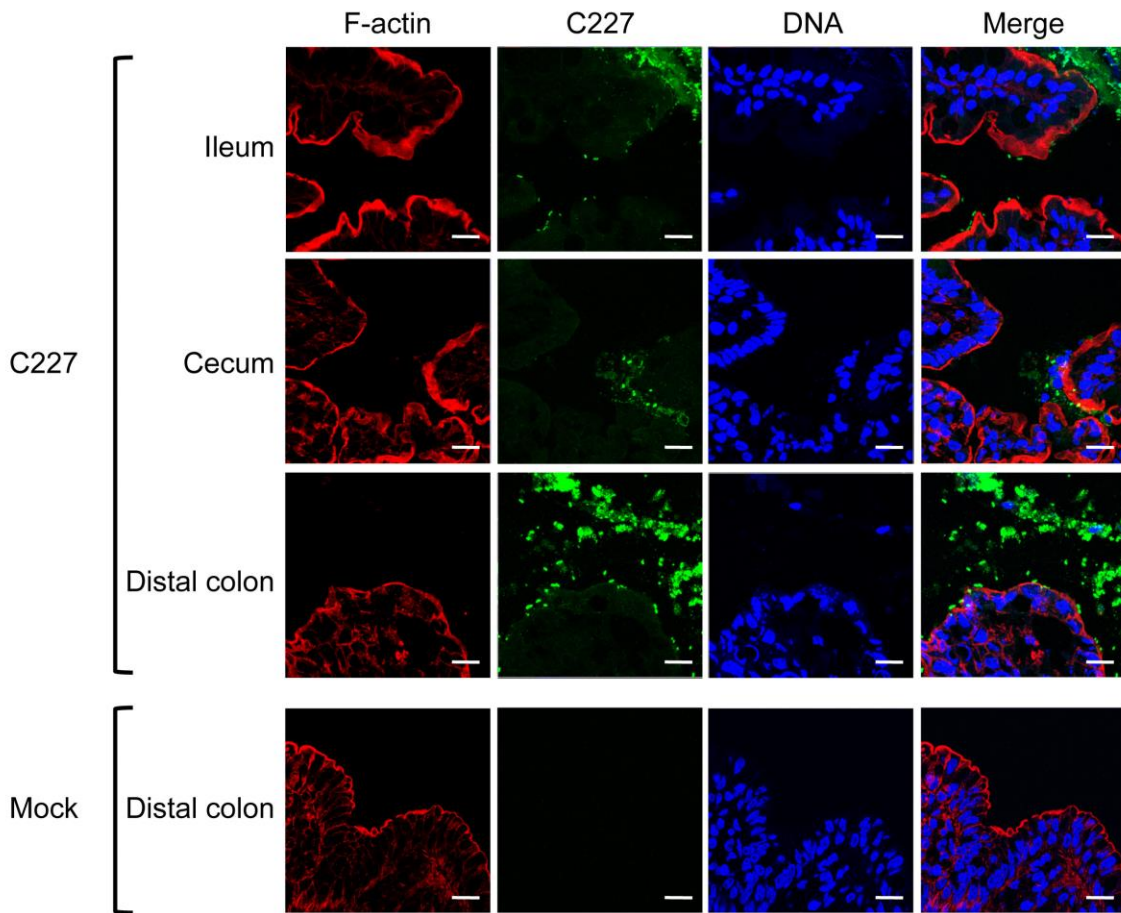


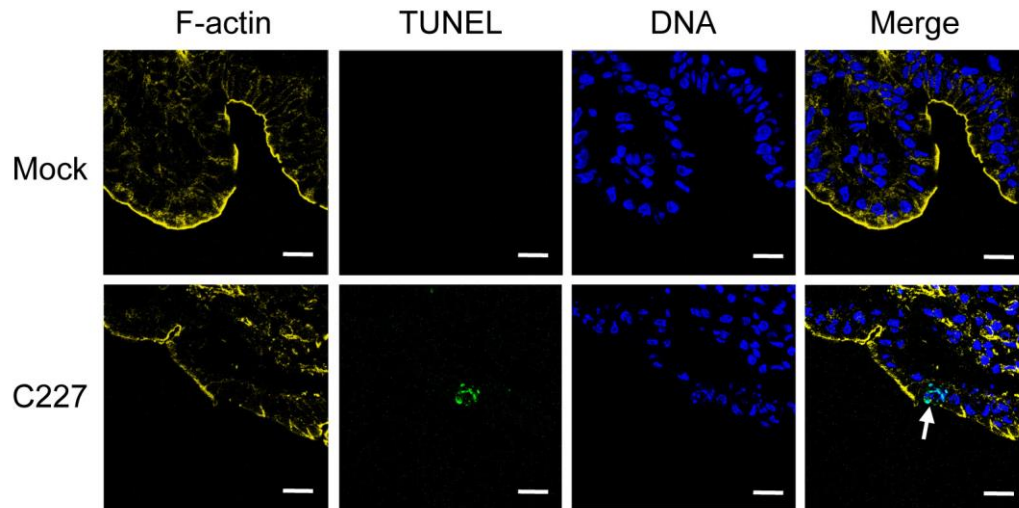
**Autotransporters but not pAA are critical for rabbit colonization by Shiga toxin-
producing *Escherichia coli* O104:H4**

Diana Munera, Jennifer M Ritchie, Stavroula K Hatzios, Rod Bronson, Gang Fang, Eric
E Schadt, Brigid M Davis & Matthew K Waldor

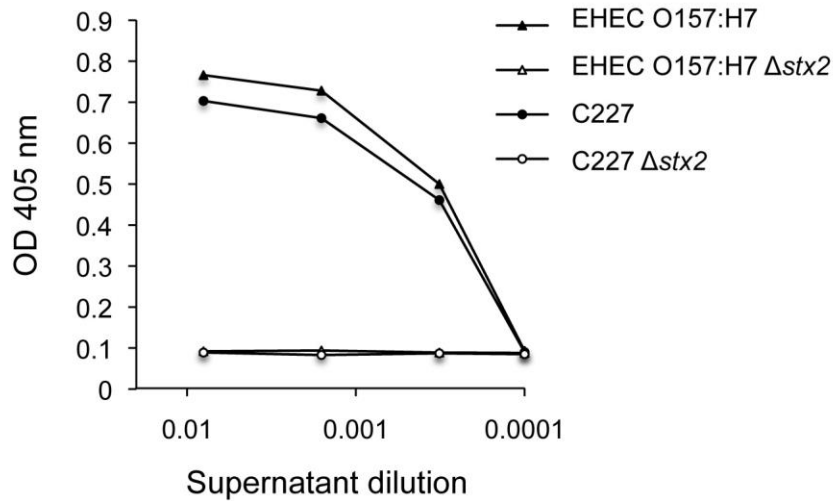
Supplementary Information



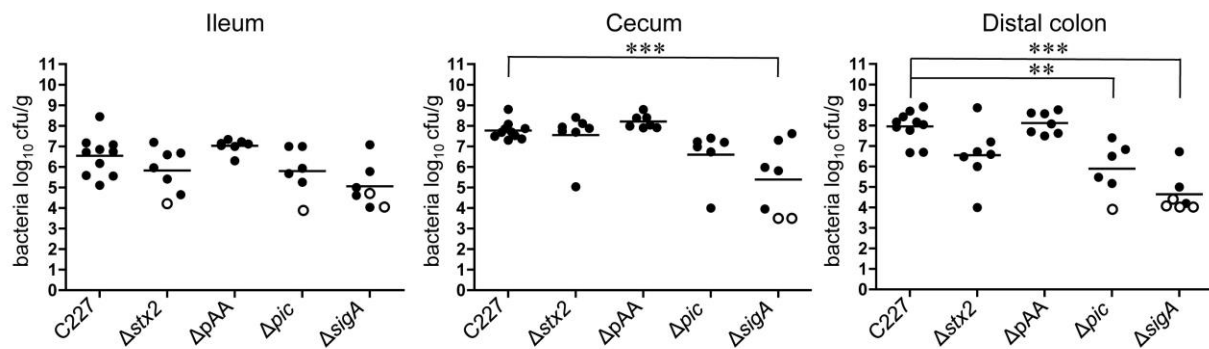
Supplementary Figure 1. Confocal micrographs showing the presence of wild type C227 in different intestinal sections 3 day PI and not in mock infected rabbits. Sections were stained with polyclonal antisera against C227 (green), and counterstained with phalloidin-Alexa 568 (red) and DAPI (blue) to detect F-actin and nuclei, respectively. Scale bar=20 μ m.



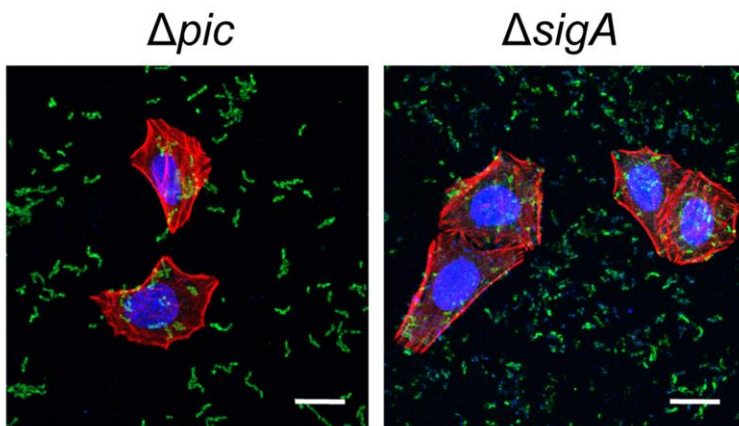
Supplementary Figure 2. Apoptosis in colonic sections from C227-infected rabbits. Sections from distal colon of mock and C227-infected rabbits 3 day PI were stained for apoptotic (TUNEL positive) cells. *In situ* cell death detection kit (Roche) was used according to the manufacturer's instructions, except that the cryopreserved tissue sections were permeabilized for 5 min and the enzyme mixture was applied for 90 min at 37°C. TUNEL positive cells were detected using a fluorescein-based detection system and apoptotic host cells appear green (arrow). Sections were counterstained with phalloidin-Alexa 633 (yellow) and DAPI (blue) to detect F-actin and nuclei, respectively. Scale bar=20 μ m.



Supplementary Figure 3. ELISA quantification of Stx2 production by C227 and EHEC O157:H7 strains and their isogenic $\Delta stx2$ derivatives. Overnight cultures of the indicated strain were grown in LB and induced with Mitomycin C (200 ng mL^{-1})²⁰. A range of diluted supernatants were added to microtiter plate wells coated with 4D1 antigen⁴³. Binding was detected with rabbit polyclonal anti-stx2 antisera (1/5000) followed by anti-rabbit phosphatase conjugated antibody (1/7500). Data represent the average of 2 experiments.

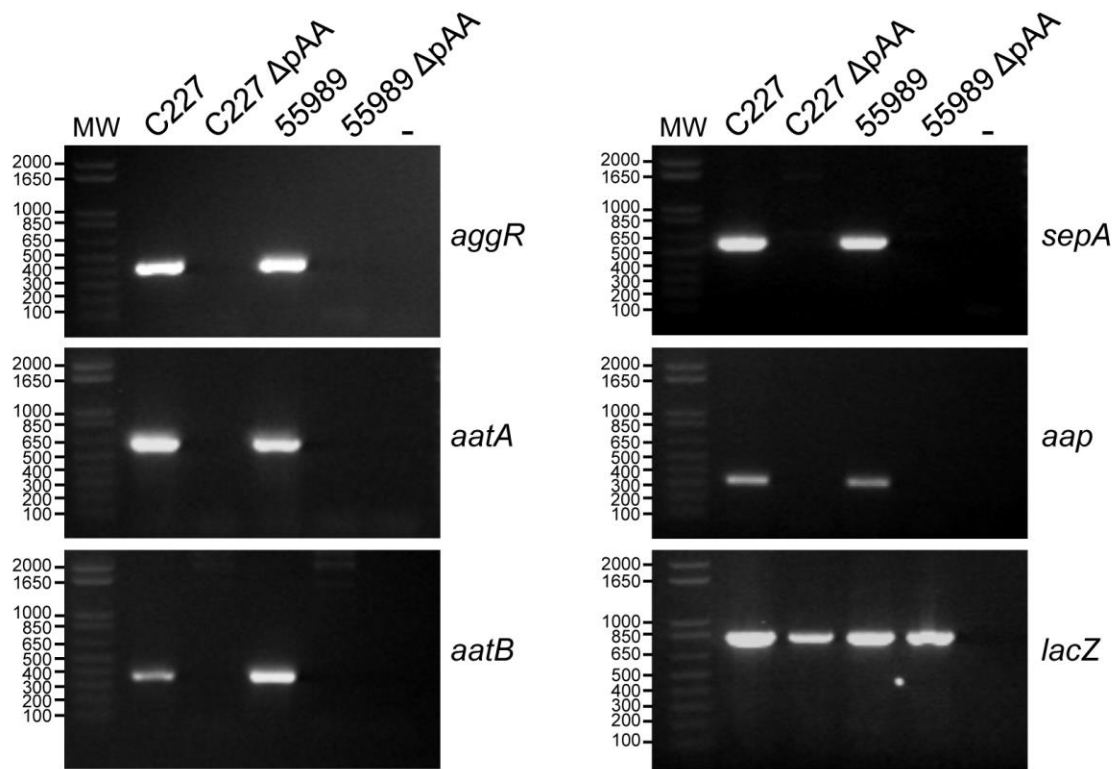


Supplementary Figure 4. Intestinal colonization of infant rabbits by wild type C227 and isogenic mutants 2 day PI. Concentration (cfu g⁻¹) of bacteria recovered from intestinal homogenates of indicated tissues. Data points represent individual rabbits (C227, n=10; Δstx2, n=7; ΔpAA, n=7; Δpic, n=6; ΔsigA, n=7). Open symbols represent the limit of detection for samples from which no cfu were isolated. Bars show the geometric mean. Statistical analysis was performed using one way ANOVA and Bonferroni's multiple comparison post-test; ** P < 0.01 and *** P < 0.001.



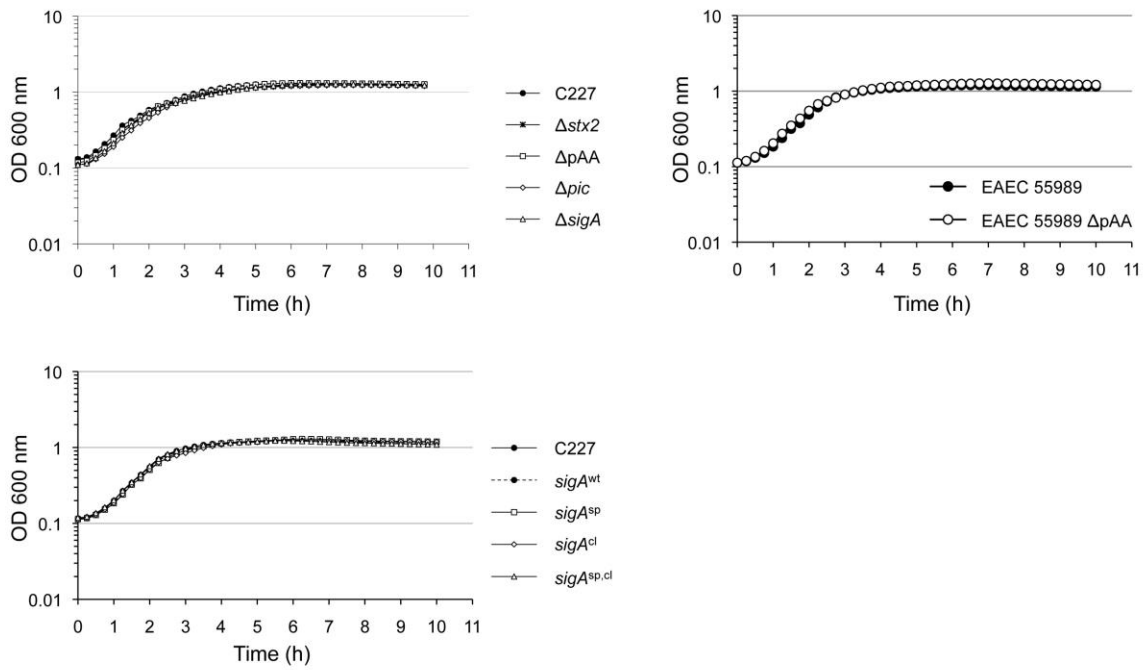
Supplementary Figure 5. *C227* Δpic and *C227* $\Delta sigA$ mutants retain aggregative adherence.

HEp-2 cells were incubated with the indicated strain for 3h, then fixed and stained with polyclonal antisera against C227 (green), and counterstained with phalloidin-Alexa 568 (red) and DAPI (blue) to detect F-actin and nuclei, respectively. Scale bar=20 μm .

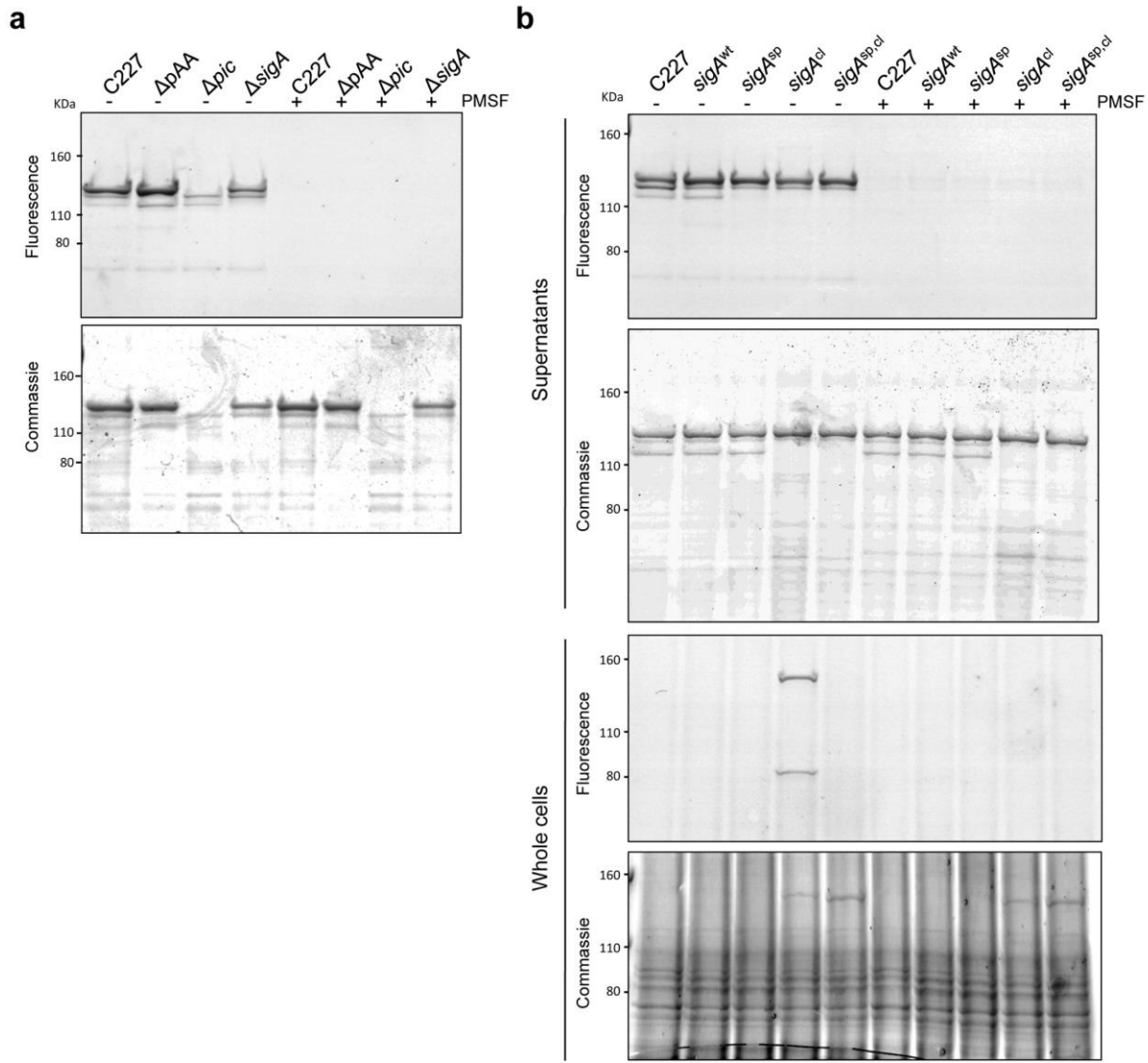


Supplementary Figure 6. PCR tests of C227 and 55989 strains cured of pAA plasmid.

Amplification by PCR of internal fragments of five different genes (*aggR*, *aatA*, *aatB*, *sepA*, *aap*) encoded in pAA plasmid and chromosomal encoded *lacZ* in O104:H4 C227 and EAEC 55989 strains and their corresponding pAA cured derivatives. Sizes of DNA fragments (bp) in the molecular weight marker lane (MW) are shown on the left.



Supplementary Figure 7. Growth curves of indicated strain in LB media. Each growth curve represents the average of 3 experiments with a standard deviation < 0.02 .



Supplementary Figure 8. Activity of SPATEs from C227 and isogenic mutants. (a) Activity-based protein profiling of secreted SPATEs from C227 and isogenic mutants. Full fluorescence-scanned blot and coomassie-stained gel corresponding to Fig. 5c. (b) Activity-based protein profiling of C227, its $\Delta sigA$ derivative complemented with *sigA*-wt, or the indicated *sigA* point mutants. Full fluorescence-scanned blots and coomassie-stained gels from whole cells or supernatants from overnight cultures corresponding to Fig. 5d.

Supplementary Table 1. Differential expression of pAA genes *in vivo* versus *in vitro*

| Gene Name | Product similar to ^a | strand | start position | end position | <i>in vitro</i> ^b #1 | <i>in vitro</i> ^b #2 | <i>in vitro</i> ^b #3 | <i>in vivo</i> ^b #1 | <i>in vivo</i> ^b #2 | log2 fold change | log10 p value | log10 FDR | *2 fold change (p value <0.01) ^c |
|---------------|--|--------|----------------|--------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|---|
| Q4E6D2 | Transposase (IS4 family) | + | 2 | 328 | 30.7 | 26.5 | 36.8 | 29.8 | 40.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| E9Z073 | Transposase | + | 606 | 1514 | 78.3 | 87.8 | 89.7 | 9.0 | 46.0 | -1.7 | 3.3 | 2.9 | * |
| B7LWW4 | Transposase ORF A, IS1 | - | 1763 | 2164 | 315.2 | 312.4 | 286.9 | 44.8 | 130.4 | -1.9 | 5.4 | 4.9 | * |
| B7LWW2 | AggR Transcriptional activator (AAF-III) regulatory protein | - | 2268 | 3062 | 446.7 | 503.1 | 479.9 | 23.6 | 219.8 | -2.1 | 3.8 | 3.4 | * |
| E7JSW2 | Integrase core domain protein | - | 3233 | 3600 | 106.8 | 147.8 | 116.6 | 18.5 | 98.8 | -1.1 | 1.7 | 1.5 | |
| B7LFP9 | Transposase ORF B, IS629 | + | 4028 | 4598 | 262.6 | 287.4 | 312.8 | 116.7 | 151.9 | -1.1 | 3.2 | 2.9 | * |
| Q9S110 | Orf57 protein | - | 4531 | 4899 | 271.5 | 271.1 | 317.1 | 214.1 | 222.1 | -0.4 | 0.7 | 0.6 | |
| P71290 | Orf58 protein | - | 4817 | 5122 | 137.9 | 131.9 | 159.7 | 102.7 | 105.1 | -0.5 | 0.8 | 0.7 | |
| B7LBU5 | Putative reverse transcriptase-like protein | + | 5193 | 5498 | 73.8 | 91.5 | 82.4 | 71.2 | 66.5 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | |
| Q9S110 | Orf57 protein | - | 5574 | 6008 | 178.1 | 164.5 | 186.7 | 152.9 | 109.7 | -0.4 | 0.7 | 0.6 | |
| P71290 | Orf58 protein | - | 5926 | 6231 | 138.4 | 140.5 | 140.5 | 121.1 | 68.6 | -0.5 | 1.0 | 0.8 | |
| B7LB68 | Putative reverse transcriptase-like protein | + | 6302 | 7822 | 535.1 | 515.7 | 512.3 | 433.0 | 260.7 | -0.5 | 1.3 | 1.1 | |
| Q327G0 | IS629 ORF2 | + | 7900 | 8397 | 76.0 | 62.8 | 60.0 | 47.7 | 67.7 | -0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| B7LWW0 | Aap Dispersin protein | - | 8595 | 8942 | 6367.9 | 8794.5 | 9074.3 | 76.5 | 276.2 | -5.6 | 15.8 | 14.6 | * |
| P0CE57 | Transposase insH for insertion sequence element IS5R | + | 9296 | 10276 | 122.1 | 106.8 | 116.5 | 76.9 | 115.3 | -0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | |
| E1PC79 | Putative secreted autotransporter toxin sat | + | 10498 | 10737 | 8.3 | 6.4 | 10.4 | 11.6 | 14.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | |
| B7LWV8 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 10854 | 11069 | 95.2 | 139.1 | 123.1 | 13.6 | 14.9 | -3.0 | 11.0 | 10.1 | * |
| P16943 | Insertion element IS630 | + | 11255 | 12280 | 328.4 | 313.7 | 298.3 | 86.7 | 179.7 | -1.3 | 3.4 | 3.1 | * |
| B3HJU4 | Serine protease eata (truncated) | + | 12594 | 14385 | 981.1 | 1020.1 | 1058.0 | 253.5 | 444.4 | -1.6 | 4.7 | 4.2 | * |
| B7LWV1 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 14363 | 14596 | 58.6 | 52.8 | 51.0 | 107.1 | 262.8 | 1.7 | 6.1 | 5.5 | * |
| B7LWV0 | Transposase ORF A, IS629 | - | 14742 | 14987 | 73.8 | 69.1 | 74.7 | 189.7 | 466.8 | 2.1 | 9.6 | 8.8 | * |
| B7LWU9 | AatP permease | + | 15334 | 16494 | 187.3 | 173.2 | 185.3 | 15.7 | 58.4 | -2.4 | 7.0 | 6.4 | * |
| B7LWU8 | AatA outermembrane protein | + | 16494 | 17729 | 314.4 | 321.2 | 287.6 | 20.2 | 67.5 | -2.9 | 10.8 | 9.9 | * |
| B7LWU7 | AatB | + | 17629 | 18447 | 291.2 | 319.8 | 255.9 | 13.8 | 72.3 | -2.8 | 8.6 | 7.9 | * |
| B7LWU6 | AatC ATB binding protein of ABC transporter | + | 18443 | 19069 | 175.0 | 164.4 | 149.3 | 23.7 | 45.7 | -2.3 | 7.9 | 7.2 | * |
| B7LWU5 | AatD | + | 19089 | 20297 | 120.7 | 126.7 | 122.6 | 9.5 | 14.2 | -3.4 | 12.8 | 11.8 | * |
| B7LBV5 | Transposase, IS110 family | + | 21275 | 22405 | 107.0 | 132.8 | 104.1 | 129.6 | 346.4 | 1.0 | 2.5 | 2.2 | * |
| B7LFP0 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 22521 | 24086 | 100.1 | 91.6 | 89.0 | 85.5 | 110.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | |
| B7LA97 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 24120 | 24467 | 64.0 | 56.6 | 60.6 | 38.2 | 41.8 | -0.6 | 1.0 | 0.8 | |
| B7LA98 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 24467 | 24901 | 86.3 | 90.3 | 75.6 | 69.7 | 86.2 | -0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| C6UQD7 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 24997 | 25194 | 153.3 | 143.1 | 138.7 | 97.2 | 156.9 | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| B7LBW0 | Serine protease pic (ShMu) | - | 25495 | 29586 | 5061.7 | 5320.2 | 5366.3 | 908.7 | 1611.7 | -2.1 | 4.4 | 4.0 | * |
| A7ZH69 | Resolvase domain protein | - | 29898 | 30533 | 72.5 | 86.5 | 74.5 | 17.3 | 42.0 | -1.4 | 3.0 | 2.7 | * |
| B7LX00 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 31115 | 31978 | 31.3 | 35.1 | 35.4 | 79.0 | 112.5 | 1.5 | 4.8 | 4.3 | * |
| B7LWZ9 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 32281 | 32880 | 20.0 | 26.2 | 19.5 | 29.5 | 35.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | |
| D3H5C8 | Conjugative transfer protein | + | 33211 | 33591 | 31.3 | 27.8 | 43.9 | 18.0 | 64.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|----------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| B7LWZ7 | Protein traJ | + | 33728 | 34255 | 18.3 | 27.2 | 11.4 | 28.4 | 60.1 | 1.3 | 2.0 | 1.8 | |
| E1U309 | Transposase InsAB' | - | 34255 | 34938 | 91.7 | 101.5 | 86.0 | 105.8 | 148.6 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.7 | |
| D3H556 | DNA helicase I (EC 3.6.1.-) | + | 34979 | 39662 | 207.3 | 230.8 | 220.0 | 259.8 | 190.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | |
| B7LWY8 | Fertility inhibition protein (Conjugal transfer repressor) | + | 40486 | 41043 | 217.4 | 262.2 | 255.2 | 62.0 | 51.9 | -2.1 | 8.7 | 8.0 | * |
| B7LA98 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 41272 | 41706 | 78.3 | 72.8 | 73.2 | 50.6 | 90.6 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| D3GV17 | Transposase | + | 41706 | 41999 | 41.8 | 41.4 | 41.5 | 11.8 | 17.1 | -1.6 | 2.7 | 2.4 | * |
| B7LWX6 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 41950 | 42261 | 45.6 | 49.0 | 53.1 | 19.4 | 42.3 | -0.8 | 0.9 | 0.8 | |
| D3H551 | Transposase | - | 42321 | 43889 | 813.6 | 727.8 | 751.8 | 75.2 | 135.4 | -2.9 | 14.2 | 13.1 | * |
| D3H552 | Transposase | - | 43912 | 44256 | 4.6 | 3.9 | 6.5 | 9.3 | 11.6 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.7 | |
| D3H553 | Transposase | - | 44259 | 44933 | 18.6 | 17.5 | 13.8 | 10.0 | 19.3 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | |
| Q84A18 | Putative uncharacterized protein orf7 | + | 45002 | 45250 | 20.4 | 9.0 | 11.2 | 33.5 | 94.7 | 2.0 | 5.6 | 5.1 | * |
| P0CE57 | Transposase insH for insertion sequence element IS5R | - | 45664 | 46644 | 121.7 | 145.4 | 119.8 | 89.8 | 110.2 | -0.3 | 0.6 | 0.5 | |
| Q79R15 | Negative regulator of repA1 expression (RepA2) | + | 46922 | 47173 | 150.8 | 163.1 | 147.5 | 147.9 | 522.2 | 1.0 | 2.5 | 2.2 | * |
| C8URD0 | Replication initiation protein RepA1 | + | 47481 | 47666 | 191.6 | 175.7 | 154.4 | 42.2 | 98.4 | -1.4 | 3.3 | 3.0 | * |
| C8URD0 | Replication initiation protein RepA1 | + | 47629 | 48306 | 86.1 | 92.9 | 97.5 | 96.6 | 122.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | |
| B7LWY0 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 49217 | 49498 | 234.9 | 209.6 | 210.8 | 56.8 | 85.3 | -1.7 | 5.6 | 5.1 | * |
| B7LWX9 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 49501 | 49773 | 199.4 | 182.1 | 213.7 | 88.6 | 70.2 | -1.3 | 4.2 | 3.8 | * |
| D9Z536 | IPF_393 | + | 49782 | 50024 | 230.8 | 249.7 | 257.8 | 96.9 | 136.6 | -1.1 | 3.1 | 2.7 | * |
| B1VCJ6 | ORF 153 Hypothetical protein | - | 49986 | 50270 | 257.7 | 261.0 | 262.2 | 113.7 | 114.2 | -1.2 | 3.8 | 3.4 | * |
| B7LWX4 | Site-specific recombinase | + | 50759 | 51496 | 60.9 | 68.9 | 52.8 | 25.7 | 43.2 | -0.8 | 1.4 | 1.2 | |
| B7LWX3 | RepFIB replication protein A | - | 51781 | 52755 | 1351.7 | 1401.6 | 1495.9 | 170.9 | 288.6 | -2.7 | 7.7 | 7.1 | * |
| C8CGL3 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 53068 | 53553 | 33.1 | 33.8 | 28.5 | 57.6 | 116.9 | 1.4 | 3.8 | 3.4 | * |
| D9Z540 | VagD | + | 54052 | 54810 | 413.9 | 495.6 | 475.5 | 52.0 | 68.0 | -2.9 | 15.8 | 14.6 | * |
| D8EV54 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 54804 | 55199 | 44.5 | 40.1 | 30.9 | 4.4 | 3.4 | -3.3 | 6.0 | 5.5 | * |
| B7LX17 | Protein ccdA (Protein letA) (Protein H) (LynA) (Modular protein) | + | 55269 | 55544 | 124.9 | 124.2 | 117.3 | 20.0 | 18.4 | -2.7 | 10.0 | 9.2 | * |
| B7LX16 | Cytotoxic protein ccdB (Protein letB) (Protein G) (LynB) | + | 55522 | 55851 | 177.6 | 155.7 | 164.1 | 28.5 | 22.0 | -2.7 | 11.0 | 10.1 | * |
| B7LX15 | Putative resolvase (Protein D) | + | 55855 | 56658 | 223.1 | 164.5 | 174.0 | 29.8 | 40.9 | -2.5 | 9.3 | 8.5 | * |
| D3H584 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 56807 | 57481 | 478.1 | 450.6 | 506.4 | 74.6 | 109.4 | -2.4 | 11.3 | 10.4 | * |
| Q9Z4E6 | YegA protein | + | 57571 | 57876 | 243.7 | 253.5 | 248.2 | 61.1 | 85.7 | -1.8 | 6.5 | 5.9 | * |
| E9LLV1 | Plasmid partitioning and stability protein StbA | + | 58239 | 59270 | 939.2 | 1005.1 | 1038.6 | 159.6 | 250.0 | -2.3 | 9.0 | 8.3 | * |
| Q3ZU22 | Plasmid stability protein | + | 59266 | 59679 | 520.7 | 535.8 | 536.4 | 107.6 | 131.3 | -2.2 | 10.5 | 9.7 | * |
| C1J8J5 | DNA polymerase V subunit UmuC (UV protection protein) | - | 59687 | 60958 | 154.2 | 198.1 | 169.6 | 52.5 | 82.2 | -1.4 | 3.9 | 3.5 | * |
| A1YLB7 | ImpA | - | 60961 | 61398 | 43.4 | 37.7 | 30.9 | 21.9 | 53.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | |
| A1YLB6 | Putative resolvase | + | 61422 | 62030 | 24.7 | 16.5 | 20.0 | 4.6 | 48.0 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | |
| P46004 | AggD Chaperone protein | + | 62882 | 63637 | 1503.3 | 2067.7 | 1861.8 | 29.4 | 105.8 | -4.8 | 14.8 | 13.6 | * |
| B7LX07 | AggC Outer membrane usher protein | + | 63654 | 66179 | 3502.4 | 5614.8 | 5027.0 | 107.6 | 131.3 | -5.2 | 19.0 | 17.6 | * |
| O87745 | AggA protein | + | 66734 | 67234 | 7063.8 | 8167.2 | 8451.0 | 327.7 | 764.0 | -3.9 | 10.8 | 10.0 | * |
| E9XTW5 | Integrase core domain-containing protein | + | 67374 | 67691 | 214.8 | 228.3 | 197.0 | 17.9 | 61.5 | -2.5 | 8.2 | 7.5 | * |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| F2W481 | ISL3 family transposase | - | 67666 | 67968 | 36.307 | 50.004 | 40.396 | 9.540 | 14.171 | -1.796 | 3.368 | 3.008 | * |
| Q8XC14 | Putative IS encoded protein encoded within prophage CP-933O | + | 68195 | 68752 | 19.309 | 20.104 | 21.155 | 5.260 | 10.755 | -1.396 | 1.398 | 1.208 | |
| B7L938 | Putative transposase ORF 1, IS66 family | + | 68805 | 70340 | 148.353 | 145.584 | 146.291 | 57.745 | 51.645 | -1.418 | 4.243 | 3.815 | * |
| E3Y4T4 | Integrase core domain protein | + | 70481 | 70994 | 38.846 | 50.101 | 47.804 | 50.160 | 76.323 | 0.462 | 0.673 | 0.567 | |
| E9Z010 | Putative uncharacterized protein | - | 70931 | 71380 | 55.005 | 55.238 | 56.459 | 64.087 | 120.254 | 0.662 | 1.406 | 1.214 | |
| E9Z008 | Transposase | - | 71362 | 71859 | 26.829 | 36.215 | 28.674 | 28.897 | 77.097 | 0.777 | 1.127 | 0.966 | |
| B7LWX0 | Putative tail fiber protein | - | 71990 | 72172 | 4.590 | 1.381 | 1.576 | 17.136 | 10.363 | 2.339 | 3.079 | 2.742 | * |
| B7LWW9 | Putative uncharacterized protein | + | 72295 | 73320 | 595.797 | 634.931 | 677.775 | 29.652 | 126.150 | -3.156 | 11.423 | 10.500 | * |
| B7LWW8 | Isopentenyl-diphosphate Delta-isomerase 2 (IPP isomerase 2) | + | 73327 | 73863 | 418.004 | 431.719 | 507.931 | 22.781 | 93.542 | -3.102 | 10.789 | 9.918 | * |
| B1LJZ9 | IS5 transposase | + | 74681 | 75328 | 86.507 | 60.431 | 68.255 | 26.825 | 79.700 | -0.582 | 0.500 | 0.416 | |

^a putative virulence genes in bold

^b normalized abundance

^c we used empirical Bayes estimation and exact tests based on the negative binomial distribution as implemented in the edgeR package⁴⁴

Supplementary Table 2. Bacterial strains used in this study

| Strain | Genotype | Source or Reference |
|----------------------------|---|---------------------|
| C227 | Stx2+ EAEC strain serotype O104:H4 C227-11 isolated from German HUS Outbreak | 6 |
| $\Delta stx2$ | C227 Δstx_2AB | This work |
| ΔpAA | C227 mutant lacking pAA virulence plasmid | This work |
| Δpic | C227 Δpic ; both <i>pic</i> loci are deleted | This work |
| $\Delta sigA$ | C227 $\Delta sigA$ | This work |
| $sigA^{wt}$ | $\Delta sigA$ mutant complemented with wild type <i>sigA</i> in same locus on chromosome | This work |
| $sigA^{sp}$ | $\Delta sigA$ derivative complemented with <i>sigA</i> -S258A in same locus on chromosome | This work |
| $sigA^{cl}$ | $\Delta sigA$ derivative complemented with <i>sigA</i> -N1008A, N1009A in same locus on chromosome | This work |
| $sigA^{sp,cl}$ | $\Delta sigA$ derivative complemented with <i>sigA</i> -S258A, N1008A, N1009A in same locus on chromosome | This work |
| 55989 | EAEC 55989 strain serotype O104:H4 | 25 |
| 55989 ΔpAA | EAEC 55989 mutant lacking pAA virulence plasmid | This work |
| EHEC O157:H7 | Stx+ EHEC strain serotype O157:H7, EDL933 | 45 |
| EHEC O157:H7 $\Delta stx2$ | EHEC O157:H7, isolate 905, Δstx_2AB | 17 |
| DH5alpha | <i>supE44</i> D(<i>argF-lac</i>)U169 ($\Delta 80dlac\Delta$ (Z)M15) <i>deoR hsdR17 recA1 endA1 gyrA96 thi-1 relA1</i> | Stratagene |
| MFDpir | MG1655 RP4-2-Tc::[$\Delta Mu1::aac(3)IV-\Delta aphA-\Delta nic35-\Delta Mu2::zeo$] $\Delta dapA::(erm-pir)$ $\Delta recA$ | 46 |

Supplementary Table 3. Plasmids used in this study

| Plasmid | Reference | Primers used for plasmid construction |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| pDS132 | ⁴⁷ | |
| pDM4 | ⁴⁸ | |
| pDS132-flk-stx2 | This work | 5': Fw-XbaI-Flank-Stx2/ Rv-FlankStx2-BglIII and 3': Fw-BglIII-FlankStx2/ Rv-FlankStx2-Sac |
| pDM4-flk-pic | This work | 5': Fw-ia-XbaI-Pic1/ Rv-ia-Pic1-BglIII and 3': Fw-ia-BglIII-Pic2/ Rv-ia-Pic2-SacI |
| pDM4-flk-sigA | This work | 5': Fw-ia-XbaI-SigA1/ Rv-ia-SigA1-BglIII and 3': Fw-ia-BglIII-SigA2/ Rv-ia-SigA2-Sac2 |
| pDM4-SigA(wt) | This work | Fw-wt-SigA/ Rv-wt-SigA PCR product inserted in pDM4-flk-sigA |
| pDM4-SigA(S258A) | This work | Fw-wt-SigA/ Rv-S258A-SigA and Fw-S258A-SigA/ Rv-wt-SigA PCR assembled products inserted in pDM4-flk-sigA |
| pDM4-SigA(N1008A, N1009A) | This work | Fw-wt-SigA/ Rv-N10089A-SigA and Fw-N10089A-SigA/ Rv-wt-SigA PCR assembled products inserted in pDM4-flk-sigA |
| pDM4-SigA(S258A, N1008A, N1009A) | This work | Fw-wt-SigA/ Rv-S258A-SigA, Fw-S258A-SigA/ Rv-N10089A-SigA and Fw-N10089A-SigA/ Rv-wt-SigA PCR assembled products inserted in pDM4-flk-sigA |

Supplementary Table 4. Oligonucleotides used in this study

| Primer | Nucleotide sequence (5'- to -3') |
|----------------------|--|
| 5'Fw-XbaI-Flank-Stx2 | GATCCTCTAGACAGGTCGCTGGTTCAAATCCAG |
| 5'Rv-FlankStx2-BglII | GGTTATGCCAGATCTATACAGGTGTTCCCTTTTGGCTGAAG |
| 3'Fw-BglII-FlankStx2 | CACCTGTATAGATCTGGCATAACCTGATTTCGTGGTATG |
| 3'Rv-FlankStx2-Sac | CGGGAGAGCTCGAACCCACTCGGGCTTTTTTAC |
| 5'Fw-ia-XbaI-Pic1 | AGTACGCGTCACTAGTGGGGCCCTTCTAGACATTGATGTGTTTGCCGATACA |
| 5'Rv-ia-Pic1-BglII | TCCGGCAGCCCTTTACCCCAACAAGATCTTATGGATTCTCCATGATGTTTAC |
| 3'Fw-ia-BglII-Pic2 | GTAACATCATGGAGAATCCATAAGATCTTGTGGGGGTAAAGGGCTGCCGGA |
| 3'Rv-ia-Pic2-SacI | TAACAATTTGTGGAATCCCGGGAGAGCTCCCATGGTGGTGAGCGGGGCGCGCT |
| 5'Fw-ia-XbaI-SigA1 | AGTACGCGTCACTAGTGGGGCCCTTCTAGAGAATCTGGCCGGTAACGACGGCAG |
| 5'Rv-ia-SigA1-BglII | CGCAAACGCGGCCCGGGCTGTAAAGATCTACGTGAACTCCGATATTTCTGAGT |
| 3'Fw-ia-BglII-SigA2 | ACTCAGAAATATCGGAGTTCACGTAGATCTTAACAGCCCGGGCCGCGTTTGCG |
| 3'Rv-ia-SigA2-Sac2 | TAACAATTTGTGGAATCCCGGGAGAGCTCCTGCTGATCCTGCAGGCGCAGTC |
| 5'Fw-wt-SigA | ACTCAGAAATATCGGAGTTCACGTATGAATAAAATTTATTCAGTAAATA |
| 3'Rv-wt-SigA | CGCAAACGCGGCCCGGGCTGTTATCAGAAAGAGTAACGGAAGTTGGC |
| 3'Rv-S258A-SigA | TCATATAGATAAGAACCAGAACCCGCATCGCCAAAAATTGGTGAGT |
| 5'Fw-S258A-SigA | ACTCACCAATTTTTGGCGATGCGGGTTCTGGTTCTTATCTATATGA |
| 3'Rv-N10089A-SigA | GATCCCCCATTTCGTTTATTCAGCGCCGCGACTTCTGTTCAGGAAGGCT |
| 5'Fw-N10089A-SigA | AGCCTTCTGACAGAAGTTCGCGGCGCTGAATAAACGAATGGGGGATC |
| 5'Fw-aggR | GCAATCAGATTAARCAGCGATACA |
| 3'Rv-aggR | CATTCTTGATTGCATAAGGATCTGG |
| 5'Fw-aatA | CAGACTCTGGCRAAAGACTGTATCAT |
| 3'Rv-aatA | CAGCTAATAATGTATAGAAATCCGCTGT |
| 5'Fw-aatB | ATGGGACTGGACATAGAGTCAAAG |
| 3'Rv-aatB | GATTTCGACAATTCATTCCGGTCACC |
| 5'Fw-sepA | AGAAAGGAAATGACCTGAACGCAGG |
| 3'Rv-sepA | TAACCGGTACATTGATGTCAGTGG |
| 5'Fw-aap | TTTCTGGCATCTTGGGTATCAGC |
| 3'Rv-aap | TTAACCCATTTCGGTTAGAGCAC |
| 5'Fw-lacZ | TTGAACTGCACACCGCCGAC |
| 3'Rv-lacZ | AAATCACCGCCGTAAGCCAACCAC |

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