# THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF DNA

Introduction

*How the term "Dexyribose Nucleic Acid" came to be*

## 1869

FRIEDRICH MIESCHER

Friedrich Miescher

*"Nuclein"*

I shall call it Nuclein!

FRIEDRICH MIESCHER

Observed leucocytes from the pus on fresh surgical bandages (Dahm, 2004).

Noticed a substance precipitated when an acid was added to the solution. He called his substance Nuclein (Dahm, 2004).

Due to the presence inside the nucleus, Miescher called it Nuclein (Dahm, 2004).

## 1889

RICHARD ALTMANN

*"Nucleic Acid"*

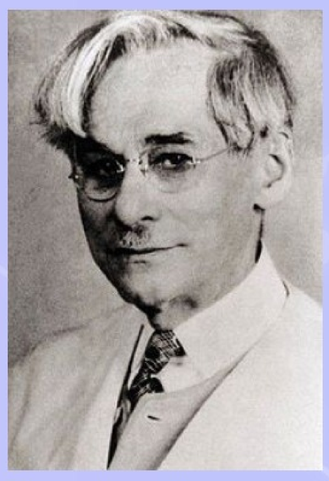
Renamed Nuclein to Nucleic Acid after Albrecht Kossel's discovery that nucleic acids are the bases that make up what is now called DNA (Aliouche, 2019).

Richard Altmann

## 1908

PHOEBUS LEVENE

*"Thymus Nucleic Acid"*



Phoebus Levene

Levene discovered DNA found from thymus (now called Thymine) after Kossel's discovery (Frixione & Ruiz-Zamarripa, 2019).

Phoebus Levene 1

## 1929

PHOEBUS LEVENE

*"Desoxy-Ribsose Nucleic Acid"*

Levene discovered Ribose, the sugar component of DNA that he referred to at the time as d-ribose (Frixione & Ruiz-Zamarripa, 2019).

His discovery led to the name change from Thymus Nucleic Acid to Desoxy-Ribose Nucleic Acid (Frixione & Ruiz-Zamarripa, 2019).

## 1953

WATSON AND CRICK

*"Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid"*

Started using deoxyribose nucleic acid (D.N.A) in their publications on the double helix structure of DNA (Aliouche, 2019).

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Watson and Crick

## References


Aliouche, H. (May 1, 2019). History of DNA research: Scientific pioneers & their discoveries. News Medical. Retrieved from https://www.news-medical.net/life-sciences/History-of-DNA-Research-Scientific-Pioneers-Their-Discoveries.aspx

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Frixione, E., & Ruiz-Zamarripa, L. (2019). The "scientific catastrophe" in nucleic acids research that boosted molecular biology. Journal of Biological Chemistry, 294, 2249-2255.