

Publications of the Week

KDM6A Epigenetically Regulates Subtype Plasticity in Small Cell Lung Cancer

First Author: Leslie Duplaquet | Senior Author: Matthew Oser (*pictured*)
 Nature Cell Biology | Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and the Broad Institute



Small cell lung cancer (SCLC) exists broadly in four molecular subtypes: ASCL1, NEUROD1, POU2F3 and Inflammatory. Here, using a CRISPR-based autochthonous SCLC genetically engineered mouse model to study the consequences of KDM6A/UTX inactivation, researchers show that KDM6A inactivation induced plasticity from ASCL1 to NEUROD1 resulting in SCLC tumors that express both ASCL1 and NEUROD1. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

A Zpr1 Co-chaperone Mediates Folding of Eukaryotic Translation Elongation Factor 1A via a GTPase Cycle

First Author: Alexander McQuown (*pictured, left*) | Senior Author: Vladimir Denic (*right*)
 Molecular Cell | Harvard University



General protein folding is mediated by chaperones that utilize ATP hydrolysis to regulate client binding and release. How Zinc-finger protein 1 (Zpr1)-mediated folding is regulated to ensure rapid Zpr1 recycling remains an unanswered question. Here, researchers use yeast genetics and microscopy analysis, biochemical reconstitution, and structural modeling to reveal that folding of eEF1A by Zpr1 requires GTP hydrolysis. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

Elevation of IL-17 Cytokines Distinguishes Kawasaki Disease from Other Pediatric Inflammatory Disorders

First Author: Kailey Brodeur (*pictured, left*) | Senior Author: Pui Lee (*right*)
 Arthritis & Rheumatology | Boston Children's



Kawasaki disease (KD) is a systemic vasculitis of young children that can lead to development of coronary artery aneurysms. Researchers aimed to identify diagnostic markers to distinguish KD from other pediatric inflammatory diseases. Elevation of IL-17 family cytokines is a hallmark of KD and may help to distinguish KD from its clinical mimics. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

Michael Springer Wins Ledlie Prize

Harvard Medical School



Dr. Michael Springer (*pictured*) has been awarded the George Ledlie Prize by Harvard University. Dr. Springer has been working with his team to streamline coronavirus testing systems. "Mike's research and innovation has had a profound impact on the way the University, and society at large, have responded to and managed the COVID-19 pandemic," said University Provost Alan Garber. [Read More](#)

The Gray Foundation Announces \$25 Million in New Funding for BRCA-Related Cancer Research

BusinessWire



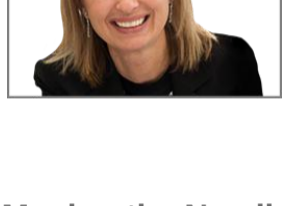
The Gray Foundation announced \$25 million in funding for seven research teams to study new approaches for prevention, early detection, and interception of BRCA-related cancers. The new grants are part of the Foundation's ongoing Team Science program, which funds innovative BRCA-related collaborative research. Among the award winners are Dr. Dipanjan Chowdhury (*pictured, left*) and Dr. Joan Brugge (*right*). [Read More](#)

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Local News

Cell Therapy That Repairs Cornea Damage with Patient's Own Stem Cells Achieves Positive Phase I Trial Results

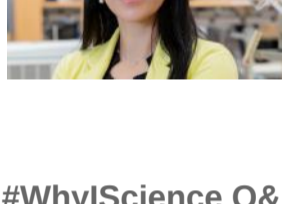
Dana-Farber



A team led by researchers, including principal investigator and lead study author Dr. Ula Jurkunas (*pictured*), from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Mass Eye and Ear reports the results of a phase I trial of a revolutionary stem cell treatment called cultivated autologous limbal epithelial cell transplantation. It was found to be safe and well-tolerated over the short term in four patients with significant chemical burns in one eye. [Read More](#)

Moving the Needle on Monitoring Skin Cancer

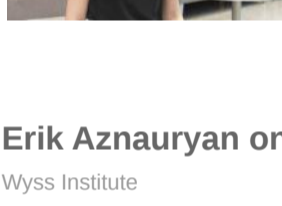
Wyss Institute



Patients with melanoma, the most concerning form of skin cancer in which pigment-producing cells start to grow out of control, can benefit from existing immunotherapies, but by far not all of them do. "Rapid readout of the responses to melanoma therapy using microneedles may enable effective drug screening and patient stratification to maximize therapeutic benefits," said Wyss Associate Faculty member Dr. Natalie Artzi (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

#WhyScience Q&A: A Computational Biologist Helps Build Datasets for Genetic Disease Diagnosis

Broad Institute



It was a chance conversation with a friend that led Katherine Chao (*pictured*) to a career in computational biology. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in biological sciences and spending a year teaching English in South Korea, Chao wasn't sure what her next step would be. Her friend mentioned that the National Institutes of Health was looking for biologists who wanted to learn coding. [Read More](#)

Erik Aznauryan on Curative Treatment of Genetic Diseases

Wyss Institute



Growing up with an ophthalmologist as a father, Dr. Erik Aznauryan's (*pictured*) interest in medicine began at a young age. Eventually, he realized that the scientific aspects of medicine interested him far more than the clinical aspects. Now, instead of prescribing treatments, he's creating them. At the Wyss, he's developing a next-generation genome editing platform to more safely and effectively treat genetic diseases, like beta-thalassemia or cystic fibrosis. [Read More](#)

New Antibiotic, Clovibactin, Kills Bacteria Without Developing Resistance

GEN News



A new antibiotic, isolated from bacteria that are unculturable, seems capable of combating harmful bacteria and even multi-resistant "superbugs." The new drug, Clovibactin, efficiently killed drug-resistant Gram-positive bacterial pathogens. In addition, bacteria did not develop any detectable resistance. This research is published in *Cell* in the paper, "A new antibiotic from an uncultured bacterium binds to an immutable target." [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Boston

- August 28 - 29 **The mRNA Conference 2023**
8:00 AM DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
- Sept 7 - 10 **Hypertension Scientific Sessions 2023**
7:30 AM Sheraton Boston Hotel
- Sept 18 - 21 **BioTech Week**
9:30 AM Boston Convention and Exhibition Center
- Sept 20 - 21 **BIOMEDevice Boston 2023**
10:00 AM Boston Convention and Exhibition Center
- Sept 27 - 30 **AACR Special Conference: Pancreatic Cancer**
6:00 AM Westin Copley Place

[View All Events](#) 

STEMCELL Jobs

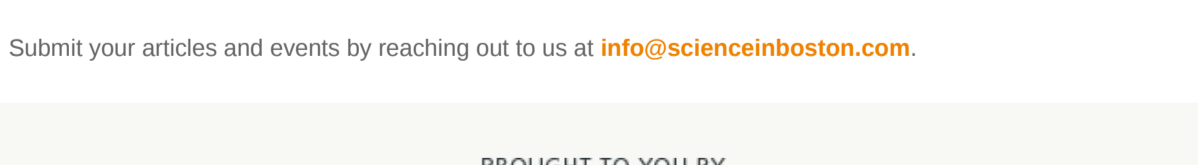
- Scientific Inside Sales Representative, Cell Culture**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Cell & Gene Therapy Specialist**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Inside Sales Representative**
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Other Science Jobs in Boston

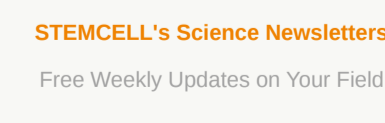
- Research Assistant**
Harvard Medical School
- Research Scientist, Drug Discovery**
Massachusetts General Hospital
- Scientific Communications Manager**
Takeda
- Research Associate, Cell Biology**
Rome Therapeutics
- Biological Sciences Group Lead**
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

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