

Publications of the Week

**Adipocyte-Derived Versican and Macrophage-Derived Biglycan Control Adipose Tissue Inflammation in Obesity**

First Author: Chang Yeop Han | Senior Author: Alan Chait (pictured)  
Cell Reports | UW



Investigating the role of proteoglycans in adipose tissue inflammation, scientists found that adipose tissue versican and biglycan increase in obesity. Versican is produced mainly by adipocytes and biglycan by adipose tissue macrophages. Both proteoglycans are also present in adipose tissue from obese human subjects undergoing gastric bypass surgery. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

**Margaret Lubwama, Recipient of the 2020 Mentored International Investigator Award**

The Center for AIDS Research, UW and Fred Hutch



The UW/Fred Hutch Center for AIDS Research has announced the recipient of its 2020 Mentored International Investigator Award, Margaret Lubwama (pictured). The Mentored International Investigator Awards are to encourage international junior investigators to conduct independent research with close mentorship from senior faculty. This research should ultimately lead to acquiring preliminary data to obtain funding to continue their HIV/AIDS research careers. [Read More](#)

**ISB Researchers Among Recipients of AACR Team Science Award**

Institute for Systems Biology (ISB)



The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) has recognized the founding members and the current project team of the Cancer Genome Atlas project with the 2020 AACR Team Science Awards. Award recipients include Dr. Ilya Shmulevich (pictured, left), ISB Professor and Head of the Shmulevich Lab and ISB Senior Research Scientist Dr. Vésteinn Þórsson (pictured, right). [Read More](#)

**Announcing the FY21 Innovation Pilot Award Recipients**

Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine (ISCRM)



UW has announced the FY21 recipients of the ISCRM Innovation Pilot Awards, a state-funded program that helps to seed early projects with the potential of leading to significant grants, papers, and discoveries. Among the recipients are Edward Kelly, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutics (pictured), and Ken Thummel, Professor of Pharmaceutics, for the development of an intestinal microphysiological system for predictive drug disposition. [Read More](#)

**ADRC Awards for New Ideas in Alzheimer's Research**

UW Medicine Memory and Brain Wellness Center



The 2020-2021 Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) awards encourage investigators to use ADRC resources to advance the understanding, diagnosis, or treatment of Alzheimer's disease. Dr. Meredith Course (pictured), postdoctoral fellow in the Division of Medical Genetics, and a team of UW scientists will investigate evidence that age-related changes in the way *PSEN2* generates transcripts may be involved in Alzheimer's risk. [Read More](#)

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Local News

**Alzheimer's Researchers Go Back to Basics to Find the Best Way Forward**

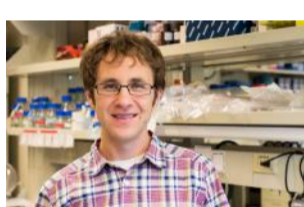
NPR



Three research institutions have joined forces to study how Alzheimer's disease takes root in the brain. The consortium will create a new research center at the Allen Institute for Brain Science to study tissue from brains donated by people who died with Alzheimer's. UW Medicine and the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Group are also part of the effort, which will be funded by a five-year \$40.5 million grant from the National Institute on Aging. [Read More](#)

**Antibodies a Hot Topic in COVID-19 Research**

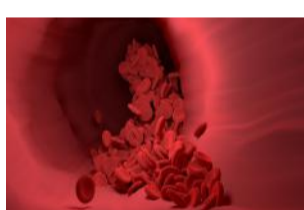
Fred Hutch



Experience with other viruses is guiding efforts to track and counter SARS-CoV-2, the cause of COVID-19. Dr. Jesse Bloom (pictured) is an expert on influenza and how that virus interacts with the antibodies we produce against it. The Hutch researcher is turning this expertise to the study of SARS-CoV-2 and our immune responses to it, starting with local children. [Read More](#)

**Sweet Way to 3D-Print Blood Vessels**

UW Medicine



Bioengineers have showed that they could keep densely packed cells alive for two weeks in relatively large constructs by creating complex blood vessel networks from templates of 3D-printed sugar. Rice University researchers were joined on this project by colleagues from UW Medicine and the Baylor University College of Engineering, among other institutions. [Read More](#)

**Improving Islet Transplantation to Treat Type I Diabetes**

Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine



Armed with a grant from the NIH, Drs. Vincenzo Cirulli (pictured, left), Laura Crisa (pictured, right) and Cole DeForest at UW's Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine are combining expertise in islet and stem cell biology, vascular biology and cellular immunology, and biomaterials to significantly improve the wellbeing of people with type I diabetes. [Read More](#)

**Seattle Biotech Company Raises More Than \$700M to Develop New Ways to Modify Genes**

GeekWire



Sana Biotechnology has formally announced that it has raised more than \$700 million in venture funding — one of the largest venture financing deals in the life sciences industry and one of the biggest rounds on record in Seattle. Sana has a strong Seattle biotech pedigree, tracing its roots to Juno Therapeutics, spinout of Fred Hutch, Memorial Sloan-Kettering and Seattle Children's. [Read More](#)

**What Happens if the Coronavirus' Spikes Mutate?**

Fred Hutch



Scientists at Fred Hutch have taken the first comprehensive look at how mutations to the coronavirus' receptor-binding domain would affect the ability to bind to ACE2 on human cells. The new research, posted on the preprint server bioRxiv, aims to shed light on how the coronavirus evolved to easily infect human cells — and to guide efforts to stop it. [Read More](#)

**Is Hydroxychloroquine Safe for Autoimmune Diseases?**

Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason



COVID-19 has put a therapy called hydroxychloroquine in the spotlight — and, at the same time, shrouded it in confusion. Despite early hope from government officials and scientists that it would help fight the pandemic, the most recent reports suggest hydroxychloroquine is not necessarily effective in treating the new coronavirus and may have harmful consequences for some people. [Read More](#)

**Seattle Genetics Announces Positive Topline Results from Phase 2 Clinical Trial of Tisotumab Vedotin in Recurrent or Metastatic Cervical Cancer**

Seattle Genetics



Seattle Genetics has announced positive topline results from the phase II single-arm clinical trial known as innovaTV 204 evaluating tisotumab vedotin, an investigational antibody-drug conjugate, administered every three weeks for the treatment of patients who have relapsed or progressed on or after prior treatment for recurrent or metastatic cervical cancer. [Read More](#)

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**Upcoming Events in Seattle**

- July 8 9:00 AM **Deciphering the Cell Cycle: The Role of Cell Cycle Control in Cancer** Online
- July 16 8:00 AM **Glia in Health & Disease** 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
- August 14-16 8:00 AM **SciComm 2020** Online

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**Science Jobs in Seattle**

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- Fellow, Lawlor Lab**  
Seattle Children's
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Celgene
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