

Publications of the Week

Germline *CDK12* Variants in Aggressive Prostate Cancer

First Author: Sofie Tolmeijer | Senior Author: Colin Pritchard (*pictured*) and Alexander Wyatt
Cancer Discovery | Fred Hutch and UW



CDK12 mutations occur in 2-7% of metastatic prostate cancers (mPCa) and are considered to be exclusively somatic. Here, researchers identified five patients with mPCa harboring germline *CDK12* truncating variants among 4,535 tested (0.1%). All had *CDK12*-driven cancers defined by an additional somatic *CDK12* variant and the *CDK12*-specific hallmark genomic instability signature characterized by hundreds of tandem duplications. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Kidney Disease as a Cause of Elevated Sphingolipids

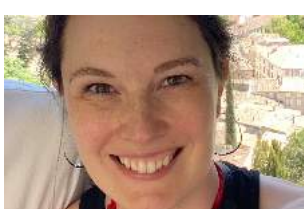
UW Medicine



Dr. Benjamin Lidgard (*pictured*), Assistant Professor of Nephrology, received a K23 Career Development Award for his project, "Kidney Disease as a Cause for Elevated Sphingolipids." People with kidney disease are at a high risk for heart disease. Levels of small fat molecules which are higher in people with kidney disease might increase this risk for heart disease. [Read More](#)

BRI Visiting Scientist Receives Distinguished UW Medicine Award

Benaroya Research Institute (BRI)



Each year, UW Medicine recognizes up to four dedicated UW Department of Medicine trainees with the Chair of Medicine Scholars Awards to support their transition to the roles of physician-scientist and principal investigator. Dr. Sarah Holton (*pictured*), a visiting scientist in the Mikacenic Lab at Benaroya Research Institute (BRI), was one of four recipients of the 2026 awards. [Read More](#)

Dr. Kate Markey Named Next Innovators Network Endowed Chair

Fred Hutch



Dr. Kate Markey (*pictured*), an Assistant Professor at Fred Hutch and UW Medicine, has recently been named the next holder of the Innovators Network Endowed Chair. Created by members of Fred Hutch's Innovators Network, the endowed chair gives early-career scientists flexible funding to pursue high-risk, high-reward research with clear potential to benefit patients. [Read More](#)

From Student to Mentor

UW Department of Bioengineering



Arie Lin-Goldstein (*pictured*) is a part of Professor Paul Wiggins' research team, studying the role of deoxynucleotide triphosphate levels in cellular homeostasis. Lin-Goldstein earned an National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship after years of hard work and valuable mentorship, while growing into an excellent mentor herself. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Dr. Karel Svoboda Elected to the Washington State Academy of Sciences

Allen Institute



The Washington State Academy of Sciences has recognized Dr. Karel Svoboda (*pictured*), Executive Vice President and Director of Neural Dynamics, for his outstanding record of scientific and technical achievements in the field of neuroscience. Dr. Svoboda is one of 30 scientists and researchers that the Academy honored this month. [Read More](#)

Seattle Ranks No. 3 Among Fierce Biotech's 2026 Top Emerging Biotech Hubs

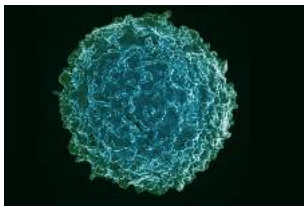
Life Science Washington



Last week, *Fierce Biotech* released its annual list of the top emerging biotech hubs in 2026, ranking Seattle as No. 3 globally. The ranking highlights the region's continued growth as a center for life sciences innovation. The region's recognition is supported by a strong talent base, along with continued venture investment, expanding lab space that fuel the growth of companies. [Read More](#)

Umoja Biopharma Wins FDA IND Clearance for First CD22-Directed *In Vivo* CAR T Therapy

BioPharm



Umoja Biopharma announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has cleared its Investigational New Drug (IND) application for UB-VV400, a CD22-directed *in vivo* CAR T-cell therapy candidate for adults with relapsed or refractory B-cell malignancies. The company describes UB-VV400 as the industry's first known CD22-directed in vivo CAR T therapy. [Read More](#)

FDA Approves New Breast Cancer Drug Based on VIKTORIA-1 Study Results

Fred Hutch



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the drug gedatolisib, a multi-targeted kinase inhibitor capable of squelching numerous parts of a key signaling pathway often co-opted by cancer to drive tumor growth and treatment resistance in patients. Dr. Sara Hurvitz (*pictured*), Senior Vice President and Director of Fred Hutch's Clinical Research Division, led the multicenter VIKTORIA-1 trial. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

July 27
7:00 PM

Science on Tap
Ravenna Brewing Co.

August 6
5:00 PM

America's Secret Space Heroes: Space Shuttle
The Museum of Flight

August 13
4:30 PM

Life Science Washington Annual Summer Social 2026
188 E Blaine St

August 15
7:00 PM

SIGNAL: Sazón Seattle
Pacific Science Center

Sept. 10 - 11
8:00 AM

Cascadia Mucosal Biology Symposium
Allen Institute

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Science Jobs in Seattle

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Koch Lab
Fred Hutch

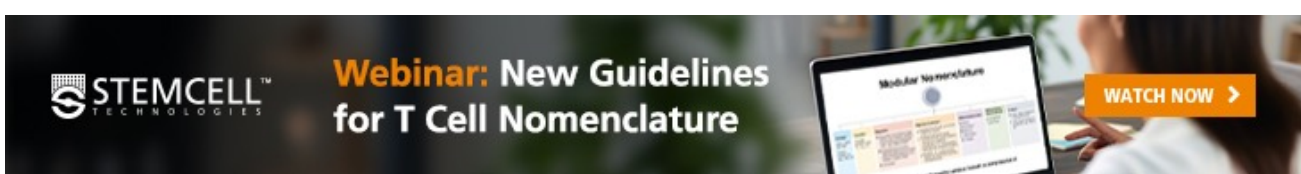
Scientific Program Manager, Science Initiatives
Allen Institute

LNP Lab Technician
GenScript

Scientist, Cell Therapy Process Development
Bristol Myers Squibb

Laboratory Technical Assistant
Kaiser Permanente

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