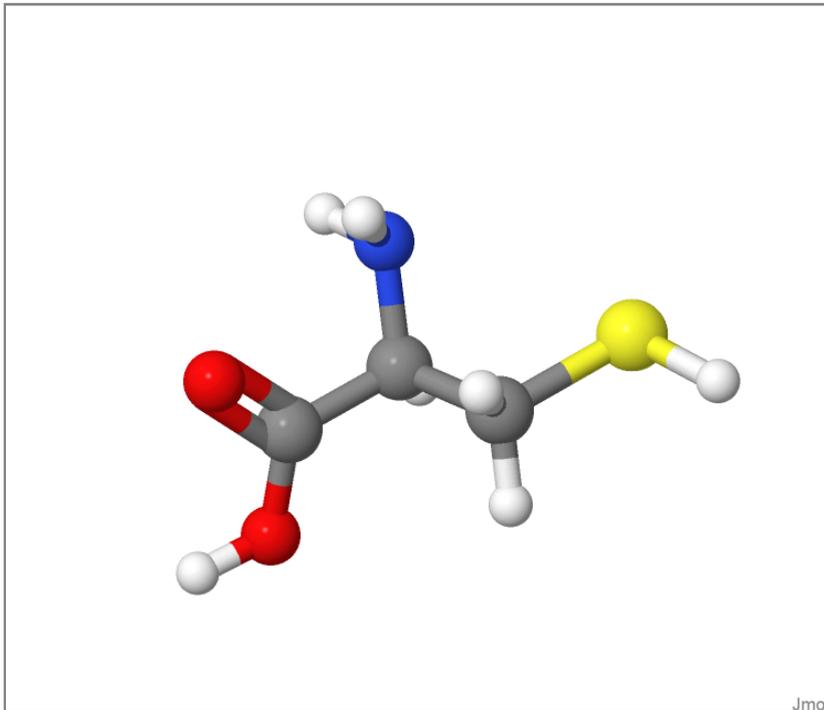


# Cysteine

Cysteine is a key amino acid for proteins due to having a thiol or sulphhydryl group in its sidechain. This allows two important functions in proteins:

- It may form disulphide bonds with another cysteine residue, hence participating in setting the folding of the protein chain and keeping its tertiary structure stable.
- It may coordinate metal ions like Zn or Fe, which are relevant for the function of some proteins.



Some of the cysteines ....