



2023 NATIONAL INVENTORS
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Born: Sept. 7, 1959

Primary Connections:

- University of Pennsylvania: Roberts Family Professor in Vaccine Research, Perelman School of Medicine: Director, Penn Institute for RNA Innovation; 1997-present
- RNARx: Co-founder, 2006-13
- National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases: Senior Staff Fellow, Laboratory of Immunoregulation, 1993-97
- National Institutes of Health: Fellow, Allergy and Immunology, 1990-93

Education:

- Brandeis University: B.A. and M.A., Biochemistry/Enzymology, 1981
- Boston University: M.D. and Ph.D., Immunology/Microbiology, 1987

Key Memberships/Awards:

- Breakthrough Prize: Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, 2022
- Japan Prize, Field of Materials and Production, 2022
- National Academy of Medicine: Member, 2022
- Albany Medical Center: Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research, 2021
- Columbia University: Louisa Gross Horwitz Prize, 2021
- Lasker Foundation: Lasker-DeBaakey Clinical Medical Research Award, 2021

10 Things You Need to Know About

Drew Weissman

Modified mRNA Technology Used in COVID-19 Vaccines

U.S. PATENT NO. 8,278,036

1. Weissman was born in Lexington, Massachusetts.
2. He was a fellow in allergy/immunology at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
3. At the NIH, Weissman trained under National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci.
4. With Chulalongkorn University in Thailand, Weissman's lab is developing a SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccine to help residents of Thailand and surrounding countries with limited financial resources access lifesaving vaccines.
5. Weissman is frequently featured on news programs, including CNN, ABC and BBC News, offering his expertise on infectious diseases and other public health issues.
6. He regularly trains both doctoral and undergraduate students in his lab, many of whom have gone on to hold prominent positions in academia, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies.
7. Weissman serves on the scientific advisory boards of Arcturus Therapeutics, GreenLight Biosciences, RVAC Medicines and Uvax Bio.
8. Brandeis University awarded the Lewis S. Rosenstiel Award for Distinguished Work in Basic Medical Research to Weissman and Katalin Karikó in 2020.
9. Weissman is an elected member of the Association of American Physicians and the National Academy of Medicine.
10. He has 153 U.S. and international patents.