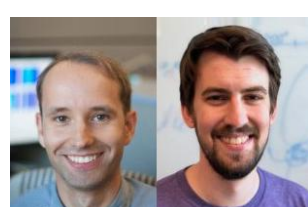
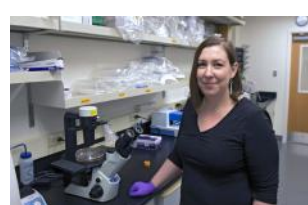


**Publications of the Week**
**De Novo Protein Design by Deep Network Hallucination**

 First Authors: Ivan Anishchenko (*pictured, left*) and Samuel Pellock (*right*) | Senior Author: David Baker  
 Nature | Institute for Protein Design, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and UW


There has been considerable recent progress in protein structure prediction using deep neural networks to predict inter-residue distances from amino acid sequences. The authors investigate whether the information captured by such networks is sufficiently rich to generate new folded proteins with sequences unrelated to those of the naturally occurring proteins used in training the models.

[Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)
**Multioomic Characterization of Oncogenic Signaling Mediated by Wild-Type and Mutant RIT1**

 First Authors: April Lo and Kaitlin Holmes | Senior Author: Alice Berger (*pictured*)  
 Science Signaling | Fred Hutch and UW


Mutations in the protein RAS underlie various cancers, including lung cancers. Mutations or chromosomal amplifications in the RAS-related protein RIT1 have been found in about 15% of lung adenocarcinomas. The authors performed comparative multiomics in lung epithelial cells expressing mutant or wild-type RIT1 or mutant or wild-type RAS. [Abstract](#)

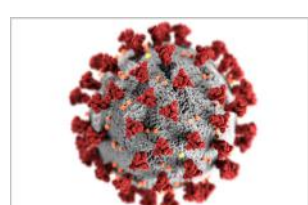
**Mucosal Tissue Regulatory T Cells Are Integral in Balancing Immunity and Tolerance at Portals of Antigen Entry**

 First Author: Brianna Traxinger | Senior Author: Jennifer Lund (*pictured*)  
 Mucosal Immunology | UW and Fred Hutch


As in other tissue regulatory T cell (Treg) compartments, mucosal Tregs in the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and genitourinary tracts are distinct from circulating counterparts and can carry out mucosa-specific functions as well as classic suppressive functions that are the hallmark of Tregs. The authors summarize current knowledge regarding mucosal Tregs in both health and disease. [Abstract](#)

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**Local News**
**What Hutch Coronavirus Experts Are Saying about Omicron**

Fred Hutch



Scientists at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center who are experts in virology, viral evolution, immunology and epidemiology are among the researchers worldwide taking a look at this new variant to learn how it might affect us. On Twitter and in the media, they've shared some of what we currently know about omicron, and what key questions we still need to answer. [Read More](#)

**Dr. Robert Bradley Named Scientific Director of Fred Hutch Translational Data Science Integrated Research Center**

Fred Hutch



Fred Hutch has named computational biologist Dr. Robert Bradley (*pictured*) Scientific Director of the Hutch's Translational Data Science Integrated Research Center (IRC). The Hutch originally launched the Translational Data Science IRC to leverage recent advances and spur future innovation in large-scale biological experiments, computational methods and infrastructure. [Read More](#)

**COVID-19 Experts Answer Questions about Omicron — and Where the Variant May Have Come From**

GeekWire



In the next weeks and months, answers to questions about the new COVID-19 variant Omicron will become clear. And Seattle researchers will have a key role in answering them. Dr. Larry Corey (*pictured, right*) and Pavitra Roychoudhury (*left*) discuss why scientists are so concerned about Omicron, how they plan to assess the variant, and how they will know when it has reached Washington state. [Read More](#)

**Immusoft Receives \$4M in Funding From the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM)**

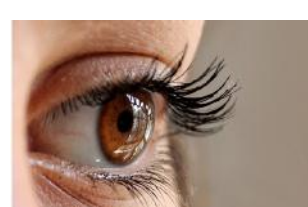
Immusoft



Immusoft of California, a wholly owned subsidiary of Seattle-based Immusoft Corporation, announced that the CIRM has awarded the company a \$4M grant to support the development of its ISP-002 program in mucopolysaccharidosis type II, an inherited disease for which patients have limited options. Immusoft's therapeutic is specially tailored to combine a cell therapy with a gene-encoded medicine. [Read More](#)

**Visus Therapeutics Announces Positive Topline Clinical Data from Phase II VIVID Study of BRIMOCHOL for the Treatment of Presbyopia**

Visus Therapeutics



Visus Therapeutics, a clinical-stage pharmaceutical company focused on developing innovative ophthalmic therapies to improve vision for people around the world, reported positive topline results from VIVID, the company's Phase II study of three novel topical ophthalmic formulations under investigation for the treatment of presbyopia. Based on positive outcomes, the company plans to commence Phase III pivotal trials shortly. [Read More](#)

**Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Lorena Alarcon-Casas Wright**

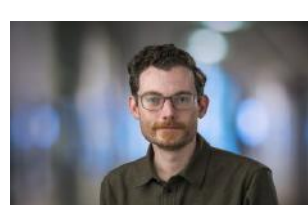
UW Department of Medicine



In honor of American Diabetes Month, the UW Department of Medicine's November faculty spotlight is Dr. Lorena Alarcon-Casas Wright (*pictured*): endocrinology clinician, researcher and educator, health equity proponent, runner and animal lover. She is currently a Clinical Associate Professor and serves as the division's Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. [Read More](#)

**Virus Expert Trevor Bedford on Annual COVID Boosters and the Inevitable Next Pandemic**

STAT News



STAT's Helen Branswell caught up with Dr. Trevor Bedford (*pictured*), a scientist at Fred Hutch and an expert on viral evolution and epidemiology. They talked about the future of the coronavirus and antigenic drift (essentially, whether the virus mutates in ways that escape the protection generated by vaccines or earlier infections), as well as what's in store for flu season, and what might lie ahead with the next pandemic. [Read More](#)

**Chinook Therapeutics Announces Formation of Sanreno Therapeutics, a Joint Venture to Develop Kidney Disease Therapies in China**

Chinook Therapeutics



Chinook Therapeutics announced the formation of SanReno Therapeutics, a joint venture with an investor syndicate led by Frazier Healthcare Partners and Pivotal bioVenture Partners China, to develop, manufacture and commercialize kidney disease therapies in the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and Singapore. [Read More](#)

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**Interesting Articles**
**It's Time to Incorporate Diversity into Our Basic Science and Disease Models**

Nature Cell Biology



Drs. Rick Horwitz (*pictured, right*) and Ruwanthi Gunawardane (*left*) discuss the need to develop new models for basic and disease research that reflect diverse ancestral backgrounds and sex, and ensure that diverse populations are included among donors and research participants, in order to address health disparities and facilitate increasingly personalized treatments. [Read More](#)

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**Upcoming Events in Seattle**

December 7 9:00 AM	<b>2021 Showcase Symposium</b> Online
December 7 12:00 PM	<b>Current Biology Seminar – Dr. Bing Ren</b> Online
December 7 3:00 PM	<b>Variant Effects Seminar Series</b> Online
December 8 1:30 PM	<b>Next Generation Cytogenomics for Reproductive Genetics and Oncology Webinar</b> Online
December 10 4:00 PM	<b>SEP School Year Workshop: Race, Racism, and Genetics</b> Online

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A-Alpha Bio
- Executive Director, Clinical Quality Assurance**  
Chinook Therapeutics

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