

Volume 9.46: November 23, 2026

Publications of the Week

Mutational Constraints on RSV F and Its Neutralization by Antibodies

First Author: Cassandra Simonich *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Jesse Bloom
Nature | Seattle Children's Hospital, Fred Hutch, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and UW



New antibodies targeting the F protein of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) have substantially reduced infant hospitalizations. However, viral resistance is a concern: one antibody failed clinical trials because of a resistant strain, and sporadic resistance mutations to the most widely used antibody have been identified. Here, researchers define how RSV F mutations affect antibody neutralization. **Abstract | Press Release**

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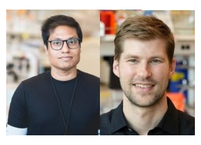
Awards

Lila Bio Lands $3.65M Grant to Fight Pulmonary Hypertension with AI-Designed Proteins

GeekWire



Lila Bio, a startup spun out of Nobel laureate David Baker's lab at the University of Washington, has received a $3.65 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop a treatment for pulmonary hypertension. The condition causes high blood pressure in the arteries that carry blood from the heart to the lungs. The Lila Biologics co-founders are CEO Jake Kraft *(pictured, left)* and Chief Scientist Anindya Roy *(right)*. **Read More**

2026 Washington Chapter ACP Awards

UW Medicine



Four UW Medicine members received awards at the recent American College of Physicians (ACP) Washington state chapter meeting. Dr. Christopher Knight *(pictured)* was the recipient of the Laureate Award, which honors Fellows and Masters of the College who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, or research.
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Local News

Is It Time to Turn Cancer's DNA Dogma Upside Down?

Fred Hutch



From DNA, cancer arises. Or so the thinking goes. The idea that DNA mutations drive cancer is not just deeply rooted, it is dogma. But what if we've gotten it all wrong? Scientists at Fred Hutch and Seattle Children's argue that we have. Instead of looking to mutations in DNA as the source of cancer, Drs. Steve Henikoff and Jay Sarthy *(pictured)* contend that we should instead focus one level up, at RNA and proteins that package DNA. **Read More**

Inside Open Science: Seattle Gets a Front-Row Seat to Discovery

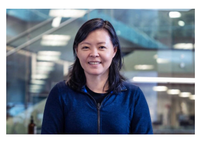
Allen Institute



How fast does your brain adapt to new stimuli? How are robots helping scientists in the lab? And what does a brain actually feel like? These are just some of the many questions answered during the Allen Institute's first-ever public open house, Inside Open Science. On Saturday, September 19, the Institute welcomed hundreds of community members to celebrate the power of open science and engage with their work in a whole new way. **Read More**

Scientists Create Landmark Cellular Atlas of One of the Brain's Most Important Regions

Allen Institute



In a massive, collaborative effort, dozens of labs and hundreds of scientists working together across nine countries and more than 50 institutions have unveiled a major advance in global neuroscience: the most detailed and comprehensive multi-species cellular atlas of the basal ganglia to date. "It's a demonstration of the power of team science and open science," said Dr. Hongkui Zeng *(pictured)*. **Read More**

Can a Companion Drug Boost Insulin's Effectiveness?

UW Medicine



A UW Medicine clinical trial is seeking adults with type 1 diabetes to test whether a medication helps improve whole body and fat metabolism and blood sugar control. The oral study medication contains sodium phenylbutyrate and taurursodiol, compounds that help cells handle metabolic stress. Dr. Petter Bjornstad *(pictured)* is one of the study's leads. **Read More**

Experts Debate Cause of Unusually Early Flu Season Across Pacific Northwest

The Daily



Washington is experiencing an unusually early influenza season, with flu cases beginning to rise in September, nearly two months before the state's typical winter peak. Dr. Helen Chu and Alex Greninger *(pictured)* at UW Medicine discuss this unusual flu season, the mutation in the prominent strain, and how this flu season might progress over the coming months. **Read More**

United by a Microscopic Model

Fred Hutch



At Fred Hutch's Basic Sciences Division, researchers have bonded over their admiration for *Caenorhabditis elegans*, a microscopic worm that has helped unlock fundamental knowledge in biology. Dr. Jihong Bai, Nicolas Lehrbach, Irini Topalidou, and Aakanksha Singhvi *(pictured)* share their affinity for *C. elegans*, its use in their research, and their connection to local and international worm communities.
Read More

Allen Institute Brain Atlases Released in a Standardised Format Through BrainGlobe

Allen Institute



Allen Institute reference atlases are now available in a standardised format through the BrainGlobe Atlas API, following a collaboration between the Allen Institute and the BrainGlobe team at the Sainsbury Wellcome Centre. Built on an open atlas schema, the update makes it easier to map and compare diverse datasets in a shared 3D coordinate space, and to build new tools and workflows on top of them.
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Upcoming Events in Seattle

November 23 8:00 AM	**Biosensors Community Project Meeting** SoundBio Lab
December 1 7:00 PM	**Pints & Proofs** Stoup Brewing
December 8 5:00 PM	**Machine Minds** Allen Institute
December 9 8:30 AM	**2026 ISB Frontiers in Computational Biology Symposium** Institute for Systems Biology
December 12 7:00 PM	**Science After Dark: The Gift Lab** Pacific Science Center

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Science Jobs in Seattle

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Cell Biology and Neurobiology
Fred Hutch

Scientist I, Synthetic Biology
Allen Institute

Director, Oncology Scientific Communications
Pfizer

Research Scientist II, Sarthy Lab
Seattle Children's Hospital

Scientist II, Validation
Adaptive

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The ISB Frontiers in Computational Biology Symposia Series brings together leading scientists from ISB, the Seattle research community, and institutions across the country to explore where the field is headed next. The 2026 symposium, themed "AI, Multi-Omics, and the Future of Human Health," will be held on December 9, 2026. Join us in person at ISB in Seattle, or stream the presentations and discussions via our virtual offering.

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