

Publications of the Week

A Single-Cell Based Precision Medicine Approach Using Glioblastoma Patient-Specific Models

First Author: James Park | Senior Author: Anoop Patel (pictured)
npj Precision Oncology | Institute for Systems Biology, Fred Hutch, UW, and Brotman Baty Institute



Glioblastoma is a heterogeneous tumor made up of cell states that evolve over time. The authors modeled tumor evolutionary trajectories during standard-of-care treatment using multi-omic single-cell analysis of a primary tumor sample, corresponding mouse xenografts subjected to standard of care therapy, and recurrent tumor at autopsy. [Abstract](#)

New Immuno-Oncology Targets and Resistance Mechanisms

First Author: Molly Tokaz | Senior Author: Diane Tseng (pictured)
Current Treatment Options in Oncology | UW and Fred Hutch



Immunotherapy (IO) resistance remains a fundamental challenge in non-small cell lung cancer, introducing a central quandary of how to precisely select the appropriate IO therapy or IO combination therapy for each individual patient. To address this vital need in the field, there has been an explosion of research in immuno-oncology to identify mechanisms of resistance, ranging from genomic alterations in the tumor to immunosuppressive conditions in the tumor microenvironment. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

'Microprotein' Researcher Maria Toro Moreno Is Named a Hanna Gray Fellow

Fred Hutch



Dr. Maria Toro Moreno (pictured), a postdoctoral fellow at Fred Hutch, was named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Hanna Gray Fellow. Dr. Toro Moreno studies microproteins. These tiny proteins, made up of fewer than 100 amino acids, have been mostly overlooked in biology. "The fellowship makes my next steps easier," Dr. Toro Moreno said. "It provides a safety net, which allows me to do riskier research. I have more room to explore." [Read More](#)

One Year On: BBI's Dr. Colin Pritchard Reflects on Receiving the Catalyst for Precision Medicine Award

Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



The Cancer Community Awards, sponsored by AstraZeneca, present an individual or organization with the Catalyst for Precision Medicine Award. This award celebrates those who enhance the ability to provide the right treatment for the right patient at the right time. In this interview, BBI's Dr. Colin Pritchard (pictured), recipient of the 2021 award, reflects on his work and the impact of the award. [Read More](#)

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Local News

From 300,000 Mouse Neurons, Scientists Hope to Glean How the Brain Drives Behavior

Allen Institute



The Allen Institute team just released the largest dataset of Neuropixels recordings ever collected. The publicly available dataset contains detailed information from more than 300,000 mouse neurons in action collected as the animals performed their trained task — licking a waterspout when they see a changed image, also known as an oddball task. These data represent billions of split-second electrical pulses that comprise the brain's language of information. [Read More](#)

Seattle Children's Sickle Cell Disease Program Expands and Seeks to Diversify Care for Patients

Seattle Children's



To help improve the Sickle Cell Disease Program, leaders from Seattle Children's came together to discuss a vision of having integrated care done at the hospital campus via Dr. Mignon Loh (pictured), the new Chief, Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, at Seattle Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center, to optimize coordinated care to patients from skilled people who understand and know the disease well. [Read More](#)

PAN-TB Collaboration to Advance Investigational Tuberculosis Drug Regimens to Phase II Clinical Trials

BioSpace



The Project to Accelerate New Treatments for Tuberculosis (PAN-TB) collaboration announced the execution of a joint development agreement supporting the progression of two investigational tuberculosis (TB) combination treatment regimens into Phase II clinical development. The collaboration will evaluate whether the novel regimens can effectively treat all forms of active pulmonary TB using substantially shorter treatment durations than existing drug regimens, with the goal of identifying a regimen suitable for Phase III development. [Read More](#)

Rethinking Why Cancer Doesn't Happen – Part One

Fred Hutch



Our cancer is written in our DNA. Or is it? "The idea that you get a mutation and you'll get cancer is so ingrained in us because of the way we as scientists have been telling this story, the way physicians have been repeating it," said Fred Hutch skin cancer and stem cell scientist Dr. Slobodan Beronja (pictured). "Luckily, we're organized as a living unit. We don't have to completely prevent mutations from occurring, because there are systems keeping you cancer-free despite mutations". [Read More](#)

NIH Awards AVM Biotechnology SBIR Grant to Study AVM0703 Combined with Standard of Care in Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (NHL) to Improve Complete Response Rates Without Additional Toxicities

BioSpace



AVM Biotechnology has announced the award of a third Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Cancer Institute. This grant will evaluate the ability of the company's small molecule, AVM0703, in combination with the standard chemotherapy regimen, R-CHOP, to reduce R-CHOP cycles in an aggressive, immune-resistant murine B cell NHL model. [Read More](#)

New Asthma Treatment Shows Promise and Future Directions for Disproportionately Affected Kids

Benaroya Research Institute at Virginia Mason (BRI)



A biologic asthma therapy called mepolizumab can reduce asthma exacerbations among children in low-income Hispanic and Black communities, according to a recent study from the Inner-City Asthma Consortium. "It's essential to focus on these children because they are more likely to have the disease, more likely to end up in the emergency room, and more likely to die because of asthma — and they are often underrepresented in clinical trials," says Dr. Matthew Altman (pictured), the senior author of the study who conducts asthma research at BRI. [Read More](#)

Sonoma Biotherapeutics Enters Long-Term Lease Agreement to Establish a Treg Cell Therapy R&D and Manufacturing Center

BioSpace



Sonoma Biotherapeutics, Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company developing engineered regulatory T cell (Treg) therapies for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases, announced that it has entered into a lease agreement to develop an approximately 83,000 square-foot Research and Development (R&D) and Manufacturing Center to expand its operations in Seattle and complement its existing R&D enterprise in South San Francisco. [Read More](#)

Seattle Startup Aiming to Detect, Treat Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease Raises Cash

GeekWire



UW spinout AltPep recently raised \$44.4 million, according to a regulatory filing. Founder and CEO Dr. Valerie Daggett (pictured) spoke with GeekWire about AltPep's progress on its experimental blood test to detect Alzheimer's disease at the earliest stages. "We're going after that first molecular trigger for the pathology," said Dr. Daggett, who is also a UW Professor of Bioengineering. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- September 7 8:30 AM **2022 From the Laboratory to Leadership – Virtual Fall Program** Online
- September 9-10 9:00 AM **5th Symposium on Cancer Survivorship for Clinicians** Bell Harbor International Conference Center
- September 10 10:30 AM **Sickle Cell 5K Walk** Seward Park
- September 14 10:30 AM **Distinguished Seminar Series – Corey Hartwell** Online
- September 14 6:00 PM **Town Hall Seattle – Meghan O'Rourke with Jim Heath** Online

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Fred Hutch
- Clinical Lab Technologist II**
Adaptive Biotechnologies
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- Research Associate III, Single Cell Genomic Specialist, Immunology**
Allen Institute

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