Conjugation

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- Gene transfer refers to the movement of genetic information between organisms. Gene transfer can be horizontal or vertical. Transfer of genes from parents to offsprings is termed as vertical gene transfer whereas transfer of genes between two independent organisms is called horizontal or lateral gene transfer.
- Sexual reproduction in eukaryotes is an example of vertical gene transfer. Prokaryotes do a vertical gene transfer when they reproduce by binary fission.
- Prokaryotes can also do horizontal gene transfer when they pass the gene to other prokaryotic cells.
- Three mechanisms of horizontal gene transfer in prokaryotes have been discovered.
- These are transformation, transduction and conjugation.
- Conjugation is the transfer of genes between bacteria that depends upon direct cell-cell contact
- The fragment of DNA that has been transferred during horizontal gene transfer from a donor cell to a recipient cell is referred to as an exogenote.
- The recipient bacterial cell's own genetic material into which the donor DNA can

























