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Plasmid Biology & Evolution

Did you know that bacteria can pass genes to each other?



We tell you how with our Antimicrobial
Resistance (AMR) Glossary



Horizontal gene transfer (HGT) is the **exchange of genetic material** between bacteria that are not direct “parents”, even between different species. And this can lead to the **spread of antibiotic resistance.**



When **HGT** carries an antibiotic resistance gene, the receiving bacterium **can become resistant**. This process is not something new in bacteria's world.



HGT is an ancient evolutionary strategy, but the irresponsible use of antibiotics has greatly **increased its frequency** and the number of resistant bacterial strains.



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A groundbreaking project led by our
researcher Álvaro San Millán



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