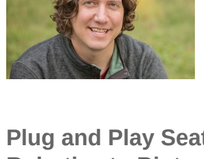


Volume 9.39: October 5, 2026

Publications of the Week

Mechanotransduction of Magnetically Applied Forces Leads to Mechanical Stiffening of Platelet-Rich Plugs

First Author: Nikita Taparia *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Nathan Sniadecki
Advanced Healthcare Materials | UW



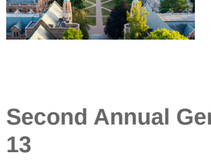
The mechanobiology of platelets governs early hemostasis, where their contractile forces compact and stiffen the nascent plug. Here, researchers introduce a microfluidic assay integrating microscale blocks with magnetic microposts to assess platelet forces and plug stiffness. These findings establish a novel microfluidic platform for probing platelet biomechanics. **Abstract**

View All Publications

Awards

Contraceptive Development Research Center

UW Medicine



Dr. John Amory *(pictured)* has been awarded a $7.5 million P50 grant to establish a Contraceptive Development Research Center focused on advancing a first-in-class male contraceptive. The project will support the development and first-in-human testing of KyA84, a novel oral, non-hormonal, and reversible contraceptive that works by inhibiting ALDH1A, an enzyme critical to sperm production. **Read More**

HIV and Aging Research Consortium

UW Medicine



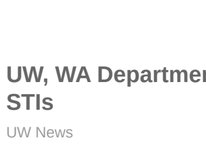
Drs. Heidi Crane *(pictured)* and William Lober are Primary Investigators of a newly funded 5-year continuation of a National Institute on Aging R33 HIV and Aging Research Consortium award to support researchers, particularly early-stage investigators, at the intersection of HIV and aging research. This is a large-scale collaboration across multiple national networks. **Read More**

View All Awards

Local News

The Brain's Own Opioids Help Guide Purposeful Action

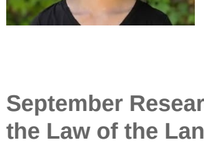
UW Medicine



Researchers led by Dr. Michael Bruchas *(pictured)* have identified a fast-acting brain-signaling system that helps animals learn from their actions and stay engaged in behaviors that get them what they want. The findings focus on the opioid peptide dynorphin, a neurotransmitter molecule produced naturally in the body. Dynorphin was released within seconds during goal-directed behavior. **Read More**

Plug and Play Seattle Picks Eleven Startups for 4th Cohort, From Space Robotics to Biotech

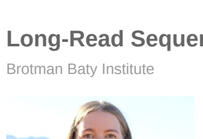
GeekWire



Plug and Play Seattle selected eleven startups for the fourth batch of its accelerator program, bringing together a group of founders building everything from space-servicing robotic arms and data-center optical links to opioid-countering antibody therapeutics. "Seattle has the talent and research depth to build companies that shape entire industries," said Jack Callaghan, Director of Plug and Play Seattle. **Read More**

Second Annual Genome Medicine Research Symposium Set for November 13

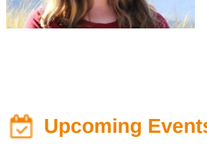
Brotman Baty Institute



The second annual Genome Medicine Research Symposium, an opportunity for UW Medicine researchers to showcase their work, is scheduled for November 13 in the South Campus Center. "The goal of the symposium is to bring together the community of people doing genomic medicine research across the UW campus," said Dr. Andrew Stergachis. **Read More**

Shoot Your Shot: Is Male Birth Control Finally Here?

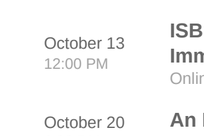
Nice Genes! Podcast



Dr. Stephanie Page *(pictured)*, Chief of Metabolism, Endocrinology, and Nutrition at UW Medicine, sat down with Drs. Premal Patel and Kaylee Byers on the Nice Genes! Podcast to discuss male contraceptives. Dr. Page chatted about some of the promising gels, pills, injections, and other methods that could finally change the game for male birth control. They also touch on vasectomies, infertility research, and reproductive equity. **Read More**

UW, WA Department of Health Show It's Possible to Test Wastewater for STIs

UW News



American public health agencies don't routinely test wastewater for sexually transmitted infections, but new research led by UW and the Washington State Department of Health found that such methods could be used to effectively identify *Chlamydia trachomatis*. "Wastewater is cool because it's population level. You don't need people to go to the doctor and seek out treatment," says co-lead author Dr. Erica Fuhrmeister *(pictured)*. **Read More**

September Research Highlights: Multitasking Microbes, Ancient Capybaras, the Law of the Land, More

UW News

This month's UW research highlights include multitasking microbes. Researchers found that organisms that can both photosynthesize and eat to generate energy do better in nutrient-limited environments, which includes warmer water. This flexibility may help them cope with changing conditions and could help researchers gauge how marine ecosystems will respond to future warming. Dr. Sacha Coesel *(pictured)* is the first author on the study. **Read More**

Long-Read Sequencing Symposium Preview: Q&A with Keynote Speaker

Brotman Baty Institute



Dr. Harriet Dashnow *(pictured)*, the keynote speaker of the Long-Read Sequencing Symposium, is providing a sneak peek of the symposium in this Q&A. She discusses the future of long-read sequencing in precision medicine and the themes for the upcoming event. Her lab studies tandem repeats: how they cause disease, vary across populations, and mutate over time. **Read More**

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Upcoming Events in Seattle

October 6 9:00 AM	**East West Life Science Summit 2026** WSU Campus
October 7 4:30 PM	**BRI Open House: Gut Immunity Day** Benaroya Research Institute
October 13 12:00 PM	**ISB's Research Roundtable – Long COVID: New Clues from the Immune System** Online
October 20 6:30 PM	**An Evening with Bill Nye** The 5th Avenue Theatre
October 25 - 29 8:00 AM	**2026 Lake Conference – Comparative and Evolutionary Neurobiology** Hyatt Regency Lake Washington

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Science Jobs in Seattle

Anatomic Pathology Technologist, HMC Molecular Diagnostics Lab
UW

Aseptic Technician II
BioLife Solutions

Specimen Processing Supervisor
Quest Diagnostics

Research Technician I
Seattle Children's

Regulatory and Data Coordinator I
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An interview about AI uses in scientific research with César de la Fuente of the University of Pennsylvania.

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