

**FIG. S1**

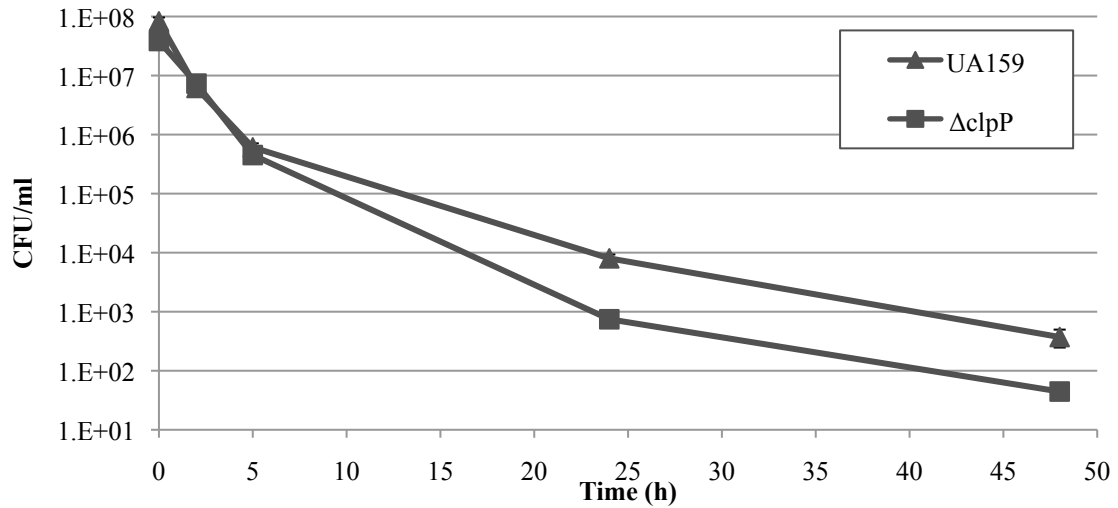


FIG. S1. Effect of inactivation of *clpP* in development of persisters. Overnight cultures of *S. mutans* UA159 WT strain and its  $\Delta clpP$  mutant were diluted to early logarithmic phase and immediately treated with ofloxacin at 20  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  for 24 h at 37°C. Cells were removed at indicated time points, serially diluted, and spot-plated onto THYE agar plates for CFU counting.

**FIG. S2**

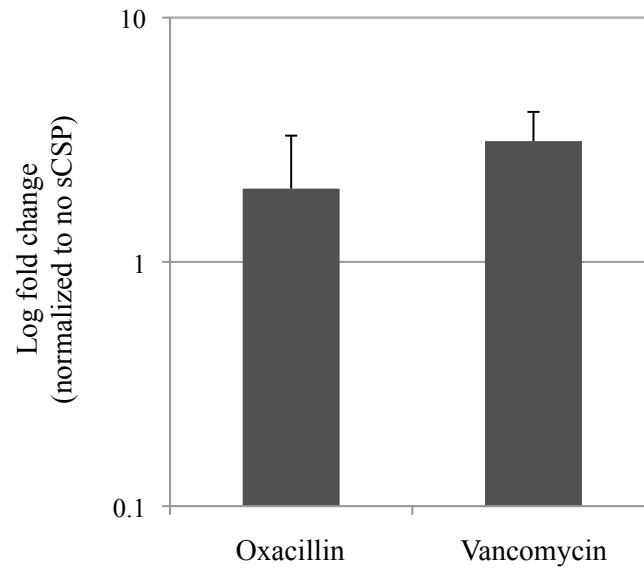


FIG. S2. Effect of CSP pheromone on development of *S. mutans* persisters. Cells of *S. mutans* UA159 WT strain were pre-incubated with synthetic CSP (2  $\mu$ M sCSP) for 2 h at 37°C before being challenged with oxacillin (2  $\mu$ g/ml) or vancomycin (20  $\mu$ g/ml). Aliquots of cells were removed at the introduction of the antibiotic and after the antibiotic treatment (24 h) to determine cell survival by spot-plating onto THYE agar plates.