

**Brian Kobilka, MD**

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Brian Kobilka received Bachelor of Science Degrees in Biology and Chemistry from the University of Minnesota, Duluth in 1977. He graduated from Yale University School of Medicine in 1981, and completed residency training in Internal Medicine at the Barnes Hospital, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri in 1984. From 1984-1989 he was a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Robert Lefkowitz at Duke University.

While in the Lefkowitz lab, he and his colleagues cloned the gene that encodes the receptor for the hormone adrenaline. They found that the receptor was similar to rhodopsin, the light sensing receptor. It was later discovered that there is an entire family of receptors that look and act in similar ways. These receptors are known as G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs); they are responsible for the body's response to the majority of hormones and neurotransmitters.

In 1989 he joined the faculty of Medicine and Molecular and Cellular Physiology at Stanford University. Research in the Kobilka lab focuses on the structure and mechanism of action of GPCRs. They apply a spectrum of biochemical, biophysical and structural approaches to understand GPCR signalling at the molecular level. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2012, Kobilka was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Robert Lefkowitz for their work on GPCRs.