

Publications of the Week

Generation of Blood Vessel Organoids from Human Pluripotent Stem Cells

First Author: Reiner Wimmer (*pictured, right*) | Senior Author: Josef Penninger (*left*)
Nature Protocols | UBC



The authors describe a protocol to generate self-organizing 3D human blood vessel organoids from human pluripotent stem cells (hPSCs) that exhibit morphological, functional and molecular features of human microvasculature. *In vitro*-differentiated human blood vessel organoids transplanted into immunocompromised mice gained access to the mouse circulation and specified into functional arteries, arterioles and veins. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Developing a Highly Specific Biomarker for Germ Cell Malignancies: Plasma miR371 Expression across the Germ Cell Malignancy Spectrum

First Author: Lucia Nappi (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Christian Kollmannsberger
Journal of Clinical Oncology | BC Cancer and the Vancouver Prostate Centre



The authors evaluated operating characteristics, particularly specificity and positive predictive value, by mapping plasma miR371 expression to actual clinical events in patients with a history of germ cell tumour. Plasma miR371 expression in confirmed active germ cell malignancy had high specificity, sensitivity, positive predictive value, and negative predictive value. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Marco Marra Inducted to the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame

Canadian Medical Hall of Fame



Dr. Marco Marra (*pictured*), the Head of the Department of Medical Genetics at UBC, and the Director of Canada's Michael Smith Genome Science Centre at BC Cancer, is among the six Canadian medical heroes that have been inducted to the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame. He is recognized as a pioneer in his field, and as a role model of excellence in health in Canada and the world. [Read More](#)

UBC Medical Student Adam Ramzy Receives 2019 Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Award

UBC Medicine



UBC medical student Adam Ramzy (*pictured*) is one of 17 recipients of the 2019 Canadian Medical Hall of Fame Award. The award, which honours second-year medical students from across the nation, recognizes those with an established track record of community leadership, superior communication skills and demonstrated interest in advancing knowledge. [Read More](#)

Perry Kendall Appointed to the Order of Canada

UBC Medicine



Dr. Perry Kendall (*pictured*), a Clinical Professor at the UBC Faculty of Medicine's School of Population and Public Health, has been recently appointed to the Order of Canada. Kendall has received the honour for his leadership in the public health sphere both in British Columbia and across the country, particularly as an advocate for harm reduction and as a champion for Indigenous health. [Read More](#)

Dr. Megan Levings is the Recipient of the 2019 Geoffrey L. Hammond Lectureship

BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



Dr. Megan Levings (*pictured*), a world leader in the field of immunology and a respected mentor and visionary, has been awarded the 2019 Geoffrey L. Hammond Lectureship, BC Children's Hospital Research Institute's highest honour. The award is given to a senior investigator who has made a significant impact on improving the health and well-being, served as a role model and mentor, and provided leadership to the BC Children's research community. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Interview with Tamer Mohamed of Aspect Biosystems on Advancing Tissue Therapeutics

3DPrint.com



While attending UBC, Tamer Mohamed (*pictured*), along with fellow graduate student Simon Beyer, developed a novel microfluidics-based bioprinting platform that could be used to fabricate human tissue constructs. This became the basis for their startup, Aspect Biosystems. 3DPrint.com spoke to Mohamed to learn about his successful transition from graduate student to CEO of Aspect Biosystems. [Read More](#)

SFU Students Travel to South Africa for Field School on HIV and Youth

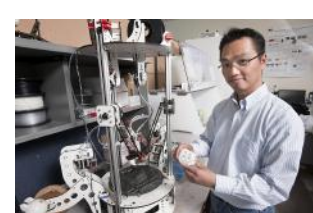
SFU Faculty of Health Sciences



Over the summer, a group of SFU graduate and undergraduate students had the opportunity to travel to South Africa for an intensive, experiential learning course. The students learned from world-class researchers, clinicians, community activists, policy makers, public health practitioners, and people living with HIV in South Africa, all actively working to reduce the impact of HIV among youth. [Read More](#)

Wood On Our Skin

Science and Technology Research News



Dr. Woo Soo Kim (*pictured*) from SFU is working with researchers at Empa's Cellulose & Wood Materials lab to develop flexible, biocompatible nanocellulose sensors that can be attached to the skin. They are using nanocellulose, an inexpensive, renewable raw material that is biocompatible, and therefore particularly suitable for biomedical research. [Read More](#)

Secret Lives of CBR Researchers: Melanie Dostert

Centre for Blood Research



The Centre for Blood Research (CBR) has many talented graduate students, postdocs and faculty doing cutting edge research in important fields, but they also have exciting lives outside of the lab. In their latest newsletter, they introduce Melanie Dostert (*pictured*), a second year PhD student who is a talented microbiologist and musician. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- October 16 6:00 PM **Speed Networking: Connecting Job Seekers to Industry Professionals**
Jack Poole Hall, Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre
- October 16 6:00 PM **The Brain and the Gut**
Paetzold Auditorium
- October 17 9:30 AM **LifeSciences BC Workshop: Commercial Readiness Masterclass with Gowling WLG**
Terminal City Club
- October 18 7:00 PM **Science World After Dark: Murder Mystery Edition 2019**
Science World at Telus World of Science
- October 21 3:30 PM **2019 International Gardner Symposium**
UBC Life Sciences Institute

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STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

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STEMCELL Technologies
- Associate Product Manager, Mesenchymal & Myogenic**
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- Research Associate, Bioengineering**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Research Associate, Immune Cell Culture**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Inside Sales Representative**
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Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Director, Centre for Blood Research**
UBC Medicine
- Assistant Professor, Biotechnology**
Michael Smith Laboratories
- Associate Director, Clinical Operations**
Xenon
- Research Associate, Formulations**
Cuprous Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Assistant Bioinformatics Coordinator**
BC Cancer

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