

Publications of the Week

Alpelisib for the Treatment of PIK3CA-Related Head and Neck Lymphatic Malformations and Overgrowth

First Author: Tara Wenger (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Jonathan Perkins
Genetics in Medicine | UW and Seattle Children's Research Institute



PIK3CA-related overgrowth spectrum (PROS) conditions of the head and neck are treatment challenges. Use of the PI3K inhibitor alpelisib, previously shown to be effective in PROS, has not been reported in PIK3CA-associated head and neck lymphatic malformations (HNLs) or facial infiltrating lipomatosis (FIL). The authors describe prospective treatment of five children with PIK3CA-associated HNLs or head and neck FIL with alpelisib monotherapy. [Abstract](#)

Electrospun Nanofibers for 3D Cancer Models, Diagnostics, and Therapy

First Author: Ariane Erickson | Senior Author: Miqin Zhang (*pictured*)
Nanoscale Horizons | UW



Nanofibers synthesized by electrospinning have exhibited great clinical potential as a biomimetic tumor microenvironment model for drug screening, a controllable platform for localized, prolonged drug release for cancer therapy, and a highly sensitive cancer diagnostic tool for capture and isolation of circulating tumor cells in the bloodstream and for detection of cancer-associated biomarkers. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Making a Transformative Impact on the Lives of People Living with Type 1 Diabetes

UW Medicine News



Drs. Vincenzo Cirulli (*pictured*), Laura Crisa, Hannele Ruohola-Baker, and Shiri Levy have received the first state-funded 2022-2023 Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine Team Award. The project will leverage the complementary backgrounds of the Cirulli, Ruohola-Baker, and Crisa laboratories to develop methods of yielding homogenous populations of functionally stable insulin-secreting beta cells. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Largest Gift in Fred Hutch History: \$78M from Stuart and Molly Sloan Will Support Precision Oncology

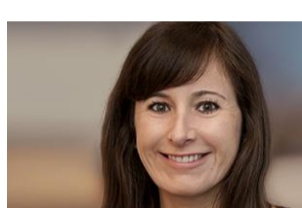
GeekWire



A gift of \$78 million will seed a new institute at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center and support research into precision oncology, a field that aims to assess the biological makeup of cancer in each affected individual. The pledged gift from Stuart and Molly Sloan is the largest in the 47-year history of the Seattle-based research institution. [Read More](#)

Innovative Epilepsy Procedure Offers New Avenue of Treatment to Reduce Seizures

Seattle Children's



A cutting-edge procedure for epilepsy at Seattle Children's, known as responsive neurostimulation, is offering hope and seizure reduction relief to some patients who are still looking for solutions after exploring other treatment options. "As the epileptologist, we can program the device to interrupt a seizure if we're in the right spot with this device," said Dr. Stephanie Randle (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

Promising Young Scientist Aleena Arakaki: Helping Address Systemic Health Inequities and Uplifting Marginalized Communities Through an Hawaiian Perspective

Brotman Baty Institute



Training and helping others maneuver the myriad aspects of cancer research – and higher education generally – are aspects of her work that motivate Dr. Aleena Arakaki (*pictured, right*). "The world of academia can be a difficult one in which to survive and thrive, especially for people from historically excluded groups in science," she said. "There are hurdles that individuals from marginalized groups face that can be discouraging." [Read More](#)

Good Therapeutics Being Acquired by Roche for \$250M

Seattle Inno



Seattle-based biotech Good Therapeutics is being acquired by Roche, a Swiss pharmaceutical giant. Roche is paying \$250 million in cash upfront for the purchase and Roche will make additional payments for hitting certain milestones. John Mulligan (*pictured*), Founder and CEO of Good Therapeutics, says Roche is "a perfect choice" for advancing Good's technology. [Read More](#)

An Interview with Dr. Laura-Mae Baldwin

Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS)



Dr. Laura-Mae Baldwin (*pictured*) is a family physician and Professor in the UW Department of Family Medicine and the Senior Advisor to the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho region Practice and Research Network. The ITHS recently spoke to her about her role with the organization as well as its evolution and future. [Read More](#)

Adaptive Biotechnologies to Receive Up to \$250M in Financing Deal

Seattle Inno



Seattle-based biotech Adaptive Biotechnologies has inked a royalty financing agreement with health care investment firm OrbiMed worth up to \$250 million. Through the agreement, Adaptive will receive an initial \$125 million in exchange for OrbiMed receiving 5% of Adaptive's revenue. Adaptive can receive an additional \$75 million for 8% of its revenue and another \$50 million, earmarked for potential merger and acquisition deals, for 10%. [Read More](#)

Curevo Vaccine Announces Enrollment Complete in Phase IIb Trial of CRV-101 Vaccine Against Shingles

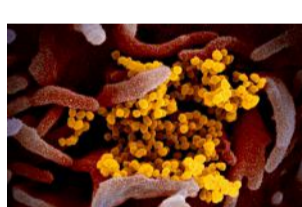
Curevo via PR Newswire



Curevo Vaccine, a privately held clinical-stage biotechnology company dedicated to reducing the burden of infectious disease by developing safe and highly-effective vaccines, has announced completion of enrollment in a Phase 2b trial of their CRV-101 subunit vaccine to prevent the reactivation of the varicella zoster virus (shingles) in older adults. [Read More](#)

Omeros Corporation Reports Narsoplimab Treatment Results in Critically Ill COVID-19 Patients in I-SPY COVID Trial

Omeros via Business Wire



Omeros Corporation has reported results from the narsoplimab arm of the I-SPY COVID Trial, sponsored by Quantum Leap Healthcare Collaborative. Analysis in the randomized patient population shows that the addition of narsoplimab to treatment of critically ill patients with COVID-19 reduces the mortality risk. Narsoplimab showed the largest reduction in mortality risk to date across all drugs reported from the I-SPY COVID Trial. [Read More](#)

Beyond AlphaFold: AI Excels at Creating New Proteins

UW Medicine



Biologists at the University of Washington School of Medicine have shown that machine learning can be used to create protein molecules much more accurately and quickly than previously possible. The scientists, led by Dr. David Baker (*pictured*), hope this advance will lead to many new vaccines, treatments, tools for carbon capture, and sustainable biomaterials. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- September 28 - 30 4:30 pm **Dr. E. Donnell Thomas Symposium** Online
- September 28 9:00 am **Neurophysiology Virtual Data Showcase** Online
- September 29 6:00 pm **Reimagine: Healthcare** Institute for Systems Biology
- October 3 - 5 9:00 am **NeuroDataReHack** Allen Institute
- October 3 - 4 4:00 pm **VIP Forum with Merck** Life Science Washington Office

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Science Jobs in Seattle

- Research Associate III, Neuroanatomy**
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- Research Associate I, Bench**
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- Faculty Position, Oncology**
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- Postdoctoral Scholar, Immune Cell Response to Vaccines**
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