

Acetylation

Acetylation (or in IUPAC nomenclature ethanoylation) describes a reaction that introduces an [acetyl](#) functional group into a chemical compound. (Deacetylation is the removal of the acetyl group.)

Process: Addition of an acetyl group to the amino terminus or specific lysine residues of a protein.
Function: Can influence protein stability, DNA binding, and gene expression. Histone acetylation, for example, is associated with gene activation.

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