

Special Article**The Nobel Prize**

The Nobel Prize is an international award administered by the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm, Sweden in Memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize. Alfred Nobel had an active interest in medical research. Through Karolinska Institutet he came into contact with Swedish physiologist Jöns Johansson around 1890. Johansson worked in Nobel's laboratory in Sèvres, France for a time that year. Physiology or medicine was the third prize area Nobel mentioned in his will.

In 1901, Emil von Behring was awarded the first Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his work on serum therapy, particularly for its use in the treatment of diphtheria. The Medicine Prize has subsequently highlighted a number of important discoveries including penicillin, genetic engineering and blood-typing.

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine is awarded by the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet.

All Nobel Laureates in Medicine

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine has been awarded 100 times to 195 Nobel Laureates between 1901 and 2010.

- 2010 - Robert G. Edwards.
- 2009 - Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider, Jack W. Szostak
- 2008 - Harald zur Hausen, Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Luc Montagnier
- 2007 - Mario R. Capecchi, Sir Martin J. Evans, Oliver Smithies
- 2006 - Andrew Z. Fire, Craig C. Mello
- 2005 - Barry J. Marshall, J. Robin Warren
- 2004 - Richard Axel, Linda B. Buck
- 2003 - Paul C. Lauterbur, Sir Peter Mansfield
- 2002 - Sydney Brenner, H. Robert Horvitz, John E. Sulston
- 2001 - Leland H. Hartwell, Tim Hunt, Sir Paul Nurse
- 2000 - Arvid Carlsson, Paul Greengard, Eric R. Kandel

- 1999 - Günter Blobel
- 1998 - Robert F. Furchgott, Louis J. Ignarro, Ferid Murad
- 1997 - Stanley B. Prusiner
- 1996 - Peter C. Doherty, Rolf M. Zinkernagel
- 1995 - Edward B. Lewis, Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard, Eric F. Wieschaus
- 1994 - Alfred G. Gilman, Martin Rodbell
- 1993 - Richard J. Roberts, Phillip A. Sharp
- 1992 - Edmond H. Fischer, Edwin G. Krebs
- 1991 - Erwin Neher, Bert Sakmann
- 1990 - Joseph E. Murray, E. Donnall Thomas
- 1989 - J. Michael Bishop, Harold E. Varmus
- 1988 - Sir James W. Black, Gertrude B. Elion, George H. Hitchings
- 1987 - Susumu Tonegawa
- 1986 - Stanley Cohen, Rita Levi-Montalcini
- 1985 - Michael S. Brown, Joseph L. Goldstein
- 1984 - Niels K. Jerne, Georges J.F. Köhler, César Milstein
- 1983 - Barbara McClintock
- 1982 - Sune K. Bergström, Bengt I. Samuelsson, John R. Vane
- 1981 - Roger W. Sperry, David H. Hubel, Torsten N. Wiesel
- 1980 - Baruj Benacerraf, Jean Dausset, George D. Snell
- 1979 - Allan M. Cormack, Godfrey N. Hounsfield
- 1978 - Werner Arber, Daniel Nathans, Hamilton O. Smith
- 1977 - Roger Guillemin, Andrew V. Schally, Rosalyn Yalow
- 1976 - Baruch S. Blumberg, D. Carleton Gajdusek
- 1975 - David Baltimore, Renato Dulbecco, Howard M. Temin

- 1974 - Albert Claude, Christian de Duve, George E. Palade
- 1973 - Karl von Frisch, Konrad Lorenz, Nikolaas Tinbergen
- 1972 - Gerald M. Edelman, Rodney R. Porter
- 1971 - Earl W. Sutherland, Jr.
- 1970 - Sir Bernard Katz, Ulf von Euler, Julius Axelrod
- 1969 - Max Delbrück, Alfred D. Hershey, Salvador E. Luria
- 1968 - Robert W. Holley, H. Gobind Khorana, Marshall W. Nirenberg
- 1967 - Ragnar Granit, Haldan K. Hartline, George Wald
- 1966 - Peyton Rous, Charles B. Huggins
- 1965 - François Jacob, André Lwoff, Jacques Monod
- 1964 - Konrad Bloch, Feodor Lynen
- 1963 - Sir John Eccles, Alan L. Hodgkin, Andrew F. Huxley
- 1962 - Francis Crick, James Watson, Maurice Wilkins
- 1961 - Georg von Békésy
- 1960 - Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet, Peter Medawar
- 1959 - Severo Ochoa, Arthur Kornberg
- 1958 - George Beadle, Edward Tatum, Joshua Lederberg
- 1957 - Daniel Bovet
- 1956 - André F. Cournand, Werner Forssmann, Dickinson W. Richards
- 1955 - Hugo Theorell
- 1954 - John F. Enders, Thomas H. Weller, Frederick C. Robbins
- 1953 - Hans Krebs, Fritz Lipmann
- 1952 - Selman A. Waksman
- 1951 - Max Theiler
- 1950 - Edward C. Kendall, Tadeus Reichstein, Philip S. Hench
- 1949 - Walter Hess, Egas Moniz
- 1948 - Paul Müller
- 1947 - Carl Cori, Gerty Cori, Bernardo Houssay
- 1946 - Hermann J. Muller
- 1945 - Sir Alexander Fleming, Ernst B. Chain, Sir Howard Florey
- 1944 - Joseph Erlanger, Herbert S. Gasser
- 1943 - Henrik Dam, Edward A. Doisy
- 1942 - The prize money was with 1/3 allocated to the Main Fund and with 2/3 to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1941 - The prize money was with 1/3 allocated to the Main Fund and with 2/3 to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1940 - The prize money was with 1/3 allocated to the Main Fund and with 2/3 to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1939 - Gerhard Domagk
- 1938 - Corneille Heymans
- 1937 - Albert Szent-Györgyi
- 1936 - Sir Henry Dale, Otto Loewi
- 1935 - Hans Spemann
- 1934 - George H. Whipple, George R. Minot, William P. Murphy
- 1933 - Thomas H. Morgan
- 1932 - Sir Charles Sherrington, Edgar Adrian
- 1931 - Otto Warburg
- 1930 - Karl Landsteiner
- 1929 - Christiaan Eijkman, Sir Frederick Hopkins
- 1928 - Charles Nicolle
- 1927 - Julius Wagner-Jauregg
- 1926 - Johannes Fibiger
- 1925 - The prize money was allocated to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1924 - Willem Einthoven
- 1923 - Frederick G. Banting, John Macleod
- 1922 - Archibald V. Hill, Otto Meyerhof
- 1921 - The prize money was allocated to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1920 - August Krogh
- 1919 - Jules Bordet
- 1918 - The prize money was allocated to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1917 - The prize money was allocated to the Special Fund of this prize section

- 1916 - The prize money was allocated to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1915 - The prize money was allocated to the Special Fund of this prize section
- 1914 - Robert Bárány
- 1913 - Charles Richet
- 1912 - Alexis Carrel
- 1911 - Allvar Gullstrand
- 1910 - Albrecht Kossel
- 1909 - Theodor Kocher
- 1908 - Ilya Mechnikov, Paul Ehrlich
- 1907 - Alphonse Laveran
- 1906 - Camillo Golgi, Santiago Ramón y Cajal
- 1905 - Robert Koch
- 1904 - Ivan Pavlov
- 1903 - Niels Ryberg Finsen
- 1902 - Ronald Ross
- 1901 - Emil von Behring

In the January 2010 issue of the BMJ, the short biography the three Nobel scholars of 2009 was published; continuing from that arrangement, here, biography with summary of the works of Nobel laureates in Physiology or Medicine for the year 2010 is uttered.

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2010 is awarded to Robert G. Edwards "for the development of in vitro fertilization".

Summary

Robert Edwards is awarded the 2010 Nobel Prize for the development of human in vitro fertilization (IVF) therapy. His achievements have made it possible to treat infertility, a medical condition afflicting a large proportion of humanity including more than 10% of all couples worldwide.

As early as the 1950s, Edwards had the vision that IVF could be useful as a treatment for infertility. He worked systematically to realize his goal, discovered important principles for human fertilization, and succeeded in accomplishing fertilization of human egg cells in test tubes (or more precisely, cell culture dishes). His efforts were finally crowned by success on 25 July, 1978, when the world's first "test tube baby" was born. During the following years, Edwards and his co-workers

refined IVF technology and shared it with colleagues around the world.

Approximately four million individuals have so far been born following IVF. Many of them are now adult and some have already become parents. A new field of medicine has emerged, with Robert Edwards leading the process all the way from the fundamental discoveries to the current, successful IVF therapy. His contributions represent a milestone in the development of modern medicine.



The Laureate

Robert G. Edwards was born in 1925 in Batley, England. After military service in the Second World War, he studied biology at the University of Wales in Bangor and at Edinburgh University in Scotland, where he received his PhD in 1955 with a Thesis on embryonal development in mice. He became a staff scientist at the National Institute for Medical Research in London in 1958 and initiated his research on the human fertilization process. From 1963, Edwards worked in Cambridge, first at its university and later at Bourn Hall Clinic, the world's first IVF centre, which he founded together with Patrick Steptoe. Edwards was its research director for many years and he was also the editor of several leading scientific journals in the area of fertilization. Robert Edwards is currently Professor Emeritus at the University of Cambridge.

Source: http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/medicine/laureates