

Publications of the Week

Cognitively Defined Alzheimer's Dementia Subgroups Have Distinct Atrophy Patterns

First Author: Paul Crane (*pictured*) | Senior Authors: Shannon Risacher and Paul Crane
Alzheimer's & Dementia | UW and VA Puget Sound Health Care



Researchers sought to determine structural magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) characteristics across subgroups defined based on relative cognitive domain impairments using data from the Alzheimer's Disease (AD) Neuroimaging Initiative, and to compare cognitively defined to imaging-defined subgroups. In this study, researchers determined that the MRI findings differ across cognitively defined AD subgroups. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Zebrafish Cutaneous Injury Models Reveal That Langerhans Cells Engulf Axonal Debris in Adult Epidermis

First Author: Eric Peterman | Senior Author: Jeffrey Rasmussen (*pictured*)
Disease Models & Mechanisms | UW



Somatosensory neurons extend enormous peripheral axons to the skin, where they detect diverse environmental stimuli. Here, researchers established zebrafish scales as a tractable model to study axon degeneration in the adult epidermis. Using this system, they demonstrated that skin-resident immune cells known as Langerhans cells engulf the majority of axon debris. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Local News

Athira Pharma Completes Enrollment of Phase 2/3 LIFT-AD Clinical Trial of Fosgonimeton in Mild-to-Moderate Alzheimer's Disease

Globe Newswire



Athira Pharma, a late clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on developing small molecules to restore neuronal health and slow neurodegeneration, announced completion of enrollment in the Phase 2/3 LIFT-AD clinical trial of fosgonimeton as a potential treatment for mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease. [Read More](#)

Outsize Benefit Seen in Trial of Drug for Kidney Disease

UW Medicine



In a clinical trial of patients with chronic kidney disease, an experimental drug significantly reduced albuminuria — a sign of kidney damage — for 50% of participants. The drug candidate, BI 690517, is designed to inhibit the body's production of aldosterone. The study was led by Dr. Katherine Tuttle (*pictured*), a Clinical Professor of Nephrology at UW's School of Medicine. [Read More](#)

AAHI Selected As Member of ARPA-H Investor Catalyst Hub Spoke Network

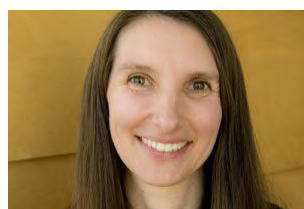
Access to Advanced Health Institute (AAHI)



The AAHI, a nonprofit biotech research institute, announced that it was selected as a spoke for the Investor Catalyst Hub, a regional hub of ARPANET-H, a nationwide health innovation network launched by the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). AAHI joins a dynamic nationwide network of organizations aligned to ARPA-H's overarching mission to improve health outcomes. [Read More](#)

Finding a Sweet Spot for Cultivating Embryonic Cell Lines

Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine



Induced pluripotent stem cells give regenerative medicine researchers an easily accessible and replenishable source of stem cells they can use to study human development, disease onset, and potential therapies. Drs. Carol Ware and Julie Mathieu (*pictured*) investigated the best ways to culture stem cells and used different types of stem cells to model a wide range of diseases and biological processes. [Read More](#)

AI Generates Proteins with Exceptional Binding Strengths

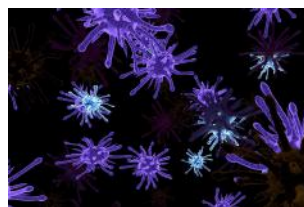
Institute for Protein Design



UW researchers reported in *Nature* an AI-enabled advance in biotechnology with implications for drug development, disease detection, and environmental monitoring. Notably, they achieved what they believe to be the highest binding affinity ever reported between a computer-generated biomolecule and its target. This project was led by Baker Lab members Susana Vazquez-Torres, Preetham Venkatesh (*pictured*), and Dr. Phil Leung. [Read More](#)

Tumor-Fighting Genes May Diminish HIV Reservoirs

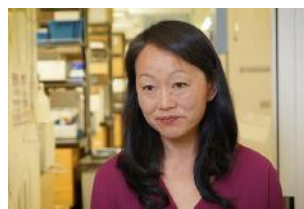
UW Medicine



Once someone has contracted the HIV virus, it can remain latent in the person's blood cells, until, for reasons unknown, it reactivates. Authors of a study published recently in *PLOS Pathogens* found that people who have higher levels of expression of two tumor-suppressing genes are likely to have smaller reservoirs of HIV-infected cells. [Read More](#)

Seattle Flu Alliance to Host Symposium on Long-COVID

Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



The Seattle Flu Alliance is hosting a Long-COVID Symposium to explore research and clinical aspects of the disease. "Our symposium brings together experts with a wide range of perspectives on the effects of Long-COVID from hospitals, UW Medicine, and public health agencies," said BBI's Dr. Helen Chu (*pictured*) who will moderate the symposium. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- January 18 3:00 PM **Phenomic Data-Driven Health**
Seattle Children's Research Institute
- January 20 9:00 AM **SEP School Year Workshop: Elephants & Cancer**
Fred Hutch
- January 24 2:00 PM **Biomedical Entrepreneurship and Its Unique Challenges**
Online
- January 31 8:00 AM **Seattle BioTech & Bagels Morning Virtual Meetup**
Online
- February 1 4:00 PM **2024 Long-Covid Symposium**
UW

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Science Jobs in Seattle

- Senior Associate Scientist, Bioreactor Process Design**
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- Assistant Professor, Urology**
UW
- Scientist I / Associate Scientist**
TwinStrand Biosciences
- Scientist/Senior Scientist**
Alpine Immune Sciences
- Senior Scientist, T-Cell Differentiation**
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