

Publications of the Week

An Allosteric MALT1 Inhibitor Is a Molecular Corrector Rescuing Function in an Immunodeficient Patient

First Author: Jean Quémener | Senior Authors: Stuart Turvey and Christopher Overall (*pictured, left*)
Nature Chemical Biology | Centre for Blood Research, BC Children's Hospital and UBC



The authors previously identified a patient homozygous for a MALT1 Trp580-to-serine mutation who suffered from combined immunodeficiency. Here, they discover nanomolar, selective allosteric inhibitors of MALT1 that bind by displacing the side chain of Trp580, locking the protease in an inactive conformation that increases stabilization of MALT1-W580S to reach that of wild-type MALT1. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Loss of CIC Promotes Mitotic Dysregulation and Chromosome Segregation Defects

First Author: Suganthi Chittaranjan | Senior Author: Marco Marra (*pictured*)
bioRxiv | Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre and BC Cancer



Capicua (CIC) is a transcriptional repressor inactivated by loss-of-function mutations in several cancer types, including gliomas, lung cancers, and gastric adenocarcinomas. Using mammalian cells lacking functional CIC, the authors found that CIC deficiency was associated with chromosome segregation defects, resulting in chromosomal instability and aneuploidy. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Faculty Members Awarded More Than \$17.2 Million in CIHR Project Grants

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Thirty-two members of the UBC Faculty of Medicine were awarded more than \$17.2 million in Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) Project Grants, which support Canadian researchers to study the full spectrum of health issues affecting the lives of Canadians. Dr. LeAnn Howe (*pictured*) will be investigating the regulation of chromatin structure on transcribed genes and newly replicated DNA. [Read More](#)

Drs. Leonard Foster and Jörg Bohlmann Announced as Recipients of Genome Canada Awards

Michael Smith Laboratories



Two Professors from the Michael Smith Laboratories, Drs. Leonard Foster and Jörg Bohlmann (*pictured*), have been awarded a total of \$1.5 million from Genome Canada for their projects. These awards will support next-generation tools and methodologies which will help the broader research community manage the oncoming influx of data produced by new genomics techniques. [Read More](#)

Shoukat Dedhar and Timothy Kieffer Recognized with Faculty Research Awards

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Two members of the UBC Faculty of Medicine have been recognized with UBC Killam Research Prizes for their outstanding research and scholarly contributions. Dr. Shoukat Dedhar's (*pictured*) research focuses on cancer biology and cell adhesion mechanisms, and Dr. Timothy Kieffer's research focuses on innovative approaches to treat diabetes. [Read More](#)

FHS Professor Receives CIHR Funding to Study the Role of T Cells in Treating HIV

SFU Faculty of Health Sciences



Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) professor Mark Brockman (*pictured*) is one of three SFU researchers who has received a project grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research's fall 2018 competition. Brockman and his team will examine how human T cells can be used to target latent HIV infection, bridging recent advances in cancer therapy with renewed efforts to achieve an HIV cure. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Cannabis for Health and Recreation: How is Science Involved?

The Science and Policy Integration Network (SPIN)



On October 17, 2018, the Cannabis Act came into effect, making recreational cannabis legally accessible across Canada. Despite this, there are still challenges in ensuring access to a consistent product across Canada, including in British Columbia, and questions remain about the physiological effects of long-term cannabis use. [Read More](#)

Mapping the Cellular Social Network of Proteins

The Scientist



Refined mapping techniques developed in yeast models or based on mass spectrometry can now screen tens of thousands to millions of protein interactions. Each approach provides a different view of an organism's interactome, shining a light on a slice of it. *The Scientist* talked with interactome experts, including Dr. Leonard Foster (*pictured*) from UBC, to learn more about three common techniques for mapping protein interactions on a large scale. [Read More](#)

Call for Boost in Research Funding for Chronic Diseases that Affect Women

Global News



Dr. Lori Brotto (*pictured*), Executive Director of the Women's Health Research Institute, says women tend to develop complex chronic diseases six to nine times more often than men. "We don't have a good understanding of why women are more vulnerable," Brotto said. She says they're doing research but they don't have enough staffing and resources. More funding would make a huge difference. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Government of Canada Ensures Canada's Research Community Is as Diverse as Our Country

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada



The Honourable Kirsty Duncan (*pictured*), Minister of Science and Sport, has unveiled the draft Made-in Canada Athena SWAN Charter, and announced the creation of a new fund to foster equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in research. Minister Duncan also announced \$10 million in funding over five years for EDI Institutional Capacity-Building grants to help post-secondary institutions across Canada embrace and increase diversity. [Read More](#)

Female Health Scientists Face Large Gender Bias in Access to Federal Research Dollars, Canadian Study Reveals

The Globe and Mail



Female health scientists in Canada face a significant disadvantage when competing for federal research dollars in cases where grant reviewers are allowed to consider who is doing the science compared with when a project is judged on its scientific merits alone, an independent study has revealed. The finding offers one of the strongest indications to date of a pervasive bias that women working in science face as they try to marshal resources to advance their research goals. [Read More](#)

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 **Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

- February 20
7:00 PM **Are Bees Really Dying? Are We the Cause or the Solution?**
John M.S. Lecky UBC Boathouse
- February 21
7:00 PM **Builds 'N' Bytes Night – Simple Machines**
Storm Crow Alehouse
- February 21 - 22 **Build Your Scientific and Technical Writing Skills**
9:00 AM
Thea Koerner House
- February 22
4:00 PM **D.R.I.N.K.S. (Discussions Relevant to Inspiring New Knowledge and Science)**
Mahony and Sons, Stamps Landing
- February 26
1:00 PM **Career Connect : Applied Biological Materials**
Applied Biological Materials

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 **STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver**

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[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Senior Scientist, Neuroscience**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Scientific Recruiter**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Scientist, Stem Cell Metabolism**
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- Research Associate, Business Operations Products**
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 **Other Science Jobs in Vancouver**

- Assistant Professor, Tenure Track**
UBC Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Postdoctoral Fellow, Neuronal Patterning**
UBC Life Science Institute
- Lead Pharmacologist**
Inception Science
- Research Associate, Formulation Solutions**
Precision Nanosystems
- Core Facility Research Associate II**
Zymeworks

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