

Publications of the Week

## Generation of a Multi-Antigen-Directed Immune Response for Durable Control of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

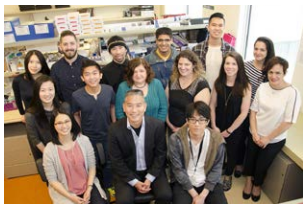
First Author: Sumin Jo (*far right*) | Senior Author: Gregor Reid (*third from left*)  
Leukemia | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC



Strategies to direct T-cell-mediated cytotoxicity towards leukemic cells bearing non-immunogenic antigens, such as CD19-targeted chimeric antigen receptor-modified T cells and bi-specific T-cell engagers, have tremendous clinical promise for acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Unfortunately, there is no evidence that these interventions generate long-term immune memory, and relapses of target antigen-positive clones may emerge after engineered receptors are no longer present. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

## Spinal Cord Perfusion Pressure Predicts Neurologic Recovery in Acute Spinal Cord Injury

First Author: Jordan Squair (*not pictured*) | Senior Author: Brian Kwok (*front, middle*)  
Neurology | ICORD and UBC



The authors demonstrated that maintaining spinal cord perfusion pressure (SCPP) above 50 mm Hg is a strong predictor of improved neurologic recovery following spinal cord injury. This suggests that SCPP (the difference between mean arterial pressure and cerebrospinal fluid pressure) can provide useful information to guide the hemodynamic management of patients with acute spinal cord injury. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

## REVIEW: When Beta Cells Talk Back

First Author: Heather Denroche | Senior Author: Bruce Verchere (*pictured*)  
Diabetologia | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC



Islet macrophages reside in the perivascular space next to islet blood vessels. They are long-lived and self-renewing, maintaining about two to ten macrophages per islet. However, more than three decades after the first description of islet macrophages, our knowledge regarding the biological role of these cells is limited. Emerging evidence indicates that islet macrophages are important for islet homeostasis and secrete numerous factors that modulate beta cell activity.

[Abstract](#)

## Spotlight

### Dr. Louise Lund Talks Research and Scientific Recruiting



Dr. Louise Lund is a recent graduate who studied in the laboratories of Drs. Leonard Foster and Charles Haynes at the University of British Columbia. Upon finishing her studies, Dr. Lund opted to leave the bench to become a Scientific Recruiter at STEMCELL Technologies. We sat down with Dr. Lund to discuss her career choice, and her journey from bench to desk. [Read More](#)

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## Awards

### 2017 Faculty of Medicine Award Recipients

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Each year, the Faculty of Medicine recognizes faculty and staff members for excellence in teaching, research, administration, innovation and public service. Over 30 individuals were recognized for their contributions in 2017, including Dr. Kevin Eva (*pictured*), who is the recipient of the Senior Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award for Overall Excellence. [Read More](#)

### MSFHR 2017 Reach Award Recipients

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



B.C. Children's Hospital Research Institute is pleased to congratulate the recipients of the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) 2017 Reach Awards, including Dr. Tim Oberlander (*pictured*). The MSFHR Reach Program provides funding for teams of researchers and research users to support the dissemination and effective uptake of research evidence to inform and improve further research, practice and policy-making. [Read More](#)

### CBR Researcher Receives Prestigious MSFHR Trainee Award

The Centre for Blood Research



Dr. Srinivas Abbina (*pictured*), a postdoctoral fellow under the supervision of Dr. Jay Kizhakkedathu at the Centre for Blood Research (CBR), has been awarded the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) Trainee Award. Dr. Abbina was among 32 postdoctoral researchers selected from a highly competitive applicant pool in Biomedical, Clinical, and Population Health research across B.C.

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## Local News

## Finding Ways to Support Parents' Decisions through Diagnosis of Genetic Disorders

Genome BC



Genome-wide sequencing (GWS) is a powerful technology that can test for thousands of genetic diseases at one time and has the potential to save lives. Although GWS can dramatically increase the rate of diagnosis, many neonatal intensive care unit parents decline testing when presented with this test option. A new project at BC Children's Hospital and Health Centre will investigate factors influencing decision-making for parents considering GWS. [Read More](#)

## Distinguished Research Leaders Join MSFHR's Research Leaders Forum

Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research



The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) is delighted to convene the first MSFHR Research Leaders Forum, a group of internationally recognized researchers who will advise the Foundation on the trends, challenges and opportunities shaping health research at provincial, national and international levels. Fifteen distinguished researchers have been selected from across the broad spectrum of BC health research, including Dr. Pieter Cullis (*pictured*) of the Life Sciences Institute. [Read More](#)

## TxCell Collaboration Presents New Proof-of-Concept Transplantation Results with Proprietary Second-Generation CAR-Tregs

TxCell



TxCell has announced details on the new proof-of-concept preclinical data presented at the 18th Congress of the European Society for Organ Transplantation, held in Barcelona, Spain, on September 24-27, 2017. The oral presentation made by Professor Megan Levings describes positive data obtained with proprietary second-generation CAR-Tregs in a graft-versus-host disease preclinical model.

[Read More](#)

## InMed Continues to Make Significant Strides on Biosynthesis Program Development

InMed Pharmaceuticals



InMed Pharmaceuticals, Inc. has successfully demonstrated that it can selectively produce all four "gateway" cannabinoids using genetically engineered microorganisms. These molecules can be functionalized further to produce any of the 90+ "downstream" cannabinoids found naturally in the cannabis plant. The company is actively employing this production chassis to synthesize compounds for its pharmaceutical research programs. [Read More](#)

## Stemcell Technologies Aims for the World

The Province



This week *Conversations That Matter* features the remarkable Dr. Allen Eaves, the founder, CEO and president of Stemcell Technologies, Canada's most successful biotech company. It is playing a pivotal role in fostering a community of biotech startups. "We're very keen to support an ecosystem of biotechnology here and be closely related with the universities, especially UBC and SFU, and you know, this is my passion," Eaves said. [Read More](#)

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### Interesting Articles

## Postdocs: Big Lab, Small Lab?

Nature



Of all the factors that potential postdocs must consider when choosing a position, lab size should be near the top of their list: it can shape a junior researcher's career. Scientists say that small labs may be isolating, but that members tend to have great access to the lab leader. Conversely, whereas trainees in larger labs may have less time face-to-face with their mentor, some data suggest that they have more chances to collaborate and publish. [Read More](#)

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## Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| October 17<br>9:00 AM       | <b>Career Connect: STEMCELL Technologies</b><br>STEMCELL Technologies              |
| October 17<br>10:00 AM      | <b>Business Development Basics for Life Science Companies</b><br>CDRD Headquarters |
| October 18 - 19<br>11:00 AM | <b>UBC Careers Days 2017</b><br>AMS Student Nest                                   |
| October 19<br>4:00 PM       | <b>2017 Don Rix Distinguished Keynote Address</b><br>Vancouver Convention Centre   |
| October 20 - 22<br>8:00 AM  | <b>Hackseq</b><br>Life Sciences Institute, UBC                                     |

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## Science Jobs in Vancouver

### Research Associate, Bioengineering

STEMCELL Technologies

### Quality Control Analyst, Pluripotent Stem Cells

STEMCELL Technologies

### Research Associate

BC Cancer Research Centre

## Research Scientist, Assay Development

SignalChem LifeSciences

## Production Technician

GenomeMe

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