classic manifestations of MS. [Read More](#)

Internship Programs Help Spark Innovation for Students, Industry

Mitacs



Students throughout BC are benefiting from a provincial investment of \$10 million in internship programs that connect budding researchers with industry partners to solve real-world problems. The investment promotes innovation in BC by funding internships through Mitacs, a national not-for-profit organization that builds partnerships between undergraduate and graduate students and researchers, post-secondary institutions, and industry and community partners. [Read More](#)

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The Truly Transformative Moments in Science

Research2Reality



Basic research doesn't just help unlock scientific discoveries; it lays the foundation for Canada's innovation economy. There are so many benefits to basic research, where scientists work to uncover new knowledge and develop new technology without any particular commercial application in mind. These are the truly transformative moments in science, because these discoveries unlock possibilities that no one could have predicted. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

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|-----------------------|--|
| July 24
7:00 PM | Humans, Rising Sea Levels and the Fraser River Estuary
Vancouver Aquarium |
| July 31
7:30 PM | Cafe Scientifique Vancouver
Yaggers Downtown |
| August 5
1:00 PM | Albatross Are Way Cool because . . .
Beaty Biodiversity Museum |
| August 16
12:00 PM | Centre for Blood Research Research Day 2018
Life Sciences Institute |
| August 24
4:00 PM | D.R.I.N.K.S. (Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science)
Mahony and Sons, Stamps Landing |

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- Field Application Scientist, Asia Pacific Region**
Precision NanoSystems
- Scientist or Senior Scientist, Clinical R&D**
Precision NanoSystems
- Research Associate**
UBC Centre for Blood Research
- Business Development Specialist**
Mitacs

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HOW CAN EVALUATING THE IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY POTENTIAL OF COMPOUNDS IN VITRO PREDICT CLINICAL OUTCOMES?

Webinar by Dr. Allison O'Mahony

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