

Table S2. Natural transformation and survival of *C. jejuni* following DNA damage.

DNA damaging agent	Concentration /intensity	Transform ants/CFU <sup>a</sup>	Recovery incubation <sup>b</sup>	CFU/ml
Negative control (MitC)	-	2.1x10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	5.3x10 <sup>8</sup>
Mitomycin C	10 ng/ml	2.9x10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	4.9x10 <sup>8</sup>
Mitomycin C	50 ng/ml	1.5x10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	2.3x10 <sup>8</sup>
Mitomycin C	100 ng/ml	1.6x10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	1.9x10 <sup>8</sup>
Mitomycin C	200 ng/ml	3.1x10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	1.1x10 <sup>8</sup>
Mitomycin C	500 ng/ml	3.4x10 <sup>-6</sup>	-	5.9x10 <sup>6</sup>
Negative control (UV)	0 J/m <sup>2</sup>	-	2 h	9.8x10 <sup>8</sup> ± 3.5x10 <sup>7</sup>
Negative control (UV)	0 J/m <sup>2</sup>	3.0x10 <sup>-4</sup> ± 3.0x10 <sup>-5</sup>	2 h + DNA	9.5x10 <sup>8</sup> ± 2.1x10 <sup>8</sup>
UV	10 J/m <sup>2</sup>	-	2 h	2.3x10 <sup>8</sup> ± 1.1x10 <sup>7</sup>
UV	10 J/m <sup>2</sup>	3.6x10 <sup>-4</sup> ± 3.9x10 <sup>-5</sup>	2 h + DNA	1.9x10 <sup>8</sup> ± 2.5x10 <sup>7</sup>
UV	15 J/m <sup>2</sup>	-	2 h	1.7x10 <sup>8</sup> ± 3.2x10 <sup>7</sup>
	15 J/m <sup>2</sup>	2.0x10 <sup>-4</sup> ± 8.2x10 <sup>-6</sup>	2 h + DNA	1.6x10 <sup>8</sup> ± 3.5x10 <sup>6</sup>

UV	30 J/m <sup>2</sup>	-	2 h	4.6x10 <sup>7</sup> ± 5.3x10 <sup>6</sup>
UV	30 J/m <sup>2</sup>	2.5x10 <sup>-4</sup> ± 5.2x10 <sup>-5</sup>	2 h + DNA	4.5x10 <sup>7</sup> ± 1.1x10 <sup>7</sup>
UV	60 J/m <sup>2</sup>	-	2 h	4.3x10 <sup>6</sup> ± 0
UV	60 J/m <sup>2</sup>	1.4x10 <sup>-4</sup> ± 2.5x10 <sup>-5</sup>	2 h + DNA	4.5x10 <sup>6</sup> ± 1.8x10 <sup>6</sup>
UV	80 J/m <sup>2</sup>	-	2 h	1.0x10 <sup>6</sup> ± 1.2x10 <sup>5</sup>
UV	80 J/m <sup>2</sup>	1.4x10 <sup>-4</sup> ± 2.4x10 <sup>-5</sup>	2 h + DNA	7.8x10 <sup>5</sup> ± 7.1x10 <sup>4</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Cam<sup>R</sup> transformants per CFU.

<sup>b</sup>Following UV treatment, one volume of BHI and when indicated 2 µg/ml isogenic chromosomal DNA carrying a Cam<sup>R</sup> marker was added to the culture. The bacteria were allowed to recover from the UV treatment for 2 h at 37° C in a microaerobic environment before scoring transformants and CFU/ml.

Results are representative from several independent experiments.