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A view of our past and our possible future: plagues have been part of our history but could once again become a reality with the rise of drug-resistant microorganisms. On the left of the diptych, detail from Pieter Bruegel’s *Triumph of Death* (1556) highlights the horrors of the bubonic plague. On the right, Brent Watkinson depicts some of the social problems that are contributing to modern epidemics. Articles on current difficulties with drug-resistant strains begin on page 1050; also see the News story on page 1036. [Left panel: Scala/Art Resource. Right panel: Brent Watkinson, Merriam, Kansas. Frame: Richard Kozak]

Human and *Drosophila* Homeodomain
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[Indicates accompanying feature]

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