**Liquid Gold: Catalysing Life-Saving Synthesis**

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The price of one gram of gold is roughly £1600 on the London Bullion Market. A yellow solution within a tube houses a purified enzyme — a protein capable of catalysing a specific chemical reaction. The cost of this liquid approximately equates to that of a gram of gold, factoring in the price of DNA for enzyme-making instructions, cells for enzyme production, and chemicals for enzyme purification. However, the true worth of this 1 mL of protein is greater than of a gram of gold. This enzyme synthesises a precursor to an antileukemic drug, and my research focuses on enhancing the catalytic power of this enzyme. I incrementally modify the enzyme until I unearth the fastest, most efficient enzyme variant. Therefore, this yellow liquid represents far more than its mere monetary value. It embodies the potential for major progress in the synthesis of the life-saving drug. Thus, its value is immeasurable.