Otto Loewi Encyclopedia Article

Otto Loewi

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Otto Loewi

1873-1961

German-born American physiologist and pharmacologist who received the Noble Prize for Physiology or Medicine in 1936 with Henry Dale for their work regarding the chemical nature of nerve signals. Loewi primarily studied the physiological action of chemicals and is best known for his extensive work regarding the autonomic nervous system. One important discovery was that the neurotransmitter acetylcholine was released directly on to the heart by nerve endings where it exerted a physiological effect.