

pH-Dependent Quenching of the Fluorescence of Tryptophan Residues in Class A β -Lactamase from *E. coli* (TEM-1)

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We performed an investigation of the pH-dependent quenching of the fluorescence of tryptophan residues of TEM-1 β -lactamase from *E. coli* by uncharged and charged quenchers. pH-dependent Stern-Volmer constants (K_{SV}/pH) of tryptophan residues allowed us to determine subtle but discrete structurally and functionally important processes.

Key words: β -Lactamase TEM-1, Fluorescence Quenching, Conformational Changes