



## Robert Horvitz

### Geneticist

Bob is the David H. Koch Professor of Biology at MIT, an Investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, a Member of the MIT McGovern Institute for Brain Research and a Member of the MIT Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research. Bob received S.B. degrees in Mathematics and in Economics from MIT in 1968. He performed his graduate studies of phage T4-induced modifications of *E. coli* RNA polymerase at Harvard University in the laboratories of Drs. James Watson and Walter Gilbert. He received his Ph.D. in Biology in 1974. Bob then began his studies of *C. elegans* as a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Sydney Brenner at the Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology

Since 1978, Bob has been an Assistant, Associate and Full Professor in the Department of Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research involving *C. elegans* has helped define evolutionarily conserved molecular genetic pathways important in human biology and human disease, including the pathway responsible for programmed cell death, or apoptosis.

Dr. Horvitz received the Nobel Prize in Physiology in 2002. He identified two of the genes needed for programmed cell death to occur. He later showed that another gene protects against cell death, and also identified genes that regulate how dead cells are removed.

Dr. Horvitz lab webpage <http://web.mit.edu/horvitz/www/horvitzlab.html>

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