

Letter to the Editor

Dear Dr. Waner,

The Editor of the Israel Journal of Veterinary Medicine,

I would like to draw the to the attention to your readers of the IJVM an interesting article on the subject of antibiotic resistance presented in the Journal of Frontiers of Microbiology. The article focuses on the extraction of a 5,000-year-old strain of bacteria from one of the world's largest underground glaciers, from the Scarisoara cave in western Romania. Scientists extracted samples from the 13,000-year-old monumental glacier slab and revived the bacterial strain. The team found that it's resistant to 10 modern antibiotics used to treat diseases such as urinary tract infections and tuberculosis.¹

This finding is remarkable and teaches us that ancient bacteria can resist modern antibiotics because antibiotic resistance is an ancient evolutionary characteristic that was shaped over millions of years by competition between microbes, as stated by Dr. Cristina Purcarea, a senior scientist in the department of microbiology at the Institute of Biology Bucharest of the Romanian Academy.

The cold-loving microbe, called *Psychrobacter* SC65A.3, does not endanger humans and could be used in the fight against modern superbugs.

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REFERENCE

1. Purcarea, C., Paun VI, Iticus, C., Lavia, P. and Chifrius, M.C.: *Front Microbiol.*, February, 2026. First genome sequence and functional profiling of *Psychrobacter* SC65A.3 preserved in 5,000-year-old cave ice: From insights into ancient resistome, to antimicrobial potential and enzymatic activities.