

Publications of the Week
Inhibition of Cholesteryl Ester Transfer Protein Preserves High-Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol and Improves Survival in Sepsis

 First Author: Mark Trinder (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Liam Brunham
 Circulation | Centre for Heart Lung Innovation and UBC


The authors tested the hypothesis that genetic or pharmacologic inhibition of cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) would preserve high-density lipoprotein (HDL) levels and decrease mortality in clinical cohorts and animal models of sepsis. A fixed-effect meta-analysis of seven clinical cohorts found that the *CETP* gain-of-function variant was significantly associated with increased risk of acute sepsis mortality. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

Communal Living: Glycan Utilization by the Human Gut Microbiota

 First Authors: Jonathon Briggs (*pictured*) and Julie Grondin | Senior Author: Harry Brumer
 Environmental Microbiology | Michael Smith Laboratories and UBC


Human gut microbiota (HGM) thrive on a complex and diverse range of glycan structures from both dietary and host sources. This review presents an overview of the current understanding of glycan utilization by the HGM on three levels: (i) molecular mechanisms of individual glycan deconstruction and uptake by key bacteria, (ii) glycan-mediated microbial interactions, and (iii) community-scale effects of dietary changes. [Abstract](#)

Beyond Kinases: Targeting Replication Stress Proteins in Cancer Therapy

 First Author: Katherine Baillie | Senior Author: Peter Stirling (*pictured*)
 Trends in Cancer | BC Cancer and UBC


DNA replication stress describes a state of impaired replication fork progress that triggers a cellular stress response to maintain genome stability and complete DNA synthesis. Replication stress is a common state that must be tolerated in many cancers. Research revealing the complexity of the replication stress response suggests new genetic interactions and candidate therapeutic targets. The authors review emerging strategies to exploit replication stress for cancer therapy. [Abstract](#)

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Local News
New Treatment Strategy Could Overcome Drug Resistance in Pancreatic Cancer

UBC Medicine



Research led by Dr. Shoukat Dedhar (*pictured*) at UBC and BC Cancer has uncovered a new combination treatment that may overcome drug resistance in pancreatic cancer, one of the most deadly cancers. The study identified a new combination treatment strategy that prevents a type of pancreatic tumour, known as pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, from adapting to and resisting treatment. [Read More](#)

Voicing the Silent Genomes: New Documentary Features GSC Scientist, Dr. Nadine Caron

Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre (GSC) at BC Cancer



Dr. Nadine Caron (*pictured*) is the First Nations Health Authority Chair in Cancer and Wellness, a Senior Scientist at the GSC, and member of the Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation. She is also co-lead on the Silent Genomes Project, which aspires to address inequities in access to genomic research for Indigenous peoples in Canada. *Silent Genomes* is now the subject of a new independent mini documentary, *Voicing the Silent Genomes*, by Spotlight Productions. [Read More](#)

Symvivo Corporation Announces Research Collaboration with Janssen

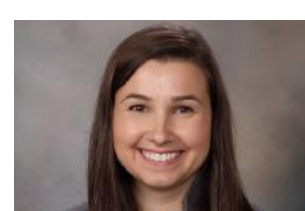
LifeSciences BC



Burnaby-based Symvivo Corporation, a clinical-stage biotechnology company advancing a proprietary bacTRL™ gene delivery platform, has entered into a research collaboration with Janssen Biotech, Inc., one of the pharmaceutical companies of Johnson & Johnson. Under the terms of the agreement, Janssen will have the exclusive option to research, develop and commercialize novel biological therapeutic candidates based on Symvivo's technology. [Read More](#)

The GSC Welcomes Dr. Laura Evgin

Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences (GSC) Centre at BC Cancer



The GSC has announced the arrival of its newest faculty member, Dr. Laura Evgin (*pictured*). As of November 2, Dr. Evgin is Scientist at the GSC and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Genetics at UBC. Dr. Evgin aims to use CRISPR to generate chimeric antigen receptor T cells that can withstand the onslaught of inflammatory factors they are faced with when combined with oncolytic virus therapy. [Read More](#)

AbCellera and Invetx Expand Multi-Year Antibody Discovery Collaboration in Animal Health

AbCellera



AbCellera, a technology company that searches, decodes, and analyzes natural immune systems to find antibodies that can be developed to prevent and treat disease, and Invetx, a pioneer in protein-based therapeutics for animal health, have announced that the companies have expanded their agreement to generate therapeutic antibody candidates for serious and chronic conditions in animal health. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

December 1 9:00 AM	AdMare's Cross-Canada Virtual Roadtrip – British Columbia Online
December 3 9:00 AM	Toward the Horizon: How COVID-19 Is Accelerating Innovation in Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences Analytics Online
December 6 1:30 PM	Vancouver STEMminist Book Club Reads "Radium Girls" by Kate Moore Online
December 8 3:00 PM	LifeSciences BC Showcase Series: Surrey Online
December 10 11:00 AM	2020 Michael Smith Distinguished Lecture with Dr. Sangeeta Bhatia Online

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UBC Faculty of Medicine
- Research Assistant/Technician 4**
Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics
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