

## Level up: CRISPR can now make longer-lasting changes to DNA

Thanks to new research from a team at Western University, we may be closer than ever to curing some of humanity's most devastating diseases...The latest version of CRISPR/Cas9 promises to make "gene-editing more efficient and potentially more specific in targeting genes."

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"The problem with CRISPR is that it will cut DNA, but then DNA-repair will take that cut and stick it back together," David Edgell, associate professor at Western's [Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry](#), noted. "That means it is regenerating the site that the CRISPR is trying to target, creating a futile cycle. The novelty of our addition, is that it stops that regeneration from happening."

The addition Edgell is referring to is the new enzyme called TevCas9, which [Western University](#) explains, cuts the DNA in two places (right now, it's only cut in one), which makes it harder for DNA to repair itself.

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"Because there are two cut-sites, there is less chance that these two sites occur randomly in the genome..." said co-author Caroline Schild-Poulter, associate professor at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry....

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: [We Might Be Closer Than Ever to Using CRISPR to Cure Diseases](#)**