Stephen Coplan Harrison Encyclopedia Article

Stephen Coplan Harrison

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Stephen Coplan Harrison

1946-

American biochemist and molecular biologist who was the first to work out the atom-by-atom structure of a virus. He also mapped the makeup of the receptor used by the AIDS virus to attach to human cells using x-ray crystallography. The technique utilizes purifying a virus, crystallizing it, and scanning it with x rays. He received his Ph.D. in 1967 and produced his first three-dimensional image of a virus in 1977. In 1997 he won the ICN International Prize in virology.