FIG S1. *Rickettsia* species import six host metabolites that are required for the synthesis of cell envelope glycoconjugates and glycerophospholipids.

(A) Consensus metazoan pathway for the generation of metabolites (UDP-glucose, *N*-acetylalpha-D-glucosamine 1-P (*N*AG-1-P), D-ribose 5-P, dihydroxyacetone P (DHAP), *sn*-glycerol 3-P (G3P), and pyruvate) that *Rickettsia* species must acquire to initiate biosynthesis of peptidoglycan (PGN), lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and glycerophospholipids. Red ellipses, metabolites previously shown to be imported; yellow ellipses, metabolites predicted to be imported based on metabolic network reconstruction. Gray shading depicts each point of the host metabolic network where *Rickettsia* species acquire metabolites, with blue text describing how rickettsiae utilize these metabolites. For biosynthesis of glycerophospholipids, *Rickettsia* species import G3P, but also can convert G3P from DHAP if *gpsA* (encoding glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase) is present (shown in green) (1, 2).

(B) Schema and description of the bifunctional GImU protein of *E. coli* (WP_000933736) (3).

(C) Eukaryotic (*Homo sapiens*, green) and bacterial (*Escherichia coli*, purple) pathways for conversion of D-glucosamine 6-P to NAG-1-P involve different enzymes and intermediates.

(D) Comparison of *E. coli* GlmU with *Rickettsia typhi* GlmU (AAU03917) illustrates that rickettsial GlmU proteins have lost the C-terminal acetyltransferase domain. Sequences were obtained from GenBank and aligned with MUSCLE (default parameters) (4). Domain colors above alignment correspond to description in panel B.

(E) PGN biosynthesis by *Rickettsia* spp. requires import of *N*AG-1-P, L-alanine (L-Ala) and *trans,trans*-farnesyl-PP (FPP) from the host. *N*AG-1-P is converted to UDP-*N*-acetyl-alpha-D-glucosamine (UDP-*N*AG) via the uridyltransferase GImU_N, with the subsequent pathway to Lipid II (green arrows) highly conserved in *Rickettsia* genomes (see Fig. S10). Via alanine racemase (Alr), imported L-Ala is converted to D-Ala, which is incorporated into the stem peptide by D-alanine--D-alanine ligase A (DdIA). Imported FPP is converted via IspU and PgpB in to *di-trans,poly-cis*-undecaprenyl-P (orange arrows), which serves as the lipid carrier for Lipid I and

Lipid II (see Fig. 3 of the manuscript for more details). At least nine conserved enzymes participate in incorporation of PGN into the murine sacculus (red). The pathway for PGN recycling (purple arrows) initiates with subunit excision via lytic transglycosylases (Slt and RvhB1). Individual subunits are imported back to the cytoplasm via AmpG transporters, which are present in multiple divergent copies in each *Rickettsia* genome (5). The full Gram-negative bacterial PGN recycling pathway is shown (6), with enzymes lacking in *Rickettsia* genomes marked with red Xs. This minimal set of enzymes generates two recyclable products (purple ellipses), while the fate of the remaining degraded products (light green ellipses) is unknown.

(F) Lipopolysaccharide biosynthesis by Rickettsia spp. requires import of NAG-1-P, D-ribose 5-P and UDP-glucose from the host. GImU N converts imported NAG-1-P to UDP-NAG, which enters the Raetz pathway (7) for synthesis of Kdo₂-lipid A (light blue arrows). Imported D-ribose 5-P is converted to D-ribulose 5-P via ribose-5-phosphate isomerase B (RpiB), leading to synthesis of CMP-Kdo. A pathway hole (gray circle) indicates the absence of a phosphatase to convert 3deoxy-D-manno-octulosonate 8-P to 3-deoxy-D-manno-octulosonate (Kdo) (see panels G-I). The incorporation of various fatty acids into the growing lipid A molety is shown (pink arrows). Acyl chain incorporation into Lipid A follows the structure deduced for R. typhi (8). UDP-NAG is also ligated to di-trans, poly-cis-undecaprenyl-P via undecaprenyl-P alpha-N-acetylglucosaminyl 1-P transferase (WecA) (orange arrows), creating the lipid carrier for O-antigen (see Fig. 3 of the manuscript for more details). UDP-N-acetylglucosamine 2-epimerase (WecB) also utilizes UDP-NAG to generate UDP-N-acetyl-D-mannosamine (UDP-ManNAc). Imported UDP-glucose is converted to UDP-glucuronate (UDP-GlcA) and UDP-alpha-D-galactose (UDP-Gal) via UDPglucose 6-dehydrogenase (Udg) and the epimerase/dehydratase FnIA, respectively. UDP-ManNAc, UDP-GlcA and UDP-Gal are predicted to be the main sugars used by peripheral enzymes (e.g., glycosyltransferases, glucosyltransferases, etc.) that polymerize O-antigen and extend the Kdo₂-lipid A acceptor.

(G) The pathway from D-Ribulose 5-P to CMP-Kdo is highly conserved across 2227 bacterial genomes (all prokaryotic genomes with an available Kdo₂-lipid A biosynthesis pathway at KEGG). The star depicts the pathway hole (no KdsC) in the *Rickettsia* CMP-Kdo pathway.

(H) Relative to the predominant "*E. coli*-like" pathway, the "*Rickettsia*-like" pathway for CMP-Kdo biosynthesis is far less common, occurring in 442 bacterial genomes (excluding *Rickettsia* genomes). The pathway hole (no KdsC) is noted with a red X.

(I) Taxonomic breakdown of bacterial species containing the *"Rickettsia*-like" CMP-Kdo biosynthesis pathway (442 total genomes). Genomes from intracellular species represent 41% of the total number of *"Rickettsia*-like" pathways.

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E. coli R. typhi	MLNNA-MSVVILAAGKGTRMYSDLPKVLHTLAGKAMVQHVIDAANELGAAHVHLVYGHGG MLHNENYQIIILAAGKGTRMESDLPKVMHEVGGVPMLETVLKNALKI-THDVIIVYS **:* .::*******************************	59 56
E. coli R. typhi	DLLKQALKDDNLNWVLQAEQLGTGHAMQQAAPFFADDEDILMLYGDVPLISVETLQRL 1 EALKKYLTPYENMCRFVLQEEPKGTAHATHAAIDLIDQNKIILVLYGDHPLITPTLMYEL 1 : **: *. :: .:*** * **.** : * :: ::: **:*** ***: : *	17 16
E. coli R. typhi	RDAKPQGGIGLLTVKLDDPTGYGRITRE-NGKVTGIVEHKDATDEQRQIQEINTGILI 1 IDYLSIINAALVTLSFERANPAQYGRIAIDKHGNFLEIIEYKNASEEEKKIKLCNSGIMA 1 * *:*:::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	74 76
E. coli R. typhi	ANGADMKRWLAKLTNNNAQGEYYITDIIALAYQEGREIVAVHPQRLSEVEGVNNRLQL 2. FSSGILNKYLPLFANNNTNCNQEIYLTEIVKICKNHGEKVSYLLSTDHDLIVGINTQSEL 2. ::.:*. ::** *.: * *:*:*: :. : * :: : : *:* :*	32 36
E. coli R. typhi	SRLERVYQSEQAEKLLLAGVMLRDPARFDLRGTLTHGRDVEIDTNVIIEGNVTLGHRVKI 2 KEANNIFFQNKS 2 . :.:: .:::	92 48
E. coli R. typhi	GTGCVIKNSVIGDDCEISPYTVVEDANLAAACTIGPFARLRPGAELLEGAHVGNFVEMKK 3:	52 48
E. coli R. typhi	ARLGKGSKAGHLTYLGDAEIGDNVNIGAGTITCNYDGANKFKTIIGDDVFVGSDTQLVAP 4	12 48
E. coli	VTVGKGATIAAGTTVTRNVGENALAISRVPQTQKEGWRRPVKKK 456	



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R. typhi





Genomes from intracellular species (41%):

