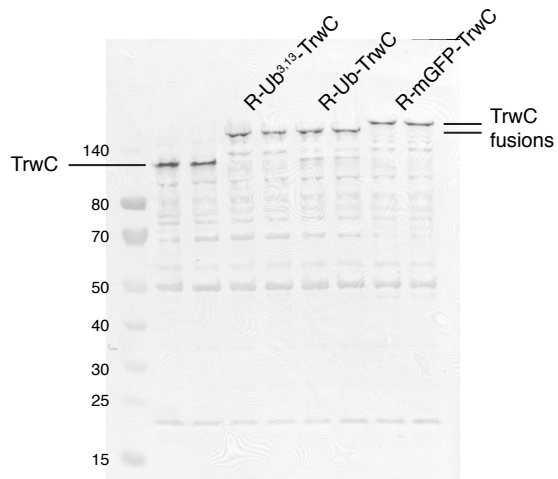


Supplemental material

Figure S1. Western blot of donor cells carrying R388 plasmid encoding wild-type or modified TrwC as indicated detected using self-made polyclonal α -TrwC antibody.



Shown are duplicates for each construct. The vast majority of the expressed TrwC consists of the full-length protein. There are no additional or stronger degradation bands in the R-Ub^{3,13}-TrwC construct in comparison to R-Ub-TrwC.

Supplementary table 1. Plasmids used in this study

Plasmids	Description	Source
pRSFDuet-1	Vector carrying two T7 promoters, RSF replicon, <i>lacI</i> gene and kanamycin resistance gene (KnR)	Novagen
pRSF-oriT	pRSFDuet-1 vector containing R388 <i>oriT</i> sequence and lacking part of <i>lacI</i> gene and the first promoter region	This study
pUC18	High copy number cloning vector	Agilent Technologies
pUC-oriT	pUC18 vector containing R388 <i>oriT</i> sequence	This study
pBAD-B1-B10Strep	pBAD _{M11} vector containing the genes <i>trwN/virB1</i> , <i>trwL/virB2</i> , <i>trwM/virB3</i> , <i>trwK/virB4</i> , <i>trwJ/virB5</i> , <i>trwI/virB6</i> , <i>trwH/virB7</i> , <i>trwG/virB8</i> , <i>trwF/virB9</i> , and <i>trwE/virB10</i> , with a Strep tag fused to TrwE C-terminus	(1)
pASK-B1-B10Strep-B11	pASK-IBA3C vector containing the R388 genes <i>virB1-virB11</i> , with a Strep tag fused to VirB10 C-terminus	(2)
pBAD-B1-B10Strep-B11	Identical to pBAD-B1-B10Strep, but containing <i>virB11</i> downstream of <i>virB10Strep</i>	This study
pBAD/MCS	Expression vector carrying <i>araBAD</i> promoter, <i>araC</i> gene and ampicillin resistance gene (AmpR)	EMBL
pBAD-ABCHis	pBAD/MCS vector containing the R388 genes <i>trwA</i> , <i>trwB</i> , and <i>trwC</i> with a (Gly) ₃ linker and a hexahistidine tag fused to the TrwC C-terminus	This study
pBAD-ABC-T4SS	Identical to pBAD-B1-B10Strep-B11, but containing the genes <i>trwA</i> , <i>trwB</i> , and <i>trwC</i> and a consensus <i>E. coli</i> rbs sequence upstream of <i>virB1</i> ; fused to the TrwC C-terminus is a hexahistidine tag separated by a (Gly) ₃ linker	This study
pBABE-Cre-ER-ERT2	Vector encoding Cre recombinase	(3)
pBAD-AB_Cre-C	Identical to pBAD-ABCHis but containing Cre recombinase fused to the TrwC N-terminus with a (Gly) ₃ Ser(Gly) ₂ linker	This study
pBAD-AB_R-Cre-H	Identical to pBAD-ABCHis but containing Cre recombinase inserted between the TrwC relaxase (R; aa 1-312) and helixase (H; aa 1-313) domains with (Gly) ₃ SerGly linkers at both sides	This study
pBAD-ABC-Cre	Identical to pBAD-ABCHis but containing (Gly) ₃ -mGFP-(Gly) ₃ -His ₆ fused to the TrwC C-terminus	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-C_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-C but containing a consensus <i>E. coli</i> rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	This study
pBAD-AB_R-Cre-H_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-AB_R-Cre-H but containing a consensus <i>E. coli</i> rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	This study
pBAD-ABC-Cre_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-ABC-Cre but containing a consensus <i>E. coli</i> rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes	This study

	downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	
pBAD-AB_Cre(Y324F)-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-C but containing Y324F mutation in Cre	This study
pETZt	Expression vector carrying <i>lacI</i> gene, kanamycin resistance gene (KnR), and T7 promoter encoding a hexahistidine tag followed by Z tag and TEV protease cleavage site	EMBL
pETZt-TrwC	pETZt vector encoding TrwC with an N-terminal hexahistidine tag followed by Z tag and TEV cleavage site	This study
pETZt-mGFP-TrwC	pETZt vector encoding TrwC with an N-terminal hexahistidine tag followed by Z tag, TEV cleavage site, and mGFP	This study
pFastBacHT-mGFP	A modified pFastBacHTa vector encoding monomeric GFP (the K221L mutation of eGFP; Zacharias et al. 2002)	(4)
pBAD-ABC-mGFP	Identical to pBAD-ABC-Cre but containing mGFP instead of Cre recombinase	This study
pBAD-AB_R-mGFP-H	Identical to pBAD-AB_R-Cre-H but containing mGFP instead of Cre recombinase	This study
pBAD-AB_mGFP-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-C but containing mGFP instead of Cre recombinase	This study
pET17-Ub	pET17b vector encoding ubiquitin (Ub)	(5)
pET17-UbI3G,I13G	pET17b vector encoding ubiquitin mutant; Ile at amino acid positions 3 and 13 mutated to Gly	This study
pBAD-AB_Ub-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-C but containing Ub instead of Cre recombinase	This study
pBAD-AB_Ub3,13-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Ub-C apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub-C	Identical to pBAD-ABCHis but containing Cre-(Gly) ³ SerGly-Ub-(Gly) ³ Ser(Gly) ² fused to the TrwC N-terminus	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub3,13-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub-C apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-mGFP-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub-C but containing mGFP instead of Ub	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-Cre(Y324F)-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub-C but containing Cre(Y324F) instead of Ub	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub-C_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub-C but containing a consensus E. coli rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub3,13-C_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-Ub3,13-C but containing a consensus E. coli rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	This study
pBAD-AB_Cre-mGFP-C_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-mGFP-C but containing a consensus E. coli rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	This study

pBAD-AB_Cre-Cre(Y324F)-C_T4SS	Identical to pBAD-AB_Cre-Cre(Y324F)-C but containing a consensus E. coli rbs sequence followed by <i>virB1-virB11</i> genes downstream of <i>trwC</i> (TrwE has a Strep tag fused to the C-terminus)	This study
pBAD-AB_R-Ub-H	Identical to pBAD-ABCHis but containing (Gly) ³ Ser(Gly) ³ Ub-(Gly) ³ SerGly inserted between the TrwC relaxase (R; aa 1-312) and helicase (H; aa 313-966) domains	This study
pBAD-AB_R-Ub _{3,13} -H	Identical to pBAD-AB_R-Ub-H apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
pBAD-AB_R-Ub-C	pBAD/MCS vector containing the genes <i>trwA</i> , <i>trwB</i> , and modified <i>trwC</i> ; TrwC contains a duplicated relaxase domain (R; aa 1-305) followed by (Gly) ³ -His6-GlySer(Gly) ³ Ub-(Gly) ³ SerGly at its N-terminus and the second relaxase domain lacks the first methionine	This study
pBAD-AB_R-Ub _{3,13} -C	Identical to pBAD-AB_R-Ub-C apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
pBAD-AB_R-mGFP-C	Identical to pBAD-AB_R-Ub-C but containing mGFP instead of ubiquitin	This study
pBAD-ABC-Ub-H	pBAD/MCS vector containing the genes <i>trwA</i> , <i>trwB</i> , and modified <i>trwC</i> ; TrwC contains (Gly) ³ Ser(Gly) ³ Ub-(Gly) ³ SerGly followed by a duplicated helicase domain (H; aa 313-966) and a hexahistidine tag at its C-terminus	This study
pBAD-ABC-Ub _{3,13} -H	Identical to pBAD-ABC-Ub-H apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
pBAD-ABC-mGFP-H	Identical to pBAD-ABC-Ub-H but containing mGFP instead of ubiquitin	This study
pEL04	Vector containing the <i>cm-sacB</i> cassette to be used for positive/negative selection in recombineering. Positive selection using chloramphenicol, and negative selection against the <i>sacB</i> gene using sucrose.	NCI at Frederick
R388_R-Ub-TrwC	R388 plasmid encoding modified TrwC; TrwC contains a duplicated relaxase domain (R; aa 1-305) followed by (Gly) ³ -His6-GlySer(Gly) ³ Ub-(Gly) ³ SerGly at its N-terminus and the second relaxase domain lacks the first methionine	This study
R388_R-Ub _{3,13} -TrwC	Identical to R388_R-Ub-TrwC apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
R388_R-mGFP-TrwC	Identical to R388_R-Ub-TrwC but containing mGFP instead of ubiquitin	This study
R388_TrwC-Ub-H	R388 plasmid encoding modified TrwC; TrwC contains (Gly) ³ Ser(Gly) ³ Ub-(Gly) ³ SerGly followed by a duplicated helicase domain (H; aa 313-966) and a hexahistidine tag at its C-terminus	This study
R388_TrwC-Ub _{3,13} -H	Identical to R388_TrwC-Ub-H apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study

R388_TrwC-mGFP-H	Identical to R388_TrwC-Ub-H but containing mGFP instead of ubiquitin	This study
R388_R-Ub-H	R388 plasmid encoding modified TrwC; TrwC contains (Gly) ³ Ser(Gly) ³ -Ub-(Gly) ³ SerGly inserted between the TrwC relaxase (R; aa 1-312) and helixase (H; aa 313-966) domains	This study
R388_R-Ub ^{3,13} -H	Identical to R388_R-Ub-H apart from ubiquitin Ile to Gly mutations at amino acid positions 3 and 13	This study
R388_R-mGFP-H	R388 plasmid encoding modified TrwC; TrwC contains mGFP inserted between the TrwC relaxase (R; aa 1-312) and helixase (H; aa 1-313) domains with (Gly) ³ SerGly linkers at both sides	This study

mGFP-H fwd mGFP-R rev	GGAGGTGGCAGCGGCATGCCTTC CGACGAGG ACCGCTCCCACCGCCGAATGAATG GGCCTGTTTTTCTG	pBAD- AB_R- mGFP-H	primers used to linearize pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
N-mGFP fwd N-mGFP rev	GACTATCTAATGGTGAGCAAGGGC GAGGAGC CATACCGCCGCTACCGCCTCCCTT GTACAGCTC	pBAD- AB_mGFP- C	primers used to amplify <i>mGFP</i> from pBAD-ABC-mGFP plasmid
mGFP-TrwC fwd mGFP-TrwB rev	GGTAGCGGCGGTATGCTCAGTCA CATGGTATTGACC CACCATTAGATAGTCCCCTCAACA AAGG	pBAD- AB_mGFP- C	primers used to linearize pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
Ub I3G Ub I13G	CAGGGTCTTCACGAAG <u>CC</u> CTGCAT ATGTATATCTCC CTCCACTTCGAGAGT <u>G</u> <u>CC</u> GGTCTT ACCAGTCAG	pET17- Ubl3G,I13 G	primers for multi site-directed mutagenesis that incorporate ubiquitin I3G and I13G mutations (underlined)
Ub int fwd Ub int rev	GGCGGTGGGAGCGGTGGGGGCAT GCAGATCTTCGTGAAGACCCTGAC GCCGCTGCCACCTCCCCACCTCT GAGACGGAGG	pBAD- AB_R-Ub- H	primers used to amplify Ub sequence from pET17-Ub plasmid
Ub-H fwd Ub-R rev	GGAGGTGGCAGCGGCATGCCTTC CGACGAGG ACCGCTCCCACCGCCGAATGAATG GGCCTGTTTTTCTG	pBAD- AB_R-Ub- H	primers used to linearize pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
Ub3,13 int fwd Ub int rev	GGCGGTGGGAGCGGTGGGGGCAT GCAGGGCTTCGTGAAGACCCTGA C GCCGCTGCCACCTCCCCACCTCT GAGACGGAGG	pBAD- AB_R- Ub3,13-H	primers used to amplify Ubl3G,I13G sequence from pET17-Ubl3G,I13G plasmid
Ub-H fwd Ub-R rev	GGAGGTGGCAGCGGCATGCCTTC CGACGAGG ACCGCTCCCACCGCCGAATGAATG GGCCTGTTTTTCTG	pBAD- AB_R- Ub3,13-H	primers used to linearize pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
N-Ub fwd N-Ub rev	ATCTAATGCAGATCTTCGTGAAGA CCCTGAC GCCGCTACCGCCTCCCCACCTCT GAGACGGAGG	pBAD- AB_Ub-C	primers used to amplify Ub sequence from pET17-Ub plasmid
Ub-TrwC fwd Ub-TrwB rev	GGAGGCGGTAGCGGCGGTATGCT CAGTCACATGGTATTGACC AGATCTGCATTAGATAGTCCCCTC AACAAAGG	pBAD- AB_Ub-C	primers used to linearize pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
N-Ub3,13 fwd N-Ub rev	ATCTAATGCAGGGCTTCGTGAAGA CC GCCGCTACCGCCTCCCCACCTCT GAGACGGAGG	pBAD- AB_Ub3,13 -C	primers used to amplify Ubl3G,I13G sequence from pET17-Ubl3G,I13G plasmid
Ub-TrwC fwd Ub3,13-TrwB rev	GGAGGCGGTAGCGGCGGTATGCT CAGTCACATGGTATTGACC AGCCCTGCATTAGATAGTCCCCTC AACAAAGG	pBAD- AB_Ub3,13 -C	primers used to linearize pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
C-Cre fwd NC-Cre rev	GGTTCCAATTTACTGACCGTACAC C	pBAD- ABC-Cre	primers used to amplify Cre sequence

	CGCCTCCATCGCCATCTTCCAGCA G		from pBABE-Cre-ER-ERT2 plasmid
Cre-His fwd Cre-TrwC rev	ATGGCGATGGAGGCGGGCATCAT CATC CAGTAAATTGGAACCGCCACCCCT TCCG	pBAD- ABC-Cre	primers used to amplify the portion of the pBAD-ABC-mGFP plasmid lacking mGFP
Cre int fwd Cre int rev	GGTTCCAATTTACTGACCGTACAC C GCCACCTCCATCGCCATCTTCCAG CAG	pBAD- AB_R-Cre- H	primers used to amplify Cre sequence from pBABE-Cre-ER-ERT2 plasmid
Cre-H fwd Cre-R rev	GGCGATGGAGGTGGCAGCGGCAT G CAGTAAATTGGAACCGCTCCCACC GCCGAATG	pBAD- AB_R-Cre- H	primers used to amplify the portion of the pBAD-AB_R-mGFP-H plasmid lacking mGFP
N-Cre fwd NC-Cre rev	CTAATGTCCAATTTACTGACCGTAC ACC CGCCTCCATCGCCATCTTCCAGCA G	pBAD- AB_Cre-C	primers used to amplify Cre sequence from pBABE-Cre-ER-ERT2 plasmid
Cre-TrwC fwd Cre-TrwB rev	ATGGCGATGGAGGCGGTAGCGGC GGTATG TAAATTGGACATTAGATAGTCCCCT CAACAAAGG	pBAD- AB_Cre-C	primers used to amplify the portion of the pBAD-AB_mGFP-C plasmid lacking mGFP
Cre Y324F sense Cre Y324F antisense	CCAATGTAAATATTGTCATGAACTT TATCCGTAACCTGG CCAGGTTACGGATAAAGTTCATGA CAATATTTACATTGG	pBAD- AB_Cre(Y3 24F)-C	primers for site-directed mutagenesis that incorporate Cre Y324F mutation (underlined)
TrwC fwd TrwC rev	CATGCTCAGTCACATGGTATTGAC C ATCTCATTACCTTCCGGCCTCCAT GC	pETZt- TrwC	primers used to amplify <i>trwC</i> from pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
pETZt fwd TrwC- pETZt rev	GGAAGGTAATGAGATCCGGCTGCT AACAAAGC ATGTGACTGAGCATGGCGCCCTGA AAATAAAGATTC	pETZt- TrwC	primers used to linearize pETZt vector
mGFP fwd TrwC rev	GCCATGGTGAGCAAGGGCGAG ATCTCATTACCTTCCGGCCTCCAT GC	pETZt- mGFP- TrwC	primers used to amplify <i>mGFP-trwC</i> from pBAD-AB_mGFP-C plasmid
pETZt fwd mGFP- pETZt rev	GGAAGGTAATGAGATCCGGCTGCT AACAAAGC CTTGCTCACCATGGCGCCCTGAAA ATAAAGATTC	pETZt- mGFP- TrwC	primers used to linearize pETZt vector
Cre-Ub fwd TrwC int rev	GGGAGCGGTGGGGGCATGCAGAT CTTCGTGAAGACCCTG GCATAGGCATGATCGACGTGC	pBAD- AB_Cre- Ub-C	primers used to amplify Ub-TrwC sequence from pBAD-AB_Ub-C plasmid

TrwC int fwd linker-Cre rev	CGATCATGCCTATGCGACGAC GCCCCACCGCTCCCACCATCGC CATCTTCCAGCAG	pBAD- AB_Cre- Ub-C pBAD- AB_Cre- Ub3,13-C pBAD- AB_Cre- mGFP-C pBAD- AB_Cre- Cre(Y324F)- -C	primers used to linearize pBAD- AB_Cre-C plasmid
Cre- Ub3,13 fwd TrwC int rev	GGGAGCGGTGGGGGCATGCAGG GCTTCGTGAAGACC GCATAGGCATGATCGACGTGC	pBAD- AB_Cre- Ub3,13-C	primers used to amplify Ub3,13-TrwC sequence from pBAD- AB_Ub3,13-C plasmid
Cre- mGFP fwd TrwC int rev	GGGAGCGGTGGGGGCGTGAGCAA GGGCGAGGAGC GCATAGGCATGATCGACGTGC	pBAD- AB_Cre- mGFP-C	primers used to amplify mGFP-TrwC sequence from pBAD- AB_mGFP-C plasmid
Cre-Cre fwd TrwC int	GGGAGCGGTGGGGGCTCCAATTT ACTGACCGTACACCAAATTTGC GCATAGGCATGATCGACGTGC	pBAD- AB_Cre- Cre(Y324F)- -C	primers used to amplify Cre(Y324F)- TrwCsequence from pBAD- AB_Cre(Y324F)-C plasmid
pBAD fwd His-R rev	CGGAAGGTAATGAGCTCCGTCGAC AAGCTTG GTGATGATGGTATGACCGCCACC TGAACCGCCCTTCTCCC	pBAD- AB_R-Ub- C pBAD- AB_R- Ub3,13-C	primers used to linearize pBAD- ABHis plasmid lacking helicase domain and the hexahistidine tag
His-Ub fwd linker-Ub rev	CATCACCATCATCACCATGGGAGC GGTGGGGGCATG GCCGCTGCCACCTCCCCACCTCT GAGACGGAGGACC	pBAD- AB_R-Ub- C pBAD- AB_R- Ub3,13-C	primers used to amplify Ub/Ub3,13 sequence from pBAD- AB_R-Ub-H plasmid
linker- TrwC fwd TrwC rev 2	GGAGGTGGCAGCGGCCTCAGTCA CATGGTATTGACCCGACAG GCTCATTACCTTCCGGCCTCCATG CC	pBAD- AB_R-Ub- C pBAD- AB_R- Ub3,13-C	primers used to amplify <i>trwC</i> from pBAD-ABHis plasmid
linker- TrwC 2 mGFP- His rev	GGAGGTGGCAGCGGCCTCAGTCA CATGGTATTGACC CTCGCCCTTGCTCACGCCCCACC GCTCCCATG	pBAD- AB_R- mGFP-C	primers used to linearize pBAD-AB_R- Ub-C plasmid lacking ubiquitin sequence
mGFP fwd 2	GTGAGCAAGGGCGAGGAGC GCCGCTGCCACCTCCCTTG	pBAD- AB_R- mGFP-C	primers used to amplify mGFP sequence from pBAD-

mGFP rev 2			AB_R-mGFP-H plasmid
TrwC- linker fwd TrwB rev	CGGAAGGGGCGGTGGGAGCGGT GG CCTCAACAAAGGCCGGTTGC	pBAD- ABC-Ub-H pBAD- ABC- Ub3,13-H	primers used to amplify Ub/Ub3,13-H- pBAD-AB from pBAD- AB_R-Ub/Ub3,13-H plasmid
TrwB fwd TrwC rev 3	CGGCCTTTGTTGAGGGGACTATC CCACCGCCCCTTCGGCCTCCATG	pBAD- ABC-Ub-H pBAD- ABC- Ub3,13-H	primers used to amplify <i>trwC</i> from pBAD-ABCHis plasmid
mGFP fwd 2 TrwB rev	GTGAGCAAGGGCGAGGAGC CCTCAACAAAGGCCGGTTGC	pBAD- ABC- mGFP-H	primers used to linearize pBAD-AB_R- mGFP-H plasmid lacking the relaxase domain sequence
TrwB fwd mGFP- linker rev	CGGCCTTTGTTGAGGGGACTATC CTCGCCCTTGCTCACGCCCCACC GCTCCCAC	pBAD- ABC- mGFP-H	primers used to amplify <i>trwC</i> from pBAD-ABC-Ub-H plasmid

Supplemental References

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