TODAY IN CHEMISTRY HISTORY

12TH MAY - DOROTHY HODGKIN'S BIRTHDAY



DOROTHY HODGKIN

BORN

12 May 1910

DIED

29 July 1994



1964 [°]

Hodgkin used X-ray crystallography to determine the structure of vitamin B₁₂, for which she won a Nobel Prize. She went on to determine the structure of insulin.

KEY STRUCTURES DETERMINED BY HODGKIN

PENICILLIN (1945)

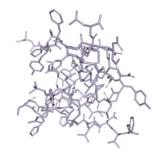
R H H S CH₃

Hodgkin confirmed the structure of penicillin – the first time the structure of a whole molecule had been calculated using X-ray data.

VITAMIN B₁₂ (1955)

Vitamin B₁₂ was, at the time, the most complex molecule tackled by X-ray crystallography. Its structure took Hodgkin eight years to solve.

INSULIN (1969)



Hodgkin first grew crystals of insulin in 1935, but it was another 34 years before she determined its three-dimensional structure.



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