Colony-morphology screening uncovers a role for the *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* **nitrogen-related phosphotransferase system in biofilm formation**

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Supplementary Figure Legends

Figure S1. The *adcA* **gene is not required for colony wrinkling and shows induced expression in biofilm mutants.** A. Colony morphologies (4 d) of cells with the *amrZ* deletion alone or in combination with an *adcA* deletion.

B. Expression of a P*adcA*-lux reporter in the listed strains. Luciferase activity was calculated by normalizing luminescence to culture optical density. Results represent the average of 3 biological replicates (each having 4 technical replicates) using cultures grown on M6301-1% agar for 24 or 48 hours. Error bars show the standard deviation. * $p < 0.05$; *** $p < 0.005$; *** $p < 0.0005$ compared to the *amrZ* mutant. Luciferase activity was also assessed at day 3 and 4; the results were comparable to the results shown for day 2.

Figure S1

Table S1. Summary of recovered transposon mutants

Notes:

^aColony morphology phenotypes are not discrete but rather form a continuum from perfectly smooth and flat to highly wrinkled, while occasionally displaying other morphological features. Here, we use "smooth" to designate a morphology with no distinguishable wrinkles, "reduced" to designate a morphology with distinguishable wrinkles but with noticeably less wrinkling than the parental strain, and "hyper" to designate a morphology with noticeably more wrinkling than the parental strain. We use other descriptors (e.g., "shiny" and "translucent") to denote additional prominent morphological features.

^bTranscriptional unit data was taken from (Wurtzel *et al.*, 2012). Genes with no comments are transcribed singly.

^cThe transposon inserted in the intergenic region between the 2 listed genes.

Table S2. *Escherichia coli* **strains used in this study.**

Table S3. Plasmids used in this study.

Table S4. Primers used in this study.

NB: The listed primer sequences may include 5' overlaps for isothermal assembly and/or stitch PCR (in boldface type). The 3' end is complementary to the target genomic sequence

Modes of strain construction

P. aeruginosa **strains**

MTC590

MTC1 was mated with MTC570: 50 µL of an overnight LB culture of MTC570 was spot-dried on an LB plate, and 100 µL of an overnight LB culture of MTC1 was subsequently dried on top of the first spot. The plate was incubated at 37°C overnight, and the resulting colony was scraped up with a sterile loop and resuspended in 500 µL sterile phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). An aliquot (typically 100 μ L) of the suspension was spread on LB agar containing 75 μ g/ml gentamycin and 25 µg/ml irgasan to select for *P. aeruginosa* transformants with integrated pEXG2-Δ*amrZ* plasmid. Several of the resulting colonies were then inoculated into plain LB and grown at 37°C for 4-6 hours to accumulate second crossovers. Aliquots (typically 25 µL and 100 µL) of the LB culture were then spread on LB plates containing 6% sucrose to select against the plasmid. A number of the sucrose-resistant colonies arising were then patched on LB and LB with 20 μ g/mL gentamycin. At least 2 sucrose-resistant, gent-sensitive clones were then streaked for single colonies, checked by PCR for presence of the desired deletion, and frozen at -80°C in 25% glycerol.

MTC1240, 1241, 1281, 1284

These strains were isolated from the transposon mutagenesis experiment, and the locations of the transposons were determined by sequencing out from the transposon arm, as described in the Materials and Methods.

MTC1381

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1336.

MTC1387

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1348.

MTC1398

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1346.

MTC1448

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1336.

MTC1450

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1348.

MTC1512

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1346.

MTC1521

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1315.

MTC1522

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1381 was mated with MTC1315.

MTC1523

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1512 was mated with MTC1315.

MTC1525

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1450 was mated with MTC1315.

MTC1533

MTC1 was mated with MTC1529 as described above for MTC590, and a 10- μ L aliquot of the PBS-resuspended mating mix was spread on LB plates with 75 μ g/mL tetracycline and 25 µg/mL irgasan to select for *P. aeruginosa* transformants. At least 2 colonies were then restreaked for single colonies on LB-tet (25 µg/mL), grown in LB overnight at 37°C, and stored in 25% glycerol at -80°C.

MTC1535

Constructed like MTC1533, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1529.

MTC1537

Constructed like MTC1533, but MTC1381 was mated with MTC1529.

MTC1539

Constructed like MTC1533, but MTC1398 was mated with MTC1529.

MTC1541

Constructed like MTC1533, but MTC1387 was mated with MTC1529.

MTC1543

Constructed like MTC1533, but MTC1387 was mated with MTC1551.

MTC1549

Constructed like MTC1533, but MTC1381 was mated with MTC1408.

MTC1562

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1552.

MTC1603

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1597.

MTC1605

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1595.

MTC1649

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1632.

MTC1651

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC590 was mated with MTC1632.

MTC1666

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1651 was mated with MTC1348.

MTC1709

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1699.

MTC1711

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1450 was mated with MTC1699.

MTC1713

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1 was mated with MTC1597.

MTC1714

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1448 was mated with MTC1699.

MTC1716

Constructed like MTC590, but MTC1512 was mated with MTC1699.

E. coli **strains**

MTC570, 1315, 1336, 1346, 1348, 1552, 1595, 1597, 1632, 1699

The appropriate pEXG2-derived knockout plasmids (listed in Table S2) were electroporated into SM10 (MTC27), and transformants were selected on LB plates containing $20 \mu g/mL$ gentamycin.

MTC1408, 1529, 1551

The appropriate mini-CTX-1 or mini-CTX-1-lux derivatives were electroporated into SM10 (MTC27), and transformants were selected on LB plates containing 25 µg/mL tetracycline.

Modes of plasmid construction

All plasmids constructed in this study were assembled from purified PCR products (using the primers listed in Table S3) and restriction enzyme-cleaved plasmid backbones by using isothermal assembly (Gibson *et al.*, 2009).

pCTX-1-*16550*

The *PA14_16550* gene was PCR-amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primers 607 and 608. The resulting fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved mini-CTX-1.

pCTX-1-*ptsP*

The *ptsP* gene was PCR-amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primers 609 and 610, and the upstream promoter was amplified using primers 611 and 612. The promoter was PCRstitched to the CDS using primers 610 and 612. The resulting fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved mini-CTX-1.

pCTX-1-PadcA-lux

The *adcA* promoter was PCR-amplified from PA14 genomic DNA using primers 641 and 642 and assembled into EcoRI/BamHI-cleaved mini-CTX-1.

pEXG2-Δ*amrZ*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *amrZ* gene were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 259/260 and 261/262, respectively. A fragment containing the *amrZ* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 260 and 262. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*bifA*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of most of the *bifA* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 547/548 and 549/550, respectively. A fragment containing the *bifA* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 547 and 550. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*16550*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *PA14_16550* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 573/574 and 575/576, respectively. A fragment containing the *PA14_16550* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 574 and 576. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*69700*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *PA14_69700* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 593/594 and 595/596, respectively. A fragment containing the *PA14_69700* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 594 and 596. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*ptsP*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *ptsP* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 597/598 and 599/600, respectively. A fragment containing the *ptsP* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 598 and 600. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*adcA*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *adcA* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 645/646 and 647/648, respectively. A fragment containing the *adcA* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 646 and 648. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

$pEXG2\text{-}ptsP_{AGAF}$

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the sequence encoding the GAF domain of PtsP were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 598/676 and 677/678, respectively. A fragment containing the GAF-domain-encoding deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 598 and 678. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*ptsO*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *ptsO* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 683/684 and 685/686, respectively. A fragment containing the *ptsO* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 684 and 686. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*ptsN*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *ptsN* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 679/680 and 681/682, respectively. A fragment containing the *ptsN* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial fragments as self-priming templates with primers 680 and 682. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

pEXG2-Δ*wspF*

The upstream and downstream flanking sequences of the *wspF* coding sequence were amplified from PA14 chromosomal DNA using primer pairs 723/724 and 725/726, respectively. A fragment containing the *ptsN* gene deletion was generated by stitch PCR using the initial

fragments as self-priming templates with primers 724 and 726. The resulting deletion fragment was assembled into EcoRI/HindIII-cleaved pEXG2.

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