The neuroscientist of the month:

Huda Akil



She was born in Damasc, Siria, in 1947

In the early years she focused on the relation between language and thinking; if words can have a different effect if they are told in different languages

She and her research group were the first who showed the evidence of the endogen opioids existence. The endorphines were discovered, which aim to block the pain

Nowadays she is a researcher at the University of Michigan. She is working on the neurobiology of the emotions, the pain, anxiety, depression and adictions

Although women didn't use to study in her country, her family found it very important to promote her education. She did psicology, like her father

Then she moved to EEUU to become specialized in neurosciences and pharmacology. She started her research in the pain field

They also discovered the Stress-Induced Analgesia; the stress makes the endorphine levels increase so the pain is reduced

"Many discoveries that have been attributed to men were made by their sisters, wifes and sons"

