

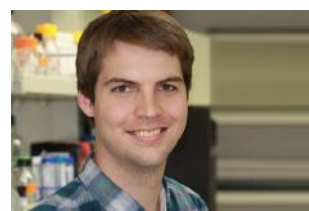
Publications of the Week
Human Tumor-Infiltrating MAIT Cells Display Hallmarks of Bacterial Antigen Recognition in Colorectal Cancer

 First Author: Shamin Li | Senior Author: Evan Newell *(pictured)*
 Cell Reports Medicine | Fred Hutch


Using mass cytometry and single-cell mRNA sequencing, the authors identified a tumor-infiltrating mucosa-associated invariant T (MAIT) cell subset expressing CD4 and Foxp3 and observed high expression of CD39 on MAIT cells from colorectal cancer only, which they showed *in vitro* to be expressed specifically after TCR stimulation. [Abstract](#)

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Awards
Dr. Kevin Forsberg Approved for a New Innovators Award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease

Fred Hutch



Dr. Kevin Forsberg *(pictured)* from Fred Hutch is one of 10 people approved for a New Innovators Award from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. He proposes to uncover novel ways that bacteria have evolved to defend against their viral assailants and how those viruses have evolved to overcome bacterial defenses. [Read More](#)

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Local News
Researchers Want to Pick up the Pace on Early Testing and Treatment for COVID-19

GeekWire



In a recent study, scientists from Fred Hutch and UW say the search for COVID-19 treatments should widen its focus to people who are just starting to experience symptoms. Fred Hutch's Joshua Schiffer *(pictured)* and his co-authors say the golden opportunity for intervention comes between the onset of symptoms — such as a cough, fever or shortness of breath — and the need for hospitalization. [Read More](#)

Saiba AG Selects AGC Biologics to Develop and Produce COVID-19 Vaccine

BioSpace



AGC Biologics has announced it will be partnering with Saiba AG to manufacture a SARS-CoV-2 vaccine to protect against COVID-19. Saiba AG specializes in the R&D of virus-like particle (VLP) vaccines for infectious and chronic diseases and is leveraging its patented Cucumber Mosaic Virus VLP platform technology to develop the SARS-CoV-2 vaccine. [Read More](#)

Research Round-Up: Extracellular RNA

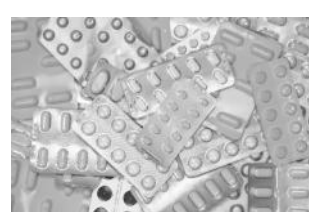
Scientific American



Biological markers for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have mostly proved elusive. Kai Wang *(pictured)* and colleagues at the Institute for Systems Biology are shifting the picture by showing that levels of some RNA fragments circulating in the blood of combat veterans with PTSD are different from the levels of those without the condition — a finding that could lead to a blood test for PTSD. [Read More](#)

AVM Biotechnology Hopeful for Their Unique Dexamethasone Formulation

AVM Biotechnology via PR Newswire



Oxford University has announced that dexamethasone could reduce COVID-19 deaths. AVM Biotechnology's lead molecule is a purified loaded formulation of dexamethasone. AVM is actively studying dexamethasone and has found that in higher, single doses, it can be safely administered and appears to have a different mechanism of action than chronic, repeat, lower doses. [Read More](#)

New Discovery Paves Way for Next Generation Malaria Vaccine

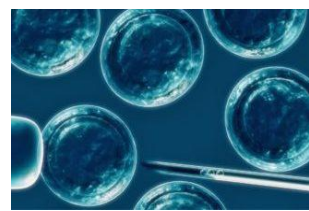
EurekAlert!



In an unprecedented first, scientists at Seattle Children's Research Institute have developed a genetically attenuated parasite that arrests late in the liver stage of human malaria. Their findings pave the way for a novel, next generation vaccine against *Plasmodium falciparum*, the parasite that causes the deadliest form of malaria in humans. [Read More](#)

AgeX Therapeutics and Pluristyx Announce Manufacturing, Marketing, and Distribution Agreement to Expand Access to Clinical-Grade Human Pluripotent Stem Cells for Therapeutic Applications

BioSpace



AgeX Therapeutics, Inc. and Pluristyx, Inc. announced that they have entered into a Manufacturing, Marketing, and Distribution Agreement through which Pluristyx will undertake these activities on behalf of AgeX with respect to AgeX's research- and clinical-grade ESI brand human embryonic stem cells (hESCs). AgeX's ESI hESC lines are distinguished for being the first clinical-grade hESC lines created under cGMP. [Read More](#)

Study Yields Clues to How Drug May Boost Aged Mitochondria

UW Medicine



Researchers at the UW School of Medicine's Bruce Lab *(pictured)* have found that elamipretide, an experimental drug that has been shown to improve the function of diseased and aged mitochondria, binds to 12 key proteins involved in energy production. They used a technique called chemical cross-linking with mass spectrometry to see whether it was also interacting with proteins in the mitochondria. [Read More](#)

Seattle Genetics Announces Initiation of Phase I Clinical Trials for Two Novel Antibody-Based Drug Candidates

Seattle Genetics via BioSpace



Seattle Genetics has announced dosing of the first patient in a phase I clinical trial evaluating investigational agent SEA-TGT, an anti-T-cell immune receptor with Ig and ITIM domains (TIGIT) antibody for patients with solid tumors and lymphomas. TIGIT is an inhibitory immune receptor that is emerging as a clinically relevant immuno-oncology target. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- July 6**
 9:00 AM
COVID Spectrum-Online Forum on Research
 Online
- July 16**
 8:00 AM
Glia in Health & Disease
 Online
- July 16**
 4:00 PM
2020 Spring Virtual SLU Collaborative Seminar Series: Research with Human Subjects
 Online
- July 16-17**
 8:00 AM
2020 Life Science Innovation Northwest
 Online
- July 21**
 9:00 AM
WIB-National Webinar: Growing Your Career and Personal Brand in Life Sciences and Biotech
 Online

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Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Biology of Small Cell Lung Cancer
 Fred Hutch

Postdoctoral Fellow, Vaughan Lab
 Seattle Children's

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 UW

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