

SENSE OF SMELL – THE ODORANT RECEPTOR CODE, NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE IN 2004

Summary

Two American molecular biologists Richard Axel and Linda Buck won the Nobel Prize for physiology or medicine in 2004. They discovered a large gene family that gives rise to many olfactory receptors.

The discovery allowed to explore how the brain discriminates among different odors and to reveal, using a genetic approach, the organization of the olfactory system.