

Expanded View Figures

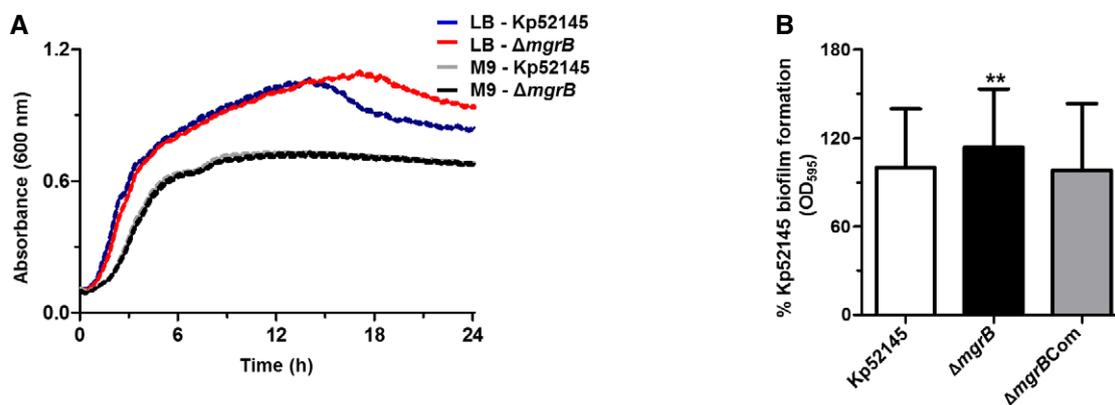


Figure EV1. Inactivation of *mgrB* in *K. pneumoniae* 52145 is not associated with an *in vitro* fitness cost.

A Growth kinetics of *K. pneumoniae* 52145 (blue and grey) and 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ strains (red and black) cultured in LB broth (LB) and 2% glucose M9 minimal media supplemented with thiamine and MgSO₄ (M9) over 24 h at 37°C. Values are presented as the mean \pm SD of three independent experiments measured in triplicate.

B Short-term biofilm assay results for the *K. pneumoniae* 52145, 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ and 52145- $\Delta mgrBCom$ strains. Results are displayed as per cent biofilm relative to the wild-type strain with values presented as the mean \pm SD of three independent experiments. Level of significance versus 52145 (** $P = 0.007$) was determined using two-way unpaired *t*-test.

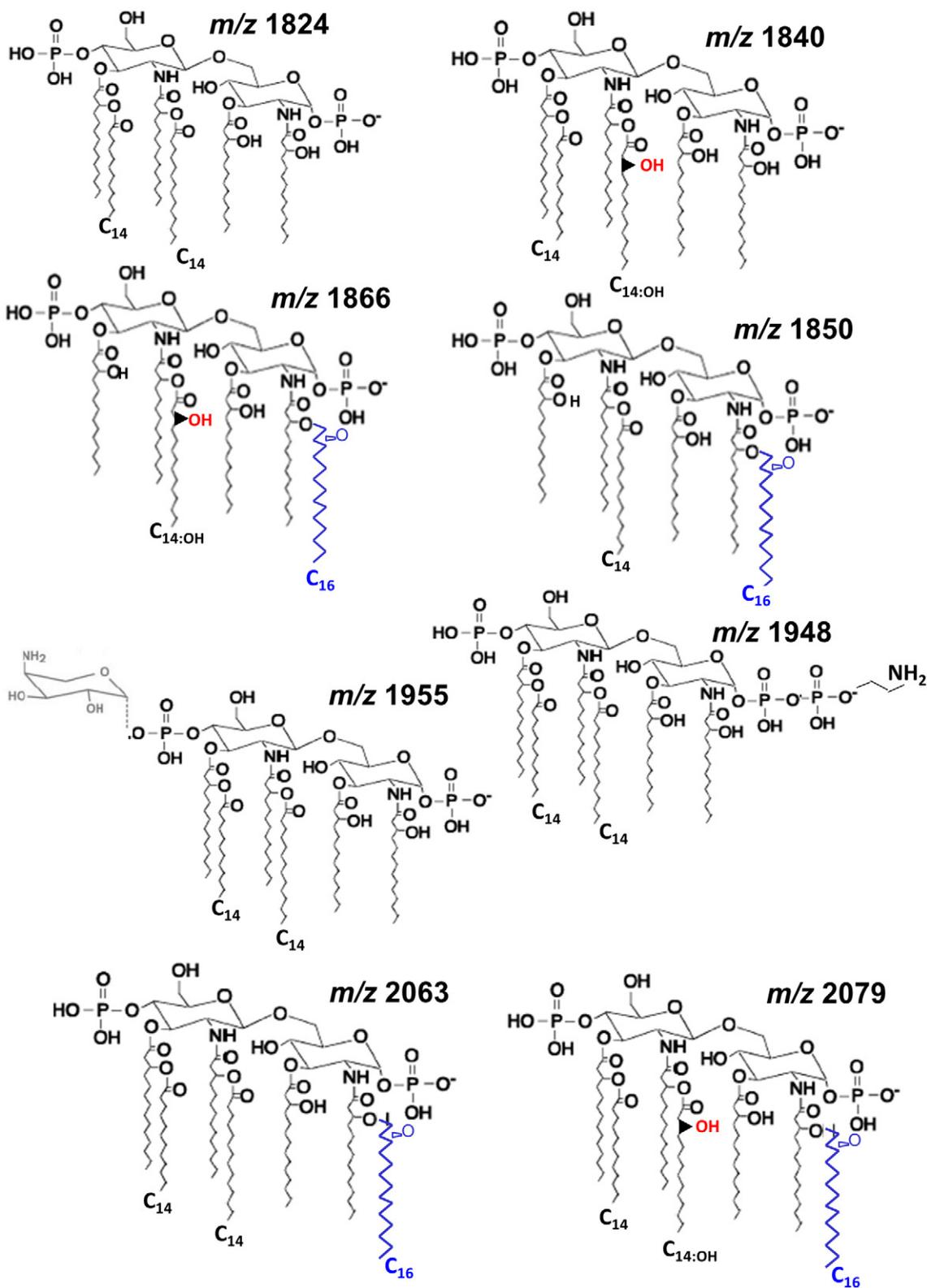


Figure EV2. Proposed lipid A chemical structures.

Proposed lipid A structures follow previously reported structures for *K. pneumoniae* (Sforza et al, 2004; Clements et al, 2007; Llobet et al, 2011, 2015) and other Gram-negative bacteria.

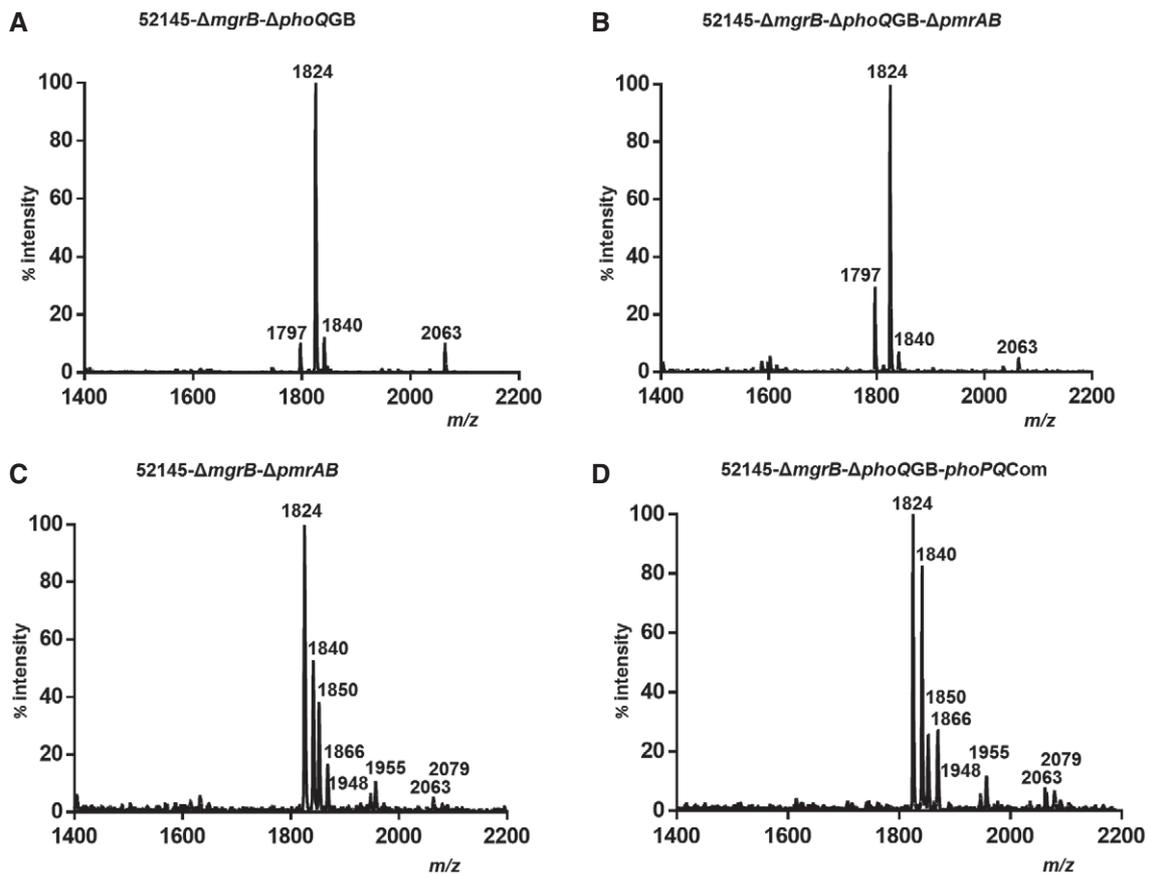


Figure EV3. Lipid A modifications in 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ occur in a PhoPQ-dependent manner.

A–D Negative ion MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry spectra of lipid A isolated from the *K. pneumoniae* 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ $\Delta phoQGB$ (A), 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ - $\Delta phoQGB$ - $\Delta pmrAB$ (B), 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ $\Delta pmrAB$ (C) and 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ - $\Delta phoQGB$ -*phoPQCom* (D) strains. Data represent the mass-to-charge (*m/z*) ratios of each lipid A species detected and are representative of three extractions.

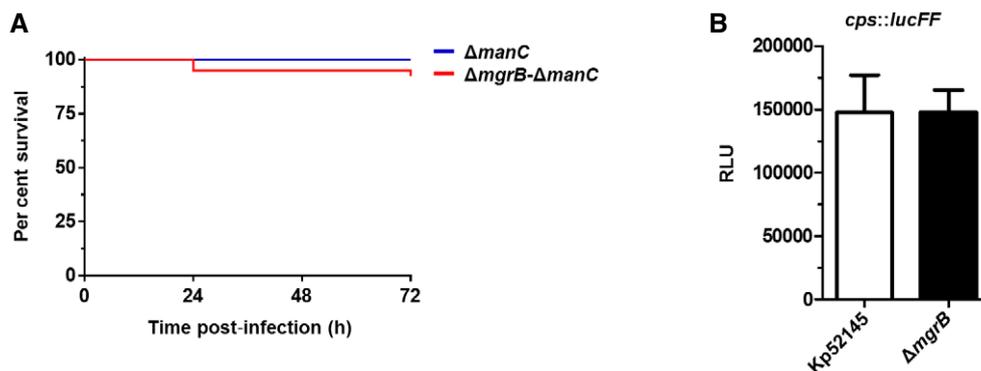


Figure EV4. Capsule polysaccharide (CPS) and *MgrB* each contribute to *K. pneumoniae* virulence in *G. mellonella*.

A Kaplan–Meier plot showing the per cent survival of *G. mellonella* over 72 h post-infection with 10^6 organisms of *K. pneumoniae* 52145- $\Delta manC$ (blue) and 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ - $\Delta manC$ (red). Forty larvae were infected in each group. Level of significance was determined using the log-rank (Mantel–Cox) test ($\alpha = 0.05$).

B Activity of the *cps* promoter in *K. pneumoniae* 52145 and 52145- $\Delta mgrB$ carrying the *cps::lucFF* transcriptional fusion. Values (expressed in relative luminescence units [540 nm]) are presented as the mean \pm SD of three independent experiments measured in triplicate. Level of significance was determined using two-way unpaired *t*-test.

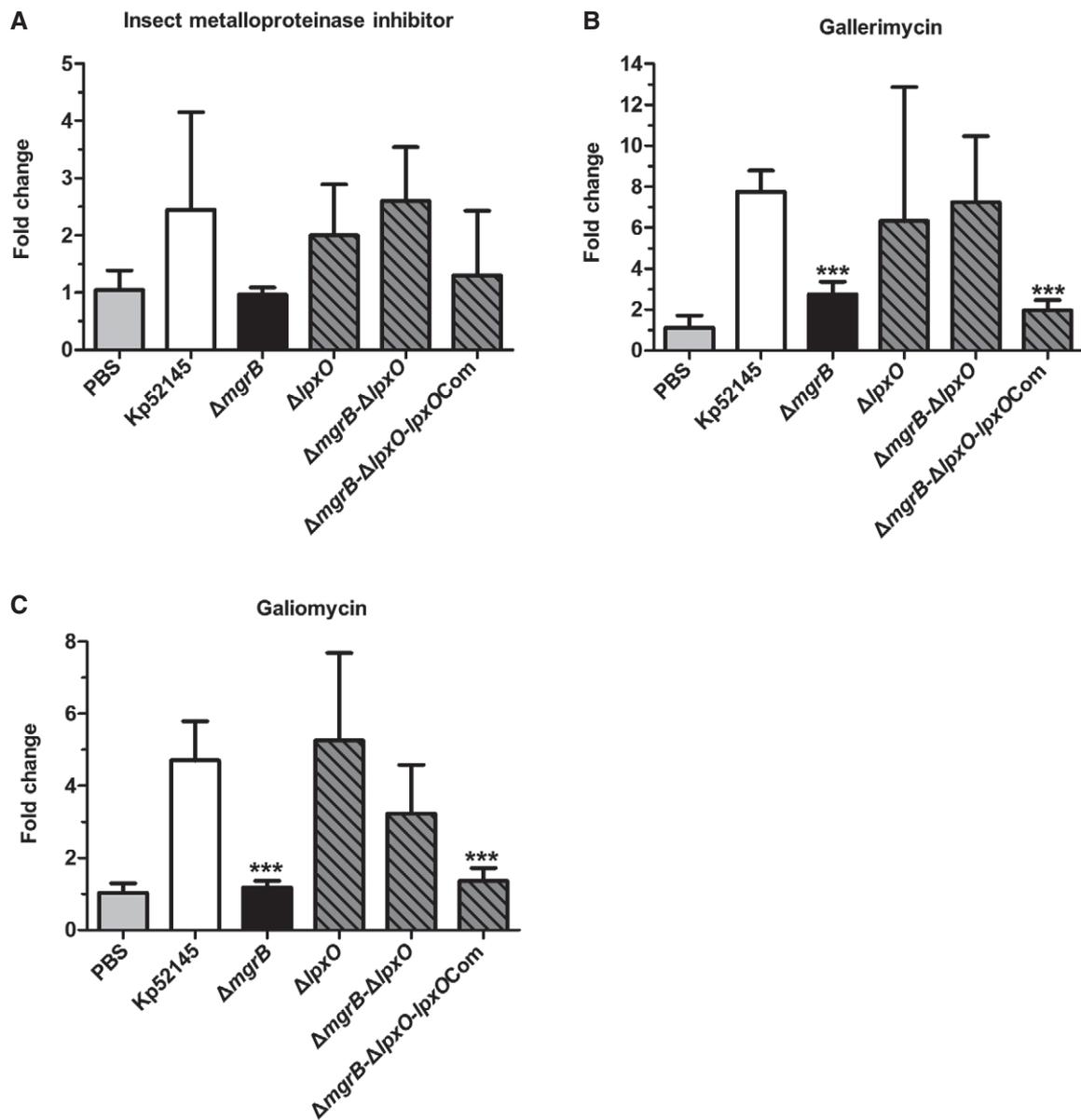


Figure EV5. Expression of insect metalloproteinase inhibitor, gallerimycin and galiomycin produced by *G. mellonella* during *K. pneumoniae* infection.

A–C *G. mellonella* antimicrobial peptide expression determined after 8 h of infection with *K. pneumoniae* 52145, 52145- $\Delta mgrB$, 52145- $\Delta mgrBCom$, 52145- $\Delta lpxO$, 52145- $\Delta mgrB-\Delta lpxO$ and 52145- $\Delta mgrB-\Delta lpxO-lpxOCom$ by reverse transcriptase quantitative real-time PCR. Three larvae per group were infected, and values are presented as the mean \pm SD of two independent cDNA preparations measured in duplicate. *** $P < 0.0001$; versus 52145 determined using two-way unpaired *t*-test.