

Publications of the Week

A Common 19 BP APOE Enhancer Deletion is Protective Against Alzheimer’s Disease in African Americans

First Author: Julianna Brutman (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Paul Valdmánis
Nature Communications | Brotman Baty Institute and UW



The *APOE-ε4/ε4* genotype is the strongest genetic risk factor for sporadic Alzheimer’s disease, though the relative risk is diminished in individuals with African ancestry. Through analysis of phased *APOE* alleles, researchers identify a 19 bp deletion approximately 1.1 kb distal to the *APOE* 3’UTR in a SPI1 microglial transcription factor binding site. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Dr. Karin Bornfeldt Receives Outstanding Investigator Award

UW Medicine



Dr. Karin Bornfeldt (*pictured*), Professor of Metabolism, Endocrinology, and Nutrition, has been awarded an Outstanding Investigator Award from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) for her R35 project, “Bridging the Gap Between Basic and Clinical Research to Prevent Cardiovascular Disease in Diabetes.” This seven-year award will provide \$700,000 per year in direct funding to support her NHLBI research program. [Read More](#)

Dr. Jonathan Bricker Receives the Endowed Chair in Cancer Prevention

Fred Hutch



Dr. Jonathan Bricker (*pictured*) is a Professor in the Cancer Prevention Program of Fred Hutch’s Public Health Sciences Division and leads the Health and Behavioral Innovations in Technology (HABIT) Lab. And in recognition of his commitment to helping people change behaviors that can lead to cancer, he was recently awarded the Endowed Chair in Cancer Prevention. [Read More](#)

Meinhold Receives SFB Student Research Award

UW Department of Bioengineering



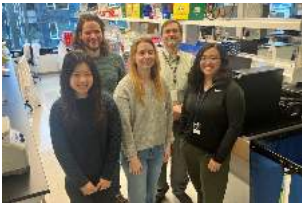
Dr. Katherine Meinhold (*pictured*), who recently completed her UW Bioengineering PhD, received the Student Award for Outstanding Research from the Society for Biomaterials, the professional society that focuses on materials for medical and biological applications. Dr. Meinhold is part of the Tissue and Regenerative Engineering Lab. [Read More](#)

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Local News

SeattleHub’s *In Vivo* Team: Pursuing Invaluable Insights to Inform and Influence the Future of Biotechnology and Medicine

Brotman Baty Institute



The *In Vivo* team at the Seattle Hub for Synthetic Biology (SeattleHub) are leading efforts to create a recorder mouse. This mouse would be able to record the lineage of its own cells by implanting DNA-based “smart watches” to chronicle the health, actions, and experiences of individual cells. That cellular lineage may include internal events and decisions, external signals or stressors, and phenotypic changes. [Read More](#)

How Fred Hutch Scientists Tackle World’s Top Infectious Killer, TB

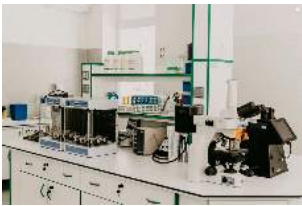
Fred Hutch



Each year *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (TB) kills more people than any other infectious disease. However, Fred Hutch scientists are optimistic about tackling TB. Several promising vaccines are in late-phase clinical trials and recently developed preclinical models of TB disease point toward new avenues for treating it. Our understanding of the bacterium and our responses to it are deepening every day. [Read More](#)

HSSA Awards 3.25 Million in Spokane County’s Bioscience and Health Industry

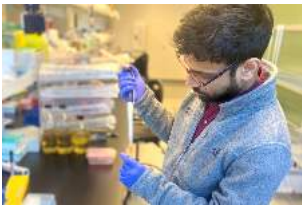
The Health Sciences and Services Authority



The Health Sciences and Services Authority (HSSA) of Spokane has awarded five growing health and bioscience businesses grants to catalyze their research, development and commercialization efforts, improve health and healthcare, create well-paying jobs, and power future economic growth in Spokane County. Among the awardees are Precision Quantomics and Glyciome. [Read More](#)

Genome ‘Writing’ Becoming Fundamental for Biological Discovery and Biotechnology: Q & A with Sudarshan Pinglay

Brotman Baty Institute



Dr. Sudarshan Pinglay (*pictured*) is the lead author on a recent paper, “Mammalian genome writing: Unlocking new length scales for genome engineering,”. In this Q&A, Dr. Pinglay describes the paper’s thesis, stating “The field of genome engineering is evolving so rapidly that scientists are now beginning to be able to redesign and replace large genomic regions, or even entire genomes, with custom build synthetic DNA of any sequence.” [Read More](#)

Remembering Becky Benaroya: A Legacy of Generosity and Support for Science

Benaroya Research Institute



Benaroya Research Institute (BRI) honors and remembers “Becky” Benaroya, a beloved member of the community whose generosity, compassion, and commitment to improving lives leaves a remarkable impact. Becky believed deeply in the power of science and collaboration to change the future of human health and invested in BRI because of that shared vision. Becky passed away on February 25, 2026 at the age of 103. [Read More](#)

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📅 Upcoming Events in Seattle

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 9
5:30 PM

UW Science Now with Gracie Rogers, Gretchen Stemmler, and Justin Applegate

Town Hall Seattle

April 17
5:30 PM

UW Science Now with Beatrice Milnes, Sophia Chioma Chima, and Kathleen Durkin

The Wyncote NW Forum

April 21
8:00 AM

Life Science Innovation Northwest

Seattle Convention Center

April 25
8:00 AM

2026 Cell Signaling Breakthroughs Symposium

Renaissance Seattle Hotel

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📁 Science Jobs in Seattle

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Chromatin Biology

Fred Hutch

Scientific Associate Director, Toxicology

Bristol Myers Squibb

Accessioning Specialist II

Adaptive Biotechnologies

Research Associate III

Seattle Children’s

Laboratory Assistant

CommonSpirit Health

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