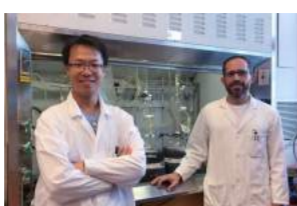


Publications of the Week

Dexamethasone Prodrugs as Potent Suppressors of the Immunostimulatory Effects of Lipid Nanoparticle Formulations of Nucleic Acids

 First Author: Sam Chen (*left*) | Second Author: Josh Zailman (*right*) | Senior Author: Pieter Cullis
 The Journal of Controlled Release | Integrated Nanotherapeutics and UBC


One factor impeding clinical acceptance of lipid nanoparticle (LNP) therapeutics is that LNP formulations of nucleic acid polymers can be immunostimulatory, necessitating co-administration of potent corticosteroid immunosuppressive agents. The authors describe the development of hydrophobic prodrugs of a potent corticosteroid, dexamethasone, that can be readily incorporated into LNP systems. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Oh, SNAP! How Enteroviruses Redirect Autophagic Traffic Away from Degradation

 First Author: Abigail Corona | Senior Author: Honglin Luo (*pictured*)
 Autophagy | Centre for Heart Lung Innovation and UBC


Picomaviruses have a short cytosolic lifecycle that, in cultured cells, ends in cell lysis. For years, the prevailing model was that these viruses exit from cells exclusively through cell lysis. However, over the last several years it has become apparent that for some picomaviruses, a macroautophagy/autophagy-related pathway can result in release of virus particles wrapped in a membrane containing autophagic markers. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Gleave Awarded the 2018 Dr. Chew Wei Memorial Prize in Cancer Research

Vancouver Prostate Centre



Dr. Martin Gleave (*pictured*) is the recipient of the fifth annual Dr. Chew Wei Memorial Prize in Cancer Research for his work to improve outcomes from prostate cancer. The UBC Faculty of Medicine bestows this award annually to a Canadian physician or scientist who makes outstanding contributions to the treatment, amelioration, or development of therapies for cancer. [Read More](#)

UBC Bestows National Prizes on Canadian Health Science Pioneers

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Four of Canada's leading clinician scientists and researchers in heart health, brain health and cancer have been singled out by the UBC Faculty of Medicine for their scientific accomplishments, and for their potential to make further contributions in their fields. This includes Drs. Andrew Krahn and Bruce McManus (*pictured*), who are the recipients of the eighth annual Margoese National Heart Disorders Prize. [Read More](#)

Congratulations to the BCCHRI CIHR Grant Recipients!

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute

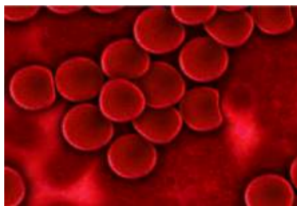


The BC Children's Hospital Research Institute (BCCHRI) community received more than \$4.9 million in new grants and awards through the recent Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grant competition. In the Foundation and Team Grant competitions, BCCHRI investigators were awarded more than \$2.5 million. Recipients include Dr. Ruth Granau (*pictured*) and co-investigator Dr. Steven Miller. [Read More](#)

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Local News

The Work of a Bloodsmith: Progress in the Quest for Complete Blood Substitutes

Centre for Blood Research



Researchers in the laboratory of Dr. Jayachandran Kizhakkedathu are working towards developing a method to enzymatically convert A, B, and AB blood types to the universal donor O-type blood. Paired with using polymer technology to 'camouflage' minor red cell antigens from the immune system, these modified cells could allow clinicians to broaden the compatibility of their donation stores and reduce the waste of precious red blood cell donations. [Read More](#)

A Bit of Energetic Enlightenment from Nature

Research2Reality



Dr. Vikramaditya Yadav, Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering at UBC, was inspired by nature to find a way to harness solar energy, even under low light conditions. He's using lycopene, the molecule that makes grapefruit pink and tomatoes red, to make biogenic solar panels that work well in cities that don't get much sun. [Read More](#)

McNagny Lab Uncovers a New Protective Role for an Old Protein during Lung Repair

Centre for Blood Research (CBR)



The McNagny lab at the CBR studies CD34, a cell surface protein typically used as a marker for progenitors of blood cells. CD34 has also been identified in other progenitor cell subsets, including those involved in lung injury, yet its function in these populations has not been well defined. The lab has examined the role of CD34 in lung disease using mouse models of acute lung injury and influenza-induced lung injury. [Read More](#)

Do Bacteria Ever Go Extinct? New Research Says Yes, Bigtime

UBC Science



Bacteria go extinct at substantial rates, although appear to avoid the mass extinctions that have hit larger forms of life on Earth, according to new research from UBC. The finding contradicts widely held scientific thinking that microbe taxa, because of their very large populations, rarely die off. The study used massive DNA sequencing and big data analysis to create the first evolutionary tree encompassing a large fraction of Earth's bacteria over the past billion years. [Read More](#)

Pilot Project Network Teams Report Steady Progress in First Year of Working Together

Terry Fox Research Institute



The Terry Fox Canadian Comprehensive Cancer Centres Network, a two-year pilot project that brings together investigators from Vancouver's BC Cancer and Toronto's Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, has reached numerous milestones in just over a year—making researchers hopeful about the potential benefit the network could have on patients across the nation. [Read More](#)

UBC Engineers Develop Technique to Break Down Fats, Oil, and Grease

UBC News



Cooking oil and similar waste can clog pipes, harm fish, and even grow into solid deposits like the "fatbergs" that recently blocked London's sewage system. But Drs. Victor Lo, Asha Srinivasan and Ping Lio at UBC may have found a way to treat these fats, oils, and grease—collectively called FOG—and turn them into energy. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- August 16 12:00 PM** **Centre for Blood Research Research Day 2018**
 Life Sciences Institute
- August 16 5:00 PM** **Beaty Nocturnal: Making Wave[form]s**
 Beaty Biodiversity Museum
- August 18 4:00 PM** **SCWIST at the Whitecaps**
 BC Place
- August 23 7:30 PM** **Science World After Dark**
 Telus World of Science
- 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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STEMCELL Technologies
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InMed Pharmaceuticals
- Senior Scientist, Assay Development**
Zymeworks
- Postdoctoral Fellow/Research Associate**
BC Cancer Research Centre
- Research Assistant/Technician**
Simon Fraser University
- Medical Affairs Coordinator**
Virogin Biotech Canada

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HOW ARE HUMANIZED MOUSE MODELS FACILITATING IN VIVO STUDIES OF HEMATOPOIESIS?

Webinar by Dr. Sattiro De Oliveira, UCLA

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