

Publications of the Week

Loss of m¹acp³Ψ Ribosomal RNA Modification Is a Major Feature of Cancer

First Author: Artem Babaian (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Dixie Mager
Cell Reports | UBC and the Terry Fox Laboratory



The authors have identified a cancer-specific single-nucleotide variation in 18S rRNA at nucleotide 1248.U in up to 45.9% of patients with colorectal carcinoma and present across >22 cancer types. This is the site of a unique hyper-modified base, 1-methyl-3-α-amino-α-carboxyl-propyl pseudouridine (m¹acp³Ψ), a >1-billion-years-conserved RNA modification at the peptidyl decoding site of the ribosome.

[Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Overexpression of the Small RNA PA0805.1 in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Modulates the Expression of a Large Set of Genes and Proteins, Resulting in Altered Motility, Cytotoxicity, and Tobramycin Resistance

First Author: Shannon Coleman (*pictured*) | Robert Hancock
mSystems | UBC



The authors have previously demonstrated 20 small RNA (sRNA) species in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* that were dysregulated under swarming conditions. One of these, sRNA PA0805.1 (which was 5-fold upregulated under swarming conditions), when cloned, transformed into wild-type PAO1, and overexpressed, led to broad phenotypic changes, including reduced swarming, swimming, and twitching motilities, as well as increased adherence, cytotoxicity, and tobramycin resistance. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Faculty and Graduate Students Receive Killam Awards for Excellence in Teaching

UBC Medicine



Four UBC faculty members and two graduate students have been recognized with the 2019-2020 Killam Awards for their outstanding teaching, research and service to the community. As one of six Killam institutions, UBC offers yearly awards from the Killam Endowment Fund to faculty and teaching assistants. Dr. Thibault Mayor (*pictured*) from the UBC Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology is one of the recipients of a Killam Teaching Prize. [Read More](#)

Canadian Nutrition Society Meeting 2020 Recognizes BCDRN Researchers

BC Diabetes Research Network



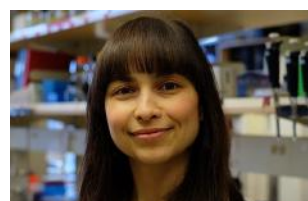
Two BC Diabetes Research Network (BCDRN) researchers have been recognized at the Canadian Nutrition Society 2020 Meeting. Postdoctoral fellow Dr. Alejandra Wiedeman (*pictured*) and master's graduate Cynthia Ramirez are both part of Dr. Angela Devlin and Dr. Dina Panagiotopoulos' research teams at BC Children's Hospital working collaboratively on translational research projects. [Read More](#)

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Local News

New Combination Treatment May Overcome Drug Resistance in Blood Cancers

BC Cancer



Building off the discovery of an enzyme called integrin-linked kinase (ILK) made by BC Cancer distinguished scientist Dr. Shoukat Dedhar 24 years ago, BC Cancer's Dr. Katharina Rothe (*pictured*) in Dr. Xiaoyan Jiang's lab has found that not only is ILK highly abundant in chronic myeloid leukemia, but when this enzyme is inhibited in addition to the current standard-of-care treatment, the results are more effective. [Read More](#)

Making Discovery 'A Question of Brains, Not Money'

Research2Reality



Biologist Dr. Connie Eaves (*pictured*) knows a thing or two about discovery. Her five-decade career in stem cell research has included discoveries in leukemia and breast cancer that were so groundbreaking that she is the 2019 Canada Gairdner Wightman Award Laureate. But she insists that most of the time, discoveries don't happen the way most people think they do. [Read More](#)

What is ACE2? An Interview with Dr. Josef Penninger

The Naked Scientist



There's a system of hormones in our bodies that controls blood pressure called the renin-angiotensin system. The crucial parts are: a hormone called angiotensin; and some enzymes that convert it, aka angiotensin converting enzymes - ACE. This is what ACE2 stands for. One of the people who first discovered much of this is Austrian and UBC researcher Dr. Josef Penninger (*pictured*), and he explained it on the Naked Scientists podcast. [Read More](#)

UBC Faculty of Medicine Virtual Career Week 2020 Recap

Providence Health Care



Between May 4 - 8, 2020, the UBC Centre for Heart Lung Innovation hosted the first-ever Faculty of Medicine Career Week virtually via Zoom webinar. The program included career panels featuring 17 experts in industry research and development, academic research and teaching, and non-traditional careers, as well as two new workshops focused on building an on-line network and LinkedIn profile, and how to effectively use Twitter for scientific communication. [Read More](#)

Inside the BCCDC: The Front Lines of B.C.'s Quest to Conquer COVID-19

CTV News



The machines whirr and cycle test tubes around what looks like a futuristic version of a conveyer belt. Lab technicians open and close hatches, type with precision on touchscreen monitors, and occasionally hunt for a thick black binder. It's both old school and high-tech on the ground floor of the B.C. Centre for Disease Control's Public Health Lab in Vancouver, where the experts may need both approaches to crack the COVID-19 code. [Read More](#)

ARTMS Closes a US\$19 Million Series A Financing with Deerfield and Global Health Sciences Fund

ARTMS Inc. via Newswire



ARTMS Inc., a global leader in developing technology that transforms the production of the world's most-used diagnostic imaging isotopes, has announced that it has raised US\$19 million in a Series A financing. ARTMS' award-winning technology utilizes locally-based medical cyclotrons, empowering the user to control their supply chain and produce high volumes of innovative high-quality radiopharmaceutical products. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Prime Minister Announces Support for Research Staff in Canada

Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada



The Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, has announced \$450 million in funding to help Canada's academic research community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The investment will provide wage supports to universities and health research institutes, and support universities and health research institutes to maintain essential research-related activities during the crisis, and to ramp back up to full research operations once physical distancing measures are lifted. [Read More](#)

Alejandro Adem: Keeping Our Strength in Science Is Vital to Canada's Recovery

The Province



In this opinion piece, Dr. Alejandro Adem (*pictured*), President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, urges that "In times like these it's essential to keep our teams of research scientists and engineers engaged and supported [...] In the recovery phase, we'll need Canada's full and formidable research capacity; our country has invested in science and this will serve us well in these uncertain times". [Read More](#)

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 **Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

May 26 2:00 PM	Careers in Chaos: Discussing the Impact of COVID19 on Science Online
May 26 7:00 PM	COVID-19 Update: Expert Q&A with Public Health (Dr. Bonnie Henry), Epidemiology (Dr. David Patrick) & Lab (Dr. Mel Krajden) Online
May 27 4:00 PM	In Sickness, Health, and Grant-Writing Season Online
May 28 3:00 PM	Science Diplomacy in Times of COVID-19 Online
June 3 1:30 PM	Connect Your Research in COVID Times Online

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 **Science Jobs in Vancouver**

- Head, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine**
UBC Faculty of Medicine
- Quality Control Manager, Microbiology and Environmental Monitoring**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Projects Manager**
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Production Coordinator, High Throughput Antibody Production**
AbCellera
- Lab Technician**
ViroGin Biotech Canada Ltd.

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