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# ***Serendipity in Science***

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## ***Abstract***

Many scientific discoveries result from the so-called scientific method: formulate your hypothesis, test it, then either reject or tentatively accept it. Higgs bosons and gravitational waves followed this script. But discoveries are often unexpected spinoffs of otherwise directed (or even entirely undirected) research. For example, the first aniline dye emerged from a failed attempt to synthesize quinine, and both infrared light and radioactivity were discovered by testing false hypotheses. Scientists and those who fund them must heed Pasteur's advice that chance favors only the prepared mind.