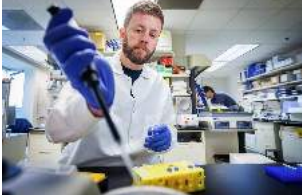


Publications of the Week

Functional and Antigenic Landscape of the Nipah Virus Receptor-Binding Protein

First Author: Brendan Larsen (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Jesse Bloom Cell | Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Fred Hutch, and UW



Nipah virus recurrently spills over to humans, causing fatal infections. The viral receptor-binding protein (RBP or G) attaches to host receptors and is a major target of neutralizing antibodies. Here, researchers use deep mutational scanning to measure how all amino-acid mutations to the RBP affect cell entry, receptor binding, and escape from neutralizing antibodies. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Washington Research Foundation Awards \$249,950 Grant to Marco Pravetoni at the University of Washington's School of Medicine

Washington Research Foundation (WRF)



WRF has awarded a \$249,950 technology commercialization grant to a team led by Dr. Marco Pravetoni (*pictured*), a UW Professor and Director of the Center for Medication Development for Substance Use Disorders. This new award follows the successful completion of previous WRF assistance from a \$94,029 grant in 2023 to support discovery of new treatments to address fentanyl-related overdoses. [Read More](#)

Announcing the 2025 Cohort of ITHS KL2 Scholars

Institute of Translational Health Sciences



The Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS) has announced the 2025 cohort of scholars for the ITHS KL2 Multidisciplinary Clinical Research Career Development Program. ITHS will provide Drs. Reya Mokaio (*pictured*), Stephanie Chen, and Alexi Vasbinder with research time, funding, mentorship, and other necessary resources to foster the development of their clinical and translational research skills. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Report: Washington State's \$41.2B Life Sciences Industry Grew 50% Over Past Decade

Life Science Washington



Life Science Washington, the state's industry trade association, today released its annual Economic Impact Report, revealing a 50% increase in job growth from 2013 to 2023. A top ten life sciences cluster in the US, Washington outpaced both national life sciences job growth and private sector job growth in the state. The growth can be attributed to local companies expanding through organic growth and acquisitions, which increased jobs. [Read More](#)

UW Medicine Offers Second Drug for Early Alzheimer's

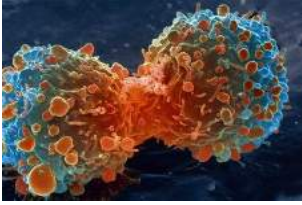
UW Medicine



UW Medicine's Memory & Brain Wellness Center recently started treating patients with donanemab, an Alzheimer's drug similar to lecanemab. "While we don't know whether donanemab or lecanemab can arrest Alzheimer's, they do appear to help people with mild cognitive impairment and extend the time they are independent and able to manage their daily lives," Dr. Thomas Grabowski said. [Read More](#)

Spokane Startup Gestalt Diagnostics Raises \$7.5M To Advance AI-Enabled Cancer Detection

GeekWire



Gestalt Diagnostics, a Spokane-based healthcare startup, has raised \$7.5 million to enhance its AI tools for digital pathology analysis. Gestalt's technology aims to improve cancer detection, allowing for real-time collaboration between health providers and pathologists and faster diagnosis. The new funding will support efforts to reach more customers, improve the tool's AI capabilities, and aid in the pursuit of FDA clearance. [Read More](#)

Landmark Experiment Sheds New Light on the Origins of Consciousness

Allen Institute



An experiment seven years in the making has uncovered new insights into the nature of consciousness and challenges two prominent, competing scientific theories: Integrated Information Theory and Global Neuronal Workspace Theory. Dr. Christof Koch (*pictured*) at the Allen Institute has been instrumental in launching and coordinating this research. [Read More](#)

Rare Cancer Researchers Find Promising Target in Fibrolamellar Cancer

Fred Hutch



Dr. Songli Zhu (*pictured*) and researchers in the Gujral lab at Fred Hutch and UW just published a paper in *Gut* that points to a potential therapeutic target for fibrolamellar carcinoma (FLC), an extremely rare liver cancer. Symptoms of FLC, if they appear at all, are vague, and there are no biomarkers or blood tests to flag it at an early stage. [Read More](#)

New Mutational Scanning Method Advances Genetic Understanding of Hemophilia B

Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



For decades, physicians and researchers have been trying to answer the question, "What are the DNA changes in the gene that cause Hemophilia B?" UW Medicine's Dr. Jill Johnsen (*pictured*) is one of those physicians. Dr. Johnsen, together with others at BBI and the UW, have created the first mutational scanning method aimed at secreted human proteins: MultiSTEP. [Read More](#)

A New Approach to Autoimmune Disease Treatment Takes a Big Step Forward

Benaroya Research Institute (BRI)



Drs. Ritika Tewari (*pictured*) and Soo Jung Yang recently published findings that could pave the way to better autoimmune disease treatment options. Their work focuses on a new approach that the Buckner Lab at BRI is pioneering: turning T cells that contribute to autoimmune diseases into regulatory T cells that help prevent autoimmune diseases. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Washington Research Foundation Opens Application for WRF Postdoctoral Fellowships

Washington Research Foundation (WRF)



WRF is currently accepting applications for up to twelve three-year WRF Postdoctoral Fellowships at nonprofit research institutions in Washington state. Fellowships will begin in 2026 and support early-career scientists in carrying out projects with high potential for real-world impact in natural sciences and related engineering fields. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

May 11 - 14
8:00 AM

Symposium on Infectious Diseases in the Immunocompromised Host
Grand Hyatt Seattle

May 14
12:00 PM

Precision Medicine: Tackling the Mysteries of Genetic Diseases
Online

May 14
12:00 PM

Biostatistics Seminar Series
Fred Hutch

May 14
12:00 PM

Research Roundtable with Dr. Sui Huang
Online

May 14
4:30 PM

Nucleate Seattle: 2025 Demo Day
Allen Institute

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Science Jobs in Seattle

Director, Process Chemistry, Chemical Process and Analytical Development
Pfizer

Clinical Research Technologist I
Fred Hutch

Bioinformatics Scientist I, Inflammation
Allen Institute

Research Study Assistant, Fixed Duration/Temporary
UW

Scientist/ Research Associate, AI Protein Design
SystImmune

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