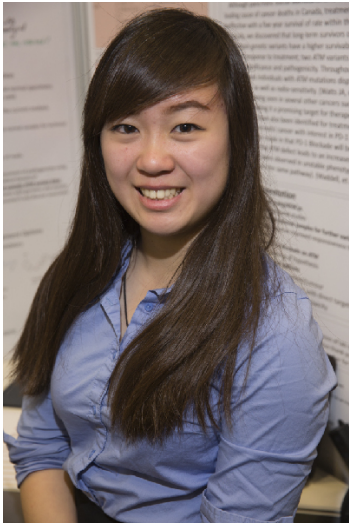


## CWSF 2016 - Montreal, Quebec



### Vanessa Chan

#### Germline ATM Variants Identified in Long-Term Survivors of Pancreatic Cancer

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Greater Vancouver

**City:** Richmond, BC

**School:** J N Burnett Secondary

**Abstract:** Pancreatic cancer is a lethal disease with a survival rate over 3 years of under 6%. Normal and tumor tissue from long-term survivors of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma were formalin fixed paraffin embedded and subjected to next-generation sequencing for 19 hereditary cancer genes. Putative variants occurring in both tumor and normal samples were technically and clinically validated using the latest variant calling guidelines to determine pathogenicity.

#### Biography

Vanessa Chan is a Grade 11 student in Richmond BC. Being a well-rounded individual, she has a multitude of interests, dedicating time to arts, athletics and sciences. Her first love was a piano, an infatuation with composition resulted in top placements in various musical competitions; curiosity eventually led her to the alto saxophone and ukulele. Aside from music, Vanessa is an avid photographer with a passion for capturing the fleeting 1/1000 of a second of a perfect snapshot. As a competitive athlete, Vanessa has swum and played both basketball and volleyball though her dedication to swimming specifically has landed her current job as a lifeguard at her local pools. Passionate about global issues Vanessa is an enthusiastic participant of many Model UN conferences; she recently furthered her adventures by partnering with LiveDifferent and flying out to Mexico where she interacted with locals and built a house with a family in need. After discovering the lethality of pancreatic cancer Vanessa was determined to study the cancer's genetic predisposition leading her to her current project; she hopes to one day find effective treatment. For those that are thinking of doing a project she recommends they follow whatever path they're passionate about.

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