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Tissue and Cell

Volume 12, Issue 4, 1980, Pages 713-721

Cellular basis for tentacle adherence in the Portuguese man-of-war (*Physalia physalis*)

Susan M. Cormier ¹ ... David A. Hessinger ²

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[https://doi.org/10.1016/0040-8166\(80\)90024-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/0040-8166(80)90024-5)

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Abstract

The fishing tentacles of *Physalia physalis* (Portuguese man-of-war) adhere to prey and human victims by the penetration of a barbed tubule connected to an intracellular nematocyst. The nematocyst is surrounded by a fibrillar system of microtubules and microfilaments that terminate in hemidesmosomal processes which anchor the nematocyst to the acellular mesoglea of the tentacle.



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The chemical control of feeding in the Portuguese man-of-war, *Physalia physalis* L. and its bearing on the evolution of the Cnidaria, the chord, even in the presence of strong attractors, controls the mineral.

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