

Publications of the Week

KAT5 Regulates Neurodevelopmental States Associated with G0-like Populations in Glioblastoma

First Author: Anca Mihalas | Senior Author: Patrick Paddison (*pictured*)
Nature Communications | Fred Hutch and UW



Quiescence cancer stem-like cells may play key roles in promoting tumor cell heterogeneity and recurrence for many tumors, including glioblastoma (GBM). The authors show that the protein acetyltransferase KAT5 is a key regulator of transcriptional, epigenetic, and proliferative heterogeneity impacting transitions into G0-like states in GBM. [Abstract](#)

Drosophila Epidermal Cells Are Intrinsically Mechanosensitive and Modulate Nociceptive Behavioral Outputs

First Authors: Jiro Yoshino, Sonali Mali, and Claire Williams | Senior Author: Jay Parrish (*pictured*)
eLife | UW



Although epidermal cells provide the first point of contact for sensory stimuli, our understanding of roles that epidermal cells play in somatosensory neurons (SSNs) function, particularly nociception, remains limited. The authors show that stimulating *Drosophila* epidermal cells elicits activation of SSNs including nociceptors and triggers a variety of behavior outputs, including avoidance and escape. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Dr. Nora Disis Honored as a Woman of Excellence, Brava! Award

UW Cancer Vaccine Institute



The Women's University Club has selected Dr. Nora Disis (*pictured*), Cancer Vaccine Institute Founder and Director, as one of three women in Seattle to receive the 2025 Brava! Award. Physician-scientist Dr. Disis was recognized for spending her career advancing cancer vaccines and mentoring the next generation of scientists and clinicians. [Read More](#)

Local News

Seattle's Allen Institute Launches 'Moonshot' to Create New Approach to Cell Biology Research

Geekwire



Human cells, like the people they create, are dynamic and complex. And while researchers can create images and videos of how they move, organize, and change their properties, it's hard to efficiently and accurately describe all that's happening. So a 75-person team at the Allen Institute is embarking on a 10-year project called CellScapes to devise a new language using mathematics to capture these essential processes. [Read More](#)

Promising Young Scientist: For Katie Partington, 'Science Can be Like Magic'

Brotman Baty Institute



Katie Partington (*pictured, left*) was five-years-old when her father passed away from Glioblastoma, a common and aggressive brain cancer. Partington enrolled at the UW in 2023 and is now working toward a Ph.D. in Bioengineering in the lab of Dr. Doug Fowler (*right*). She is especially interested in developing technologies to study disease mechanisms and test potential therapeutics. [Read More](#)

New Hope for People with Colorectal Cancer That Has Spread to the Liver

Fred Hutch



Hepatic artery infusion (HAI) therapy offers a new approach for people whose colorectal cancer has spread to the liver. It allows physicians to deliver chemotherapy directly to the liver at doses up to 400 times higher than standard systemic chemotherapy with fewer side effects. Fred Hutch is the only place in Washington state and one of only two in the Pacific Northwest to offer HAI therapy. [Read More](#)

Can the Brain Be Targeted to Treat Type 2 Diabetes?

UW Medicine



Successfully treating type 2 diabetes may involve focusing on brain neurons, rather than simply concentrating on obesity or insulin resistance, according to a study led by Dr. Michael Schwartz at UW Medicine and published in the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*. This is a departure from the conventional wisdom of what causes diabetes. [Read More](#)

Gene Therapy Delivery System Successfully Targets CD90+ Hematopoietic Stem Cells *in Vivo*

Fred Hutch



Researchers in the lab of Dr. Hans-Peter Kiem (*pictured*) at Fred Hutch have devised a method that could one day treat genetic hematologic disorders by correcting how the body makes blood cells. Dr. Kiem, a world-renowned researcher in gene therapy and stem-cell engineering, recently sat down with Hutch News to explain the significance of the study. [Read More](#)

Researchers Develop a New Set of Genetic Tools Designed to Treat Brain Diseases

GeekWire



Scientists say they've put together a new kind of molecular toolkit that could eventually be used to treat a variety of brain diseases, possibly including epilepsy, sleep disorders, and Huntington's disease. The kit currently contains more than 1,000 tools of a type known as enhancer AAV vectors, with AAV standing for "adeno-associated virus." [Read More](#)

Melanoma Starts Evading Treatment Within Hours – Here's How to Stop It

Institute for Systems Biology



Researchers have uncovered a stealth survival strategy that melanoma cells use to evade targeted therapy, offering a promising new approach to improving treatment outcomes. The study, led by Drs. Wei Wei (*pictured*) and Jim Heath, identifies a non-genetic, reversible adaptation mechanism that allows melanoma cells to survive treatment with BRAF inhibitors. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Bristol Myers to Invest \$40 Billion in the U.S. over 5 Years

Reuters



Bristol Myers Squibb says it will invest \$40 billion in the U.S. over the next five years, as it seeks to expand its research and manufacturing presence in the country amid U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff threats. Several other drugmakers have also announced plans to ramp up spending in the U.S. in recent months as they prepare for possible tariffs on the sector. [Read More](#)

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📅 Upcoming Events in Seattle

May 29 7:00 PM	Science After Dark Pacific Science Center
May 30 8:00 AM	MapMySections: Data Challenge Online
June 16 8:00 AM	Open Science in Undergraduate Education Symposium Allen Institute
June 19 - 21 8:00 AM	4th International Symposium on Late Complications after Childhood Cancer Bell Harbor International Conference Center
June 27 8:00 AM	Dr. Rainer Storb Symposium Fred Hutch

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📁 Science Jobs in Seattle

Senior Associate Scientist, Engineered Cell Therapy Discovery Bristol Myers Squibb
Clinical Data Manager Systimmune
Research Associate II, Stem Cell & In Vivo Biology / SeaHub Allen Institute
Anatomic Pathology Technologist UW
Research Technician II Fred Hutch

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