

Archibald Garrod

1857 A.D. – 1936 A.D.

English physician who determined that genetic flaws were the cause of alkaptonuria, explained by Mendelian inheritance.

Frederick Griffith

1879 A.D. – 1941 A.D.



British geneticist who isolated the transforming principle (later known as DNA) by showing that benign viruses could absorb the ability to produce toxins from dead virulent viruses in solution.

Alfred Hershey

1908 A.D. – 1997 A.D.

American geneticist whose experiments with bacteriophages showed that bacteria exchange genetic information. Worked with Chase to show that DNA carried the genetic information.

Francis Harry Compton Crick

1916 A.D. – 2004 A.D.



British molecular biology and physicist who determined the structure of the DNA molecule with James Watson.

Maurice Hugh Frederick Wilkins

1916 A.D. – 2004 A.D.



British molecular biologist who worked with Franklin, Crick, and Watson on the structure of DNA.

Rosalind Franklin

1920 A.D. – 1958 A.D.



British chemist and x-ray crystallographer whose measurements of the fine crystal structure of DNA paved the way for Crick and Watson's research.

Martha Chase

1927 A.D. – 2003 A.D.

American geneticist whose experiment with Alfred Hershey showed that DNA rather than protein is the genetic material of life.

James D. Watson

1928 A.D.



British molecular biology and physicist who determined the structure of the DNA molecule with Francis Crick.

Avery-MacLeod-McCarty experiment
1944 A.D.

Building on Griffith's experiment, the team showed that DNA is the substance causing bacterial transformation.

Friedrich Meischer

1844 A.D. – 1895 A.D.



Swiss biologist who identified nucleic acids in white blood cells.