

Publications of the Week

Spike Deep Mutational Scanning Helps Predict Success of SARS-CoV-2 Clades

First Author: Bernadeta Dadonaite (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Jesse Bloom Nature | Fred Hutch, UW, and Howard Hughes Medical Institute



SARS-CoV-2 variants acquire mutations in the spike protein that promote immune evasion and affect other properties that contribute to viral fitness, such as ACE2 receptor binding and cell entry. Knowledge of how mutations affect these spike phenotypes can provide insight into the current and potential future evolution of the virus. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Kelly Stevens to Co-Lead NIH Funded Center to Foster New Ideas and Fight Inequity

Institute for Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine



Simultaneously advancing biomaterials research with clinical applications and connecting researchers at well-resourced institutions with those rich in diverse talent is the aim of the new Humanity Unlocking Biomaterials (HUB) center. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is supporting this effort with a grant of \$10.5 million. The HUB is co-led by Dr. Kelly Stevens (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

Dr. Nisha Bansal Receives Mid-Career Achievement Award

UW Medicine



UW Medicine Professor of Nephrology Dr. Nisha Bansal (*pictured*) is 2024 recipient of the Mid-Career Achievement Award by the American Heart Association's Council on the Kidney in Cardiovascular Disease. This award recognizes a mid-career investigator active in cardiovascular research who made a significant impact on the field of cardiovascular disease as it relates to kidney failure. [Read More](#)

Dr. Cecilia Moens Named Raisbeck Endowed Chair for Basic Science

Fred Hutch



Fred Hutch Developmental Biologist Dr. Cecilia Moens (*pictured*) was announced as the recipient of the Raisbeck Endowed Chair for Basic Science. Endowed chairs are one of the highest honors a Fred Hutch researcher can receive, and this position will allow Dr. Moens to continue her groundbreaking research, which is focused on understanding early brain development. [Read More](#)

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Local News

A New Path Toward Microbiome-Informed Precision Nutrition

Institute for Systems Biology (ISB)



ISB researchers have developed a novel way to simulate personalized, microbiome-mediated responses to diet. They use a microbial community-scale metabolic modeling approach to predict individual-specific SCFA production rates in response to different dietary, probiotic, and prebiotic inputs. This research is led by Dr. Sean Gibbons (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

Clay Siegall-Led Biotech, Immunome, Inks Lease for Bothell Headquarters

Puget Sound Business Journal



Biotech company Immunome has signed a lease and is moving into a 29,344-square-foot headquarters at Bothell's Alloy Innovation Center. Commercial real estate firm Newmark Group, which represented Immunome, announced the lease at the six-building campus. Newmark said Immunome has the option to more than double its space at Alloy through the lease. [Read More](#)

New Kits Are Democratizing Single-Cell RNA Sequencing

GEN News



Several companies have launched kit-based single-cell RNA sequencing products that offer researchers an alternative to traditional technology that doesn't involve additional instrumentation. One of these companies is Seattle-based Parse Biosciences. "It's a really exciting time in 'single cell,'" proclaims Dr. Alex Rosenberg (*pictured*), Co-Founder and CEO of Parse Biosciences. [Read More](#)

When It Comes to Cancer Trials, What's the (End)Point?

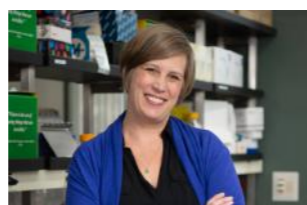
Fred Hutch



A few months back, good news hit the multiple myeloma community: the FDA voted to accept a new endpoint — MRD, or measurable residual disease — for accelerated approval of treatments for this cancer. What does this mean for myeloma patients? Everything, says Fred Hutch's Dr. Rahul Banerjee (*pictured*) who treats patients diagnosed with this slow-growing cancer of plasma cells. [Read More](#)

Exploring the Exposome: What Role Does Where You Live and What You're Exposed to Play in Autoimmunity?

Benaroya Research Institute



"We've known environmental factors play a role in autoimmune disease for a long time," says BRI scientist Dr. Cate Speake (*pictured*). "But there's still a lot we don't know, and we haven't really been able to study how, why or what we can do about it." That's why Drs. Speake and Jane Buckner are part of a team launching a landmark research effort to better understand the exposome — the sum total of everything a person is exposed to in their entire lives. [Read More](#)

DOD Enlists Evotec Subsidiary in Antibody Manufacturing Program, Awards Up to \$39M

Fierce Pharma



The Department of Defense (DOD) has turned to Evotec's Just – Evotec Biologics subsidiary to help combat various virus and bacterial threats including COVID-19, mpox, and the bubonic plague with new antibodies to add to the American medical countermeasure stockpile. Now, with a multiyear award worth up to \$39 million, the drugmaker is tasked with a larger-scale manufacturing solution as a part of the DOD's Manufacturing Optimization Program. [Read More](#)

Q&A: How the H5N1 Bird Flu Outbreak Could Become Humanity's Problem

UW News



A major outbreak of a new strain of bird flu — formally named Influenza A virus subtype H5N1 — has since killed millions of wild birds and infected poultry, dairy cattle, domestic cats, and a small number of humans. How is this virus different from previous H5N1 outbreaks? How can a bird flu become humanity's problem? UW experts Drs. Peter Rabinowitz and Julianne Meisner (*pictured*) weigh in. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

- July 10 12:00 PM **PNRI's Science Matters Seminar with Dr. Davut Pehlivan** Online
- July 13 9:00 AM **Head for the Cure 5K** Marymoor Park
- July 15 - 17 8:00 AM **2024 Allen Institute Modeling Software Workshop** Allen Institute
- July 25 5:30 PM **WIB-Seattle: Summer Social in Capitol Hill** Sole Repair Shop
- August 15 4:30 PM **Life Science Washington Annual Summer Social 2024** 188 E Blaine St

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Science Jobs in Seattle

- Research Technician I-II** Fred Hutch
- Lab Assistant/ Phlebotomist** MultiCare
- Research Scientist II** Seattle Children's
- Lab Assistant, Pathology** Virginia Mason Medical Center
- Research Coordinator** UW

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