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## **БИОТЕХНОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ ПРОРЫВЫ В РЕДАКТИРОВАНИИ ГЕНОВ: CRISPR И ЕГО ПОТЕНЦИАЛ ДЛЯ ЛЕЧЕНИЯ ГЕНЕТИЧЕСКИХ ЗАБОЛЕВАНИЙ**

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В данной статье рассматривается тема биотехнологических прорывов в области редактирования генов, с основным фокусом на технологии CRISPR-Cas9. Рассматривается потенциал этой инновационной системы для лечения генетических заболеваний. Также затрагиваются этические, безопасные и доступные аспекты использования CRISPR-Cas9, а также необходимость сотрудничества между научными, этическими и политическими сообществами для ответственного применения этой технологии в медицинской практике.

**Ключевые слова:** CRISPR-Cas9; редактирование генома; болезни человека; терапия.

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## **BIOTECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGHS IN GENE EDITING: CRISPR AND ITS POTENTIAL FOR THE TREATMENT OF GENETIC DISEASES**

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This article examines the topic of biotechnological breakthroughs in the field of gene editing, with a main focus on CRISPR-Cas9 technology. The potential of this innovative system for the treatment of genetic diseases is examined. Also addressed are the ethical, safety, and accessibility considerations of using CRISPR-Cas9, as well as the need for collaboration among the scientific, ethical, and policy communities to ensure the responsible use of this technology in medical practice.

**Key words:** CRISPR-Cas9; genome editing; human diseases; therapeutics.

CRISPR-Cas9 technology has brought into light an incredibly revolutionary way of gene editing: it is precision, efficient, and cost-effective. This stands as one pivotal development in the field of biotechnology is likely to change the whole genesis of the way genetic diseases were treated, approaches to infectious diseases that have been used previously. This method of gene editing allows complicated changes to be made easily and cheaply. What is novel is that the system originates from a bacterial defense system, so it has the ability to perform pinpoint DNA modifications. This presents a shift from the norm that gene editing was at most times clumsy and imprecise. . This has brought new fronts in the field of genetic research and applications, making it extremely easy to edit genes. Perhaps most importantly, the application of CRISPR technology is not limited to the four walls of the laboratory. It raises critical ethical, legal, and social questions, especially in regard to the treatment of genetic disorders, but also for human identity, genetic privacy, and fear of misuse. The discussions of CRISPR—with a range of stakeholders that, in addition to scientists, encompasses ethicists, policymakers, and the public—clearly underscore not only the insistence of responsible governance but also ethical regulation.

**Challenges and Advancements in Genetic Disease Treatment:**

**The CRISPR-Cas9 Paradigm Shift**

Treatment in the days before CRISPR-Cas9 was full of pitfalls. Previous approaches have failed too often, and this is due to a combination of the natural, rough hand of nature in genetic diseases and the incredibly complex nature of the mutations themselves; in the great majority of cases, these were observed to have great differences among people. Treatment was restricted and mostly symptom-based. Gene therapy has also existed, but had technical limitations including low efficacy, high costs and safety concerns. However, this has changed with the advent of CRISPR-Cas9 technology, which offers a way to directly edit genes believed to be responsible for diseases. It copies the natural system in bacteria and gives it the power to make pinpoint changes in DNA. That is a tremendous step up from the old techniques, which didn't have the same precision and efficiency that this kind provides through CRISPR. Despite its potential, the use of CRISPR-Cas9 system raises significant ethical, legal, and safety concerns. The point at which an ethical debate arises is with germline editing, which would change the DNA for future generations. It is important not to forget about the potential that it carries to create genetic inequality. Technology opens up new horizons, but it is important to keep in mind the rules and guidelines regarding its use. Safety of the technology is one of the major ones, with the off-target effects risk, more so through the editing of parts of the genome that were not intended for editing.

### **Exploring CRISPR-Cas9: Objectives, Methodologies, and the Path to Clinical Applications**

This highlights that the main goal of CRISPR-Cas9 technology in gene editing is to achieve precision and efficiency in modifying genetic material for therapeutic purposes. Using this technology to correct genetic defects that cause disease represents the promise of new treatments. Most research into CRISPR has focused on its clinical application as an innovative gene therapy. CRISPR-Cas9 technology has become popular due to its simplicity, accuracy and versatility. This opens up the possibility of correcting inherited genetic mutations, bringing hope to patients with related diseases. However, there are problems with delivery mechanisms, potential side effects, immune reactions and ethical issues that also require further research. Research is aimed at improving the CRISPR-Cas9 system through a variety of methods, including «*in vitro*» and «*in vivo*» testing to assess safety and effectiveness. The use of bioinformatics and computational tools plays an important role in designing specific guide RNAs and avoiding possible off-target effects. Clinical trials are at the forefront of introducing CRISPR-Cas9 technology into medicine, with more than 130 trials ongoing to test the safety and effectiveness of this therapy in a variety of diseases.

#### **CRISPR-Cas9 in clinical trials: treatment methods and prospects**

CRISPR-Cas9 in Clinical Trials: Innovative Treatments, Ethical Considerations, and the Way Forward The progress of biological science opens up new possibilities for using the CRISPR-Cas9 system to solve problems of hereditary diseases. When studying diseases, difficulties often arise with

modeling pathology. Experimental animal models do not always accurately reflect the genetic and phenotypic characteristics of diseases in humans. The CRISPR method can be useful for modeling rare inherited diseases, as well as for studying genetic changes and disease processes. It can also be used to develop methods for treating viral infections and correcting mutations that cause various hereditary diseases. In correcting mutations, it is possible to use induced pluripotent stem cells, which can be taken from the human body, can be used to correct mutations. Using the CRISPR-Cas9 system, it is possible to transform the original cell into any other cell in the body. In addition, this approach allows the creation of cellular models for the analysis of disease pathogenesis and the development of treatment methods for diseases such as the human immunodeficiency virus HIV-1. Using the CRISPR-Cas9 system, the treatment mechanism consists, for example, in creating immunity of the body's cells to this virus. The CRISPR system opens up new opportunities for gene therapy of hereditary and acquired human diseases, and its significance in medicine is just beginning to emerge. We can expect positive results in the coming years in the fight against hereditary diseases.

### **Conclusion**

Thus, CRISPR-Cas9 technology is a powerful tool that has brought revolutionary changes to genetic research and promises to revolutionize the field of medicine. It has many advantages such as precision and efficiency. These qualities provide unique opportunities for studying genetic mechanisms, including combating inherited diseases and developing innovative treatments. However, the implementation of CRISPR-Cas9 also poses significant ethical, safety and accessibility issues that require careful attention and regulation. Addressing these issues is necessary through broad dialogue among scientists to ensure the safety and effectiveness of this technology. Its implementation will have a significant impact on the future of science and medicine, and will require the attention of researchers and the public to implement ways of using it as responsibly and ethically as possible.

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