

Publications of the Week

Patient-Reported Outcomes Following Abiraterone Acetate Plus Prednisone Added to Androgen Deprivation Therapy in Patients With Newly Diagnosed Metastatic Castration-Naive Prostate Cancer (LATITUDE): An International, Randomised Phase III Trial

First Author: Kim Chi (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Karim Fizazi
The Lancet Oncology | BC Cancer Agency



In the LATITUDE trial, addition of abiraterone acetate plus prednisone to androgen deprivation therapy (ADT) improved overall survival compared with placebos plus ADT in patients with newly diagnosed, high-risk, metastatic castration-naive prostate cancer. The authors aimed to analyse the effects of ADT plus abiraterone acetate and prednisone versus ADT plus placebos on patient-reported outcomes and health-related quality of life in patients in the LATITUDE study. [Abstract](#)

Cognitive Planning Neural Correlates in a Pediatric Monozygotic Twin Pair Discordant for Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder: Exploring Potential Application in Precision Medicine

First Author: Fern Jaspers-Fayer | Senior Author: Evelyn Stewart (*pictured*)



Pediatric obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a debilitating illness characterized by intrusive thoughts and repetitive behaviours. Substantial overlap exists between brain areas implicated in OCD pathology and those involved in planning. The authors compared the performance and brain activation of OCD-discordant monozygotic twins during a planning task commonly used in imaging studies. [Abstract](#)

REVIEW: Good Bug, Bad Bug: Breaking through Microbial Stereotypes

First Author: Mihai Cirstea | Senior Author: Brett Finlay (*pictured*)



Our expanding knowledge of microbial mechanisms is challenging the notion of “good” versus “bad” microbes and encouraging a better understanding of their roles in various contexts before their widespread therapeutic and clinical application. The intestinal microbe *Akkermansia muciniphila*, a promising probiotic with an emerging cautionary tale, best highlights this challenge. [Abstract](#)

Awards

January 2018 Award Winners



Dr. Alex Wyatt (*pictured*), a senior research scientist at the Vancouver Prostate Centre and assistant professor at the University of British Columbia, is one of many local researchers to have been awarded a CIHR project grant last month. Find out which other Vancouver scientists won grants, awards, fellowships, and scholarships in January 2018 in this month's Vancouver award summary.

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Significant Brain Research Funding for DMCBH Member Projects

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



CIHR Project Grants support research projects with a defined endpoint, allowing researchers to pursue innovative, high-risk research questions with potential to improve health outcomes in Canada. Eight investigators at the Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (DMCBH), including Dr. Catharine Winstanley (*pictured*), have received a combined total of \$5,447,900 in CIHR project grants for brain health research. [Read More](#)

Congratulations to the Recent HLI CIHR Project Grant Recipients!

Centre for Heart Lung Innovation



Congratulations to all of the Centre for Heart Lung Innovation (HLI) researchers that were successful in the latest round of funding from CIHR, including Dr. John Boyd (*pictured*). HLI investigators had tremendous success, with 42% of applications being approved, more than double the success rate of the broader UBC population and almost triple the national success rate. [Read More](#)

VPC Investigators Receive Six CIHR Fall 2017 Project Grants

Vancouver Prostate Centre



Vancouver Prostate Centre (VPC) investigators were highly successful in the latest round of CIHR funding, receiving 6 research grants in the Fall 2017 Project Grant competition for a total of \$3.48 million over five years. Successful applicants include Drs. Artem Cherkasov (*pictured*), Ralph Buttyan, Mads Daugaard, William Derry, Xuesen Dong, Martin Gleave, Nathan Lack, Alex Wyatt, and Kim Chi.

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Local News

Skin Substitute Provides the Building Blocks for Wound Repair

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



A new product developed in B.C. by Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute scientist Dr. Aziz Ghahary may solve the painful health burden of slow healing wounds. MeshFill is a liquid skin substitute that could stave off wound infection, reduce treatment times (and costly hospital stays) and improve healing outcomes for hard-to-heal wounds. [Read More](#)

Canadian Patients to Benefit From Major Investment in Genomics and Precision Health Research

Genome BC



The Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, on behalf of the Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science, has announced two major genomics research investments in B.C. during a visit to B.C. Children's Hospital. The total investment of \$75.9 million comes from the federal and provincial governments, research institutions and private sector partners.

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The Answer to Asthma May Be in Dirty Diapers

The Vancouver Sun



Asthma is the most common chronic childhood disease in Canada and costs the healthcare system \$2 billion a year. Infants who are given antibiotics, which wipe out bacteria in the gut, are more likely to develop asthma. Using genetic sequencing, Dr. Stuart Turvey will examine the entire community of microbes, known as the biome, in 3,500 stool samples collected as part of a long-term Canadian Healthy Infant Longitudinal Development study. [Read More](#)

UBC Medicine Receives 40% of National Genomics Funding

UBC faculty of Medicine

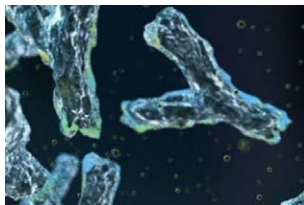


Genomics-based research projects led or co-led by members of UBC's Faculty of Medicine garnered \$101 million from the federal government - about 40 percent of the total national investment. The projects chosen through Genome Canada's Large-Scale Applied Research Program and its Genomics Technology Platforms aim to enable earlier and more precise diagnoses, provide better guidance for treatment, and make the health care system more effective. [Read More](#)

Innovative Targeting Solutions Announces Research Agreement with Lilly

Innovative Targeting Solutions

Innovative Targeting Solutions Inc. has announced a research agreement with Eli Lilly and Company. Under the agreement, Innovative Targeting Solutions' will utilize its proprietary HuTARG™ research platform to potentially discover first in



class antibody drug candidates. The HuTARG™ protein engineering platform allows one to directly isolate and engineer antibodies based on functional activity at scales not attainable with any other technology. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

We Need a National Brain-Research Strategy

The Globe and Mail



Dr. Lynn Raymond (*pictured*), President of the Canadian Association for Neuroscience, and Dr. Joyce Gordon, Chair of the Neurological Health Charities Canada and CEO of Parkinson Canada, discuss the need for a Canadian national brain-research strategy. They argue that such a strategy would increase collaboration and cooperation amongst researchers, clinicians and other vital service providers. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| February 5
5:30 PM | Rethinking Germs: Healthy Living with Our Microbes
SFU Segal Building |
| February 6 - 7
7:00 AM | Heart + Lung Health FEST 2018
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre |
| February 7
11:30 AM | Healthy Starts Theme Research Day
BC Children's Hospital Research Institute |
| February 8
6:00 PM | BCIT Biotechnology Alumni Networking Event
BCIT Downtown Campus – The Atrium |
| February 15
6:00 PM | Science Slam
Beaty Biodiversity Museum |

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

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