



# WNPRC Discoveries

The following research discoveries from our Primate Center's 60-year history involved our scientists, staff, resources, and our rhesus macaques, cynomolgus macaques, common marmoset monkeys and other nonhuman primates. The Primate Center does not house great apes, but supports conservation research on endangered primates in the wild. For more information, please contact [jlennon@primate.wisc.edu](mailto:jlennon@primate.wisc.edu).

- Discovering how viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, HIV, Zika and Dengue operate; knowledge critical for developing vaccines and other treatments.
- First successful isolation and culture of embryonic stem cells—rhesus 1995, marmoset 1996, human 1998 —and induced pluripotent stem cells 2007.
- Beneficial effects of controlled caloric restriction on primate health and longevity.
- Risk factors and improved diagnoses for endometriosis.
- Origins of and better diagnoses for polycystic ovarian syndrome.
- Improved enrichment and veterinary care for captive primates. (Diseases diagnosed and new treatments found.)
- Neuroendocrine triggers of puberty; knowledge used for better diagnosis and treatment of puberty disorders.
- Improved hormone analysis in wild monkeys; knowledge for improved monitoring and managing of captive and wild endangered primates.
- Understanding primate family dynamics, such as parenting, child rearing and behavior, through a better understanding of the hormones and processes that regulate primate family interactions.
- Understanding emotion; better diagnoses and treatments for mental illness.
- Improved imaging techniques for noninvasively studying the brain.
- Understanding requirements for pregnancy success, better understanding of pregnancy disorders.
- Improved IVF techniques. World's first IVF monkey born in 1984.
- Nature of taste in primates. (Development of a new natural sweetener for diabetics.)
- New therapies for glaucoma and presbyopia.