

Publications of the Week

Obesity-Associated Microglial Inflammatory Activation Paradoxically Improves Glucose Tolerance

First Author: John Douglass (*pictured*) | Senior Authors: Suneil Koliwad and Joshua Thaler
Cell Metabolism | UW



Hypothalamic gliosis associated with high-fat diet (HFD) feeding increases susceptibility to hyperphagia and weight gain. However, the body-weight-independent contribution of microglia to glucose regulation has not been determined. Here, researchers show that reducing microglial nuclear factor κB (NF-κB) signaling via cell-specific IKKβ deletion exacerbates HFD-induced glucose intolerance despite reducing body weight and adiposity. [Abstract](#)

Therapeutic HDAC Inhibition in Hypermutant Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma

First Author: Alyssa Noll (*pictured, right*) | Senior Author: Nicholas Vitanza (*left*)
Neoplasia | Seattle Children's, Fred Hutch, and UW



Constitutional mismatch repair deficiency is a cancer predisposition syndrome associated with the development of hypermutant pediatric high-grade glioma, and confers a poor prognosis. Here, researchers use a clinically relevant biopsy-derived hypermutant diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) model (PBT-24FH) and a CRISPR-Cas9 induced genetic model to evaluate the efficacy of HDAC inhibition against hypermutant DIPG. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Suzanne Watnick Recognized with Shaul G. Massry Distinguished Lecture Award

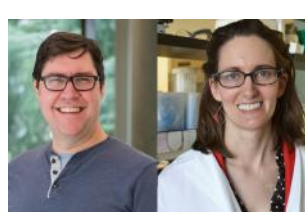
UW Medicine



UW's Nephrology professor Dr. Suzanne Watnick (*pictured*) is the recipient of the 2024 Shaul G. Massry Distinguished Lecture Award from the National Kidney Foundation. Dr. Watnick is a practicing nephrologist at the VA Puget Sound Healthcare System, specializing in care for those with chronic kidney disease, including end-stage kidney disease. [Read More](#)

Benaroya Research Institute Awarded \$3.1 Million National Institutes of Health Grant to Study the Inflammatory Cycle of Common Skin Diseases

Benaroya Research Institute (BRI)



The Benaroya Research Institute announced new research grants awarded in 2023, including a \$3.1 million grant to study inflammatory memory and how to break the cycle of inflammation in patients with skin diseases like psoriasis and atopic dermatitis, funded by the National Institutes of Health. The grant is led by BRI scientists Dr. Daniel Campbell (*pictured, left*) and Dr. Hannah DeBerg (*right*). [Read More](#)

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Local News

AGC Biologics and Asahi Kasei Enter Clinical Drug Substance Agreement

Contract Pharma



AGC Biologics, a biotech company headquartered in Bothell, is partnering with pharmaceutical company Asahi Kasei to develop a drug substance that will support antibody therapies. Team members at AGC's Seattle site will oversee the product's manufacturing in the late phase of development. The site oversees several manufacturing lines including a new microbial-based system. [Read More](#)

Dr. Vlad Simianu Appointed as Medical Director of Benaroya Research Institute's Clinical Research Program

Benaroya Research Institute



Virginia Mason Franciscan Health's Dr. Vlad Simianu (*pictured*) has recently been appointed as Medical Director of Benaroya Research Institute's Clinical Research Program. Since 2018, Dr. Simianu has been a colon and rectal surgeon at Virginia Mason Medical Center (VMMC), having also conducted research at VMMC since this time. [Read More](#)

Honoring Excellence in Molecular Engineering

UW Molecular Engineering & Sciences Institute (MoIES)



Gokce Altin-Yavuzarslan (*pictured, left*), Samantha Borje (*centre*), and Olivia Dotson (*right*) received Molecular Engineering and Science student achievement awards at the MoIES's graduation celebration. Altin-Yavuzarslan won the Scientific Achievement Award and the program also gave Borje and Dotson Outreach and Service Awards for their dedication to making an impact in their community. [Read More](#)

Seagen's Breast Cancer Therapy Succeeds in Late-Stage Study

Reuters



Bothell-based biotech company Seagen found success with one of its breast cancer therapies. The treatment, named Tuksya, is designed to prolong the lives of breast cancer patients without increasing symptoms or aggravating the disease. The drug is designed to target HER2 positive cancer, a strain of breast cancer responsible for nearly one fifth of breast cancer cases in the US. [Read More](#)

Prioritizing Diversity Will Help All of Us

Nature Cell Biology



Dr. Kelly Stevens (*pictured*) is an Associate Professor at UW that was a part of a team of biomedical researchers who recently published a hiring roadmap in *Nature Biomedical Engineering* to help diversify faculty hiring. *Nature Cell Biology* spoke with her and discussed her work, her views on diversity and its importance, but also her personal struggles as an LGBT+ and disabled scientist. [Read More](#)

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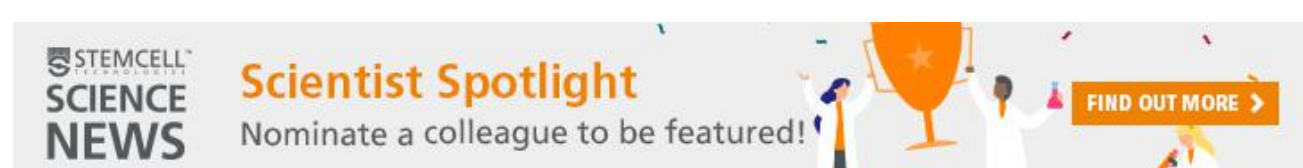
Upcoming Events in Seattle

- Sept 11 - 17
8:00 AM **Open Science Week**
Online
- September 13
12:00 PM **Seattle Pediatric Innovation**
Online
- Sept 17 - 21
9:00 AM **Lake Conference – Neural Coding and Dynamics**
Hyatt Regency Lake Washington
- September 20
12:00 PM **Science Matters Seminar: Why We Have the Diseases We Have**
Online
- Sept 20 - 24
8:00 AM **14th Annual In-Person Comprehensive Hematology & Oncology Review Course**
Fred Hutch

[View All Events](#)

Science Jobs in Seattle

- Research Associate I, Immunology**
HDT Bio
- Associate Scientist, Viral Vector Production**
Sonoma Biotherapeutics
- Science Writer**
Allen Institute
- Research Coordinator**
UW
- Biostatistician II-III**
Fred Hutch

[View 50 Other Science Jobs](#)


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