

Publications of the Week

DUX4-Induced HSATII RNA Accumulation Drives Protein Aggregation, Impacting RNA Processing Pathways

First Author: Tessa Arends (*pictured, left*) | Senior Author: Stephen Tapscott
Journal of Cell Biology | Fred Hutch and UW



RNA-driven protein aggregation leads to cellular dysregulation and contributes to the development of diseases and tumorigenesis. Here, researchers show that double homeobox 4 (DUX4), an early embryonic transcription factor and causative gene of facioscapulohumeral muscular dystrophy, induces the accumulation of stable intranuclear RNAs, including nucleolar RNA and human satellite II (HSATII) RNA that drive protein aggregation in muscle cells. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Newly Elected Members of the American Society of Clinical Investigation

UW Medicine



UW Medicine congratulates the newly elected members of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI), Drs. Petter Bjornstad, Helen Chu (*pictured*), and Andrew Stergachis. Founded in 1908, the ASCI is one of the nation's oldest medical honor societies and is among the few organizations focused on the special role of physician-scientists in research, clinical care, and medical education.

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Local News

Oncology Insights with Dr. Petros Grivas - Episode 6

Fred Hutch



In this episode of Meet the Greek, Drs. Petros Grivas (*pictured*) and Heather Parsons discuss her journey in oncology, focusing on breast cancer. She highlights the importance of circulating tumor DNA in detecting cancer and guiding treatment decisions. The conversation also covers exciting clinical trials, the significance of multidisciplinary care, and the role of genetic testing in patient management.

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Computer Model Predicts Aspects of Cognitive Performance

Allen Institute



Different regions of our brains process information at different speeds. This baseline speed also determines how long it takes for that brain region to process information. Researchers have created a powerful computer model that was able to predict the "processing speeds" of these various brain regions from connectivity data sourced from the Allen Institute. [Read More](#)

Dr. Elizabeth Halloran, Expert in Vaccine Trial Design and Quantitative Methods for Infectious Diseases, Transitions to Emerita

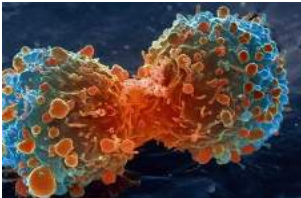
Fred Hutch



Dr. Elizabeth "Betz" Halloran (*pictured*), a trailblazer in infectious disease modeling and vaccine trial design at Fred Hutch, is now emerita after a career of over forty years that changed how scientists think about vaccines and public health. Her legacy lives on through her many contributions and the generations of researchers she inspired. [Read More](#)

Bristol Myers Squibb Taps Microsoft's AI Detection Network for Speedy Lung Cancer Diagnosis

Life Science Washington



Bristol Myers Squibb is leveraging Microsoft's AI-powered Precision Imaging Network to accelerate detection of non-small cell lung cancer. Used by more than 80% of US hospitals, the platform analyzes X-ray and CT images to identify hard-to-detect nodules, with an emphasis on improving diagnosis speed and expanding access in rural and underserved communities. [Read More](#)

AVE Alliance 2025 Annual Report: 'Growing Not Just in Numbers, but in Ambition, Reach, and Impact'

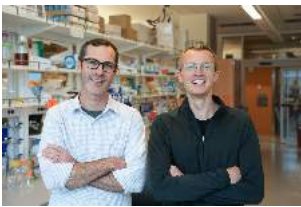
Brotman Baty Institute (BBI)



BBI has published a forward-looking summary of progress in 2025 that underscores the work of the Atlas of Variant Effects (AVE) Alliance toward achieving its mission to creating comprehensive maps for key regions of human and pathogen genomes. The work is a testament to the power of collaboration, curiosity, and innovation in advancing variant effect research. [Read More](#)

First Vaccine Targeting SARS Virus Family Enters Human Trials

UW Institute for Protein Design



A vaccine called GBP511 has begun clinical testing in Australia. Pioneered by UW Medicine researchers Drs. Neil King (*pictured, left*) and David Veessler (*right*), it is intended to protect against COVID-19 and related coronaviruses, including some that haven't yet jumped to humans. The South Korean pharmaceutical company SK Bioscience is bringing the vaccine to trial. [Read More](#)

Tenpoint Therapeutics Wins FDA Approval for Yuvezzi, Backed by \$235M in New Capital

Fierce Pharma



Combining two eye drops that have been on the market for at least 30 years each has earned the Seattle-based biotech Tenpoint Therapeutics an FDA approval (PDF) for Yuvezzi, a treatment for presbyopia. Presbyopia a common, age-related condition that makes it difficult to focus on nearby objects. Yuvezzi will be the first combination treatment for the disease. [Read More](#)

From Bootstrap Operation to Nobel Prize

Benaroya Research Institute



It's 1995, and Dr. Steven Ziegler (*pictured*) is employee #4 at a biotech startup in Bothell. It's a bootstrap operation in a space that wasn't built to be a lab. After Dr. Ziegler hires Drs. Fred Ramsdell and Mary Brunkow, they start investigating why some mice develop fatal autoimmunity. That work, started in a renovated closet in Bothell 30 years ago, won the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

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📅 Upcoming Events in Seattle

February 10
6:00 PM

Winter 2026 Nature and Health Community Dinner
Fremont Brewing

February 11
11:00 AM

Neuroscience Cell Types Webinar: Getting Started with Programmatic Access to ABC Atlas Data
Online

February 11
12:00 PM

Immune-Related Adverse Events Webinar Series: Rheumatologic irAEs
Online

April 7
6:30 PM

UW Public Lectures: Interrogating the Epigenome to Reveal Pregnancy Risks in Moms with High Blood Pressure
Town Hall Seattle

April 25
8:00 AM

2026 Cell Signaling Breakthroughs Symposium
Renaissance Seattle Hotel

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📁 Science Jobs in Seattle

Scientist I, Immune Health & Aging, Adaptive Immunity
Allen Institute

Medical Laboratory Scientist, Microbiology
Seattle Children's

Cell Therapy Intern
Bristol Myers Squibb

Clinical Research Coordinator II
Seattle Children's

Associate III, Analytical Development and Quality Control, Potency Assays
Immunome

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