

**Nucleotide sequence of the *murF* gene encoding the UDP-MurNAc-pentapeptide synthetase of *Escherichia coli***

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Submitted June 9, 1989

EMBL accession no. X15432

The nucleotide sequence of the *murF* gene encoding the UDP-MurNAc-pentapeptide synthetase of *Escherichia coli* was determined within a 1.9 kilobase-pair PvulI-PvuII fragment from plasmid pLC26-6 of the Clarke and Carbon library. The sequence contains only one open reading frame in the clockwise direction. The coding region contains 1356 nucleotides which are translated into 452 amino acids corresponding to a protein with a molecular weight of 47492. This latter value is in agreement with that of the purified synthetase (1)(2) or that of the protein expressed by the maxicell technique (3)(4). The N-terminal amino acid sequence determined from the DNA sequence is in agreement with that of the purified protein (2). The synthetase activity requires ATP hydrolysis. Two domains characteristic of ATP binding proteins were found extending from amino acid 107 to 119 (domain A) and from amino acid 352 to 360 (domain B). A 8 bp hairpin structure follows the TAG stop codon.

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-39 CGATCGCGTCACGGTGGCGCGCTGCTGGGGGTGATTGCATGATCGTAACCCCTAAGCCAACCTAACGGCATTCTCAACGGTGAACGTCAAGGT
      M I S V T L S Q L T D I L N G E I O G
  58 CGACATATCACCCCTTGATGCTGAAACCTGATACCCCAAACCTGACGCCGGGCTGCCCTGTTGTGCCCCTGAAAGGCCAACGTTTGTATGCCAAC
      A D I T L D A V T T D T R K L P C V A L K G E R F D A H
  154 GATTTGCGGACCAAGCGAAGCTGCGCGCGACGCCGACTACTGGTTAACCGCTGCCCTGGACATCGACCTGCCGAGTTAACGCTCAAGGATACG
      D F A D O C A K A G A G A L L V S R P L D I D L P Q O L I V D T
  250 CGCTCTGGGGTTGGTGTGACTGGCTGCAATGGGTCGCCAGGGCGCCGGGCTGGTGTCTGACGGGGTCTCCGGCAAAACCTCCGTTAAA
      R L A F G E L A W V R Q O V P A R V V A L T G S S G R T S V K
  346 GAGATGACGGGGGGGATTAAAGCCAGTCGCCAACACGGCTTATACGGCAAGGCAATCTCACAAACGACATCGCTGACCGTAGCCTGTTGGCC
      E M T A G I L S Q C G N T Y T A G N L N N D I G V P M T L L R
  442 TTACCGCCGAATACGATTACGAGTATTGAACTTGGCGGAACCATCGGGGAAATAGCGCTGGACTGTGAGTCGACTCTGCCGGGAACGGTGGC
      L T P E Y D Y A V I E L G A M N B O G E I A M W T V S L T T R P E R A
  538 CTGGTCACAAACCTGGCAGGGCGCATCTGGAAAGTTTGGCTCGCTGGGGTGTGGCGAAAGGGAAAGGTGAATCTTACGCCCTGCCGGA
      L V N N L A A A B L E G F G S L A G V A K A R G E I F S G L P E
  634 AACGGTATGCGCATATGAACGCCGACAACACGGACTGGCTGAACCTGGCAGACCGTAATTGGCTCACCGAAACTGTGGCTTCTCACCAAATGCC
      N G I A I M N A D M N D W L N W Q S V I G S R K V W R F S P N A
  730 GCCAACAGCGATTACCGCCGACCAATATCCATGCTGGCTGGCGACCGTAACGGAAATTACCTAACCCCCAACCGGTAGCGTGGATCTGGCTG
      A N S D F T A T H V T T S H G T E F T L Q O T P T G S V D V L L
  826 CGGTGCGGGGGTCACAAATTGGGAATGGCGCATGGCGAGCGCTGGCGCTCAGTCATGTCGGTGGCGCAACGCTTGTGATCTACAAAGGGGGCTG
      P L P G R E B N I A N A L A A C A M S V G A T L D A I K A G L
  922 GCAAACTCTGAAAGTGTCCAGGGCTCTGGTCCCTCCACACTGGCAGAAAACCAAGCTGGCTGCGACACTCTACAAACGCCAACTGCGTTCA
      A N N L E A V V P G R L F P I O Q L A E N O L L D D S Y N A N V G S
  1018 ATGACTGCGAGCTGCGAGTCTGGCTGAATAGCGGGCTACCCGGCTGCTGGCTGGCGCATATGGCGGAACCTGGCGCTGAAAGCGAACGCTGC
      M T A A V Q V L A E M P G Y R V L V G D M A E L G A E S E A C
  1114 CATGTACAGGTGGCGAGGGCGAAAGCTGCTGTTAACGGCTGGTAAACAAAGCCATGCTATCAGCACCGCAGCGGGCT
      H V V O U G E A A A K A A C I D R L S V G K O S H A I S T A S G V
  1210 GGCGAACATTGCTGATAAAACTGCGTTAACGGCTGTTAACGGCTGGTAAACAGGCAATTCAGATTAGTTAACGGTGGCTAACATGATCTGGTCA
      G E H F A D K T A L I T R K L L I A E Q O Q V I T I L V K G S R
  1306 AGTGGCGCCATGGAAAGGGTAGTACCGGGTTAACAGGAGAATGGGACATGTTAGTTGGCTGGCGAACATTGGTCAAAATATACCGGGCTTAA
      S A A M B E V V R A L Q B N G T C * 
  1402 GTCTTTCTATCTGACGTTTCCGGCAGTCAGCTGGCTGACCGCTG

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