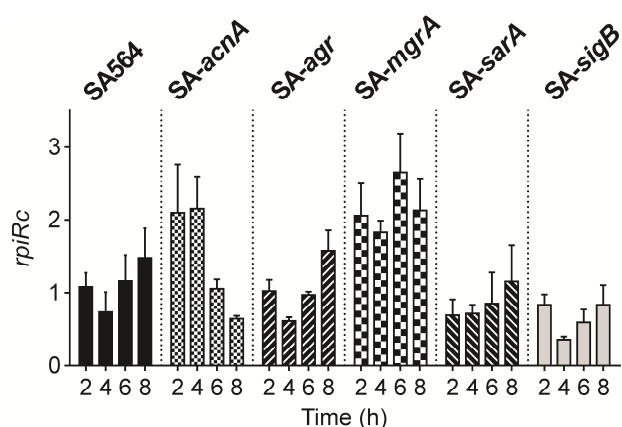


**Suppl. Fig. 1 Growth and pH profiles of single and double mutants.**

Growth analyses of the *S. aureus* wild-type strain SA564 or different regulatory mutants (circles) and their respective *rpiRc* mutants (triangles) under aerobic conditions (10:1 flask-to-medium ratio, 225 rpm) at 37°C in TSB. Shown are the mean and standard deviation (SD) for at least three independent experiments.



**Suppl. Fig. 2 Effect of virulence regulators on *rpiRc* mRNA levels at different growth phases.**

Total RNA from *S. aureus* SA564 and mutants of known regulatory elements affecting virulence (the TCA-cycle activity, the Agr system, the MgrA and SarA proteins, and the alternative sigma factor  $\sigma^B$ ) cultivated for the indicated time under aerobic conditions at 37°C in TSB were subjected to quantitative real-time RT-PCR and the relative transcript levels of the *rpiRc* gene was normalized to *gyrB* and 16S *rRNA*. Shown are the mean and standard deviation (SD) for at least three independent experiments performed in duplicate.

**Supplemental Table S1. Oligonucleotides used in this study<sup>a</sup>**

Gene	Primer	Nucleotide sequence (5' → 3')
Construction <i>SA-rpiRc_rpiRc</i>	SAV2315_compl-f	ATTATGAATTCGGAGTGATTAATATGTCAA ACGTAC
	SAV2315_compl-r	TATAAGGATCCGTAGTGTGAAAACTTATA AGTGGC
	ermB-int+	CGAGTGAAAAAGTACTCAACC
	ermB-int-	CTTGCTCATAAGTAACGGTAC
	SAV2315_C_r	CTTATTTTATGACAAATTTGGCCC
qPCR <i>gyrB</i>	<i>gyrB</i> -f	GACTGATGCCGATGTGGA
	<i>gyrB</i> -r	AACGGTGGCTGTGCAATA

qPCR 16S <i>rRNA</i>	16SrRNA-RT-f 16SrRNA-RT-r	CGTGCTACAATGGACAATACAAA ATCTACGATTACTAGCGATTCCA
qPCR <i>RNAIII</i>	RNAIII-RT-f RNAIII-RT-r	AGGAGTGATTTCAATGGCACAAG TGTGTCGATAATCCATTTTACTAAGTCA
qPCR <i>hla</i>	hla-RT-f hla-RT-r	GAACCCGGTATATGGCAATCAA ATCAAGGAAGTTCTCTGCTGC
qPCR <i>spa</i>	spa-RT-f spa-RT-r	TACTTATATCTGGTGGCGTAA GGTCGTCTTTAAGACTTTGA
qPCR <i>capA</i>	capA-RT-f capA-RT-r	TTCCGAAGATTATGAGTGTGGA AAGCGCGACAATAATCCTAA
qPCR <i>rpiRc</i>	rpiRC-RT-f rpiRC-RT-r	CGCACTTAATCATGCAAATAACG GATAACTTTTGGTATAAGTCGGTAG
qPCR <i>agrB(D)</i>	RNAII agrB-probe-r	GCCTTATCTATTATAGGATTGATTTC CATATTAACAAGTGTATTCATGATTAATCCT CC

<sup>a</sup>All primers were produced by Eurofins MGW Operon.