

# Ricardo E. Rivera-Acevedo

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## ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Founder and director of Cannevert Therapeutics analytical laboratory: From preliminary design to full operation of startup company
- Co-wrote and helped implement all Health Canada guidelines to successfully acquire ACMPR Dealer's License and appointed AQPIC
- Developed and implemented all Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for analytical lab: Including testing methods and validation
- Extensive experience with implementation of Quality Control, Quality Assurance, and Good Laboratory Practices in new institutions
- Oversaw both quality control and quality assurance needs for a Health Canada compliant Licensed Dealer.
- Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) manager: In charge of building, running, calibrating, maintaining, troubleshooting, and teaching
- Produced formulation for CTL-X: A novel cannabinoid cultivar formulation patented for use in patients with acute pain
- Designed and implemented Health Canada compliant waste management systems: Inactivation of cannabis biomass, with separate removal of liquid and solid cannabis waste

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Adjunct Professor – The University of British Columbia** **Jan 2015 – Present**  
Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics

- Isolate and characterize novel therapeutic compounds from natural plant sources
- Establish the 1<sup>st</sup> analytical research lab in the Department of Pharmacology

**Co-founder, Director of Chemistry – Cannevert Therapeutic Ltd, Veritas Pharma Subsidiary** **Jan 2016 – Aug 2018**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

- Lead team in designing and developing new cannabis products, drug formulations, analytical techniques quantifying constituents, manage analytical instrumentation, and experiments researching cannabis chemistry
- Managed implementation of company QA/QC processes for new products
- Key role establishing first cannabis clinical trials in Puerto Rico and performing patient pharmacokinetic drug analysis
- AQPIC under ACMPR Dealer's License

**Co-founder, Senior Scientist – Cannevert Therapeutic Ltd** **Dec 2015 – Dec 2016**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

- Produce cannabis extracts from different cultivars to study therapeutic efficacy *in vivo*
- Provide technical guidance on analytical cannabis pharmacology methods and respond to internal and external queries
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative research to improve and develop new cannabis delivery methods

**Co-founder – Analytic Laboratories** **Jan 2014 – Nov 2015**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

- Provide chemical analysis and medicinal research services to industry and health care professionals

**Scientific Consultant – CanMed Wellness Ltd**  
Vancouver, British Columbia

Nov 2013 – Mar 2015

- Charged with ensuring implementation of Health Canada Good Production Practices in order to achieve purity and quality of finished natural health products

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. Pharmacology – Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics** 2008 – 2013  
The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

**B.Sc. General Sciences – Department of General Sciences** 2004 – 2008  
University of Puerto Rico, Cayey, Puerto Rico

## RELEVANT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Post-Doctoral Fellow – The University of British Columbia** Jun 2013 – Dec 2014  
Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology  
Supervisor: Dr. Filip Van Petegem

**Ph.D. candidate – The University of British Columbia** Aug 2008 – May 2013  
Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics,  
Supervisors: Drs. Stephan K. W. Schwarz & Chris A. Ahern

**B.Sc. student – University of Puerto Rico** Aug 2007 – Jun 2008  
Puerto Rico – NASA Space Grant Consortium  
Department of Mathematics-Physics  
Supervisor: Dr. Wilfredo Otaño

**Nano Bio Interface Program – University of Pennsylvania** May 2007 – Aug 2007  
Department of Electrical & Systems Engineering  
Supervisor: Dr. Jorge Santiago-Aviles

**Undergraduate Research Initiative – Boston University** May 2005 – Aug 2005  
Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology  
Dr. Ivelisse Sanchez

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**Lecturer – The University of British Columbia** Sept 2018 – Present  
PCTH 300/305 – Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics

- Introductory course for honours and mayor students in pharmacology
- Cover the concepts, language, and techniques of scientific pharmacology

**Lecturer – The University of British Columbia** Sept 2015 – Present  
PCTH 325 – Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics

- Introductory course for non-pharmacology students on basic human pharmacology
- Cover principles of drug development, pharmacogenomics, and natural health products

**Lecturer – The University of British Columbia** Aug 2015 – Present  
Primary Literature Analysis in Science and Medicine UBC Vancouver Summer Program –  
Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics

- Teach statistical analysis in science

**Lecturer – The University of British Columbia**

Pharmacology Through Case Studies UBC Vancouver Summer Program – Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics

**Aug 2015 – Present**

- Teach principles of pharmacogenomics and personalized medicine

**Lecturer – The University of British Columbia**

GSA course – Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

**Sept 2014 – Dec 2014**

- Introductory statistics & experimental design for incoming graduate students

## PUBLICATIONS

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Gardill BR, **Rivera-Acevedo RE**, Tung Ching-Chieh, Van Petegem F. Crystal structures of Ca<sup>2+</sup>-calmodulin bound to Nav C-terminal domains uncover role of EF-hand domain in binding and inactivation. PROCEEDING OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (SUBMITTED)

Devisi A, Kiyota B, Oulette T, Hegle AP, **Rivera-Acevedo RE**, Wong J, Dong Y, Pugsley MK, Fung T. A Pharmacological Characterization of Cannabis Sativa Cultivar Extracts. PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS (SUBMITTED)

Gardill BR, **Rivera-Acevedo RE**, Tung CC, Okon M, McIntosh LP, Van Petegem F. The voltage-gated sodium channel EF-hands form an interaction with III-IV linker that is disturbed by disease-causing mutations. SCIENCE REPORTS 2018; 8: 4483

**Rivera-Acevedo RE**, Pless SA, SKW Schwarz, Ahern CA. Expression-dependent pharmacology of transient potential vanilloid subtype 1 channels in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes. CHANNELS 2013; 7: 47–50

**Rivera-Acevedo RE**, Pless SA, SKW Schwarz, Ahern CA. Extracellular quaternary ammonium blockade of transient potential vanilloid subtype 1 channels expressed in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes. MOLECULAR PHARMACOLOGY 2012; 82: 1129–35

**Rivera-Acevedo RE**, Pless SA, Ahern CA, Schwarz SKW. The quaternary lidocaine derivative, QX-314, exerts biphasic effects on transient receptor potential vanilloid subtype 1 channels *in vitro*. ANESTHESIOLOGY 2011; 114: 1425–34

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS, COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, AND HOBBIES

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**Creator and Co-Host** – Cannabis Science Podcast, program covering the latest scientific cannabis and industry research from <http://cannabisconciencia.org/> **Sep 2018 – Present**

**Licensed Radio Operator and Co-host** – 100.5 FM CFRO Vancouver Coop Radio, El Bus De Las 7 on 8-9am Monday-Friday, Vancouver, BC **Feb 2018 – Present**

**Brazilian JiuJitsu Blue Belt** – Gracie Barra Main St, Vancouver, BC **Apr 2016 – Present**

**PADI Open Water Dive Instructor** – Ocean Quest Dive Center, Vancouver, BC **Mar 2017 – Dec 2017**

**PADI Divemaster** – Ocean Quest Dive Center, Vancouver, BC **Mar 2016 – Nov 2016**

**Volunteer Youth Educator** – Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre, Vancouver, BC **Nov 2015 – Present**