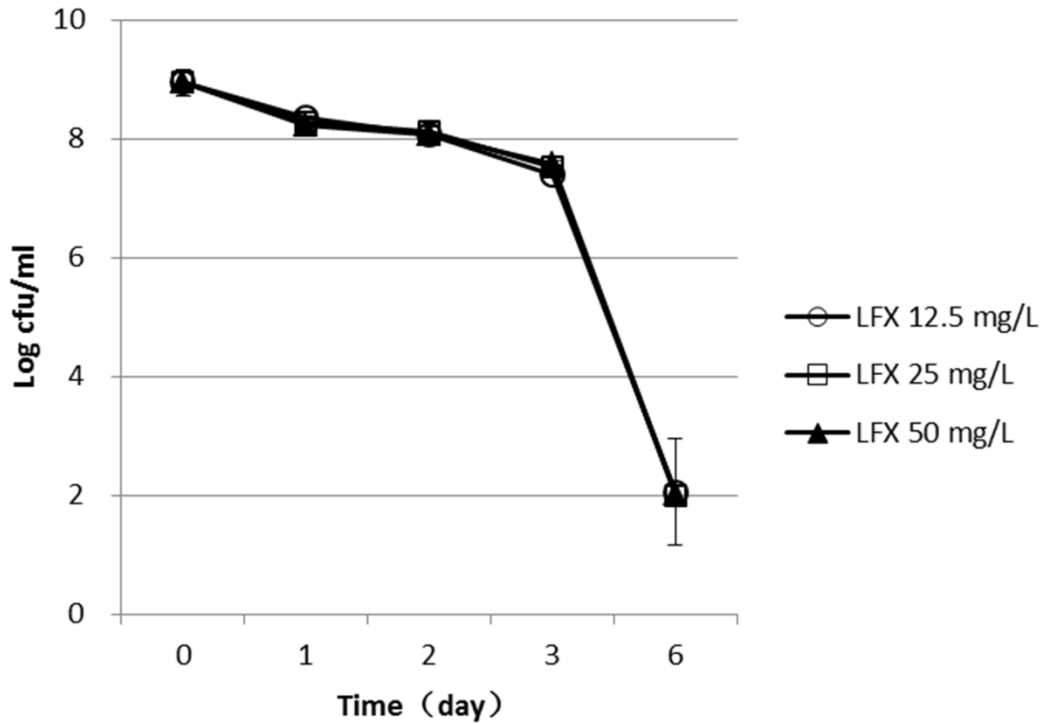


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4 **Figure S1. Persister levels of the parent *S. aureus* strain USA500 at different**

5 **concentrations of levofloxacin in the persister assay.** The stationary-phase culture of

6 the parent strain USA500 was exposed to different concentrations of levofloxacin (LFX),

7 at 12.5, 25 and 50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ and incubated at different times. The survival of the persisters

8 was monitored by CFU count after washing and plating on TSA plates. The vertical axis

9 represents CFU values in log scale, and the horizontal axis represents the time of

10 exposure. The error bars indicate standard deviations.

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