

# Nobel Laureate Lecture



*Nobel Prize for Medicine, 2008*

## Biography:

Prof Harald zur Hausen was born in 1936 and studied medicine in Bonn, Hamburg and Düsseldorf. After his doctorate he worked at the Institute of Medical Microbiology of the University of Düsseldorf, moving from there to the Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. He received his Habilitation at the University of Würzburg in 1969. In 1972 he was appointed professor of clinical virology at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, subsequently accepting the chair of virology and hygiene at the University of Freiburg in 1977. From 1983 to 2003 Harald zur Hausen was chairman and scientific member of the board of management of the German Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg. Though technically retired, zur Hausen remains active in his laboratory at the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg, and serves as editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Cancer.

## Research:

Revolutionizing the field of oncoviruses and cervical cancer etiology, Dr. zur Hausen was awarded the 2008 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his seminal discovery of the role of papilloma viruses in cancers of the cervix. In his early work, he demonstrated for the first time that non-virus producing Burkitt's lymphoma cells contained multiple copies of latent Epstein-Barr virus DNA. Dr. zur Hausen also demonstrated the presence of Epstein-Barr virus in the epithelial cells of nasopharyngeal carcinoma. He developed some simple methods to isolate human papilloma viruses (HPV) that led to the discovery of HPV 6, a cause of genital warts.

A year later, in 1983, he identified HPV 16 and HPV 18 DNA, respectively, in cervical tumors. We know now, that these viruses are responsible for causing over 75% of cervical cancers. Dr. zur Hausen's discoveries led to the 2006 introduction of HPV vaccines for prevention of cervical cancers, one of the most important recent advances for cancer prevention.

राष्ट्रीय पशु जैव प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान



## Mechanisms of Virus linked Cancers

by

**Prof. Harald Zur Hausen,**  
Professor Emeritus, German  
Cancer Research Center,  
Heidelberg, Germany

on

Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
from 1 PM to 2 PM

Venue

Auditorium, NIAB,  
D. No. 1-121/1, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>  
Floors, Axis Clinicals Building,  
Opp. Talkie Town, Miyapur,  
Hyderabad

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