The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine
Since 1901

“...the person who shall have made the most important discovery within the domain of physiology or medicine.”
Who is rewarded with the medicine prize?

People who have either made a discovery about how organisms work or have helped find a cure for a disease.
Medicine Prize 2018

Treatment of cancer by releasing the brakes in our immune system.
The Nobel Laureates

“for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation”

James P. Allison

Tasuku Honjo
Cancer

Cancer cells divide uncontrollably and form tumours.
Methods of cancer therapy

This year’s Laureates discovered and developed a new method for curing cancer.
The immune system

The immune system protects us against infections. It consists of various kinds of cells and molecules, including so-called T cells. One fundamental property of the immune system is that it can tell the difference between the body’s own cells and foreign cells, so that viruses and bacteria can be identified and destroyed, for example.
James P. Allison’s discovery

In 1994 the first experiments were made using antibodies on mice with cancer, and they were cured.
Tasuku Honjo’s discovery

In 2012, a clinical study showed very good results in treatment of several different types of cancer.
The benefit

More cases of cancer can be cured.