

Publications of the Week
Infarct Collagen Topography Regulates Fibroblast Fate via p38-Yap-TEAD Signals

 First Author: Darrian Bugg | Senior Author: Jennifer Davis *(pictured)*
 Circulation Research | UW


Researchers explored the role of collagen organization in cardiac fibroblast fate determination. Adult cardiac fibroblasts were freshly isolated and cultured on extracellular matrix topographical mimetics for 72 hours. Aligned mimetics caused cardiac fibroblasts to elongate, while randomly organized topographies induced circular morphology similar to the disparate myofibroblast morphologies measured *in vivo*. [Abstract](#)

Hypothalamic Perineuronal Net Assembly Is Required for Sustained Diabetes Remission Induced by Fibroblast Growth Factor 1 in Rats

 First Author: Kimberly Alonge | Senior Author: Michael Schwartz *(pictured)*
 Nature Metabolism | UW, Benaroya Research Institute and Seattle Children's


The authors investigated whether perineuronal nets (PNNs) play a role in either the pathogenesis of type 2 diabetes (T2D) or its treatment. They showed that PNN abundance within the arcuate nucleus was markedly reduced in the Zucker diabetic fatty rat model of T2D compared with normoglycaemic rats, correlating with altered PNN-associated sulfation patterns of chondroitin sulfate glycosaminoglycans in the mediobasal hypothalamus. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards
Washington Research Foundation Awards Additional \$400,000 Grant to University of Washington's Gabriele Varani for MicroRNA Therapeutics

Washington Research Foundation (WRF)



WRF has announced the award of an additional \$400,000 grant to UW Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Gabriele Varani *(pictured)*. The grant provides pivotal funding that will allow Dr. Varani to continue his work investigating the molecular basis of cancer and inflammatory disease, and developing potential new therapeutics. WRF provided earlier grants totaling \$230,000 to support these efforts. [Read More](#)

UWMDI Researcher Gregory Morton Receives NIH R01 Award

UW Medicine Diabetes Institute (UWMDI)



UWMDI's Dr. Gregory Morton *(pictured)* has been awarded an NIH R01 for his project entitled "Thermoregulatory circuits that regulate feeding". This 4-year award, totaling over \$2M, seeks to advance the understanding of the neurocircuitry linking thermoregulation to AgRP neurons and feeding and may identify novel strategies for the treatment of obesity by blunting the associated hyperphagic response. [Read More](#)

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Local News
UW Medicine Lays Out Road to a COVID-19 Vaccine

Puget Sound Business Journal



Dr. Deborah Fuller *(pictured)*, Professor of Microbiology at UW, has worked on a vaccine to combat the coronavirus since January. Dr. Fuller and her team at UW Medicine have created an RNA vaccine that has the potential to be more effective and cost efficient — requiring minimal refrigeration and fewer doses. They hope to start Phase I clinical trials at the end of the summer, using 50 volunteers to test dose size and safety. [Read More](#)

The Future of Brain Cell Types Research: A Q&A with Hongkui Zeng

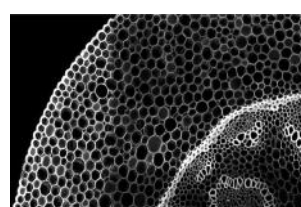
Allen Institute for Brain Science



For nearly 15 years, Dr. Hongkui Zeng *(pictured)* has been working to decipher the different types of cells that make up the brain. Together with other neuroscientists around the world, Dr. Zeng and fellow Allen Institute for Brain Science researchers are working their way down a parts list of the entire mouse brain. Once complete, this list of the brain's component cell types will be the first ever for any mammal. [Read More](#)

New Image-Reading Software to Level the Microscopy Image Playfield

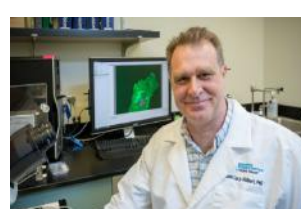
Allen Institute for Cell Science



Researchers at the Allen Institute for Cell Science use several different kinds of microscopes in their work. They have developed software that easily converts all their image files to the Open Microscopy Environment format, enabling cell biologists to more easily analyze and compare microscopy images taken on different machines. [Read More](#)

Researchers Discover New Avenue for Fighting COVID-19, Ebola and Other Viral Diseases

GeekWire via Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason



A team led by Dr. Adam Lacy-Hulbert *(pictured)* from Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason has identified a new pathway for protecting cells from deadly viruses — including the coronavirus and the Ebola virus. The technique takes advantage of a screening technique for seeking out new genes that can prevent infection. [Read More](#)

Seeing the Eye Like Never Before

UW Medicine



Scientists at UW Medicine have accelerated the process to find a cure for blindness and macular degeneration by visualizing the inner workings of the eye and its diseases at the cellular level. In an effort led by Dr. Vimal Prabhu Pandiyan and Dr. Ramkumar Sabesan *(pictured)*, researchers successfully modified the standard process of optical coherence tomography to detect minute changes in response to light in individual photoreceptors in the living eye. [Read More](#)

First Patient Receives Novel COVID-19 Therapy in Celularity Clinical Trial Led by Seattle's Infectious Disease Research Institute

Infectious Disease Research Institute (IDRI)



IDRI has announced that the first COVID-19 patient has received treatment using a novel immune therapy that was developed by Celularity Inc. as part of a national clinical trial. The first patient has been administered CYNK-001, Celularity's investigational placenta-derived immunotherapy containing natural killer cells. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

September 16 - 17 6:00 AM	7th Annual Conference: SBI² High Content 2020 Online
September 17 6:00 PM	Institute for Systems Biology 20th Anniversary, Future of Health Online
September 18 5:30 PM	A Virtual Evening of Wine and Science Online
October 1 8:00 AM	Allen Institute for Brain Science Distinguished Seminar Series Online
October 7 9:00 AM	Exploring Frontiers, The Future of Brain Health Research Online

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Senior Scientist, Molecular Immunology and Immune Cell Signaling

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Senior Manager, Quality Data and Analytics

The Seattle Cancer Care Alliance

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Fred Hutch

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Seattle Children's

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