



A leader in translating scientific discovery  
into clinical therapies.



Institute for Regenerative Medicine

September 2020

## Welcome to our e-newsletter!

Greetings to you as we close out summer of 2020,

Like everyone, our work and lives have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. While we did shut down many research areas in the early days when we were asked to stay home, our research has since returned to full capacity, albeit with many, many safety protocols in place to protect our research team members.

And, like everyone, we were disappointed that all of our face to face educational programs like the Regenerative Medicine Essentials Course and the Summer Scholars program had to be cancelled for this year. We are ever hopeful that 2021 will see us back together again in some fashion.

In spite of the pandemic, our teams continue to make advances aligned with our mission to improve patients' lives. We are employing our organoid platforms to test potential drugs to be used to treat the COVID-19 virus and in the earliest days of the pandemic, our lab was involved in a medical center project to test various types of cloth masks to best protect against it.

I tell my team frequently that we can beat the virus if we all work together to do our part by wearing masks, social distancing and washing our hands often throughout the day. I truly believe better days are ahead.

Best Regards,

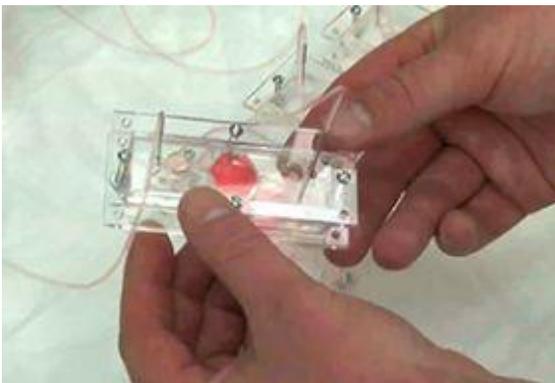
Dr. Anthony Atala



[WFIRM's organoid technology to test drugs for COVID featured by NYT](#)



[Scientists Prove Bioengineered Uteri Support Pregnancy](#)



[Changing Cancer Care, One Organoid at a Time: Patient-Centered Specific Platform](#)



[Wake Forest Researchers Bioprint Skeletal Muscle Constructs With Neural Cell Integration](#)

Meet our newest pre-doctoral trainees

Prestigious Gilliam Fellowship Awarded to Martin Rodriguez



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[\*\*WakeHealth.edu/WFIRM\*\*](http://WakeHealth.edu/WFIRM)

**About Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine:** The Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine is recognized as an international leader in translating scientific discovery into clinical therapies, with many world firsts, including the development and implantation of the first engineered organ in a patient. Over 400 people at the institute, the largest in the world, work on more than 40 different tissues and organs. A number of the basic principles of tissue engineering and regenerative medicine were first developed at the institute. WFIRM researchers have successfully engineered replacement tissues and organs in all four

categories – flat structures, tubular tissues, hollow organs and solid organs – and 14 different applications of cell/tissue therapy technologies, such as skin, urethras, cartilage, bladders, muscle, kidney, and vaginal organs, have been successfully used in human patients. The institute, which is part of Wake Forest University, is located in the Innovation Quarter in downtown Winston-Salem, NC, and is driven by the urgent needs of patients. The institute is making a global difference in regenerative medicine through collaborations with over 400 entities and institutions worldwide, through its government, academic and industry partnerships, its start-up entities, and through major initiatives in breakthrough technologies, such as tissue engineering, cell therapies, diagnostics, drug discovery, biomanufacturing, nanotechnology, gene editing and 3D printing.

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