

Publications of the Week

Cytomegalovirus Breakthrough and Resistance During Letemovir Prophylaxis

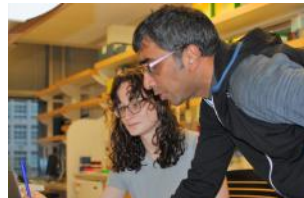
 First Author: Garrett Perchetti (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Danniell Zamora Bone Marrow Transplantation | UW and Fred Hutch


Letemovir is a relatively new antiviral for prophylaxis against cytomegalovirus (CMV) after allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation (HCT). CMV-seropositive HCT recipients who received letemovir prophylaxis from 2018 to 2020 at the author's center were evaluated for letemovir resistance and breakthrough CMV reactivation. [Abstract](#)

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Local News

Promising Young Scientist: An Invaluable Guiding Principle Leads Jenny Nathans to UW's MD-PhD Program

Brotman Baty Institute



Jenny Nathans (*pictured, left*) devoted more than two years to kicking many tires at the National Institutes of Health before arriving at UW in 2020 to begin pursuing MD and PhD degrees under the supervision of Dr. Jay Shendure (*right*). "Jay uses next generation genomics as its own microscope," Nathans said. "And he conducts sequencing as its own microscope to understand how cells are taking different fate trajectories." [Read More](#)

Interview with Marc Cummings, President and CEO of Life Science Washington

Investment Reports



Marc Cummings (*pictured*), President and CEO of Life Science Washington, provides his thoughts on the Washington life science ecosystem, how the pandemic changed the state's approach to innovation, and how it is handling clinical trial diversity. "Washington state has always enjoyed a strong research base, a history of developing innovative FDA-approved therapies and excelled in areas such as medical devices as well," he said. [Read More](#)

Experimental HIV Vaccine Regimen Safe but Ineffective

ScienceDaily



An investigational HIV vaccine regimen tested among men who have sex with men and transgender people was safe but did not provide protection against HIV acquisition, an independent data and safety monitoring board has determined. The HPX3002/HVTN 706, or 'Mosaico,' Phase 3 clinical trial began in 2019 and involved 3,900 volunteers ages 18 to 60 years in Europe, North America, and South America. [Read More](#)

Seattle Ranked Best US City for STEM Workers

The News Tribune



A new report from personal finance website WalletHub ranks Seattle as the best overall metro area for STEM professionals in the US. The Emerald City outranked Austin, Texas in second place, followed by Boston, Atlanta, San Francisco, and San Jose. WalletHub scored the nation's 100 largest metro areas based on three criteria: relevant professional opportunities, STEM-friendliness, and quality of life. [Read More](#)

Ukrainian Delegates Visit the Institute of Translational Health Science

Institute of Translational Health Sciences



Nearly one year after Russian aggression began, the people of Ukraine are intent on rebuilding their nation. In hopes of speeding the transitioning to the rebuilding phase, a delegation of Ukrainian health professionals recently traveled to Seattle to gain a deeper understanding of the biotechnology field. Their goal? Advancing the biotechnology industry within Ukraine despite the challenges they are currently facing. [Read More](#)

How Regulatory T Cells Halt Aberrant, Self-Reactive T Cells

UW Medicine



New research, led by Dr. Ram Savan (*pictured*), shows in detail how self-reactive T cells — white blood cells that mistakenly attack healthy instead of infected cells, thereby causing an autoimmune or an inflammatory response — are held in check by regulatory T cells. Regulatory T cells, or Tregs, are patrolling white blood cells that help maintain law and order among the body's sometimes overzealous disease-fighting T cells, also called CD4 effector cells, or Teffs. [Read More](#)

Ginny Ruffner and Dr. Jim Heath Explore the Intersection of Art and Science

Institute for Systems Biology (ISB)



An artist and a scientist walk into a lecture hall ... It sounds like the setup to a joke, but it actually happened on January 19 at Town Hall Seattle. Renowned artist Ginny Ruffner and ISB President Dr. Jim Heath (*pictured*) hosted an hour-long conversation focusing on the intersection of art and science. And while the discussion was quite real, it delivered a number of comical punchlines. [Read More](#)

Touch System in Zebrafish as New Model to Study Merkel Cell Development and Maintenance

UW Biology



New research from the Rasmussen lab on the touch system in zebrafish as a new model to study Merkel cell development and maintenance was recently published in *eLife*. The study demonstrates that the zebrafish touch system shares many characteristics with its mammalian counterpart, including developmental origin, innervation, and molecular characteristics while allowing *in vivo* analysis of specification, development, and maintenance. [Read More](#)

Steve and Connie Ballmer, Gates Foundation Donate \$20M to University of Washington Medicine

GeekWire



The University of Washington has announced a new endowed deanship at UW Medicine supported by two \$10 million donations each from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer and his wife Connie Ballmer. The funding will provide funding for current and future deans to support UW Medicine programs. [Read More](#)

BBI Faculty Conversations: Dr. Andrew Stacey

Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



BBI Member Dr. Andrew Stacey (*pictured*) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Washington and Seattle Children's. In this article, he discusses how he got involved in medicine and research, and his work in pediatric cancers, including an eye tumor called retinoblastoma. [Read More](#)

Fred Hutch's Dr. Ross Prentice Retires

Fred Hutch



Only a handful of scientists at Fred Hutch have been around longer than the institution itself; longtime public health researcher Dr. Ross Prentice (*pictured*), who retired at the end of 2022, is one of them. "I came here in 1974, when 'the Hutch' was little more than a twinkle in Bill Hutchinson's eye," Dr. Prentice said in a recent interview. [Read More](#)

Meet Jenny Robinson

Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine



Dr. Jenny Robinson (*pictured*) was 12 when an injury to her anterior cruciate ligament and lateral meniscus derailed her soccer dreams. Today, the soccer player with the surgically-repaired knee is an Assistant Professor of Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine and Mechanical Engineering, holder of the Endowed Chair in Women's Sports Medicine and Lifetime Fitness, and the newest faculty member in the Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine. [Read More](#)

A (Literally) Multi-Pronged Viral Vaccine Approach

Fred Hutch



Epstein-Barr virus (EBV) infects over 95% of people worldwide, and while it commonly causes relatively benign cases of mononucleosis, classic and emerging research has linked the virus to various cancers, rheumatoid arthritis, and even multiple sclerosis. Dr. Andrew McGuire's (*pictured*) lab in the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Division at Fred Hutch has taken on this challenge, using state-of-the-art approaches in their efforts to develop a vaccine against EBV. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- February 8 12:00 pm **Biostatistics Seminar Series Featuring Dr. Noorie Hyun** Online
- February 9 5:30 pm **Innovators Network Lab Crawl** Lake Union Steam Plant
- February 11 9:00 am **SEP School Year Workshop: mRNA Vaccines** Fred Hutch
- February 13 12:30 pm **Synthetic Developmental Biology: Cross-Species Comparison and Manipulation of Organoids** Odin Smith Auditorium and Online
- February 13 - 14 4:00 pm **VIP Forum with BMS** Life Science Washington

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Science Jobs in Seattle

- Scientist I, Process Development**
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- Bioinformatics Postdoctoral Research Associate**
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- Assistant Professor**
Institute for Systems Biology
- Research Associate I, Image-Based Assay Developer**
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