Howard Martin Temin Encyclopedia Article

Howard Martin Temin

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Howard Martin Temin

1934-1994

American biochemist and virologist who shared the 1975 Nobel Prize with Renato Dulbecco and David Baltimore for their discoveries concerning the interaction between tumor viruses and the genetic material of the cell. Temin developed the first reproducible in vitro assay for a tumor virus. His research on Rous sarcoma virus, an RNA virus, led to the formulation of the "provirus hypothesis" and the demonstration of the enzyme known as reverse transcriptase.