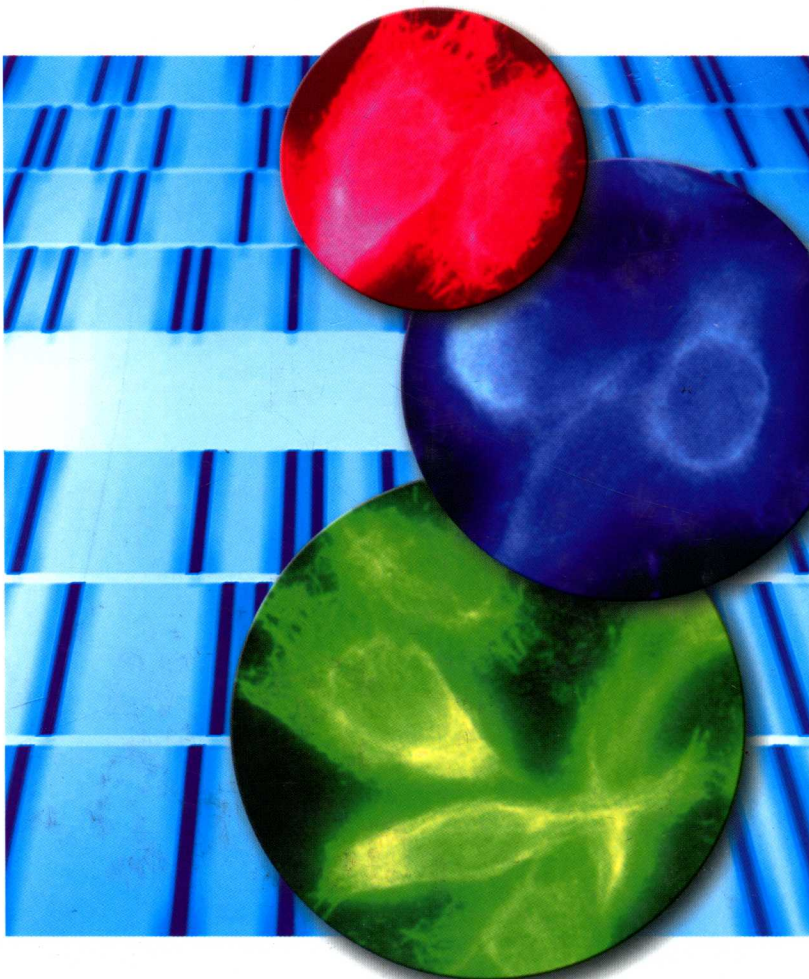


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# Encyclopedia of Molecular Cell Biology and Molecular Medicine

Edited by Robert A. Meyers



**Volume 14**  
Second Edition  
*Syng-Tria*

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**Volume 14**

**Syngamy and Cell Cycle Control to Triacylglycerol Storage and  
Mobilization, Regulation of**



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**Editor:**

**Dr. Robert A. Meyers**

President, Ramtech Limited  
122 Escalle Lane  
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USA

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# Encyclopedia of Molecular Cell Biology and Molecular Medicine

## Editorial Board

- \*Werner Arber, Biozentrum, University of Basel, Switzerland
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## Preface

The *Encyclopedia of Molecular Cell Biology and Molecular Medicine*, which is the successor and second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology and Molecular Medicine* (VCH Publishers, Weinheim), covers the molecular and cellular basis of life at a university and professional researcher level. The first edition, published in 1996–97, was very successful and is being used in libraries around the world. This second edition will almost double the first edition in length and will comprise the most detailed treatment of both molecular cell biology and molecular medicine available today. The Board Members and I believe that there is a serious need for this publication, even in view of the vast amount of information available on the World Wide Web and in text books and monographs. We feel that there is no substitute for our tightly organized and integrated approach to selection of articles and authors and implementation of peer review standards for providing an authoritative single-source reference for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, librarians, and researchers in industry and government.

Our purpose is to provide a comprehensive foundation for the expanding number of molecular biologists, cell biologists, pharmacologists, biophysicists, biotechnologists, biochemists, and physicians, as well as for those entering molecular cell biology and molecular medicine from majors or careers in physics, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, and engineering. For example, there is an unprecedented demand for physicists, chemists, and computer scientists who will work with biologists to define the genome, proteome, and interactome through experimental and computational biology.

The Board Members and I first divided the entire study of molecular cell biology and molecular medicine into primary topical categories and further defined each of these into subtopics. The following is a summary of the topics and subtopics:

- *Nucleic Acids*: amplification, disease genetics overview, DNA structure, evolution, general genetics, nucleic acid processes, oligonucleotides, RNA structure, RNA replication and transcription.
- *Structure Determination Technologies Applicable to Biomolecules*: chromatography, labeling, large structures, mapping, mass spectrometry, microscopy, magnetic resonance, sequencing, spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction.
- *Biochemistry*: carbohydrates, chirality, energetics, enzymes, biochemical genetics, inorganics, lipids, mechanisms, metabolism, neurology, vitamins.

- *Proteins, Peptides, and Amino Acids*: analysis, enzymes, folding, mechanisms, modeling, peptides, structural genomics (proteomics), structure, types.
- *Biomolecular Interactions*: cell properties, charge transfer, immunology, recognition, senses.
- *Cell Biology*: developmental cell biology, diseases, dynamics, fertilization, immunology, organelles and structures, senses, structural biology, techniques.
- *Molecular Cell Biology of Specific Organisms*: algae, amoeba, birds, fish, insects, mammals, microbes, nematodes, parasites, plants, viruses, yeasts.
- *Molecular Cell Biology of Specific Organs or Systems*: excretory, lymphatic, muscular, nervous, reproductive, skin.
- *Molecular Cell Biology of Specific Diseases*: cancer, circulatory, endocrinal, environmental stress, immune, infectious, neurological, radiational.
- *Pharmacology*: chemistry, disease therapy, gene therapy, general molecular medicine, synthesis, toxicology.
- *Biotechnology*: applications, diagnostics, gene-altered animals, bacteria and fungi, laboratory techniques, legal, materials, process engineering, nanotechnology, production of classes or specific molecules, sensors, vaccine production.

We then selected some 400 article titles and author or author teams to cover the above topics. Each article is designed as a self-contained treatment which begins with a keyword section including definitions, to assist the scientist or student who is unfamiliar with the specific subject area. The Encyclopedia includes more than 3000 key words, each defined within the context of the particular scientific field covered by the article. In addition to these definitions, the glossary of basic terms found at the back of each volume, defines the most commonly used terms in molecular cell biology. These definitions, along with the reference materials (the genetic code, the common amino acids, and the structures of the deoxyribonucleotides) printed at the back of each volume, should allow most readers to understand articles in the Encyclopedia without referring to a dictionary, textbook, or other reference work. There is, of course, a detailed subject index in Volume 16 as well as a cumulative table of contents and list of authors, as well as a list of scientists who assisted in the development of this Encyclopedia.

Each article begins with a concise definition of the subject and its importance, followed by the body of the article and extensive references for further reading. The references are divided into secondary references (books and review articles) and primary research papers. Each subject is presented on a first-principle basis, including detailed figures, tables and drawings. Because of the self-contained nature of each article, some articles on related topics overlap. Extensive cross-referencing is provided to help the reader expand his or her range of inquiry.

The articles contained in the Encyclopedia include core articles, which summarize broad areas, directing the reader to satellite articles that present additional detail and depth for each subject. The core article Brain Development is a typical example. This 45-page article spans neural induction, early patterning, differentiation, and wiring at a molecular through to cellular and tissue level. It is directly supported, and cross-referenced, by a number of molecular neurobiology satellite articles, for example, Behavior Genes, and further supported by other core presentations, for example,

Developmental Cell Biology; Genetics, Molecular Basis of, and their satellite articles. Another example is the core article on Genetic Variation and Molecular Evolution by Werner Arber. It is supported by a number of satellite articles supporting the evolutionary relatedness of genetic information, for example, Genetic Analysis of Populations.

Approximately 250 article titles from the first edition are retained, but rewritten, half by new authors and half by returning authors. Approximately 80 articles on cell biology and 70 molecular biology articles have been added covering areas that have become prominent since preparation of the first edition. Thus, we have compiled a totally updated single source treatment of the molecular and cellular basis of life.

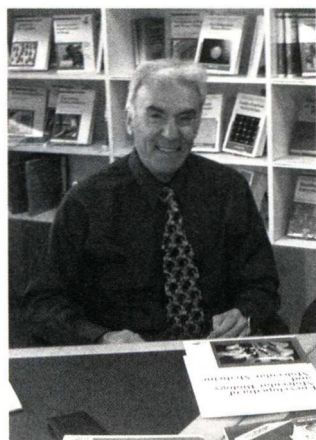
Finally, I wish to thank the following Wiley-VCH staff for their outstanding support of this project: Andreas Sendtko, who provided project and personnel supervision from the earliest phases, and Prisca-Maryla Henheik and Renate Dötzer, who served as the managing editors.

July 2005

**Robert A. Meyers**  
Editor-in-Chief



## Editor-in-Chief



**Robert A. Meyers**

Dr. Meyers earned his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of California Los Angeles, was a post-doctoral fellow at California Institute of Technology and manager of chemical processes for TRW Inc. He has published in *Science*, written or edited 12 scientific books and his research has been reviewed in the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*. He is one of the most prolific science editors in the world having originated, organized and served as Editor-in-Chief of three editions of the *Encyclopedia of Physical Science and Technology*, the *Encyclopedia of Analytical Chemistry* and two editions of the present *Encyclopedia of Molecular Cell Biology and Molecular Medicine*.

## Editorial Board



**Werner Arber**

Biozentrum, University of Basel, Switzerland

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discovery of restriction enzymes and their application to problems of molecular genetics*



**David Baltimore**

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discoveries concerning the interaction between tumor viruses and the genetic material of the cell*



**Günter Blobel**

The Rockefeller University, New York, USA

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discovery that proteins have intrinsic signals that govern their transport and localization in the cell*



**Martin Evans**

Cardiff University, United Kingdom

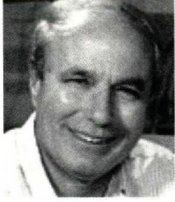
*Lasker Award for the development of a powerful technology for manipulating the mouse genome, which allows the creation of animal models of human disease*



**Paul Greengard**

The Rockefeller University, New York, USA

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discoveries concerning signal transduction in the nervous system*



**Avram Hershko**

Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

*Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of ubiquitin-mediated protein degradation*



**Robert Huber**

Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany

*Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the determination of the three-dimensional structure of a photosynthetic reaction centre*



**Aaron Klug**

MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology Cambridge, United Kingdom

*Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of crystallographic electron microscopy and his structural elucidation of biologically important nucleic acid-protein complexes*



**Stanley B. Prusiner**

University of California, San Francisco, USA

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discovery of Prions – a new biological principle of infection*



**Bengt Samuelsson**

Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discoveries concerning prostaglandins and related biologically active substances*



**Phillip A. Sharp**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discoveries of split genes*



**Alexander Varshavsky**

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA

*Lasker Award for the discovery and the recognition of the significance of the ubiquitin system of regulated protein degradation*



**Akiyoshi Wada**

RIKEN Yokohama Institute, Japan

*Director of the RIKEN Genomic Science Center*



**Shigeyuki Yokoyama**

RIKEN Yokohama Institute, Japan

*Head of the RIKEN Structural Genomics Initiative*



**Rolf M. Zinkernagel**

University Hospital Zurich, Switzerland

*Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine for the discoveries concerning the specificity of the cell mediated immune defence*

## List of Contributors

**Henry Rudolph Victor Arnstein**

National Institute for  
Medical Research,  
London, England,  
UK

**Aventis Pharma Germany, a member  
of the Sanofi Aventis group**

Therapeutic Department  
Metabolism,  
Frankfurt am Main,  
Germany

**Silvia Bacchetti**

Regina Elena Cancer Institute,  
Rome,  
Italy

**Mina J. Bissell**

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory,  
Berkeley, CA,  
USA

**H. Busch**

German Cancer Research Center,  
Heidelberg,  
Germany

**Antony D. Buss**

MerLion Pharmaceuticals Pte. Ltd,  
Science Park II,  
Singapore

**Bruce K. Cassels**

Department of Chemistry,  
Faculty of Sciences,  
University of Chile,  
Santiago,  
Chile

**Maria Antonietta Cerone**

McGill University,  
Montreal,  
Canada

**Thomas T. Chen**

University of Connecticut,  
Storrs, CT,  
USA

**Raymond Cheong**

Johns Hopkins University,  
Baltimore, MD,  
USA

**Pinwen Peter Chiou**

University of Connecticut,  
Storrs, CT,  
USA

**Chung Zoon Chun**

University of Connecticut,  
Storrs, CT,  
USA

**Brian Cox**

Novartis Pharma Research Centre,  
Horsham,  
UK

**Robert Ashley Cox**

National Institute for Medical Research,  
London, England,  
UK

**Mark D. Curtis**

University of Zürich, Zürich,  
Switzerland

**Ruth Duncan**

Welsh School of Pharmacy,  
Cardiff University,  
Cardiff,  
UK

**R. Eils**

German Cancer Research Center,  
Heidelberg,  
Germany

**Mary E. Gerritsen**

Exelixis,  
South San Francisco, CA,  
USA

**Ueli Grossniklaus**

University of Zürich,  
Zürich,  
Switzerland

**Marten Hofker**

University of Maastricht,  
Maastricht,  
The Netherlands

**Sergey E. Ilyin**

Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical  
Research & Development,  
Spring House, PA,  
USA

**Junko Kanoh**

Graduate School of Biostudies,  
Kyoto University,  
Kyoto,  
Japan

**Jenny Khoo**

University of Connecticut,  
Storrs, CT,  
USA

**Sophie A. Lelièvre**

Purdue University,  
West Lafayette, IN,  
USA

**Andre Levchenko**

Johns Hopkins University,  
Baltimore, MD,  
USA

**Horst Lörz**

University of Hamburg,  
Hamburg,  
Germany

**Anna C. Maroney**

Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical  
Research & Development,  
Spring House, PA,  
USA

**Günter Müller**

Therapeutic Department Metabolism,  
Frankfurt am Main,  
Germany

**Stefan Petry**

Therapeutic Department Metabolism,  
Frankfurt am Main,  
Germany

**Patricio Sáez**

Faculty of Medical Sciences,  
University of Santiago,  
Chile

**Tomi K. Sawyer**

ARIAD Pharmaceuticals,  
Cambridge, MA,  
USA

**Susanne Stirn**

University of Hamburg,  
Hamburg,  
Germany

**Shigeori Takenaka**

Kyushu Institute of Technology,  
Kitakyushu-shi,  
Japan

**Theoharis C. Theoharides**

Tufts University School of Medicine,  
Boston, MA,  
USA

**J. Willem Voncken**

University of Maastricht,  
Maastricht,  
The Netherlands

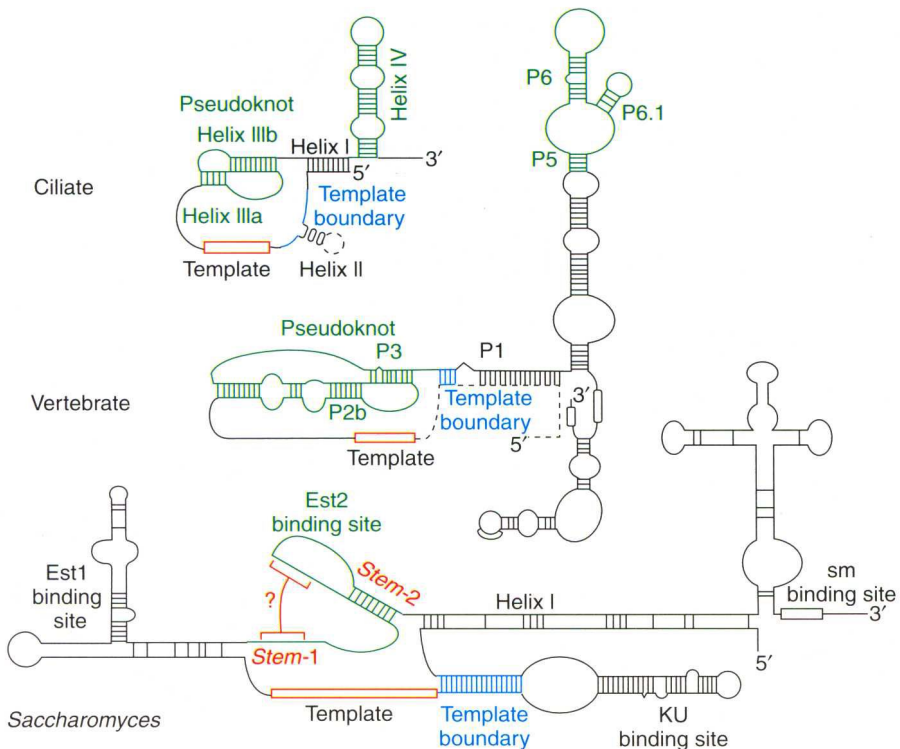
**Roger D. Waigh**

University of Strathclyde,  
Glasgow,  
Scotland

**Michael Whitaker**

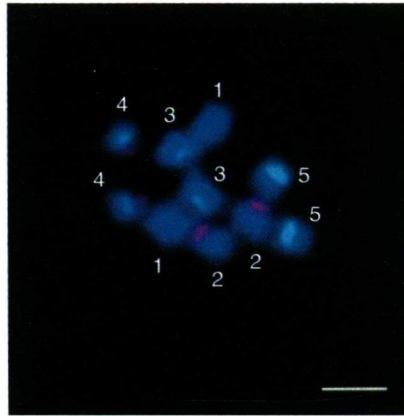
University of Newcastle upon Tyne,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
UK

## Color Plates

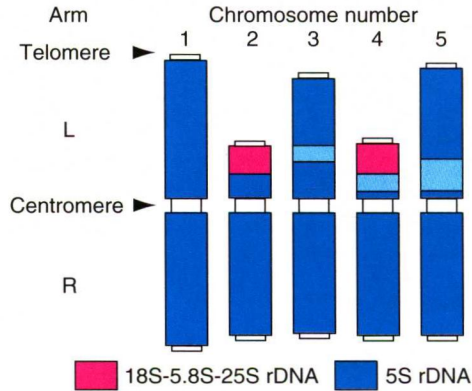


**Fig. 5 (p. 212)** Secondary structures of ciliate, vertebrate, and yeast (*Saccharomyces*) telomerase RNAs. The structures that are present in some but not all species within a group are represented by dashed lines. Conserved regions that bind to TERT are in green; structures defining the template region are in red, and those defining the template boundary are in blue. Reprinted from Chen, J.-L., Greider, C.W. (2004a) An emerging consensus for telomerase RNA structure, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **101**, 14683–14684. With permission.





(a)



(b)

**Fig. 2 (p. 255)** (a) DAPI-stained metaphase chromosomes of *Arabidopsis thaliana* Landsberg erecta, showing green fluorescein signals from the 5S rDNA and red Cy-3 signals from the 18S-5.8S-25S rDNA. Chromosomes were identified by the FISH pattern and numbered according to the linkage group. Bar = 2  $\mu$ m. (b) A karyotype showing the location of the 5S rDNA, 18S-5.8S-25S rDNA, centromeric 180 bp repeats and the telomeric repeats (Murata, M., Heslop-Harrison, J.S., Motoyoshi, F. (1997) Physical mapping of the 5S ribosomal RNA genes in *Arabidopsis thaliana* by multi-color fluorescence *in situ* hybridization with cosmid clones, *Plant J.* **12**, 31–37.) This figure is copyrighted by Blackwell Publishing and is reprinted with permission.