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Publications of the Week

The RNA Helicase DDX6 Controls Cellular Plasticity by Modulating P-Body Homeostasis

First Author: Bruno Di Stefano *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Konrad Hochedlinger
Cell Stem Cell | Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School

Post-transcriptional mechanisms have the potential to influence complex changes in gene expression, yet their role in cell fate transitions remains largely unexplored. The authors show that suppression of the RNA helicase DDX6 endows human and mouse primed embryonic stem cells with a differentiation-resistant, "hyper-pluripotent" state, which readily reprograms to a naive state resembling the preimplantation embryo. **Abstract**

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Awards

Mark Andermann, PhD, Receives 2019 NIH Director's Pioneer Award

BIDMC News

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center neuroscientist Dr. Mark Andermann *(pictured)* has received a 2019 NIH Director's Pioneer Award. Intended to accelerate the pace of biomedical, behavioral, and social science discoveries, the NIH Director's Pioneer Award challenges investigators at all career levels to pursue new research directions and develop groundbreaking, high-impact approaches to a broad area of biomedical, behavioral or social science. **Read More**

BC Chemist Jia Niu Receives $2.3M New Innovator Award

Boston College

Dr. Jia Niu *(pictured)*, an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Boston College, has received a $2.3 million National Institutes of Health Director's New Innovator Award, part of the NIH's High-Risk, High-Reward Research Program, which funds highly innovative biomedical or behavioral research proposed by extraordinarily creative scientists. **Read More**

Sol Schulman, MD, PhD, Receives 2019 NIH Director's Early Independence Award

BIDMC News

Dr. Sol Schulman, a physician-scientist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, has received a 2019 NIH Director's Early Independence Award based on his ongoing research into cellular tissue factor and its contribution to the pathogenesis and inheritance of broadly defined hemorrhagic and thrombotic diseases, including postpartum hemorrhage, pulmonary embolism, heart attack and stroke. **Read More**

Harvard Junior Fellow Kapil Ramachandran Receives Prestigious NIH Director's Early Independence Award

Harvard University MCB

Dr. Kapil Ramachandran *(pictured)* has received the NIH Director's Early Independence Award, which provides five years of support to early career researchers who pursue "high risk, high reward" lines of inquiry. Dr. Ramachandran studies plasma-membrane-dwelling proteasomes as a Harvard Junior Fellow. Harvard Junior Fellowships are prestigious positions that allow early career scholars to conduct independent research. **Read More**

Sandy Serizier Wins Best Poster at UGSO Research Symposium

BU School of Medicine

Molecular Biology, Cell Biology & Biochemistry PhD student Sandy Serizier *(pictured)* of the McCall Lab won "Best Poster" at the First Annual Underrepresented Graduate Student Organization Academic Research Symposium on September 26th. Sandy is enthusiastic about basic research and is interested in cell communication during development. She is also very passionate about community outreach. **Read More**

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Local News

Artificial Gut Aims to Expose the Elusive Microbiome

MIT News

The microbiome is a collection of trillions of bacteria that reside in and on our bodies. Each person's microbiome is unique — just like a fingerprint — and researchers are finding more and more ways in which it impacts our health and daily lives. The research community needs something new, which is what a team at MIT Lincoln Laboratory is tackling in a project funded through the Technology Office. **Read More**

Engineered Viruses Could Fight Drug Resistance

MIT News

In the battle against antibiotic resistance, many scientists have been trying to deploy naturally occurring viruses called bacteriophages that can infect and kill bacteria. In a new study, led by Dr. Timothy Lu *(pictured)*, MIT biological engineers showed that they could rapidly program bacteriophages to kill different strains of *E. coli* by making mutations in a viral protein that binds to host cells. **Read More**

Goldfinch Bio Announces Licensing Agreement with Takeda for CB1 Monoclonal Antibody for the Treatment of Rare and Metabolic Kidney Diseases

Goldfinch Bio

Goldfinch Bio, a U.S.-based, clinical stage biotechnology company focused on discovering and developing precision medicines for the treatment of kidney diseases, entered into a license agreement with Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited for worldwide rights to a preclinical, peripherally-restricted cannabinoid receptor 1 (CB1) monoclonal antibody. **Read More**

First Video of Viruses Assembling

Harvard Gazette

For the first time, researchers have captured images of the formation of individual viruses, offering a real-time view into the kinetics of viral assembly. The research provides new insights into how to fight viruses and engineer self-assembling particles. This is a cross-Harvard effort that brings together biology, novel measurement techniques, statistics, and mathematics to develop causal, predictive mathematical models of biological systems. **Read More**

A Team Effort Uncovers How Cancer Outwits a Targeted Drug

Broad Institute

The targeted cancer drug venetoclax, first approved by the FDA in 2016, brought new hope for patients with blood cancers such as chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL). By joining forces, experts at the Broad Institute in the fields of proteomics, metabolism, and genetic perturbation have found that drug-resistant CLL cells survive by over-expressing the MCL1 protein, and also by changing how mitochondria produce energy. **Read More**

LabCentral Gets State, Private Funds for New Biomanufacturing Lab Space

Broad Institute

One of the life science industry's leading laboratory-space providers is teaming up with MIT, the state and a Japanese drugmaker to open a new accelerator for biotech and pharmaceutical startups in Kendall Square. LabCentral will open a new 100,000-square foot accelerator at 238 Main St., the organization and its partners announced Tuesday. The site will have a particular focus on biomanufacturing and is expected to feature laboratory benches, desks and meeting rooms. **Read More**

New Blood Test Capable of Detecting Multiple Types of Cancer

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

A new blood test in development has shown ability to screen for numerous types of cancer with a high degree of accuracy, a trial of the test shows. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute investigators, led by Dr. Geoffrey Oxnard *(pictured)*, will present the results of the multi-center trial during a session at the European Society for Medical Oncology 2019 Congress. **Read More**

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Upcoming Events in Boston

October 8 8:30 AM	**Material Characterization with Pyrolysis GC/MS** Jordi Labs	
October 9 5:30 PM	**Teaching Old Bacteria New Tricks** Brown University, Salomon Hall	
October 10 5:30 PM	**Whitehead Connects with John Maraganore, PhD** Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research	
October 14 8:30 AM	**Navigating through Maze of In-vitro Diagnostics (IVD) Regulations: A systematic approach from Regulatory Strategy to Regulatory Approvals in U.S./Europe/Canada** ComplianceOnline	
October 16 9:00 AM	**Neural Mechanisms of Memory and Cognition** The Picower Institute for Learning and Memory	

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Scientific Sales Representative, Cell Culture Products (Cambridge, MA)
STEMCELL Technologies

Manager, Primary Cells Operations (Vancouver, BC)
STEMCELL Technologies

Project Coordinator, NPI Commercialization (Vancouver, BC)
STEMCELL Technologies

Manager, Brand and Corporate Marketing (Vancouver, BC)
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Other Science Jobs in Boston

Scientist/Senior Scientist, Process Development (Cell Therapy)
Beam Therapeutics

Scientist II/ Senior Scientist, Analytical Development
Unum Therapeutics

Clinical Trial Manager, Emerging Program Team, Oncology
Bluebird Bio

Scientist I, Hematopoietic Stem Cell Analytics
Bluebird Bio

Sr. Engineer Late Stage Cell Therapy Process and Technology Development
CRISPR Therapeutics

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