

Nobel Prize-winning scientist Nirenberg dies at 82

January 21 2010



This Oct. 16, 1968 file photo shows Dr. Marshall Nirenberg in Washington. Nirenberg, whose work untangling fundamental genetic processes earned him a Nobel Prize has died, Jan. 15, 2010. He was 82. (AP Photo/Bob Schutz, file)

(AP) -- Marshall Nirenberg, a scientist whose work untangling fundamental genetic processes earned him a Nobel Prize, has died. He was 82.

Nirenberg's sister Joan Geiger says he died of [cancer](#) Jan. 15 in New York City.

In 1961, Nirenberg and a colleague conducted an experiment that showed how the genetic information contained in DNA is translated into

the protein molecules in cells.

His work earned him the [Nobel Prize](#) in Physiology or Medicine in 1968.

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Citation: Nobel Prize-winning scientist Nirenberg dies at 82 (2010, January 21) retrieved 26 April 2024 from

<https://phys.org/news/2010-01-nobel-prize-winning-scientist-nirenberg-dies.html>

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