



## “Targeting mechanisms in flu infection and psoriatic inflammation”

**Date & Time:** Wednesday, July 19 | 1:00PM - 2:00PM PT

**Hybrid:** Life Sciences Centre Room 1003 (LSC3) & Zoom

**From the lab of:** Dr. Ed Pryzdial, Clinical Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Scientist, Canadian Blood Services & Centre for Blood Research

**Presented by:** Dr. Mahamud-Ur Rashid and Dr. Lihua Hao

Highlighting expertise acquired during very successful doctoral degrees, two new postdoctoral fellows in the Pryzdial Lab will present their graduate work, Drs. Mahamud-Ur Rashid and Lihua Hao:

- 1) Influenza A virus (IAV) causes a billion infections and ~half a million deaths every year. To understand the molecular basis of host protein dependency of IAV, Mahamud will discuss a proteasome complex component, proteasome subunit alpha type 2, that is remarkably over-expressed in cells during infection. Its significance during replication of IAV is emphasized.
- 2) Psoriasis is a chronic autoimmune inflammatory disease affecting ~125 million worldwide in which 1/3 develop arthritis. Due to the close association of signal transducer and activator of transcription 3 (STAT3) overactivation with the development of psoriasis and recent studies showing 2'-hydroxycinnamaldehyde (HCA) is a regulator of STAT3 in cancer, Lihua investigated HCA in a psoriasis-like mouse model. She will discuss its relevance as a drug target in psoriasis.