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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **Dr. Richard Axel Offered \$5 Million Grant From Grand Challenges In Global Health Initiative**

##### ***Research in Smell to Target Malaria Transmission***

Richard Axel, M.D., University Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics and Pathology at Columbia University Medical Center and recipient of the 2004 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, was offered a \$5 million grant from the Grand Challenges in Global Health Initiative to build on state-of-the-art knowledge of the sense of smell in insects to develop safe, effective and low cost mosquito repellents, which may aid in reducing malaria transmission in endemic areas.

[Click here](#) for a summary of Grand Challenge projects, including Dr. Axel's research.

The Grand Challenges initiative was launched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2003, in partnership with the National Institutes of Health, with a \$200 million grant to the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and is a major international effort to achieve scientific breakthroughs against diseases that kill millions of people each year in the world's poorest countries. It is funded with a \$450 million commitment from Gates Foundation, \$27.1 from the Wellcome Trust, and \$4.5 million from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). The initiative is managed by global health experts at the Foundation for NIH, the Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and CIHR.

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