

Publications of the Week

**Blood Circulation of Soft Nanomaterials Is Governed by Dynamic Remodelling of Protein Oponins at Nano-Biointerface**

First Author: Srinivas Abbina (*pictured, left*) | Senior Author: Jay Kizhakkedathu (*back row, seventh from right*)  
Nature Communications | Centre for Blood Research and UBC



Nanomaterials in the blood must mitigate the immune response to have a prolonged vascular residency *in vivo*. The authors report a panel of new soft single molecule polymer nanomaterials with varying circulation times in mice, and use proteomics to probe protein corona at the nano-biointerface to elucidate the mechanism of blood residency of nanomaterials. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

**NPFF Increases Fusogenic Proteins Syncytin 1 and Syncytin 2 via GCM1 in First Trimester Primary Human Cytotrophoblast Cells**

First Author: Hua Zhu | Senior Author: Peter Leung (*pictured*)  
The FASEB Journal | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute



The authors investigated the effects of neuropeptide FF (NPFF) and NPFF receptor 2 (NPFFR2) on expression of syncytial and fusogenic genes in first trimester primary human cytotrophoblast cells. By analyzing two publicly available microarray data sets, they found that NPFF is consistently expressed throughout gestation whereas NPFFR2 increases in first trimester and is elevated in placenta samples from women with preeclampsia. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)

Awards

**Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship and Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship Winners Announced**

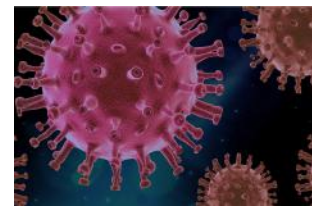
UBC Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies



Twenty-one doctoral students at UBC, including Morgan Alford (*pictured*), have received a Vanier Canada Graduate Fellowship, and three postdoctoral fellows have received a Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship. These young researchers are working on subjects that span the health sciences, the natural sciences and engineering, and the social sciences and humanities. [Read More](#)

**UBC Receives \$14 Million in Federal Funding for COVID-19 Research**

UBC News



Researchers at UBC have received a combined total of \$14.3 million in grants in the latest round of funding from the federal government in support of research aimed at addressing the health challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The investment is focused on accelerating the development, testing, and implementation of measures to mitigate the rapid spread of COVID-19 and its negative consequences on people, communities, and health systems. [Read More](#)

[View All Awards](#) | [View Monthly Award Summaries](#)

Local News

**\$1.5 Million to Develop a Canadian Brain Research Strategy**

UBC Medicine



A pan-Canadian team of researchers led by Dr. Judy Illes (*pictured*) from UBC has received a \$1.5 million grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to develop a strategy that will position the advancement of knowledge about the brain as a national research priority and support the creation of the Canadian Brain Research Strategy Network. [Read More](#)

**Podcast: How Genomics Helped the Future of Belugas**

Genome BC



When the Vancouver Aquarium lost their two beloved belugas to a mysterious illness, they turned to genomics to help. They were able to completely sequence a beluga genome for the first time. The legacy of Aurora and Qila has helped scientists, and belugas, all over the world. Vancouver Aquarium veterinarian Dr. Martin Haulena tells the story on the latest episode of *The Code of Life* podcast from Genome BC. [Read More](#)

**CQDM Becomes a Shareholder of Mesentech to Support the Validation of a Highly Promising Bone-Targeting Drug Delivery Technology**

CQDM



CQDM has announced an investment in Mesentech Inc., an emerging biotech based in Vancouver BC led by Robert Young (*pictured*) that is developing a bone-targeting technology platform to deliver drugs selectively to bone tissue. The lead program, MES-1007, aims to restore bone density and strength in conditions such as osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bone disease), congenital muscular dystrophies (including Duchenne), renal osteodystrophy and age related bone loss. [Read More](#)

**XPhyto Therapeutics Corp. Announces Technical Milestone in Development of Biosensors to Detect Infectious Diseases**

The Georgia Straight



A Vancouver-based tech and cannabis company says that its wholly owned German narcotics manufacturer has "successfully incorporated peptide biosensors into its oral dissolvable thin film platform". According to XPhyto Therapeutics Corp. CEO Hugh Rogers, this achievement by Vektor Pharma TF GmbH marks a "significant technical milestone" in its efforts to commercialize its technology. [Read More](#)

**First Patient Dosed with A9T-1101 First Product Candidate in Alpha-9 Theranostics Pipeline Initiates Clinical Testing**

LifeSciences BC



Alpha-9 Theranostics Inc, a radiopharmaceutical company developing unique technology for imaging and treatment of metastatic cancer, has announced that the first patient in a Phase I/II clinical trial of its neuroendocrine tumour imaging agent A9T-1101 was scanned at BC Cancer, one of Canada's premier cancer research and treatment centres. [Read More](#)

[View All Local News](#) | [Submit an Article](#)

Interesting Articles

**How Female Scientists Are Losing Out During the Pandemic and Why It Matters**

CTV News



Many diseases, including COVID-19, can attack men and women in different ways. Why this is depends on a complex mix of biology and behaviour that can be difficult to untangle. But we do know that these differences are more likely to be considered if medical research involves female scientists, which makes the current state of scientific endeavour on COVID-19, where women are more underrepresented as authors than ever, all the more worrying. [Read More](#)

[View All Interesting Articles](#) | [Submit an Article](#)

**Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

July 2 10:00 AM	<b>Stem Cells from the Sofa Speaker Series: Dr. Katie Cockburn</b> Online
July 6 9:00 AM	<b>COVID Spectrum – Online Forum on Research</b> Online
July 9 10:00 AM	<b>Blakes Breakfast Speaking Event: Update on the Fight against COVID-19</b> Online
July 12 1:30 PM	<b>Vancouver STEMminist Book Club Reads "Lab Girl" by Hope Jahren</b> Online
July 14-15 1:00 PM	<b>VANFLY 2020</b> Online

[View All Events](#) | [Submit an Event](#)

**Science Jobs in Vancouver**

**Principal Scientist, Antibody Assessment**

AbCellera

**Vancouver Prostate Centre**

Postdoctoral Fellow, Dong Lab

**Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre at BC Cancer**

Computational Biologist, Database Developer

**Bioinformatician**

UBC Centre for Molecular Medicine & Therapeutics

**Research Review Officer**

Mitacs

[View 39 Other Science Jobs](#) | [Submit a Job](#)

**Virtual Exhibit: Organoids**

See scientific talks and posters from your device



STEMCELL  
TECHNOLOGIES

[EXPLORE NOW](#)

Submit your articles and events by reaching out to us at [info@scienceinvancover.com](mailto:info@scienceinvancover.com).

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



**STEMCELL Technologies**

Products | Services

**STEMCELL's Science Newsletters**

Free Weekly Updates on Your Field

**The Stem Cell Podcast**

Interviews and Updates on Stem Cell Science