



FIGURE 27.30. Stages in lateral gene transfer (LGT). The evolution of four species and one example of LGT are shown. Some key steps in LGT are labeled: (a) Divergence of genomes of different lineages; (b) movement of DNA from one lineage to another; (c) maintenance and replication of the foreign DNA; (d) possible positive selection for the foreign DNA; (e) spread into the new species' population; (f) amelioration. (Modified from Penny D. and Poole A. *Curr. Opin. Genet. Dev.* **9**: 672–677, © 1999 Elsevier.)