

INSTRUCTIONS:

The essay below is an example of the “blog” writing style that you are expected to use for the biotech blog assignment. This blog is too short to fulfill our assignment though, but we can use it to explore how it should be appropriately expanded and improved.

Please read the example blog article below and answer the questions underneath.

You may have a new organ lurking in the middle of your head

By Lucy Hicks

Oct. 20, 2020

You may think we’ve learned everything there is to know about human spit, but it turns out the well has not gone dry. Scientists may have identified a previously undiscovered pair of salivary glands near the center of our heads. According to standard anatomy textbooks, the body has just three major sets of salivary glands: one under the tongue, another below the jaw, and the third near the ears. This potential fourth pair sits near where the nasal cavity meets the throat. Researchers noticed these unfamiliar structures while looking through the computerized tomography scans of 100 patients diagnosed with prostate or urethral gland cancer. They then examined tissues from two cadavers and found that the structures were similar to salivary glands located underneath the tongue, which they reported in the journal of *Radiotherapy and Oncology*. More research is needed to conclude whether these mysterious structures are newly discovered organs, or one of the hundreds of minor salivary glands in the mouth and throat. If the finding is confirmed, it would be the first discovery of salivary glands in about 300 years.

Source: <https://www.science.org/content/article/you-may-have-new-organ-lurking-middle-your-head>

1. **What other pieces of background information should be expanded?**
2. **What else do you want to know about this research?**
3. **What other implications or broader effects could this new information provide?**
4. **Click this link to find the full research article: [New Glands Discovered](#). Find one piece of information that addresses one of your previous questions and list it here.**

[This file is supplemental material to Tremaglio and Krackowski, *In layman’s terms: Teaching students to understand the scientific literature through blog-style writing assignments*, prompt 8.1 (2024), doi: 10.31719/pjaw.v8i1.141]