

# LIVER DIGEST

A weekly update of PLRC happenings

May 12, 2022



[www.livercenter.pitt.edu](http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu)

*Please acknowledge support from the PLRC (NIH/NIDDK  
**P30DK120531**) in your publications and presentations. ([Click for a  
copy/paste version for manuscript and grant submissions](#))*

Please continue to share your relevant accolades (grants, other news articles) with us, as it relates to PLRC mission, so we can share with all members. Please visit [PLRC website here](#) for up-to-date news, and upcoming seminar and event information. Contact AJ Singh ([singha16@upmc.edu](mailto:singha16@upmc.edu)) if you have specific questions or suggestions.

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### **Request for PLRC seminar speakers for next academic year due by June 15**

Please nominate 1-2 speakers for the PLRC enrichment program. Email Amanda Bytzura ([bytzuraam@upmc.edu](mailto:bytzuraam@upmc.edu)) and Dr. Kari Nejak-Bowen ([knnst5@pitt.edu](mailto:knnst5@pitt.edu)) with the names of any suggestions you may have by June 15.

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### **Next PLRC Virtual Seminar**

The next PLRC Seminar will be held on **Tuesday, May 17 at 12:00pm**. **Kelly Stevens, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Bioengineering and Pathology, University of Washington will be presenting a talk. This seminar will be held online and in-person.

**Zoom: <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/94996033342>**

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### **The next K-Club junior faculty representatives meeting will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

If you are interested in joining upcoming meetings, please RSVP with Amanda Bytzura ([bytzuraam@upmc.edu](mailto:bytzuraam@upmc.edu))

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**Congratulations to Dr. Drew Feranchak, awarded the Carol Ann Craumer  
Endowed Chair in Pediatric Research**



**Andrew P. Feranchak, MD**  
Division Director, Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, Carol Ann Craumer  
Endowed Chair for Pediatric Research, and Professor of Pediatrics

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**Study led by Drs. Sungjin Ko and Paul Monga published in Gastroenterology**

**Dr. Sungjin Ko** and **Dr. Paul Monga** publish a study in Gastroenterology, entitled, "NOTCH-YAP1/TEAD-DNMT1 axis drives hepatocyte reprogramming into intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma." Other PLRC members who contributed to the study include **Dr. Silvia Liu**, **Dr. Aaron Bell**, **Dr. Michael Oertel**, **Dr. Reben Raeman**, **Dr. Kari Nejak-Bowen**, **Dr. Aatur Singhi** and **Dr. Jianhua Luo**.

**[Click here to read the full article](#)**

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### **Dr. Alina Ostrowska and colleagues publish in Organogenesis**

**Dr. Alina Ostrowska** and colleagues published a review article in Organogenesis, entitled, "Human Hepatocytes Isolated from Explanted Livers: A Powerful Tool to Understand End-stage Liver Disease and Drug Screening." PLRC's DANDI award recipient, **Dr. Rodrigo Florentino**, and lab members Nils Haep, Carla Frau, Takashi Motomura, Ricardo Diaz-Aragon, and Lanuza Faccioli also contributed to this paper.

**[Click here to read the full review](#)**

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### **Dr. Singhi and Dr. Monga coauthor a study in Gastroenterology**

**Dr. Aatur Singhi** and **Dr. Paul Monga** coauthor a study in Gastroenterology, entitled, "β-Catenin sustains and is required for YES-associated protein oncogenic activity in cholangiocarcinoma." PLRC member, **Dr. Sungjin Ko** also contributed to this paper.

**[Click here to read the full article](#)**

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## **The Liver Biology Conference: Fundamental Mechanisms and Translational Applications**

Announcing the 2022 Liver Biology FASEB Meeting [in person!](#) The program, conference and

registration information can be found at <https://faseb.org/liverbio22>

- Abstract deadline May 16, 2022
- Early registration deadline May 26, 2022
- Housing deadline June 12, 2022
- Registration closing deadline June 22, 2022



Spread the news #LBCSRC22

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### Harvard Digestive Diseases Center Spring Symposium

**HDDC Spring Symposium:** Tuesday, June 7, 2022 from 8:30AM - 4:30PM (EDT). This conference will take place at Boston Children's Hospital, Enders Building - Folkman Auditorium. [See the flyer here](#)

**Register for this event**

*\*Attendees not up-to-date on their vaccine series must remain masked and eat 6 ft away from others*

**Virtual**

**Attendance:**

**[https://bostonchildrens.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_LpdW9eoYQOaFMcmRzo6Xlw](https://bostonchildrens.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LpdW9eoYQOaFMcmRzo6Xlw)**

For additional information, contact: **[aglaia.polyzou@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:aglaia.polyzou@childrens.harvard.edu)** or

Visit the **HDDC** Website at:

**<https://hddc.hms.harvard.edu/event/hddcspringsymposium2022>**

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### **Call for Papers: Tissue Fibrosis and Repair special collection by Scientific Reports**

Submissions are now being accepted for a special collection sponsored by Scientific Reports on the subject of Tissue Fibrosis and Repair. The scope of the collection is as follows:

"Fibrosis is a process of excess extracellular matrix deposition in response to injury that occurs where normal wound-healing processes have become dysregulated. This pathological deposition of tissue is due to an aberrant release of growth factors and cytokines and may lead to organ remodeling and dysfunction, contributing to chronic disease and organ failure. Though fibrosis occurs in tissues throughout the body, it is most commonly associated with severe disease when it occurs in the lungs, heart, liver and kidneys and is often not identified until organ function has been compromised. This Collection aims to present manuscripts that increase our understanding of the mechanisms of tissue repair and causes of dysregulation or that present potential treatments that may slow disease progression."

If you are interested in submitting a peer-reviewed manuscript for inclusion in this collection, when submitting your manuscript to Scientific Reports select "any other article type" instead of regular manuscript. Then select "guest edited collection" and when promoted for the name of the collection, select Tissue Fibrosis and Repair.

[More detailed information about the collection can be found here](#)

Submissions will be open until October 31, 2022.

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### Reverse ECM accumulation in NASH with novel models



Accumulation of ECM is a hallmark of NASH. Interfering with this process may represent a pragmatic approach to stop fibrosis. In this context, we invite you to answer the following question: [Click here if interested](#)

"We invites you to submit proposals with ideas for in vitro assay systems or in vivo models that allow the identification and validation of therapeutic targets to enhance ECM degradation, thereby attenuating liver fibrosis. This can include ideas based on, but not limited to using screening assays like CRISPR/Cas9-based screens or in vivo screens using an in vivo model for ECM turnover. The right answer may come from any scientific discipline in relation to life sciences. We plan to fund selected proposals with up to 200,000 euros each.



[Learn](#)

[more...](#)

A panel of Boehringer Ingelheim scientists will review all incoming answers after the final submission date. Successful ideas will be explored in collaboration with the winning proposals.

**Submissions for collaborations can only be accepted if they arrive no later than June 2, 2022 11:59 pm PST**

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### **Post-Doc Position Available - Dr. Donghun Shin Lab**

Donghun Shin Lab is currently seeking a qualified candidate for a post-doc position. See attached [flyer](#) for [more](#) information.

**[Shin Lab Postdoc Position Apr2022](#)**

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### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

To see all NIH Grants sorted by week, please visit: **[NIH Guide: 2022](#)**

Or click below:

- **[May 13](#)**
- **[May 6](#)**

**[Click here](#) for all current NIDDK Funding opportunities**

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Also indicate which core/service from the PLRC was utilized within your acknowledgment:

- **Clinical Biospecimen Repository and Processing Core (CBRPC)**
- **Genomics and Systems Biology Core (GSBC)**
- **Human Synthetic Liver Biology Core (HSLBC)**
- **Advanced Cell and Tissue Imaging Core (ACTIC)**



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