

Given the relatively low sequence complexity needed to select specific RNA-binding peptides and the apparent ability to adopt different secondary structures, we speculate that arginine-rich peptides may have evolved early from a predominantly RNA-based world. Studies with HIV Rev and BIV Tat peptides^{12,19,20} indicate that the RNA and peptide structures are both stabilized upon binding, suggesting that the ribonucleopeptide complex, rather than the individual components, may be viewed as a folding domain. Use of an RNA scaffold for peptide folding might have helped a transition to a protein-based world, before the evolution of hydrophobic protein interiors and sophisticated tertiary structures. □

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ERRATUM

Structure and mechanism of DNA topoisomerase II

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A PRINTING error caused Figures 3a and 4a of this Article to be transposed. The legends are correct. □

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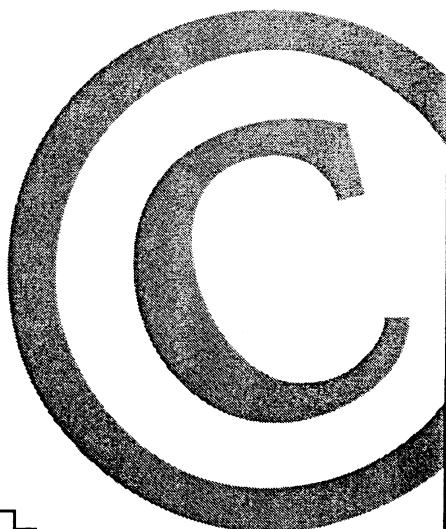
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