



Harald zur Hausen

Virologist

Dr. Hausen's work focuses on the growth, division, and death of living cells and how they are regulated by their genes. If these functions are out of balance, tumors can form. One reason for this may be the incorporation of virus genes into the genes of host cells. Harald zur Hausen demonstrated in 1983 that cervical cancer in humans is caused by certain types of papilloma viruses (wart viruses), the genes from which are incorporated into the host cells' DNA. This discovery made it possible to develop a vaccine against cervical cancer, which had been the second most common tumor disease in women.

Dr. Hausen's website <http://www.dkfz.de/en/zurhausen/>

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