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Investigating the deleterious nsSNPs in causing Phenylketonuria by Molecular Docking Approach

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Introduction

- **Phenylketonuria PKU**) is an autosomal recessive inborn error of phenylalanine (Phe) metabolism ([Williams et al. 2008](#)).
- It results from a deficiency in phenylalanine hydroxylase (PAH), often caused by mutations in the PAH gene([Williams et al. 2008](#)).
- The PAH gene spans about 171 kb and 13 exons and is found on chromosome 12q23.2, encoding the L-phenylalanine hydroxylase enzyme ([Williams et al. 2008](#)).
- About 30,000 people in the United States have phenylketonuria ([Thompson 2008](#)).

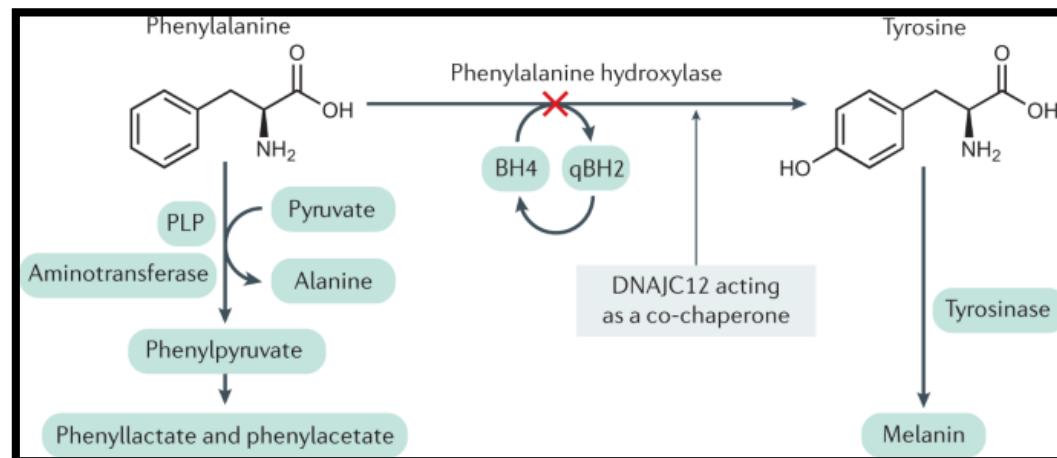


Figure 1: Phenylalanine metabolism and PKU [[van Spronsen et al. 2021](#)]

Review of Literature

- Most forms of PKU and hyperphenylalaninemia arise from mutations in the PAH gene. ([Williams et al. 2008](#))
- The conversion of phenylalanine (Phe) to tyrosine (Tyr) involves a hydroxylating system comprising phenylalanine hydroxylase (PAH), the unconjugated pterin cofactor tetrahydrobiopterin (BH4), and enzymes responsible for BH4 regeneration, namely dihydropteridine reductase and 4 α -carbinolamine dehydratase. ([Williams et al. 2008](#))

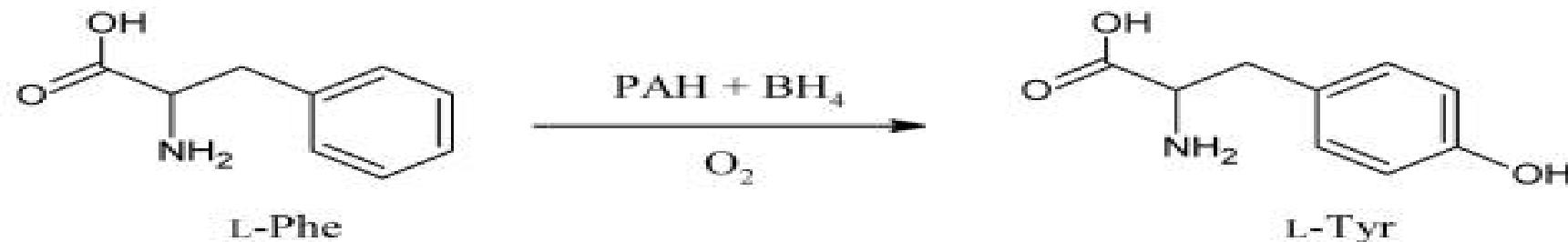


Figure 2: Conversion of L-Phenylalanine to L-Tyrosin

- Untreated phenylketonuria manifests with microcephaly, profound mental retardation, and, in certain instances, progressive supranuclear motor disturbances. ([Pietz 1998](#))
- Sapropterin dihydrochloride, as per FDA-approved labelling, effectively lowers blood phenylalanine levels in tetrahydrobiopterin-responsive phenylketonuria. ([Thompson 2008](#))

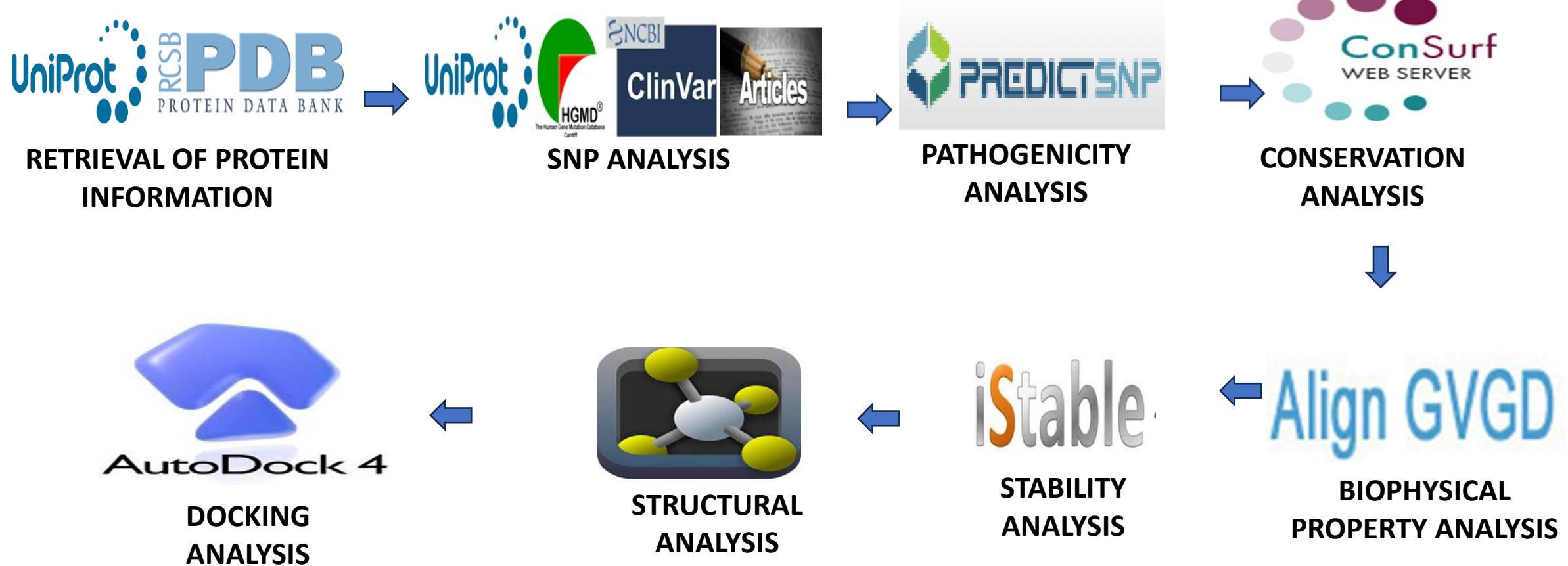
Aim

- To identify and analyze the response of the deleterious variants with Sapropterin dihydrochloride to reduce phenylketonuria conditions.

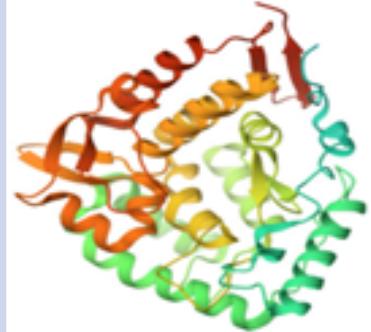
Objectives

- To retrieve the protein sequence and structure.
- To identify the deleterious amino acid variants using various computational tools.
- To perform docking analyses to check the response of the drug towards the wild and mutant protein structure

Materials and Methods



Results

Gene	Protein	Uniprot ID	Sequence	PDB	Structure
PAH	Beta-hexosaminidase subunit alpha	P00439 452 aa	>sp P00439 PH4H_HUMA N Phenylalanine-4-hydroxylase OS=Homo sapiens OX=9606 GN=PAH PE=1 SV=1 MSTAVLENPG LGRKLSDFGQ ETSYIEDNCN QNGAISLIFS LKEEVGALAK VLRLFEENDV NLTHIESRPS RLKKDEYEFF THLDKRSLPA LTNIIKILRH DIGATVHELS RDKKKDTVPW FPRTIQELDR FANQILSYGA ELDADHPGFK DPVYRARRKQ FADIAYNYRH GQPIPRVEYM EEEKKTWGTV FKTLKSLYKT HACYEYNHIF PPLEKYCGFH EDNIPQLEDV SQFLQTCTGF RLRPVAGLLS SRDFLGGLAF RVFHCTQYIR HGSKPMYTP PDICHELLGH VPLFSDRSFA QFSQEIGLAS LGAPDEYIEK LATIYWFTVE FGLCKQGD KAYGAGLLSS FGELQYCLSE KPKLPLELE KTAIQNYTVT EFQPLYYVAE SFNDAKEKVR NFAATIPRPF SVRYDPYTQR IEVLDNTQQQL KILADSINSE IGILCSALQK IK	6HPO	

SNP Retrieval

Figure 3: Screenshot of the UniProtKB interface showing SNP retrieval results for P06865.

Figure 3:

Accession Number	Amino acid change	Codon number	Phenotype	Reference
CM000541	M-R	1	Phenylketonuria	Hennermann (2000) Hum Mutat 15, 254 Additional report available to subscribers
CM920539	M-I	1	Phenylketonuria	Eiken (1992) Hum Mutat 1, 388 Additional report available to subscribers
CM890092	M-V	1	Phenylketonuria	John (1989) Am J Hum Genet 45, 905 Additional report available to subscribers
CM155973	M-L	1	Phenylketonuria	Vela-Amieva (2015) Clin Genet 88, 62 Additional report available to subscribers
CM010947	S-P	16	Phenylketonuria	Guldberg (1995) PAH UP #229 Additional report available to subscribers
CM112733	S-Y	16	Phenylketonuria	Okanaga (2011) J Hum Genet 56, 306 Additional report available to subscribers
CM1511421	Q-P	20	Phenylketonuria	Li (2015) Sci Rep 5, 15769 Additional report available to subscribers
HM972014	T-K	22	Phenylketonuria	Froster (2001) Hum Genet 109, 127 Additional report available to subscribers
CM1314660	L-P	37	Phenylketonuria	Bilski-Multanowski (2013) Acta Biochim Pol 60, 613 Additional report available to subscribers Functional characterisation report available to subscribers Additional report available to subscribers Functional characterisation report available to subscribers Additional report available to subscribers Functional characterisation report available to subscribers Additional report available to subscribers Functional characterisation report available to subscribers Additional report available to subscribers Functional characterisation report available to subscribers

Figure 5:

UniProt: https://www.uniprot.org/uniprotkb/P06865/entry#disease_variants

ClinVar: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/clinvar>

HGMD: <https://www.hgmd.cf.ac.uk/ac/all.php>

Variation Location	Gene(s)	Protein change	Condition(s)	Clinical significance (Last reviewed)	Review status
1. 8Phe) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.134C>T (p.Leu44	PAH	L44F	Phenylketonuria	Uncertain significance (Sep 27, 2022)	criteria provided, single submitter
2. 7Asp) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.134C>A (p.Ala44	PAH	A447D	PAH-related condition, not provided, Phenylketonuria	Pathogenic (Aug 26, 2023)	criteria provided, multiple submitters, no conflicts
3. 7Thr) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.133G>A (p.Ala44	PAH	A447T	Phenylketonuria	Pathogenic (Oct 15, 2022)	criteria provided, multiple submitters, no conflicts
4. 5Phe) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.1334G>T (p.Cys44	PAH	C445F	Phenylketonuria	Uncertain significance (Aug 17, 2020)	no assertion criteria provided
5. 4Phe) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.1330C>T (p.Leu44	PAH	L444F	Phenylketonuria	Conflicting interpretations of pathogenicity (Jul 23, 2022)	criteria provided, conflicting interpretations
6. 0Ter) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.1318G>T (p.Glu44	PAH	E440*	Phenylketonuria	Likely pathogenic (May 19, 2020)	reviewed by expert panel
7. 0Ter) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.1315A>G (p.Ser43	PAH	S439G	not specified	Uncertain significance (Feb 15, 2023)	criteria provided, single submitter
8. 8Asp) NM_000277.3(PAH):c.1312A>G (p.Asn43	PAH	N438D	Phenylketonuria	Uncertain significance (Apr 17, 2020)	reviewed by expert panel

Figure 4:

Gene	PAH
Uniprot	195
HGMD	493
ClinVar	157
Total with repeats	845
Total without repeats	514

Pathogenicity Analysis

The screenshot shows the Predict SNP web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Help, Predictions, and Contact. Below the navigation bar, the main content area has two main sections: 'INPUT' and 'MUTATIONS'.

INPUT: A text input field labeled 'Insert protein sequence in FASTA format:' containing the sequence: >NP_001341233.1 phenylalanine-4-hydroxylase [Homo sapiens] MSTAVALENPG LGRKL SDFGQ E TSYIEDNCN QNGAISLIFS RLKDEYEFTHDKRSLPALTNIKLLRHDIGATHVLSRKOKKDTVPWPRITQELRFANQILSYGA ELDADHPGKOPVYARRXQFADIAYNYRHQPIPRVEYMEEEKTTWGTFKTLKSLYKTHACYEYHIF PLEKYGGFHEDNIPQLEDVSQFLQTGTFRRLPVAGLLSSRDFFLGLAFRVRFHCTQYIRHGSKPMYTPPE PDICHELLGHPLSDMSFAQSQEGLASLGAPEDEYIEKLATIYWFVTVEFGLCKQGDISKAYGAGLSS FGELEYCLESKEPKKLPLELEKTAIQNYTVTEFQPLYYVAESFNDAKEVKRNFAATIPRPFSVRYDPTQR IEVLDTIQQLKILADSINSEIGLCSALQIK

MUTATIONS: A grid showing mutations at specific positions. The grid has columns for positions 1, 41, 81, 121, 161, 201, 241, and 281. Rows represent amino acid types: M, S, T, A, V, L, E, N, P, G, R, K, D, F, Y, C, H, I, L, S, M, Q, G, P, W, T, F, Y, E, D, N, C, N, S, A, I, L, F, S, I, S, R, P, S, R, K, K, D, E, Y, E, F, F, D, I, G, A, T, V, H, E, L, S, R, D, K, K, K, D, T, V, P, W, D, P, V, Y, R, A, R, R, K, Q, F, K, T, L, K, S, L, Y, K, T, S, Q, F, L, Q, T, C, T, G, F, H, G, S, K, P, M, Y, T, P, E, L, G, A, P, D, E, Y, I, E, K.

Predict SNP (Home page): <https://loschmidt.chemi.muni.cz/predictsnp1/>

Pathogenicity Tools	Variants
Predict SNP prediction	377
MAPP prediction	323
PhD-SNP prediction	427
PolyPhen-1 prediction	346
PolyPhen-2 prediction	397
SIFT prediction	428
SNAP prediction	277
PANTHER prediction	426

Total common variants 191

Conservation Analysis



Figure 7.1: Consurf

CONSERVATIONAL		SCORES
Score 9		122
Score 8		38
Score 7		30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Variable					Average			Conserved
Insufficient Data								

Figure 7.2: Scores

Biophysical Property Analysis

Substitution	GV	GD	Prediction
L48S	0.00	144.08	Class C65
E66K	0.00	56.87	Class C55
R68S	0.00	109.21	Class C65
R68G	0.00	125.13	Class C65
D129G	0.00	93.77	Class C65
D129Y	0.00	159.94	Class C65
H146Y	0.00	83.33	Class C65
P147L	0.00	97.78	Class C65
D151H	0.00	81.24	Class C65
D151E	0.00	44.60	Class C35
D151G	0.00	93.77	Class C65
Y154N	0.00	142.23	Class C65
Y154H	0.00	83.33	Class C65
Y154C	0.00	193.72	Class C65
Y154F	0.00	21.61	Class C15
R157S	0.00	109.21	Class C65
R157I	0.00	97.59	Class C65
R157N	0.00	85.11	Class C65

The following classifiers, ordered from most likely to interfere with function to least likely, were used:

$GD \geq 65 + \text{Tan}(10)x(GV^{2.5}) \Rightarrow \text{Class C65} \Leftrightarrow \text{most likely}$

$GD \geq 55 + \text{Tan}(10)x(GV^{2.0}) \Rightarrow \text{Class C55}$

$GD \geq 45 + \text{Tan}(15)x(GV^{1.7}) \Rightarrow \text{Class C45}$

$GD \geq 35 + \text{Tan}(50)x(GV^{1.1}) \Rightarrow \text{Class C35}$

$GD \geq 25 + \text{Tan}(55)x(GV^{0.95}) \Rightarrow \text{Class C25}$

$GD \geq 15 + \text{Tan}(75)x(GV^{0.6}) \Rightarrow \text{Class C15}$

Else ($GD < 15 + \text{Tan}(75)x(GV^{0.6})$) $\Rightarrow \text{Class C0} \Leftrightarrow \text{less likely}$

Align GVGD: http://agvgd.hci.utah.edu/cgi-bin/agvgd_output.cgi

GENE	Biophysical Property Analysis
TOTAL	122
C65	81

Figure 8.1 : Align GVGD

Stability Analysis

PAH XLSX File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Help

A1 | Result | i-Mutant2.0 SE DDG | MUpro | Conf. Score | iStable | Conf. Score

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Result	i-Mutant2.0 SE DDG	MUpro	Conf. Score	iStable	Conf. Score		
2	D129G	Decrease	-1.06	Decrease	-0.73849268	Decrease	0.882896	
3	D129Y	Decrease	-0.05	Decrease	-0.2682162	Decrease	0.846722	
4	H146Y	Increase	0.18	Decrease	-0.43845615	Increase	0.583533	
5	P147L	Decrease	-0.44	Increase	0.49361211	Increase	0.515147	
6	D151H	Decrease	-0.87	Decrease	-0.86738056	Decrease	0.865529	
7	D151G	Decrease	-1.22	Decrease	-1	Decrease	0.893234	
8	Y154N	Decrease	-1.28	Decrease	-0.92161529	Decrease	0.82343	
9	Y154H	Decrease	-1.49	Decrease	-0.79549797	Decrease	0.848498	
10	Y154C	Increase	-1.13	Decrease	-0.50919599	Decrease	0.62988	
11	R157S	Decrease	-1.48	Decrease	-0.93949002	Decrease	0.803895	
12	R157I	Decrease	-0.04	Increase	0.098359101	Increase	0.705295	
13	R157N	Decrease	-1	Decrease	-0.91517176	Decrease	0.769163	
14	R158W	Decrease	-0.37	Decrease	-0.26250074	Decrease	0.734067	
15	R158P	Decrease	-0.9	Decrease	-0.37275954	Decrease	0.753937	
16	A165D	Decrease	-0.87	Decrease	-0.9534498	Decrease	0.78804	
17	P175S	Decrease	-1.74	Decrease	-1	Decrease	0.889273	
18	Y179H	Decrease	-1	Decrease	-1	Decrease	0.808784	
19	Y179N	Decrease	-1.03	Decrease	-0.71097011	Decrease	0.770487	
20	E183G	Decrease	-0.9	Decrease	-1	Decrease	0.914121	
21	L194R	Decrease	null	Decrease	-1	Decrease	0.856989	
22	L194P	Decrease	-1.13	Decrease	-1	Decrease	0.869422	
23	C203W	Decrease	-0.32	Decrease	-0.87722524	Decrease	0.741723	
24	C203Y	Increase	-0.24	Decrease	-0.72560478	Decrease	0.528802	
25	P225R	Decrease	-0.86	Decrease	-0.54443505	Decrease	0.839129	
26	P225L	null	-0.45	Decrease	-0.18656881	Decrease	0.770636	

Figure 9: iStable

Amino Acid Mutations

Amino acid	Overall Stability	Torsion*	Predicted ΔΔG (kcal/mol)
ALA	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-9.62
VAL	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-14.31
LEU	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-9.11
ILE	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-8.51
MET	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-6.01
PRO	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-16.2
TRP	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-5.78
SER	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-6.02
THR	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-8.47
PHE	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-7.34
GLN	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-8.75
LYS	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-14.65
TYR	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-9.35
ASN	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-6.65
CYS	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-6.21
GLU	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-8.54
ASP	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-7.93
ARG	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-10.12
HIS	Destabilising	Unfavourable	-14.25

Total	i Stable	CUPSAT
81	46	27

Figure 10: CUPSAT

iStable : <http://predictor.nchu.edu.tw/iStable/>

CUPSAT : <https://cupsat.brenda-enzymes.org/resultall.jsp>

Biophysical Property Analysis

⚠ Not secure missense3d.bc.ic.ac.uk:8080/result

Download Report	Uniprot Position	PDB/Model Position	Residue Wildtype	Residue Mutant	Missense3D Prediction	Structural damage predicted
	158	158	ARG	GLN	Damaging	Buried charge replaced; Buried salt bridge breakage
	158	158	ARG	TRP	Damaging	Buried H-bond breakage; Buried salt bridge breakage; Cavity altered; Buried / exposed switch
	158	158	ARG	PRO	Damaging	Buried Pro introduced; Buried H-bond breakage; Buried salt bridge breakage

Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries

Previous 1 Next

GENEVariants

PAH12

Figure 11: Missense 3D

Missense 3D : <http://missense3d.bc.ic.ac.uk:8080/result>

Variant Effect Analysis

2.5 Conclusion

Finally we can conclude that:

- Based on TANGO, the mutation decreases the aggregation tendency of your protein.
- Based on WALTZ, the mutation does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein.
- Based on LIMBO, the mutation does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein.
- Based on FoldX, the mutation severely reduces the protein stability.

Figure 12: SNP Effect 4.0

SNP Effect 4.0 (Home page): <https://snpeffect.switchlab.org/>

GENE	VARIANTS
PAH	3

SNP Effect 4.0

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following structure:

	A	B	C	D	E
1	TANGO	WALTZ	LIMBO	FoldX	
2	Y154N	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	reduces the protein stability
3	R158W	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	reduces the protein stability
4	R158P	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	severely reduces the protein stability
5	L194P	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	severely reduces the protein stability
6	C203W	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	decreases the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	severely reduces the protein stability
7	P225R	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	severely reduces the protein stability
8	L248R	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	no effect on the protein stability
9	R261P	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	reduces the protein stability
10	Y268H	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	reduces the protein stability
11	P281L	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	reduces the protein stability
12	G289R	does not affect the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	decreases the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	severely reduces the protein stability
13	Y386D	decreases the aggregation tendency of your protein	does not affect the amyloid propensity of your protein	does not affect the chaperone binding tendency of your protein	severely reduces the protein stability

Energy Minimization (swiss pdbv)

Variant	E-value(Kj/MOL)
Native	-17511.434
C203W	-17528.086
G289R	-17052.732
Y386D	-17883.717

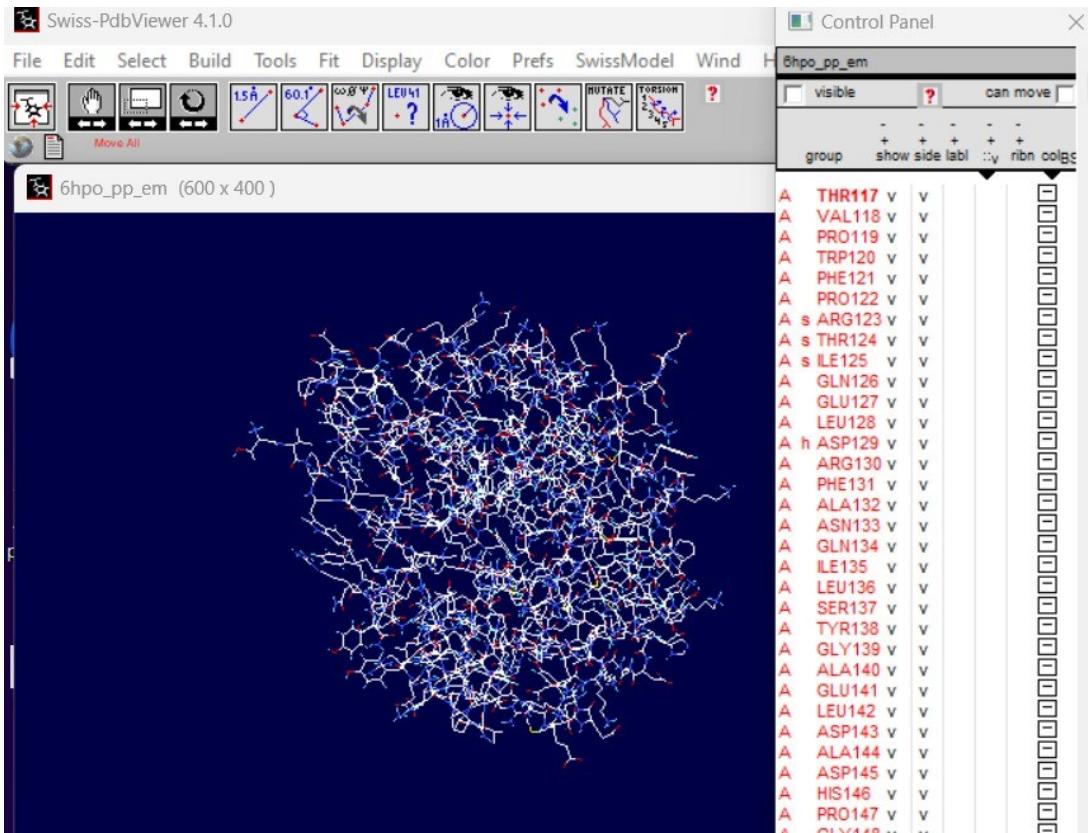


Figure13.1: Native

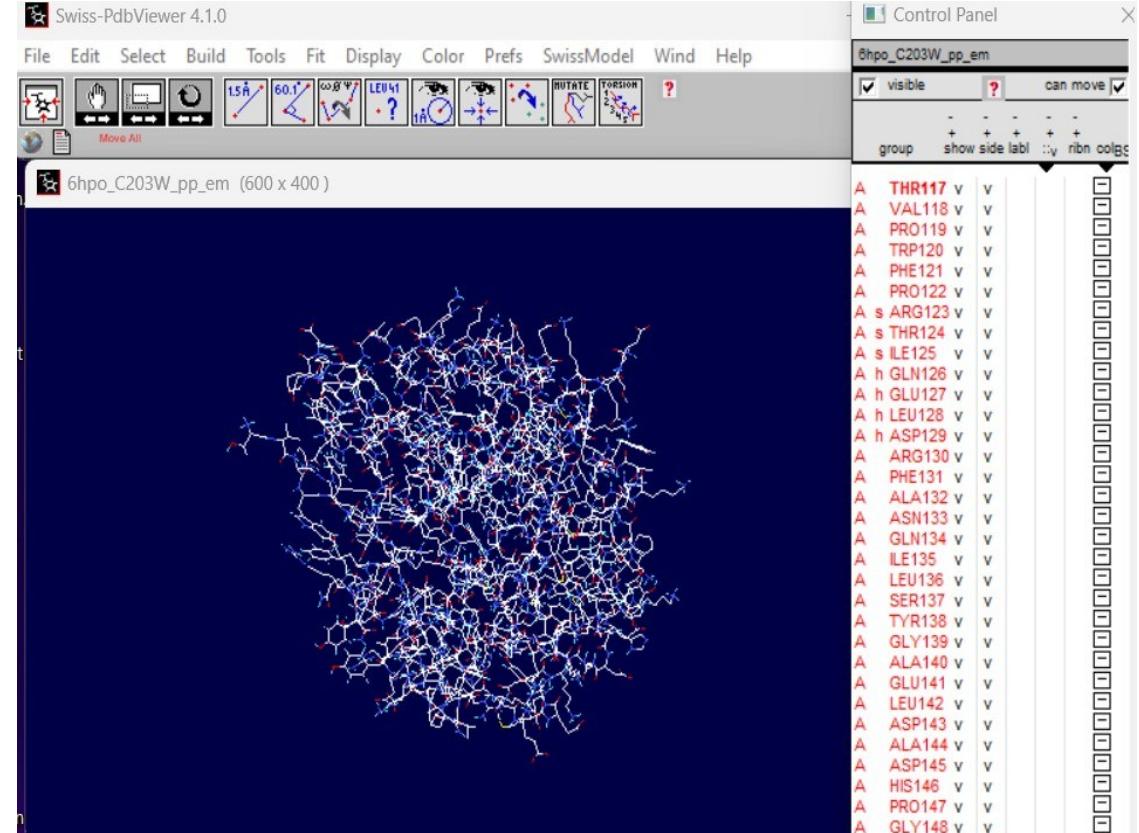


Figure 13.2: C203W

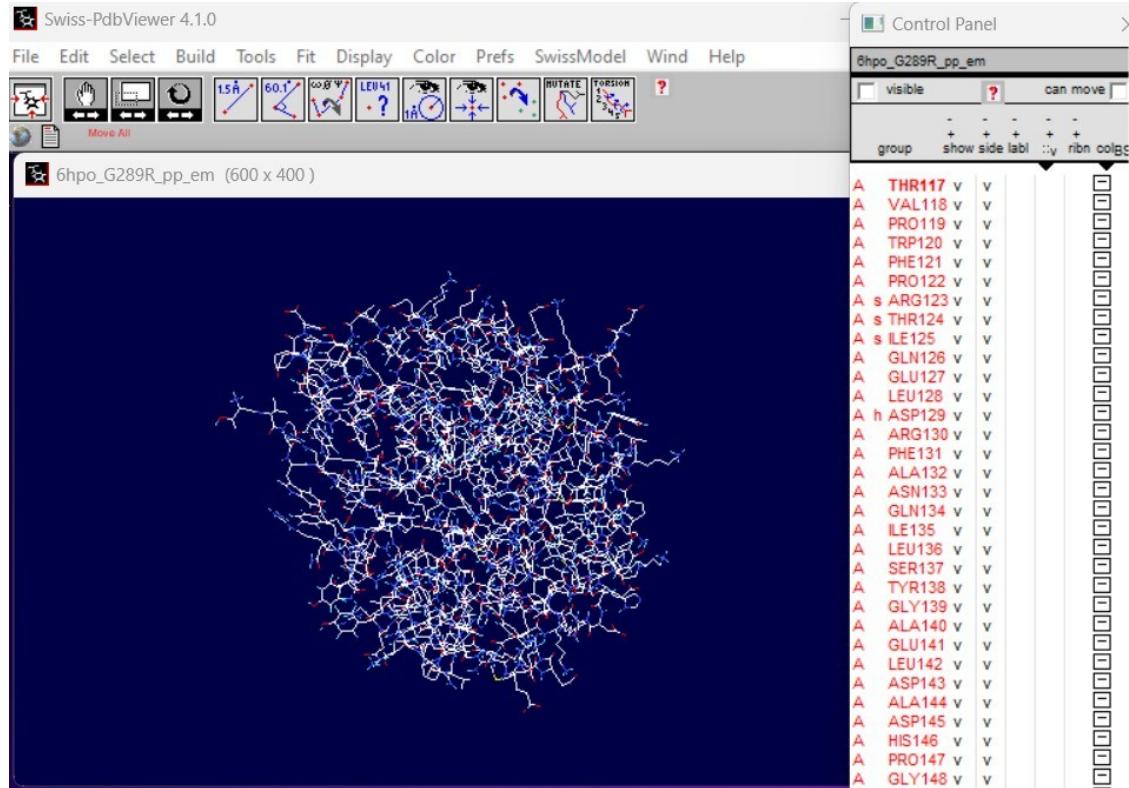


Figure 13.3: G289R

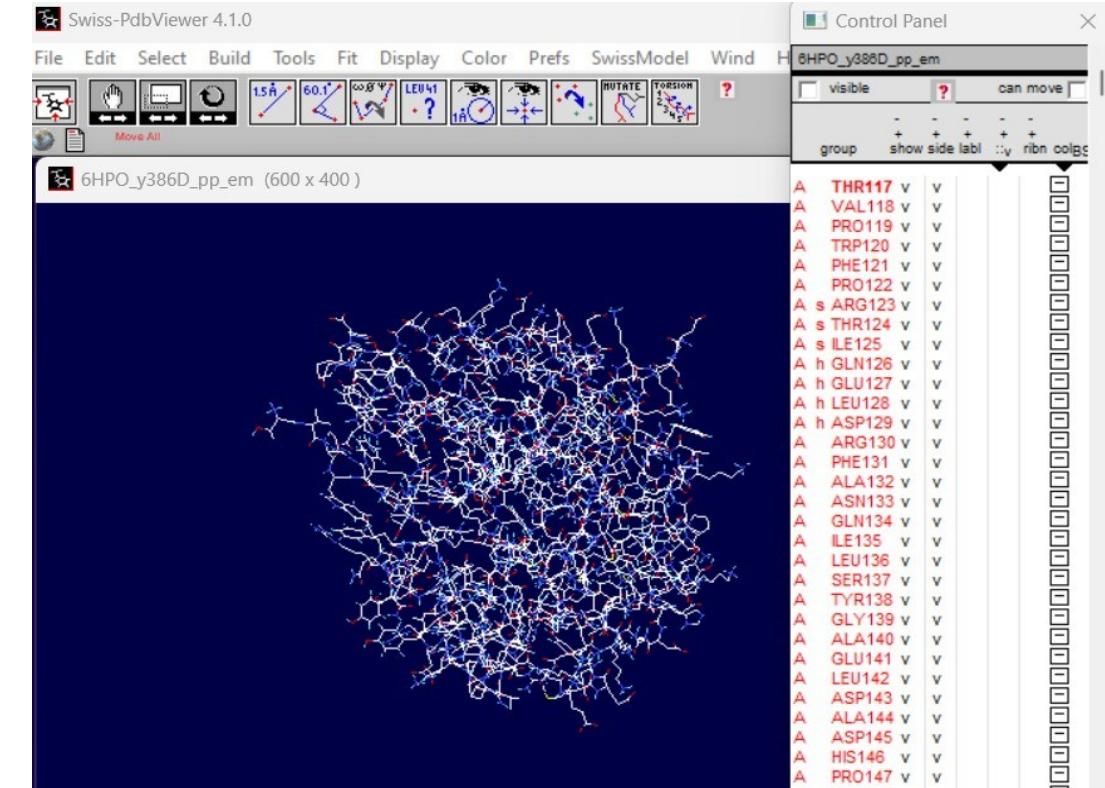
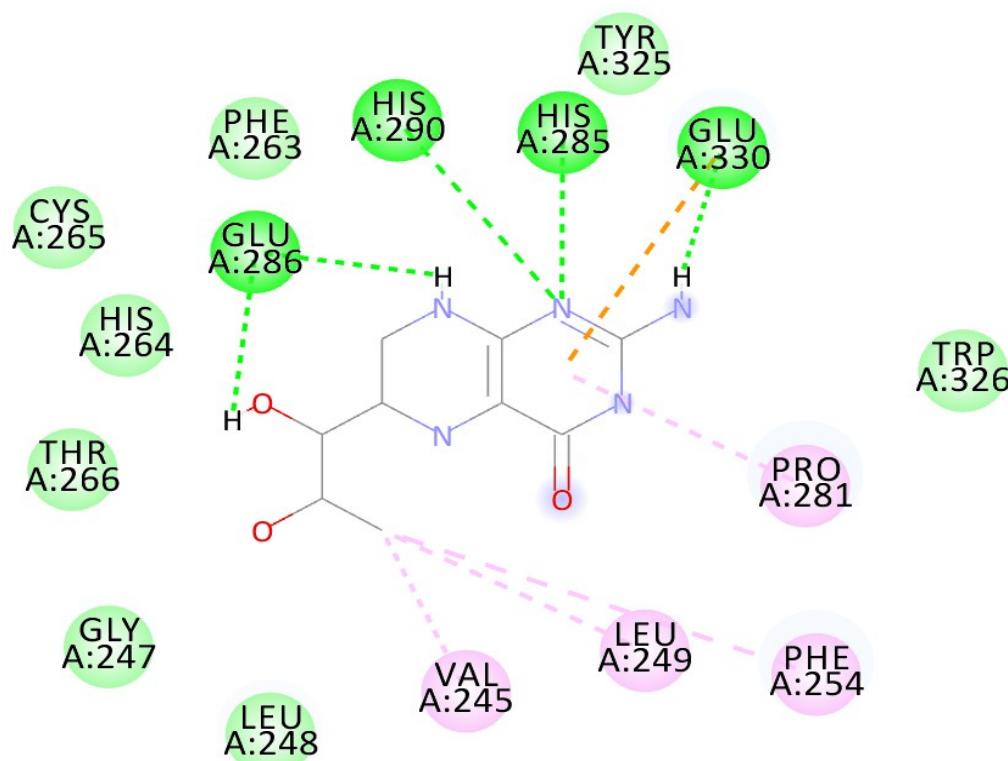


Figure 13.4: Y386D

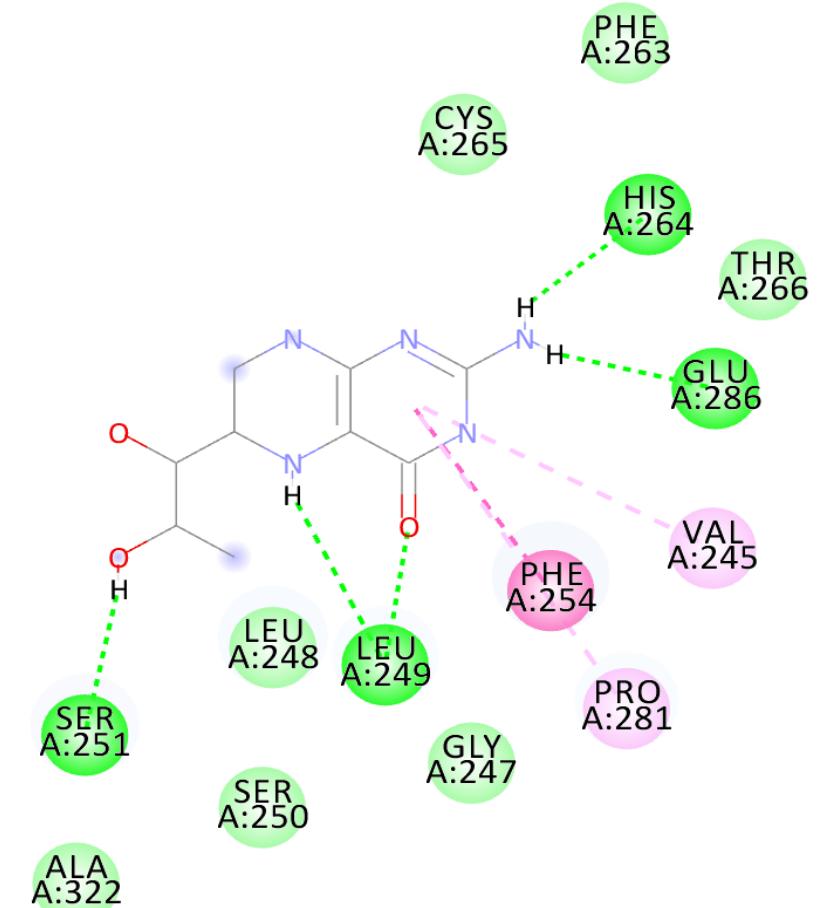
Molecular Docking with Sapropterin:



Interactions

- [Green square] van der Waals
- [Orange square] Conventional Hydrogen Bond
- [Pink square] Pi-Alkyl
- [Orange square] Pi-Anion

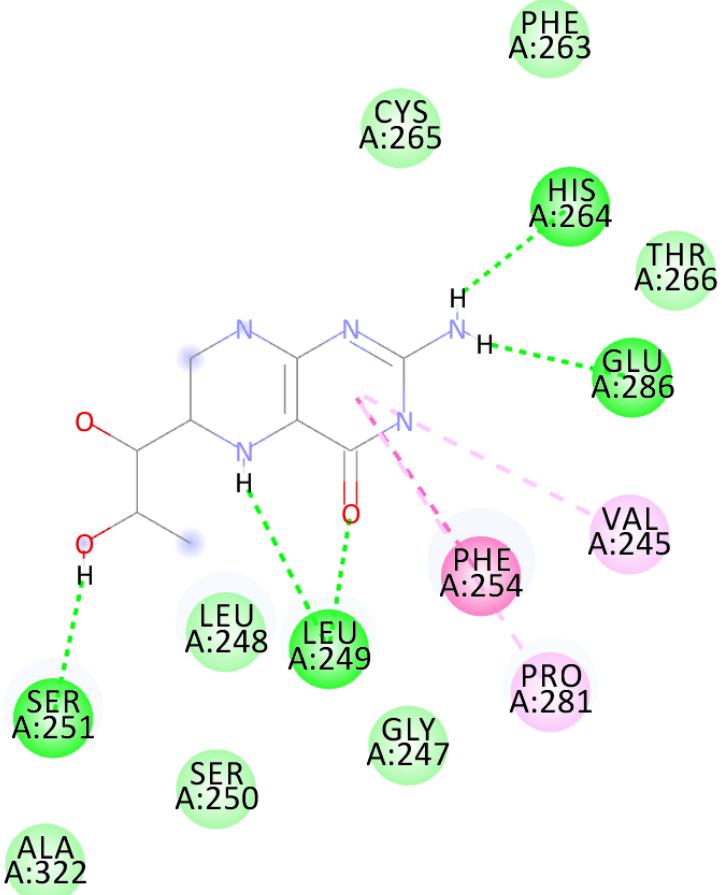
Figure14.1: Native (-6.29kJ/mol)



Interactions

- [Green square] van der Waals
- [Green square] Conventional Hydrogen Bond
- [Pink square] Pi-Alkyl

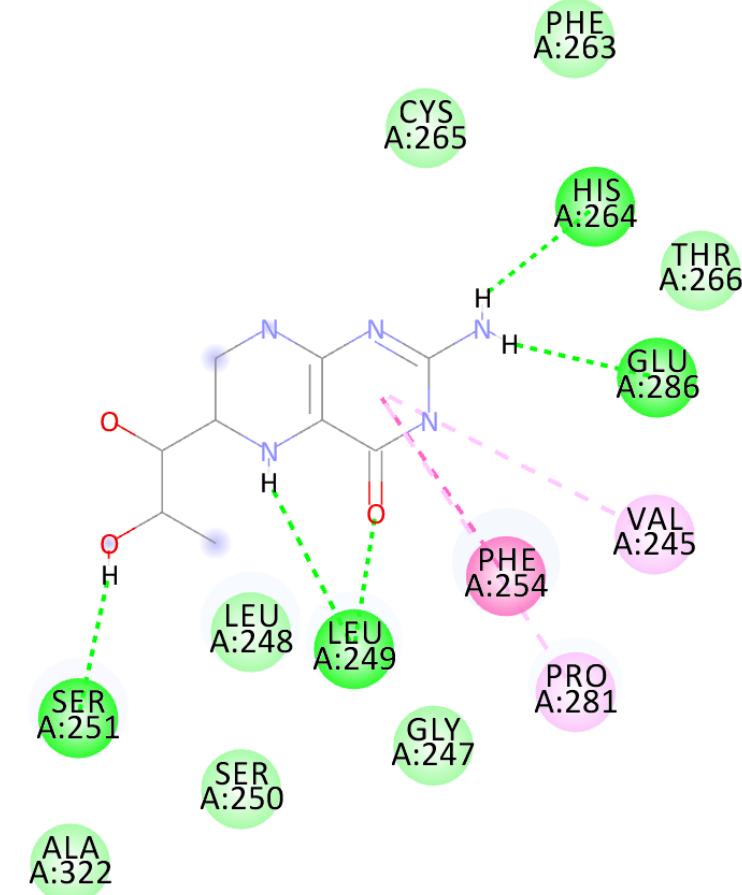
Figure14.2: C203W (-6.31kJ/mol)



Interactions

- [Green square] van der Waals
- [Red square] Pi-Pi Stacked
- [Blue square] Conventional Hydrogen Bond
- [Blue square] Pi-Alkyl

Figure14.3: G289R (-6.72kJ/mol)



Interactions

- [Green square] van der Waals
- [Red square] Pi-Pi Stacked
- [Blue square] Conventional Hydrogen Bond
- [Blue square] Pi-Alkyl

Figure14.4: Y386D (-6.35kJ/mol)

Conclusion

- Y386D, G289R, and C203W were determined to be the most harmful version by the use of various computational techniques.
- In order to comprehend how Sapropterin dihydrochloride interacts with both native and the highest and lowest scoring mutant kinds, Docking was performed.
- Research in the future can help produce customized treatment.

Outcome of this study:

- Identified harmful variations that may lead to Phenylketonuria.
- Examined drug (**sapropterin**) interaction with the protein.

Future Study:

- Dynamics can be carried out to understand the structural flexibility and entropic effects of the drug–target recognition and binding.

Acknowledgment

- First I extend my gratitude to the **Almighty**
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