



FIGURE 18.11. The rate of spread of replicating RNA molecules along a capillary tube. The experiment was seeded with a very low concentration of a particular 133-bp sequence. Wave fronts can be seen propagating at constant velocity to either side of the positions where the progeny of single RNA molecules established themselves. The *arrow* shows a sharp increase in growth rate caused by the evolution of a faster-replicating variant.

18.11, modified from McCaskill J.S. et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **90**: 4191–4195, © 1993 National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.