Current Health News

Sodium channels in breast cancer cells a promising target for future treatments, study reveals

Date: July 25, 2024

Source: University of York

Summary: A new study adds to evidence which suggests treating breast cancer patients with sodium channel blockers could be a promising future treatment to prevent the spread of cancer during the gap between diagnosis and surgery.

Artificial blood vessels could improve heart bypass outcomes

Date: July 25, 2024

Source: University of Edinburgh

Summary: 3D-printed blood vessels, which closely mimic the properties of human veins, could transform the treatment of cardiovascular diseases. Strong, flexible, gel-like tubes -- created using a novel 3D printing technology -- could improve outcomes for heart bypass patients by replacing the human and synthetic veins currently used in surgery to re-route blood flow, experts say.

Scientists identify key protein behind spread of shingles virus

Date: July 25, 2024

Source: University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Summary: Scientists have discovered a new evasion strategy used by the varicella zoster virus, which causes chickenpox and shingles, that may allow it to affect tissues far from the original site of infection.

Method enables fast, accurate estimates of cardiovascular state to inform blood pressure management

Date: July 25, 2024

Source: Picower Institute at MIT

Summary: A new mathematical method, validated with experimental animal data, provides a fast, reliable and minimally invasive way of determining how to treat critical blood pressure changes during surgery or intensive care.

Electrical currents may make body's cancer-killing cells even better killers

Date: July 25, 2024

Source: Trinity College Dublin

Summary: Scientists have discovered that electrical currents may make Natural Killer (NK) cells -- our very own cancer-killing immune cells -- even better killers, which could have significant implications for treating some cancers. The scientists found that Tumour Treating Fields (TTF) in the laboratory (which mimic exposure of brain tumors to electric currents via a simple hat worn by patients) evoked an even more deadly response from NK cells. They hope their promising findings may open the door to new combined therapies for people living with certain brain tumors, such as glioblastoma.

How a bacterium supports healing of chronic diabetic wounds

Date: July 25, 2024

Source: University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Summary: New research shows that a certain bug, *Alcaligenes faecalis* (*A. faecalis*), can facilitate healing of hard-to-treat wounds among people with diabetes. While there are many studies done on potentially harmful bacteria in wounds, the researchers discovered that *A. faecalis*, a bacterium found in many types of chronic wounds, actually boosts healing of diabetic wounds. The researchers found that the beneficial bacterium can promote skin cell movements that are essential for wound closure by inhibiting enzymes that are over-produced in people with diabetes.

New gene therapy approach shows promise for Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Date: July 24, 2024

Source: Indiana University School of Medicine

Summary: Researchers have made a significant breakthrough in developing a new gene therapy approach that restores full-length dystrophin protein, which could lead to new treatments for people with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD).

Stroke recovery: It's in the genes

Date: July 24, 2024

Source: University of California - Los Angeles Health Sciences

Summary: New research has found that specific genes may be related to the trajectory of recovery for stroke survivors, providing doctors insights useful for developing targeted therapies.

Does your body composition affect your risk of dementia or Parkinson's?

Date: July 24, 2024

Source: American Academy of Neurology

Summary: People with high levels of body fat stored in their belly or arms may be more likely to develop diseases like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's than people with low levels of fat in these areas, according to new research. The study also found that people with a high level of muscle strength were less likely to develop these diseases than people with low muscle strength.

Scientists say they have identified a root cause of lupus — one that could pave the way for new treatments

July 10, 2024

An imbalance of T cells, which play a key role in the body’s immune response, could explain most cases of the disease, according to new research.

A key mystery behind one of the most common autoimmune diseases may finally have an answer.

References: www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news

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