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Molecular basis for the transfer of large toxin plasmids in Clostridium perfringens

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The transfer of large toxin and antibiotic resistance genes in the pathogenic bacteria *Clostridium perfringens* is mediated by the *tcp* conjugation locus. Functional genetic analysis of the tcp locus of the paradigm plasmid pCW3 has revealed that its gene products assemble into a multi-protein complex that distantly resembles a type 4 secretion system (T4SS).

Here, I will provide a brief summary of our current understanding of the DNA system., knowledge that was built upon a combination of structural biology studies and functional microbial genetics

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