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Chloramphenicol O-acetyltransferase

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Chloramphenicol O-acetyltransferase*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C16429.

Bacterial chloramphenicol-O-acetyltransferase protein (219 aa, 26 kD) is encoded by the bacterial chloramphenicol-O-acetyltransferase (cat) gene. This enzyme detoxifies the antibiotic chloramphenicol via acetylation to yield chloramphenicol 3-acetate. The presence of this enzyme confers chloramphenicol resistance to bacteria, which is used as a marker for selection in molecular techniques that utilize genetic transfection.