1947: MRC ‘Unit for Research on the Molecular Structure of Biological Systems’ established

1951: Double-helical structure of DNA elucidated

1952: Sliding filament model for muscle contraction proposed

1953: First atomic resolution map of a protein, myoglobin

1956: Structure of haemoglobin determined

1961: Demonstration of the triplet nature of the genetic code

1962: MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology opened

1963: First mutant of C. elegans (nematode worm) produced

1966: First 3D models of protein structures from electron microscopy

1967: First atomic resolution map of myoglobin

1969: First LMB spin-out company, Cambridge Antibody Technology, formed

1970: First patient treated with humanised antibody, Campath-1

1971: Precursor tRNA molecules found and discovery of catalytic RNA

1972: Asymmetric lipid bilayer structure for biological membranes proposed

1972: Signal peptide sequence which directs protein secretion discovered

1975: Monoclonal antibody methodology invented

1975: First 3D structure of a membrane protein, bacteriorhodopsin

1976: Structure of F1 subunit of mitochondrial ATPase revealed

1977: Method for sequencing DNA developed

1978: Precursor tRNA molecules found and discovery of catalytic RNA

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1980: First mutant of C. elegans (nematode worm) produced

1981: C. elegans is the first animal to have its genome sequenced

1982: Molecular mechanism of antibody mutation uncovered

1983: Embryonic cell lineage of C. elegans unraveled

1984: Structure of F1 subunit of mitochondrial ATPase revealed

1985: Major component of filamentous lesions found in Parkinson’s disease identified

1986: First humanised antibody produced

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