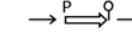






















**Table S4 - Experimental validation of a select set of predicted sRNAs in *C.***

***botulinum***

| Candidate  | Position        | Left Gene | Orientation   | Right Gene | Classification (Probability) | Validation                       |
|--|-----------------|-----------|---|------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b><i>C. botulinum</i> A3 Loch Maree (NC_010520)</b> |                 |           |   |            |                              |                                  |
| sCLK_200   | 199308-199544   | CLK_3349  | →  →   | CLK_3350   | NC                           | Q <sup>++</sup> , N <sup>+</sup> |
| sCLK_1206  | 1205380-1205670 | CLK_0489  | →  ←   | CLK_0490   | NC                           | Q                                |
| sCLK_2040 <sup>*</sup>                               | 2039993-2040189 | CLK_1236  | ←  ←   | CLK_1237   | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q                                |
| sCLK_2759  | 2758726-2759039 | CLK_1943  | ←  ←   | CLK_1944   | <i>SSU_rRNA_5</i> (0.52)     | Q                                |
| sCLK_3105 <sup>C1</sup>                              | 3104935-3105204 | CLK_2252  | ←  ←   | CLK_2253   | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.50)   | Q <sup>+</sup> , N <sup>+</sup>  |
| sCLK_3269 <sup>§</sup>                               | 3268687-3269049 | CLK_2394  | ←  ←   | tRNA       | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q <sup>++</sup> , N              |
| sCLK_3427  | 3426714-3427148 | CLK_2547  | ←  →   | CLK_2548   | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q, N                             |
| sCLK_3557 <sup>C2</sup>                              | 3556734-3556909 | CLK_2689  | ←  ←   | CLK_2690   | NC                           | Q                                |
| sCLK_3642  | 3641003-3641281 | CLK_2754  | ←  ←   | CLK_2755   | <i>Riboswitch</i> (0.54)     | Q <sup>++</sup>                  |
| sCLK_3693 <sup>C3</sup>                              | 3692533-3692751 | CLK_2800  | ←  ←   | CLK_2801   | NC                           | Q                                |
| <b><i>C. botulinum</i> A Hall (NC_009698)</b>        |                 |           |   |            |                              |                                  |
| sCLC_1905 <sup>*</sup>                               | 1904415-1904608 | CLC_1793  | ←  ←   | CLC_1794   | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q                                |
| sCLC_2101  | 2100891-2101220 | CLC_1979  | ←  ←   | CLC_1980   | NC                           | Q                                |
| sCLC_2889 <sup>C1</sup>                              | 2888689-2888961 | CLC_2735  | ←  ← | CLC_2736   | NC                           | Q <sup>+</sup>                   |
| sCLC_3353 <sup>C2</sup>                              | 3352341-3352516 | CLC_3215  | ←  ← | CLC_3216   | NC                           | Q                                |
| sCLC_3476 <sup>C3</sup>                              | 3475069-3475274 | CLC_3311  | ←  ← | CLC_3312   | NC                           | Q, N                             |
| <b><i>C. botulinum</i> A ATCC 3502 (NC_009495)</b>   |                 |           |   |            |                              |                                  |
| sCBO1976 <sup>*</sup>                                | 1975290-1975483 | CBO1850   | ←  ← | CBO1851    | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q, N                             |
| sCBO2173   | 2172031-2172360 | CBO2033   | ←  ← | CBO2034    | NC                           | Q, N                             |
| sCBO2696   | 2695893-2696176 | CBO2558   | ←  ← | CBO2559    | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q, N                             |
| sCBO3039 <sup>C1</sup>                               | 3038353-3038616 | CBO2858   | ←  ← | CBO2859    | <i>SRP_euk_arch</i> (0.51)   | Q <sup>+</sup>                   |
| sCBO3480 <sup>C2</sup>                               | 3479245-3479420 | CBO3272   | ←  ← | CBO3273    | NC                           | Q, N                             |
| sCBO3602 <sup>C3</sup>                               | 3601973-3602178 | CBO3368   | ←  ← | CBO3369    | NC                           | Q                                |

<sup>C1, C2, C3</sup>: Conserved sRNA set in all three *C. botulinum* strains;

P : Promoter is found upstream of the sequence;

Q : Rho-independent terminator downstream of the sequence;

† The sRNA sequence is annotated in Rfam database;

\* The conserved clindamycin-related sRNA;

§ The expression was detected by Q-RT-PCR but not by Northern analysis;

NC: cannot be classified with probability of at least 0.5;

Q : No expression detected by Q-RT-PCR;

Q<sup>+</sup>: lowly expressed sRNA detected by Q-RT-PCR;

Q<sup>++</sup>: highly expressed sRNA detected by Q-RT-PCR;

N : No expression detected by Northern analysis;

N<sup>+</sup> : sRNA validated by Northern analysis;