

Publications of the Week
Tau-RNA Complexes Inhibit Microtubule Polymerization and Drive Disease-Relevant Conformation Change

 First Author: Pamela McMillan | Senior Author: Brian Kraemer *(pictured)*
 Brain | UW and Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System


Alzheimer's disease and related disorders feature neurofibrillary tangles and other neuropathological lesions composed of detergent-insoluble tau protein. However, the constituents driving the formation of distinct pathological tau conformations on pathway to tau-mediated neurodegeneration remain unknown. The authors employ molecular interaction studies to measure the impact of tau/RNA binding on tau microtubule binding and aggregation. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Plasmodium Infection Disrupts the T Follicular Helper Cell Response to Heterologous Immunization

 First Author: Mary Fontana | Senior Author: Marion Pepper *(pictured)*
 eLife | UW


Naturally acquired immunity to malaria develops only after many years and repeated exposures, raising the question of whether *Plasmodium* parasites, the etiological agents of malaria, suppress the ability of dendritic cells (DCs) to activate optimal T cell responses. The authors demonstrated recently that B cells, rather than DCs, are the principal activators of CD4⁺ T cells in murine malaria. In the present study, they further investigated factors that might prevent DCs from priming *Plasmodium*-specific T helper cell responses. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)
Awards
Joshua Schiffer Elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation

UW Medicine



Dr. Joshua Schiffer *(pictured)* has been elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). Founded in 1908, the ASCI is one of the nation's oldest medical honor societies and is among the few organizations focused on the special role of physician-scientists in research, clinical care, and medical education, as well as leadership positions in academic medicine and the life sciences industry. [Read More](#)

Andrew Stergachis Receives Young Physician-Scientist Award

UW Medicine



Dr. Andrew Stergachis *(pictured)*, Assistant Professor of Medical Genetics, is the 2023 recipient of the Young Physician-Scientist Award from the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). The ASCI Council Young Physician-Scientist Awards recognize physician-scientists who are early in their first faculty appointment and have made notable achievements in their research. [Read More](#)

Jose Garcia Elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation

UW Medicine



Dr. Jose Garcia *(pictured)*, Professor of Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine, has been elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). The society is dedicated to the advancement of research that extends understanding of diseases and improves treatment, and members are committed to mentoring future generations of physician-scientists. [Read More](#)

[View All Awards](#)
Local News
Fred Hutch Launches MET-X, a 'Transformative Approach to Metastatic Disease'

Fred Hutch



Metastatic cancer is one of, if not the most, challenging areas of cancer biology, which is why there hasn't been a ton of focused, funded metastatic research and few actual cures. Fred Hutch hopes to change that with the launch of the Center for Metastasis Research Excellence, or MET-X. Led by translational researcher Dr. Cyrus Ghajar *(pictured)*, MET-X will be an interdisciplinary and collaborative program focused solely on solid tumor metastasis. [Read More](#)

New Study Finds That Germinal Centers Are Regulated by Thymic Stromal Lymphopoietin Signaling in B Cells and T Cells

Benaroya Research Institute



Scientists from Benaroya Research Institute led by Dr. Steven Ziegler *(pictured)* show that thymic stromal lymphopoietin (TSLP) signaling regulates germinal center (GC) function. "In addition to identifying TSLP as a novel regulator of the GC, we were able to demonstrate how the TSLP signaling pathway impacts B and T cell responses separately to regulate the GC and the magnitude and quality of antibody responses," says Dr. Ziegler. [Read More](#)

Seagen Vets Land \$4.4M for UW Spinout Using Fresh Approach for Cancer Vaccines

GeekWire



A biotech startup spun out of UW and led by veterans of Seattle-area biotech giant Seagen has raised \$4.4 million, part of an ongoing seed round. The leaders of the startup, Abacus Bioscience, say they've landed on a new, potentially powerful approach to create vaccines to treat people with cancer. Abacus is taking a novel approach to targeting tumor antigens. Its experimental agents have shown potential to generate a strong immune response to such antigens, thereby prompting tumor killing. [Read More](#)

Weill Cornell Medicine and NanoString Collaborate to Create Comprehensive Spatial Atlas of Human Anatomy

BusinessWire



NanoString Technologies, a leading provider of life science tools for discovery and translational research, has announced the launch of the Spatial Atlas of Human Anatomy initiative, in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medicine, to create multicellular, single-cell, and sub-cellular maps of 30 non-diseased organs from a healthy and diverse population of adults. [Read More](#)

AGC Biologics Tapped to Produce Long-Awaited Diabetes Drug

Fierce Pharma



AGC Biologics has been tapped to manufacture Provention Bio's long-awaited Type 1 juvenile diabetes treatment that had been in development for more than 36 years before getting Food and Drug Administration approval late last year. AGC will produce Tzield at its Seattle protein biologics facility. The company was heavily involved with the advancement of the treatment through early manufacture and validation batches, and US regulatory approval. [Read More](#)

Four Years In, Sana Gets First FDA Go-Ahead to Bring Cancer Treatment into the Clinic

Endpoints News



Sana Biotechnology is finally headed to the clinic. The biotech has announced the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared its application to start a clinical trial for its allogeneic, or "off-the-shelf," CAR-T cell therapy targeting the antigen CD19 for patients with B-cell lymphomas and leukemias. Sana said its therapy, dubbed SC291, was designed to evade the immune system, which could help cell therapy produce a more durable response in patients. [Read More](#)

[View All Articles](#) | [Submit an Article](#)
Upcoming Events in Seattle

- February 13 - 14 **VIP Forum with BMS**
4:00 pm Life Science Washington
- February 15 **PNRI's Science Matters Seminar**
12:00 pm Online
- February 15 **Seattle AWIS – Cognitive Decline in Dogs and Humans**
6:00 pm Fred Hutch
- February 27 **Global Oncology Lecture Series**
8:00 am Online
- March 1 **EWIB-Seattle: Executive Women in Bio & eMAPS Happy Hour and Networking**
5:00 pm Baron's Sino Kitchen and Bar

[View All Events](#) | [Submit an Event](#)
Science Jobs in Seattle

- Director, Manufacturing**
NanoString
- Director Head of Cell Line Development**
Seagen
- Manager, Quality**
Zymeworks
- Staff Scientist**
Benaroya Research Institute
- Research Associate II, Neurosurgery & Behavior**
Allen Institute

[View 50 Other Science Jobs](#) | [Submit a Job](#)

 Submit your articles and events by reaching out to us at info@scienceinseattle.com.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

