

**peptidoglycan**

A *glycosaminoglycan* formed by alternating residues of D-glucosamine and either muramic acid {2-amino-3-*O*-[(*S*)-1-carboxyethyl]-2-deoxy-D-glucose} or L-talosaminuronic acid (2-amino-2-deoxy-L-taluronic acid), which are usually *N*-acetylated or *N*-glycoloylated. The carboxyl group of the muramic acid is commonly substituted by a peptide containing residues of both L- and D-amino acids, whereas that of L-talosaminuronic acid is substituted by a peptide consisting of L-amino acids only.

1988, 60, 1391; W.B. 85