

Bacterial Structure

Biology

The parts of a bacterial cell, and which are drug targets.

Structures, and whether all bacteria have them.

Structure	Function	Always?
Cell wall	Peptidoglycan; shape and protection	Nearly always
Plasma membrane	Selective barrier	Yes
Nucleoid	Circular chromosome	Yes
Plasmid	Extra genes, often resistance	No
Ribosomes (70S)	Protein synthesis	Yes
Flagellum	Motility	No
Pili	Attachment, conjugation	No
Capsule	Evades immune detection	No

Penicillin inhibits peptidoglycan cross-linking. It works because human cells have no cell wall to disrupt.