

Table S1: Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study

<u>Strain</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Source</u>
<i>Escherichia coli</i>		
DH5 α	<i>fhuA2 lac(del)U169 phoA glnV44 Φ80'</i> <i>lacZ(del)M15</i> <i>gyrA96 recA1 relA1 endA1 thi-1 hsdR17</i>	
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>		
RN4220	NCTC 8325-4 <i>sau1-</i> , <i>hsdR-</i> , laboratory strain accepting foreign DNA; β -toxin producer, non-hemolytic	Kreiswirth et al., 1983
6850	methicillin-sensitive; <i>spa</i> type t185, sequence type 50, Isolated from a patient with a skin abscess, progressed to bacteremia, osteomyelitis, septic arthritis, and multiple systemic abscesses	Ref. 19
6850 Δ 852	<i>S. aureus</i> 6850 with deletion of RSAU_000852	This study
6850 pL852	<i>S. aureus</i> Δ 852 complemented with pL852, Chloramphenicol-resistant	This study
<u>Plasmid name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Source</u>
pL852	Expression plasmid for RSAU_000852 under control of its native promoter	This study
p2085	derivative of pALC2084 (Bateman et al., 2001)	Ref. 14
p2085-852	plasmid for anhydrous tetracycline-inducible expression of RSAU_000852	This study
p2085-Pr852-GFP	RSAU_000852 promoter fusion with green fluorescent protein (GFP)	This study

References:

- Kreiswirth BN, Lofdahl S, Betley MJ, O'Reilly M, Schlievert PM, Bergdoll MS, Novick RP. 1983. The toxic shock syndrome exotoxin structural gene is not detectably transmitted by a prophage. *Nature* 305:709-12. doi: 10.1038/305709a0
- Bateman BT, Donegan NP, Jarry TM, Palma M, Cheung AL. 2001. Evaluation of a tetracycline-inducible promoter in *Staphylococcus aureus* in vitro and in vivo and its application in demonstrating the role of sigB in microcolony formation. *Infect Immun* 69:7851-7.