



Canadian Translational Geroscience Network 3rd Annual Meeting – October 22-23, 2026

Hosted at the University of British Columbia by the Edwin S.H. Leong Centre for Healthy Aging

Conference Location: Isabel MacInnes Ballroom, located inside the Walter Gage residence and Gage Suites at UBC, 5959 Student Union Blvd, Vancouver, BC

Day 1: Thursday, October 22

8:30 am	Registration and Breakfast
9:00 am	Opening Remarks and Land Acknowledgement
	Session 1: Biomedical Geroscience Moderated by Dr. Michael Kobor
9:10 am	Keynote: "Multiomic Markers of Frailty in Mice and Humans" Dr. Alice Kane , Institute for Systems Biology and University of Sydney
9:50 am	Short Presentations from submitted abstracts: "Rewiring Stress: The Role of Biological Resilience Pathways in Longevity" – Aura Tamez, McGill University "Frailty-Based Models Predict Age and Life Expectancy Across Mouse Sex, Strain and Facility" – Dr. Dantong Zhu, Institute for Systems Biology "Central, not Peripheral: A Developmental <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> Model Dissociating Sensory 'Hardware' from Behavioral 'Software' Under Early Social Stress" – Christine Gierke, University of Chile
10:25 am	Keynote: "Profound Sex Differences and Age-Specificity in Anti-Aging Drug Efficacy: Lessons from 20 Years of the NIA Interventions Testing Program" Dr. James Nelson , UT San Antonio
11:05 am	Break
11:20 am	Workshop: "How to Use and Interpret Biological Clocks" Moderated by Dr. Hannah-Ruth Engelbrecht With panelists Drs. Alice Kane, Jennifer Ailshire, Michael Kobor, and Colin Farrelly
12:20 pm	Lunch and Poster Presentations
	Session 2: Clinical and Population Geroscience Research Moderated by Dr. Gustavo Duque
1:30 pm	Keynote: "A Translational Geroscience Approach to Frailty: From Concept to Clinical Trial" Dr. Sara Espinoza , Cedars-Sinai Health Sciences University
2:30 pm	Short Presentations from submitted abstracts: "Serum C-terminal Agrin Fragment as a Biomarker of Age-Related Neuromuscular Decline in Men: Influence of Physical Activity" – Rami Hammad, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM) "Mitochondrial Calcium Handling in Skeletal Muscle Declines with Aging in Women" – Dr. Vincent Marcangeli, McGill University "Unpacking Sex and Gender in Age-Related Respiratory Health Outcomes" – Elaine Xiao, University of British Columbia "Polyphenol Supplementation and Exercise on Inflammation, Anabolic and Catabolic Signaling, and Cellular Hypertrophy in Skeletal Muscle" – Raymond Schnuerer, Queen's University

Learn more:

<https://www.geroscience.ca/our-activities/2026-cgtn-annual-meeting>



- “Is Metabolic Health Socially Patterned During the Menopause Transition? A Cross-Sectional Study of Indigenous Mayan Women in Guatemala” – **Ayesha Habib**, University of British Columbia

3:30 pm Break

3:45 pm Workshop: “Developing a Clinical Geroscience Trial Protocol”
Moderated by **Dr. Alexandra Papaioannou**, McMaster University

4:45 pm Networking Reception

6:00 pm Day 1 Concludes

Day 2: Friday, October 23

8:30 am Breakfast

Session 3: Innovations in Geroscience | Moderated by Dr. John Muscedere

9:00 am Keynote: “How Our Exposures and Age Sculpt Our Lung Tissue Towards Cancer”
Dr. Emilia Lim, University of British Columbia

9:40 am Keynote: “Heat and Biological Aging: Evidence Across Aging Clocks”
Dr. Jennifer Ailshire, University of Southern California

10:20 am Break

10:35 am Short Presentations from submitted abstract:

- “Ambient Temperature Shapes Metabolism, Resilience, and Aging Across Species” – **Dr. Alibek Moldakozhayev**, Harvard Medical School
- “Effects of Early and Later Life Adversity on Accelerated Biological Aging” – **Dr. M. Rosie Shrout**, University of British Columbia
- “Aging Well in The Company We Keep: How Shifts in Social Circles Shape Physiological Determinants of Aging in the CLSA cohort” – **Dr. Annalijn Conklin**, University of British Columbia

11:20 am Keynote: “The Geroscience Perspective on One Health”
Dr. Colin Farrelly, Queen’s University

12:00 pm Lunch and Poster Presentations

Session 4: Accelerating Geroscience: Industry, Innovation and Impact | Moderated by Dr. Susan Howlett

1:00 pm Keynote: “Building a Therapeutics Company in Aging: Lessons Learned from the Front Lines”
Dr. Peng Leong, BioAge Lab

1:40 pm Keynote: “Accelerating Breakthroughs: The Power of Challenge-Based Innovation”
Sarah McCullough, National Director, XPRIZE Canada Hub

2:10 pm Break

2:20 pm Keynote: “Translating Geroscience into Practice and Policy: Implementation of ICOPE Quebec”
Dr. Gustavo Duque, McGill University

3:00 pm Keynote: “A Synthetic Thymic Niche for Reversing Age-Related Immune Decline”
Dr. Ajinkya Ghagre, University of British Columbia

3:40 pm Awards Ceremony and Closing Remarks

4:00 pm Meeting Adjourns

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List of Poster Presentations

Poster Number	Presenter	Title
1	Danny Sibai	Preclinical Validation of Circulating Osteoprogenitor Cell Infusions as a Novel Treatment for Osteosarcopenia
2	Inna Zaiats	Linking Senescence to Age-Related Ovarian Cancer
3	Claire Bokang Ko	Trade-off Between Lifespan and Stress Resistance Under Mild mitoUPR Activation
4	Kenneth Ofori-Amanfo	mONTage: A Long-Read Sequencing Workflow for Joint Genomic and Epigenetic Age Analysis
5	Noah Gittens	Polyphenol Supplementation and Exercise on Physical Performance in Older Adults: A Randomized Controlled Pilot Feasibility Trial
6	Tisha Haukongo	LINE-1 Retrotransposon Expression in People Living with and Without HIV
7	Ana Paola	Systematic Characterization of the Genetic Determinants of the SASP Response
8	Jennifer Wilkinson	Mitochondrial Respiration Increases with Exercise, but Not Polyphenols, in Community-Dwelling Older Females and Males
9	Emma Lo	Characterization of Markers of Lung Aging Using Spatial Transcriptomics
10	Raphaëlle Koerber	The Effects of Pitch Lowering on Audibility in Age-Related Hearing Loss
11	Sanarya Al-Jaf	Sex-specific Effects of mGluR5 Signaling on Cerebrovascular Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Disease
12	Emily Ye	Sex-dependent Effects of mGluR5 and M1 mAChR Allosteric Modulators on Receptor Localization and Signaling in Alzheimer's Disease Models
13	A Palumbo	Longitudinal Multi-Omic Profiling During the Initiation of Masculinizing Gender-Affirming Hormone Therapy: A Two-Year Case Study

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Centre for Healthy Aging
Faculty of Medicine

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