



Publications of the Week

Immortalized Smooth Muscle Cells Enhance *In Vitro* Vasculogenesis

First Author: Mohammad Nikmaneshi (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Lance Munn
Angiogenesis | Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital



De novo vessel formation (vasculogenesis) *in vitro* is a key step in tissue engineering. However, *in vitro* vasculogenesis is often unreliable due to differences in vascular-supporting cells. Here, researchers developed a robust co-culture system of human umbilical vein endothelial cells and smooth muscle cells to generate stable vascular networks capable of maintaining tissue viability over extended periods. [Abstract](#)

EBV Reactivation Priming of the Peripheral Immune System in Multiple Sclerosis Relapse

First Author: Devin King | Senior Author: Tanuja Chitnis (*pictured*)
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Mass General Brigham, Harvard Medical School, Broad Institute,



Despite decades of research, the cellular and molecular events preceding multiple sclerosis (MS) relapse remain incompletely understood. Here, in this observational study of longitudinal blood samples from patients with relapsing-remitting MS, researchers constructed a time-resolved atlas of immune perturbations surrounding relapse. [Abstract](#) | [Press Release](#)

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Awards

Colin Kim Recognized with Three Early-Career Research Awards

Harvard University Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology



Colin Kim (*pictured*), a postdoctoral fellow, has received three awards recognizing both his research accomplishments and his promise as a future leader in plant science. In the Nett Lab, Kim studies how plants make specialized molecules with medicinal properties. His research over the past three years has focused on kanna, a succulent native to South Africa that produces neuroactive compounds with antidepressant properties. [Read More](#)

UMass Chan Receives \$14.7 Million Grant to Develop Gene Therapies for Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency

UMass Chan Medical School



Scientists at UMass Chan Medical School have received \$14.7 million from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to develop new models and gene therapies for alpha-1 antitrypsin (AAT) deficiency, a chronic, debilitating genetic lung disease that shortens lifespan. Drs. Dan Wang, Wen Xue, Alisha Gruntman, Allison Keeler, and Terence Flotte (*pictured, left to right*) are a part of the multidisciplinary team. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Harvard Medical School, Bristol Myers Squibb Launch Collaborative Research Fellowship

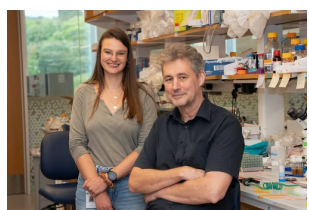
Harvard Medical School



A new fellowship program launched by Harvard Medical School (HMS) and Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS) aims to lower barriers between the two sectors, offering HMS postdocs more comprehensive exposure to the biomedical ecosystem. The BMS Collaborative Research Fellowship will fund HMS postdoctoral fellows to pursue their boldest scientific ideas while working in close collaboration with Bristol Myers Squibb scientists. [Read More](#)

Tiny Crustacean Helps Scientists Understand Genes Regulating Circatidal Rhythms

UMass Chan Medical School



Scientists at UMass Chan have shown that the four core clock genes responsible for maintaining circadian rhythms in animals also regulate circatidal behavior in the crustacean *Parhyale hawaiensis*. This discovery may help scientists develop novel interventions for diseases linked to circadian system disruption. The work was led by Drs. Patrick Emery (*pictured, right*) and Victoria Louis (*left*). [Read More](#)

Massasoit Celebrates \$52 Million Renovation Milestones and Opens New Science Building

Massasoit Community College News



Massasoit Community College celebrated two significant milestones of the \$52 million Transformation Through Renovation Project on its Brockton Campus. A ribbon was cut to officially open its new 26,000 square-foot Science Building and ground was broken to ceremonially kickstart the construction of a new Health Science Building ahead of the start of classes on September 9. [Read More](#)

Injectable Nanodevices Could Provide Effective Treatment for Drug-Resistant Glioblastoma

MIT News



Researchers at the MIT Media Lab have developed injectable nanoantennas, each about one-hundredth the width of human hair, that can be magnetically activated to create localized therapeutic electric fields that target and kill brain cancer cells without damaging healthy brain tissue. Dr. Deblina Sarkar (*pictured*), lead researcher on the project, has named the technology "HITMAN". [Read More](#)

Software Rapidly Tracks Viral Variants With High Accuracy

Broad Institute



In a paper published in Nature, Drs. Patrick Varilly, Ben Fry, and Sabeti Pardis (*pictured*) have reported how they rebuilt state-of-the-art phylogenetic tree models to make them faster, more efficient, and scalable, while maintaining the models' accuracy. Because the new program, Delphy, runs entirely within a web browser, anyone with a laptop can perform these analyses without specialized training, software, or computing infrastructure. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Boston

October 2 8:30 AM	2nd Annual AI-Powered Innovation in Protein and Antibody Therapeutics Le Meridien Cambridge
October 4 8:00 AM	Cambridge Science Carnival MIT Museum
October 6 - 7 9:00 AM	FASI 10: Catalyst for a Cure - The Food Allergy Science Innovation Summit Broad Institute
October 13 6:00 PM	An Ocean (Re)Introduction MIT Museum
October 18 - 21 8:00 AM	The Medtech Conference 2026 Boston Convention and Exhibition Center

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Science Jobs in Boston

- Manufacturing Associate II**
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- Associate Research Fellow**
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- Lab Technical Specialist Microbiology**
Mass General Brigham
- Cell Processing Specialist**
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Production Associate I**
Organogenesis

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