

messenger RNA (mRNA)

An *RNA* molecule that transfers the coding information for protein synthesis from the *chromosomes* to the *ribosomes*. mRNA is formed from a DNA *template* by *transcription*. It may be a copy of a single *gene* or of several adjacent genes (polycistronic mRNA). On the ribosome, the sequence is converted into the programmed amino acid sequence through *translation*.

1992, 64, 160