

1 ***Vibrio parahaemolyticus* RhsP Represents a Widespread Group of**
2 **Pro-effectors for Type VI Secretion System**

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36 **Running title: A widespread pro-effector for T6SS**

38 **Keywords:** T6SS, Rhs, Pro-effector, PAAR, social cheater

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40 **Supporting Information**

41 **Supplementary Methods**

42 **Quantitative Real-time PCR.** The total bacterial RNA was extracted using RNeasy Mini Kit
43 (Qiagen) after being treated with RNAProtect Bacteria Reagent (Qiagen). Synthesis of cDNA
44 was performed using PrimeScript RT reagent Kit (Takara). Quantitative PCR was carried on
45 cDNA using SYBR Premix Ex TagII (Takara) on a CFX96 Real-Time PCR machine (BioRad).
46 16S rRNA gene was used as an internal control.

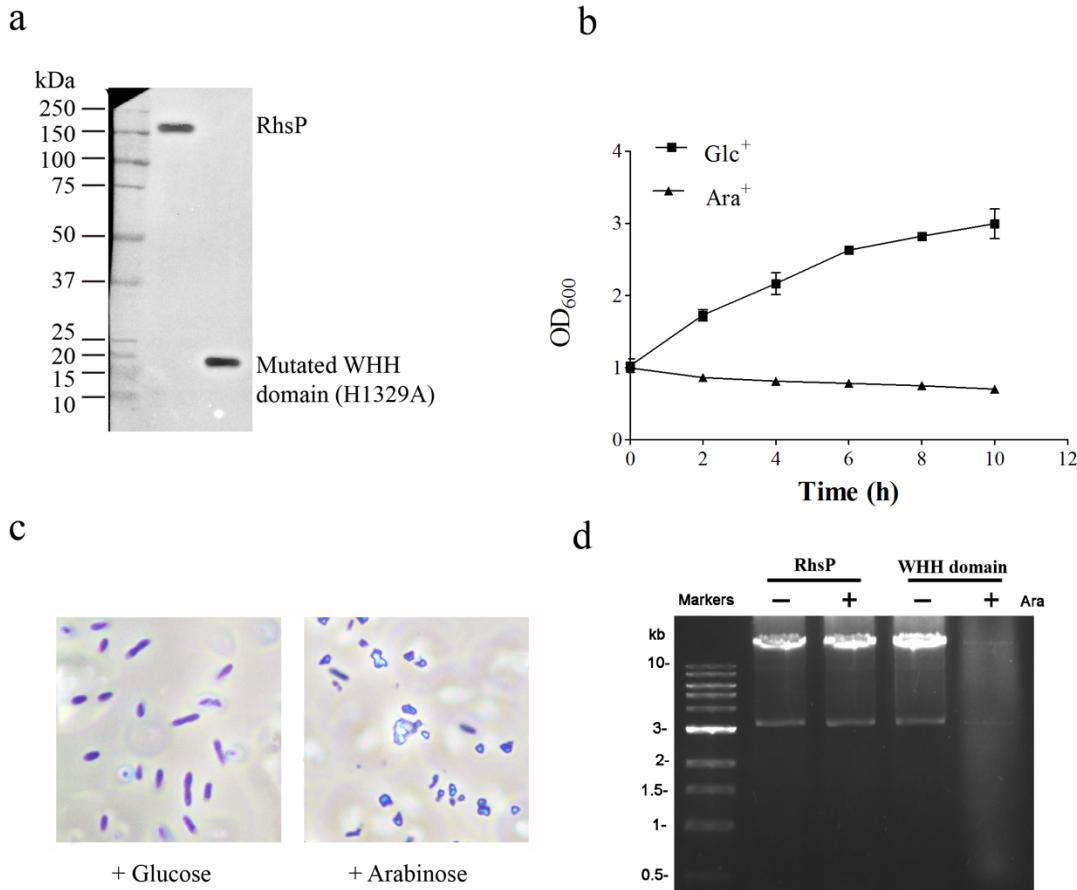
47 **Microscopy imaging of bacteria.** *E. coli* cells containing pBAD24-WHH domain were
48 recovered in 5ml LB to OD₆₀₀ = 0.6, and induced by 0.2% arabinose and glucose respectively for
49 2 hours. Five microliters of bacteria were dropped on the object slide and imaged using a Nikon
50 eclipse E200 microscope.

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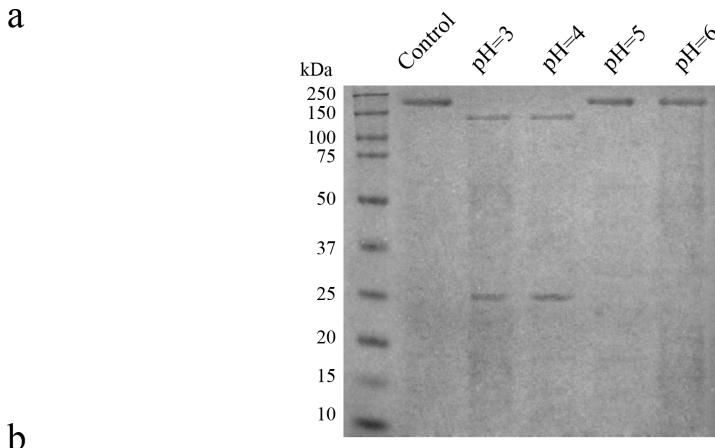
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54 **Supplementary Figures**



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56 **Supplementary Fig. 1. Toxicity of RhsP and its WHH domain on *E. coli*.** (a) Western blot
 57 analysis of the expression of RhsP-FLAG in *E. coli* DH5 α . A WHH domain with site-directed
 58 mutagenesis (H1329A) expressed in *E. coli* DH5 α was included as a control. (b) Growth curve
 59 of *E. coli* expressing WHH domain (pBAD24-WHH domain-F). 0.2 % glucose (Glc⁺) or 0.2%
 60 arabinose (Ara⁺) was added into cultures when the bacterial OD₆₀₀ reached 1.0 to repress or
 61 induce the expression of WHH domain respectively. Bacterial number as measured by OD₆₀₀
 62 decreased gradually when the expression of WHH domain was induced by arabinose, contrary to
 63 the increase when bacteria were supplemented with glucose. (c) Microscopy images of *E. coli*
 64 expressing WHH domain (pBAD24-WHH domain-F). Cells died and broke upon WHH domain
 65 induction, while remained intact when the expression of WHH domain was repressed. Images
 66 were captured under 100 \times visual field. (d) The electrophoresis of the DNA extracted from *E.*
 67 *coli* containing pBAD24-rhsP-F or pBAD24-WHH domain-F. The expression of RhsP and
 68 WHH domain in *E. coli* DH5 α was induced by arabinose for 4 hours and the total DNA from
 69 bacterial cells was extracted and analysed by 1% agarose gel.



b

MIPQFVIPLTNCLGQSYHFSSQPIPKGEHKKFDEQSAKAFLDDFPLRSSRVEELYHLLGQ
 FPPNVPDEELTPELYAPVFAKALVNGSLYVASFPKTKKNATISSEPTPVPKQVKAKSKQNK
 AHTSSKTQAKNSASAKPLQTGSECHEKAGDPVSLTGEEILTLNDVELPNGFVWSRTYRS
 SKASRNQGLGYGWRHAFQFELKEVTDEKHNTSWEFISDSADEFEPVEHGSTS YQVYV
 GASCHFLNPNI RIVTLSSGDQYRFELVEDIWLKQVRNGIFSTFQLRYSRNHRLIEVAHNK
 RPVLECQYDKQGRLVELLNAKTEQVLTTIYDEQDDLGVATNDLGLTERYEYQDQHLIA
 KRV RPTGFTHYFEWSGEGSSAKCIRNF GDSIYDYRFHYEGAKSSYSDLDNEWTFIHDE
 QGHLL EKSSPTGRTWQWHYDH LGRKEKA VFPDNSTTQYQYNQQQLISKLHSSGAQIQY
 GYDSL GKLVKTVSPDG DLEKAYYNSLGQRVWDIDALGC VT EYEYDKHGQVVKRESEDG
 KKS RWWWDKQQLVAHEVDGTLLRYSYGATDLVNGIAYPDGCVAQISYDDYGRRTSIR
 YFN DEDKVG YSE EYAYDEF SRVAQI QTPEGVTSYQWGALAQQEAVIFPDGS HISYEYDQ
 QRNLTKLVRSDGLA FE FWYDSEGLLSGTVGFDGLHSQFKYDSM GRIIRKDVA DRTVLYS
 YD DAGFLQH IKAG NGK NIVEN HFNYT LGGRLT LASNRH QTLQYQYSSFGH LT KRI QQFE
 IGE EFNR VGQ RV S Q TLP DK TSF NF SYD TN GRL SEIR FS DD SLP KIEF QYD VM GRL SVT ETES
 FRE SKLYD GVG RL VE QQW SGREKKYIYNAQ NRIS SILD NTAGATHYQYDT LGYV TKV SE
 AG STSTF ESD SF GNPA LADSKV M SDRI EAYAGV RYK YDQ QGNQ VKREG DGT VQ KRV FD
 AL SQLV E VHGD SSI SHYEY DALG RRT KIT QNGITEFL WEGER LLGERT ADGFRW LYQP
 ETYIPLA VLENG SIYL YECDQ VGKPERLK DSAG NI VWS ASYDV HGFA SID VEE VRNPL RFQ
 GQYFDQETNLHYNLARYYDPK LGRFIQ QDP SIAGGINHYQYAVNPIQWIDPTGFLCE EGL

KRLQQ**M**LA EYQA QSD VPQE VCD QILEAA KESSVG EDG VRSQVK IRKP NGKNNI RYEYD
 LD HIDCK KNEITFYRH INYSDG SKRK I QYTVGIE GFV D IYDFVN VQKCD**AQVYDTKTSKT**
VG GRKIINSEFAGKTVTTKG GDVRF DSGFPDFTPYSKKTVR VIGLTGDM ANDVPLAMA
RAK I KYDKSKYVWHHQDGKTMMLIPKSVHSVRNGVAHTGGRS VIQHNLLNPNNKL
NYSSPEELV

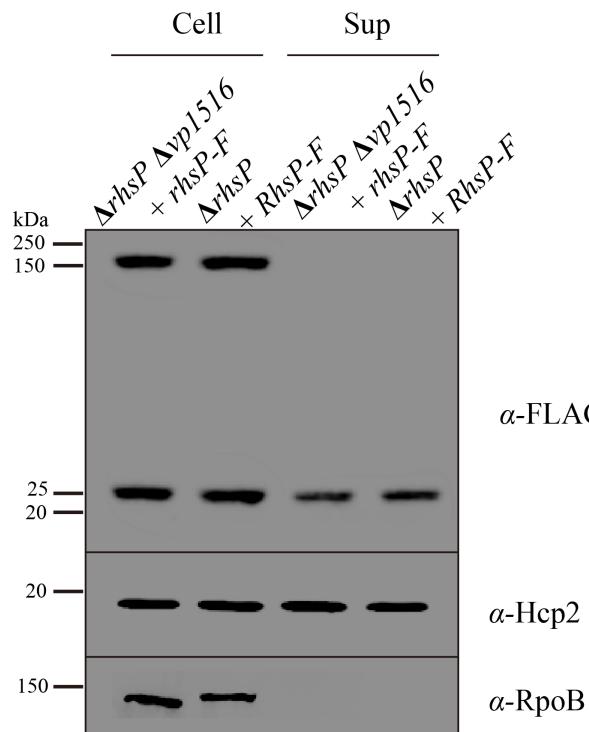
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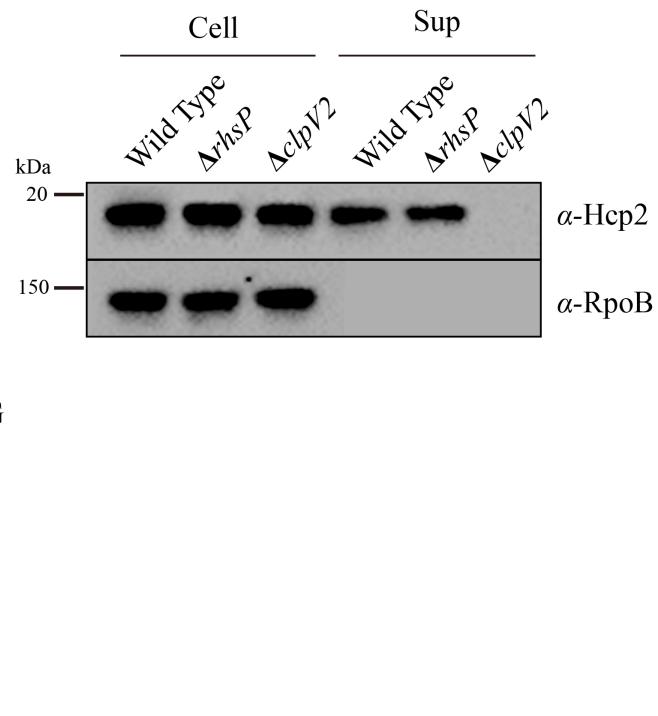
72 **Supplementary Fig. 2. Auto-proteolysis of RhsP.** (a) RhsP was self-cleaved and its C-terminal
 73 toxin domain was released upon incubation in acidic condition. The pH value of the incubation
 74 condition was shown. (b) Sequence annotation of RhsP. Different domains are shown in colours.
 75 Green: RHS repeats; Red: intrinsic aspartic protease; Orange: PAAR-interacting domain PID;
 76 Blue: WHH domain. The larger font highlighted methionine (M) is the cleavage site.

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a



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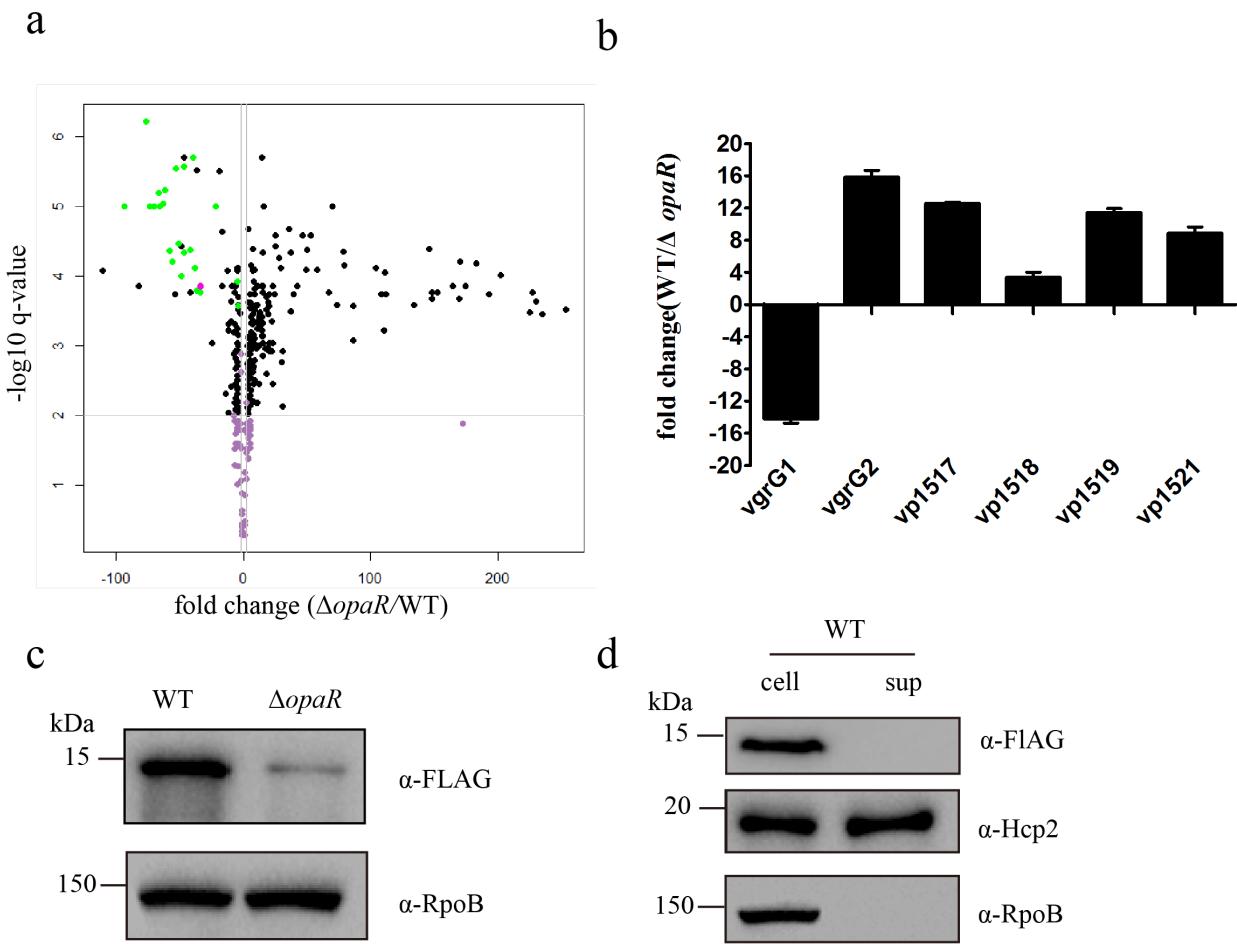
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82 **Supplementary Fig. 3.** (a) Deletion of *vp1516* in *V. parahaemolyticus* RIMD 2210633 has no
83 effect on the secretion of RhsP. FLAG tagged RhsP (RhsP-F) was expressed in $\Delta rhsP$ or
84 $\Delta rhsP\Delta vp1516$ and the secretion of RhsP and its derivatives were examined by Western blot
85 analysis of the total (Cell) and secreted proteins (Sup) by α -FLAG antibody. (b) Deletion of *rhsP*
86 in *V. parahaemolyticus* RIMD 2210633 did not affect Hcp2 secretion.

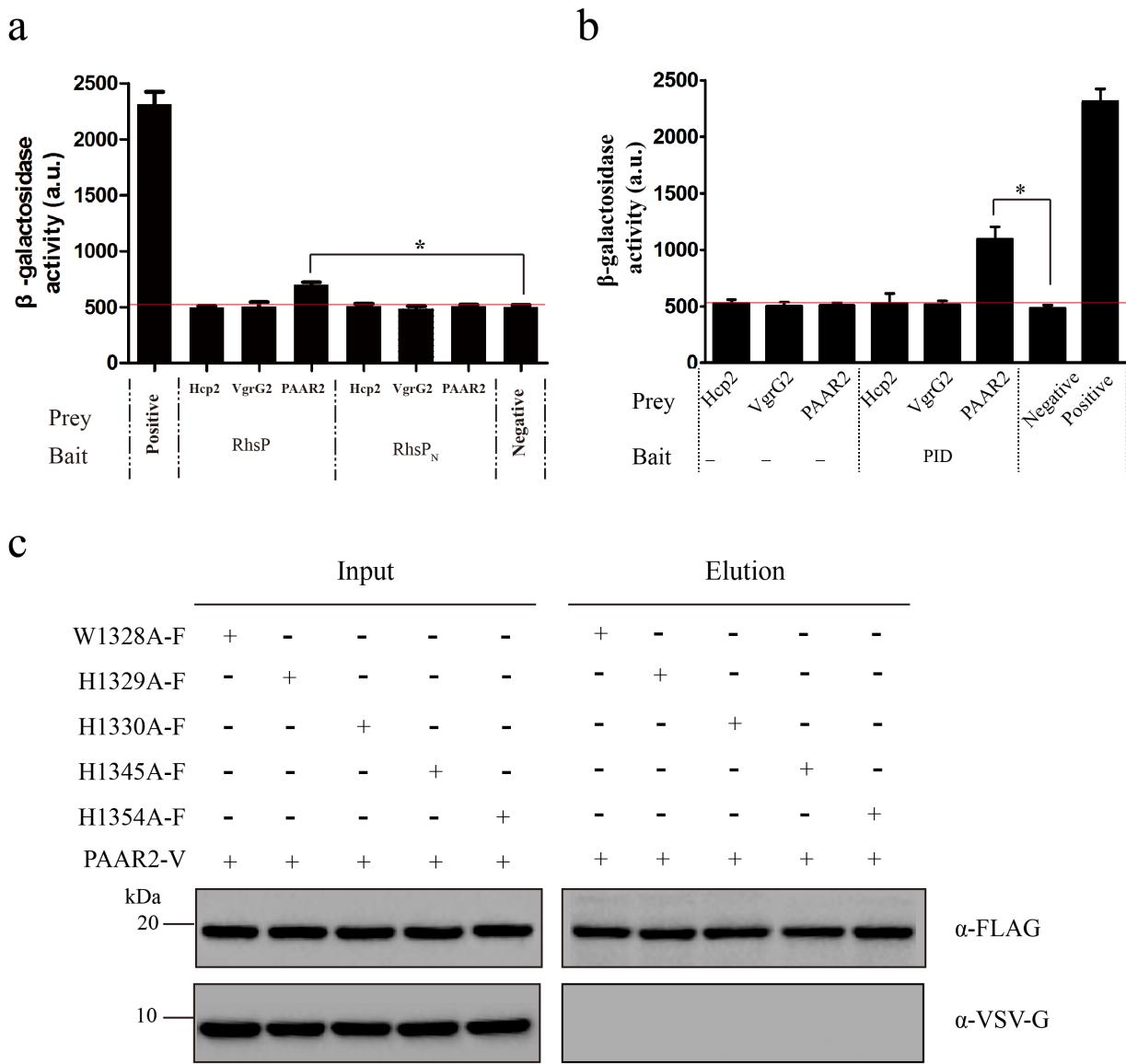
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91 **Supplementary Fig. 4. The expression of *rhsP* and *rhsPi* is positively regulated by OpaR.** (a)
92 Volcano map visualization of the genes regulated by OpaR based on the microarray data
93 published previously¹. *rhsP* (magenta dot) and the T6SS2 genes (green dot) are marked. (b)
94 Real-time PCR validation of OpaR regulation on genes in *rhsP* loci. *vgrG1* from T6SS1 and
95 *vgrG2* from T6SS2 were included as controls. (c) Western blot analysis of the expression level of
96 FLAG tagged RhsPi in wild-type *V. parahaemolyticus* and the corresponding Δ *opaR*, both of
97 which contain a chromosomal *rhsPi::flag* (*vp1518::flag*). (d) RhsPi is not secreted. Western blot
98 analysis of the secretion of the RhsPi in wild-type *V. parahaemolyticus*, which contains a
99 chromosomal *rhsPi::flag*.

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102 **Supplementary Fig. 5. RhsP interacts with PAAR2.** (a) Bacterial two-hybrid assay to detect
103 the interaction of full-length RhsP or N-terminal of RhsP ($RhsP_N$) with selected T6SS2
104 components. (b) Bacterial two-hybrid assay to detect the interaction between PAAR-interacting
105 domain PID (the first 102 amino acids after the auto-proteolysis site) and the components of
106 T6SS puncture device. For (a) and (b), the values represent the means \pm s.d. from one
107 representative experiment performed with triplicate samples. Equivalent results were obtained at
108 least three times. Significance was determined by the two-tailed Student *t* test. **p*<0.05. (c)
109 Co-immunoprecipitation between WHH domain derivatives (different site-directed mutants) and
110 PAAR2. Results showed that various WHH domain derivatives do not interact with PAAR2.
111 WHH domain derivatives and PAAR2 were expressed in *E. coli* DH5 α .

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a

Autolysis site

↓

b

Tox-REase-6 domain:

| Sec_Structure | | EEE | -EEEEEE- | EEEEEE |
|---------------------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| >OO110452.1 | | E | E | E |
| >KJRU14643.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_005396166.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >EV783419.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >NP_797899.1_WP1520 | --E | E | E | E |
| >CDU10490.1 | --EDGYNAQIAKINQOAKIGELAADDFVRSK-RPNAKLHH--PKDIGTS-ISKPQDFDMYVREVEP--PPGEIIIYEAKGSSP--ECSRKL-GNMYA | | | |
| >WP_067813465.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_089950376.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_054554077.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >KYN23749.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_045987052.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >ADAB40286.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_056302714.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >OB16475.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >AGY56346.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >EDY52427.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_046283674.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_052741139.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >WP_055023366.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| >KP255502.1 | --E | E | E | E |
| Consensus/80% | | | | |

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Sec_Structure -----H-----B-----H-----B-----E-----E-----E-----E-----
>O0110452.1 -Q-CTE-TAATIDLMAQK-----DKDTTEWKAARS---INKALRKKIPIVRIIHTTAIS---DAGEVSSVNVKEI<del>N</del>VELGFD-
>KJR14643.1 -Q-CTE-TATEITRLMOMEN-----ALGTTTERAEGNQ-----IKRAIYGDIPDIPR-LHLVQPPIN-----STVDVKRVEK<del>S</del>INQGTL-
>WP_005396166.1 -Q-CTSK-AAEVILKLMSEN-----KEGTETQLAADE-----IQFAFASGIPR-----IFTQASPIP-EESGKASDV-KLEVAE<del>K</del>IDSEGLK-
>EV783419.1 -Q-CTSK-AAEVILKLMSEN-----KEGTETKLAADE-----IQFAFASGIPR-----IFTQASPIP-EESGKASDV-KLEVAE<del>K</del>IDSEGLK-
>NP_797899.1_VP1520 -NP_797899.1_VP1520 -MLNASTK-ESSEINTSDPR-IHTKASDPI-ETGDASDI-KVGIAE<del>K</del>ID-
>CDU10490.1 -Q-CTTE-TAATITRLMSKN-----KEGTTRKNNNSK-----NSTCSFVRTHYI<del>S</del>TNPKH<del>N</del>-
>WP_067814656.1 -Q-CTPE-SRFIL-----KRDIDLAKARDELPLQRKLKEELEKKNLFRVSYVV-----HVNDVQFCEVNWAR<del>H</del>LDURGA-
>WP_089950376.1 -Q-CTPKP-TESV11NQMKARY-----GTDAAEKLAK-----DLIIKHARRGGDD-MWVQAVKN-SGSFPAEEYEGC<del>K</del>HQDNV-
>WP_054554077.1 -Q-CTSKM-N1593SKLDTLTKDPRYLACGDDFVKEVQGQ1MQLDD-----IDDLARDDG-AVIDIG1QIQCQAN-KDAGLIEVDSI<del>D</del>ICG-
>KYN23749.1 -Q-CTHPK-TESV11NQMKARY-----QANTTELLMNLRS-VLSLSDVQONKLSS-VKHVHOHT-----NSGALGSIN11LYDKQ-
>WP_045987052.1 -Q-CTSPAT-TKSIVIGEMEDDNFDNN-----KDQIILTHQDRYQYDITLMDLMEORDTQD1-KVVRORHTN-----AGGVPTGVGTVGJYDVKRPSQO-
>AD4B0286.1 -Q-CTRE-TAATITRLMSKN-----SSNPEVRHTAAT-----IENTPSBSKWE<del>L</del>WVLFDRDN-PDSLKS1T<del>TA</del>WKF-
>WP_056302714.1 -Q-CTPE-DNEIIBIMRGN-----RRNAAVMDAVS-----ALDRRTET-MEVRAPIR-SSTGGDDESVCIEASD<del>I</del>LRPGQP-
>OBQ16475.1 -Q-CTSKP-FEEV11NMSKSN-----QSSKAATKAGRE-----LGDAHDQHNEK-LEVRAPVFTIDSSGNAQLQDQIKE-DISN-<del>N</del>-
>AGX56346.1 -E-QSR-FEDWAKNMYFK-----GEDIEGELLNAS-----KSGDQV<del>L</del>KVQVPID-AKNGTSTARAKA<del>N</del>LQK-
>EDY52427.1 -Q-CRPE-LEWMLWN-----DKDFHAAEEGLQLRQNRNLPV-----LYTVTASCG-----RNTRVSE<del>K</del>-
>WP_046283674.1 -Q-CTTRR-LLWSLDEM-----EKDADPVVAK-----VRDALKKK-TIIR-LYSTTPF-----EAGEALETTTKE<del>Q</del>L-
>WP_052741139.1 -AT052741139.1 -Q-CTTRR-LLTS1LNN-----EKDY-PDVVAK-----IRARAKKPGGLK-LYSTSPF-----ADPSRALTTC<del>K</del>TL-
>WP_055023366.1 -Q-CTTE-AEA1TTEIGER-----DEGSTKAA1ALV-----INAKSKNNKQHIO-LH1LTPVTP-RTDKVSVSEVKE<del>I</del>SE-DIDFRR-
>KP255502.1 -Q-CTKTAKA1TKMSKNTNTN-----PKASTDRKAAKA---ITKAAKKNNKQHIO-LH1LTPVTP-RTDKVSVSEVKE<del>I</del>SE-DIDKNALE-
Consequence/80% -Q-CSCYH-Lb-hb-ss-brb-nn-brs-slvb-hb-brs-hb-brs-brb-cFcb-

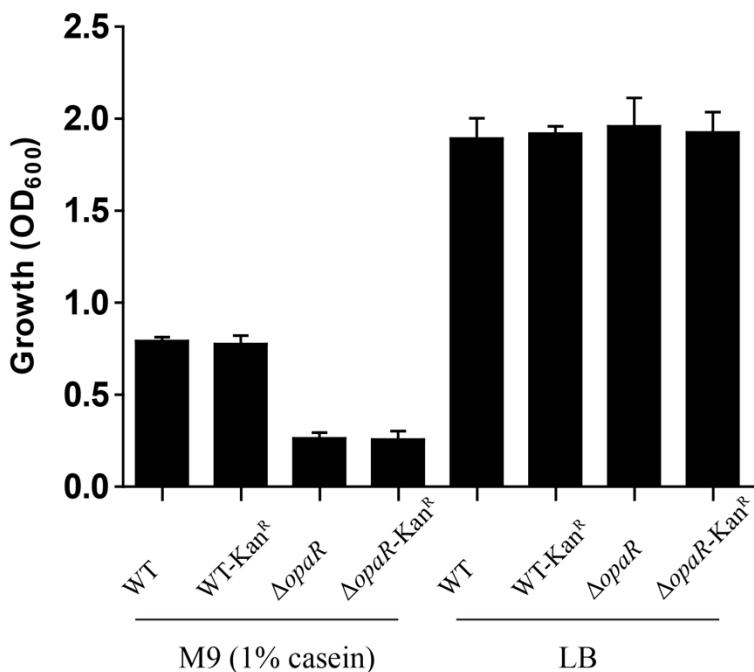
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Supplementary Fig. 6. Sequence analysis of VP1519 and VP1520. (a) Sequences alignment of PID of VP1517 with VP1519. VP1519 shows high homology with the amino acid sequences of PID in VP1517. (b) VP1520 shows similarity with truncated Tox-REase-6 domain.

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121 **Supplementary Fig. 7. Growth of *V. parahaemolyticus* wild-type (WT) and ΔopaR in LB**
 122 **broth and M9 broth minimum media with 1% casein as carbon source.** Each strain was
 123 inoculated independently and grown overnight in either M9 broth medium containing 1% casein
 124 or in LB broth at 37°C for 16 h, the OD₆₀₀ was then measured. The means of each data set in one
 125 representative experiment performed with triplicates was shown. Equivalent results were
 126 obtained twice.

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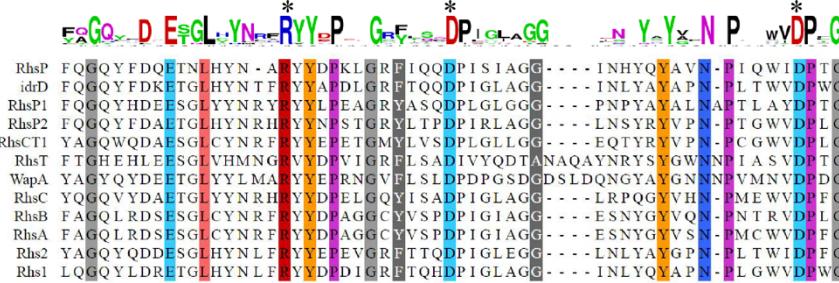
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a

PID domain:

b



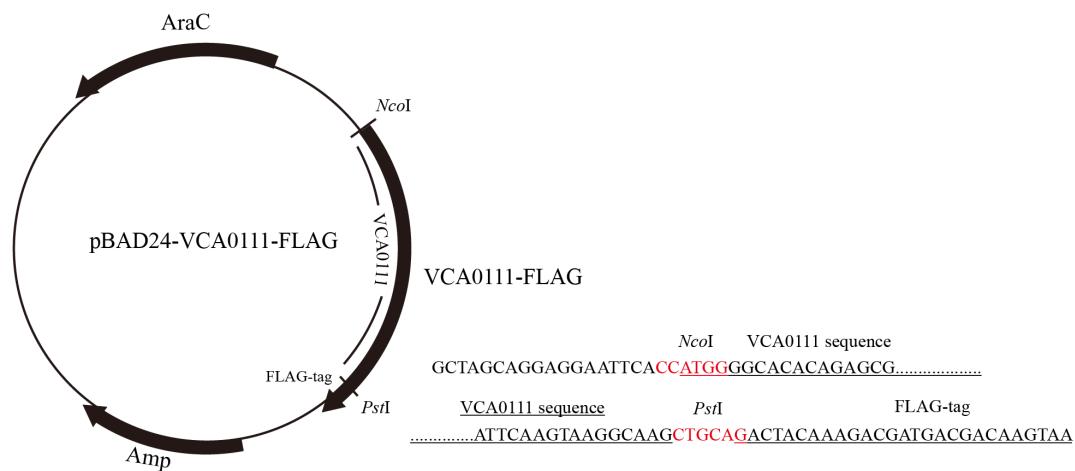
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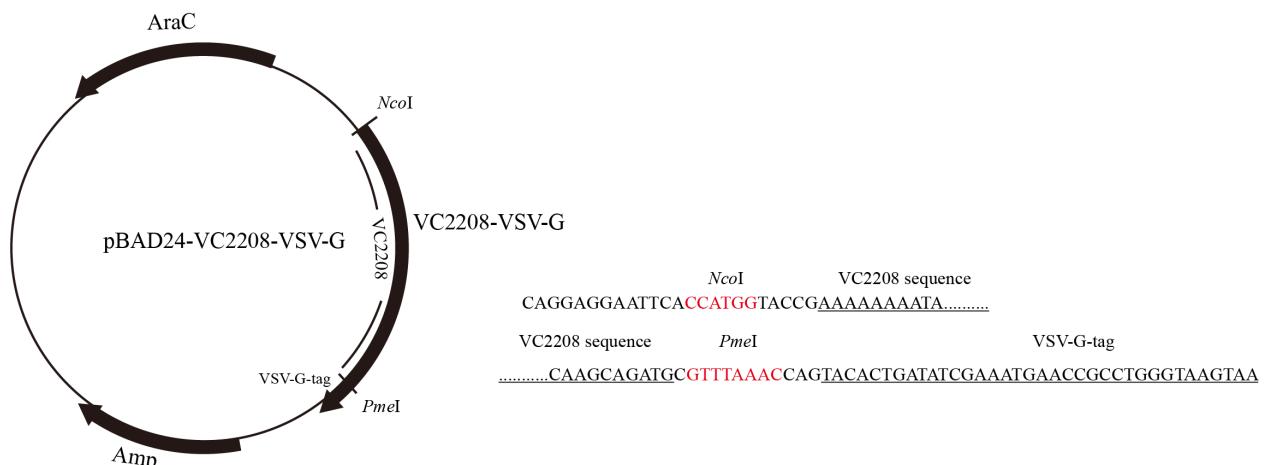
134 **Supplementary Fig. 8.** (a) Alignment of amino acid sequences of PID from different
 135 pro-effectors identified in Fig. 5a. (b) Alignment of the conserved aspartic protease domain in
 136 PAAR-Rhs effectors that have been reported previously²⁻⁹. Characteristic residues (RDD) are
 137 indicated by asterisks.

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a

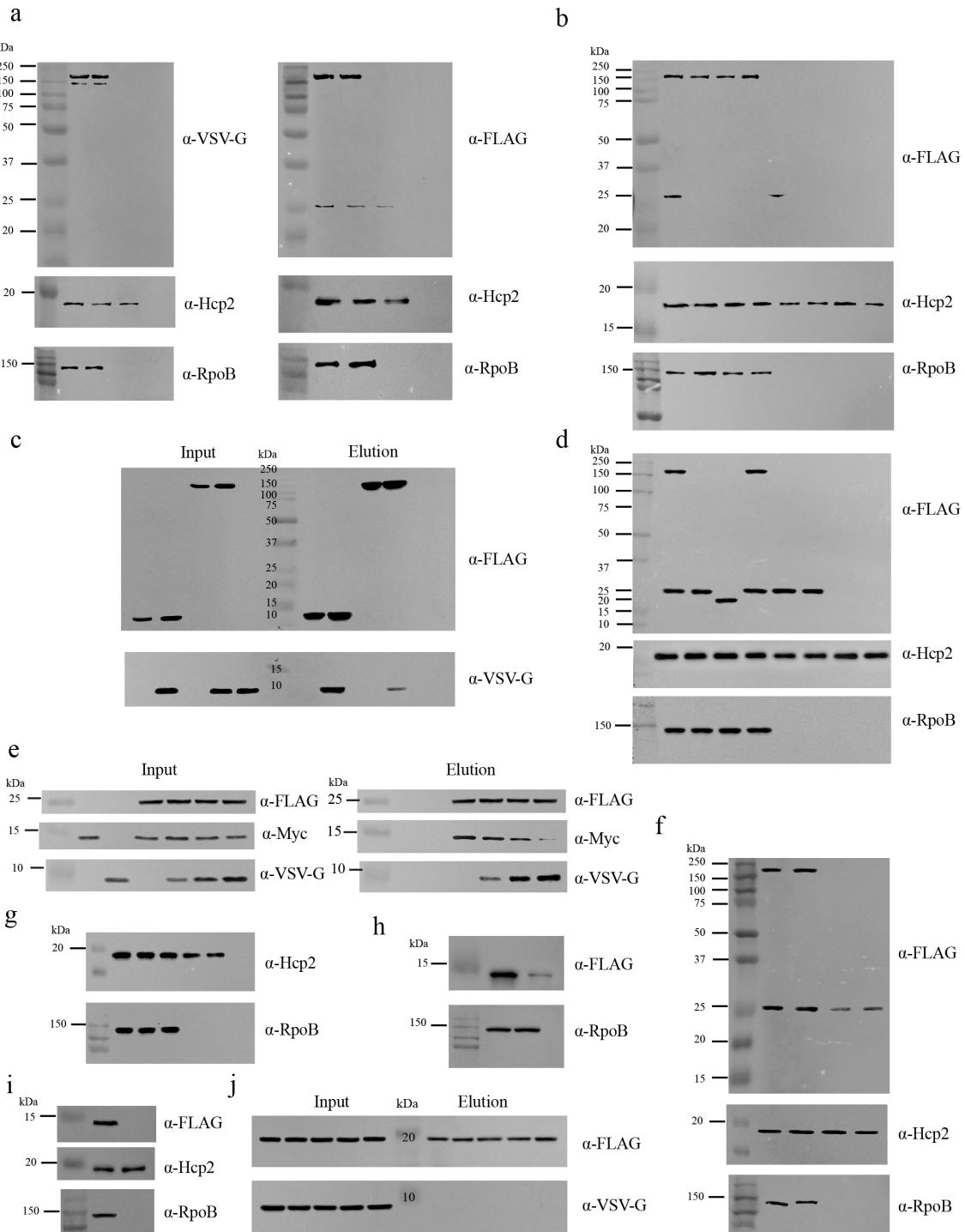


b

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Supplementary Fig. 9. The map and nucleic acids sequences of cloning sites for vector expressing (a) FLAG tag and (b) VSV-G tag. Tested gene was amplified by primers listed in Supplementary Table 5 and the PCR product was ligated into *NcoI/PstI* digested pBAD24-VCA0111-FLAG to construct FLAG tagged protein or ligated into *NcoI/PmeI* digested pBAD24-VC2208-VSV-G to construct VSV-G tagged protein.

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Supplementary Fig. 10. Original figure of western blot analysis for results used in the article. (a) Full picture for Fig. 2e. (b) Full picture for Fig. 3a. (c) Full picture for Fig. 3b. (d) Full picture for Fig. 3c. (e) Full picture for Fig. 4c. (f) Full picture for Supplementary Fig. 3a. (g) Full picture for Supplementary Fig. 3b. (h) Full picture for Supplementary Fig. 4c. (i) Full picture for Supplementary Fig. 4d. (j) Full picture for Supplementary Fig. 5c. All images in this study were acquired with a ChemiDoc imaging system.

155 **Supplementary Tables**

156 Supplementary Table 1. Novel toxins retrieved from *V. parahaemolyticus* RIMD 2210633 genome

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Supplementary Table 2. Bacterial strains and plasmids used in this study

| Bacterial strains/plasmids | Description | Source |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------|
| <i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i> | | |
| RIMD 2210633 | Wild-type <i>V. parahaemolyticus</i> , Amp ^R | ¹⁰ |
| Δ <i>rhsP</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>rhsP</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔpaar2</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>rhsP</i> and <i>paar2</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔclpV2</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>rhsP</i> and <i>clpV2</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsP + V-rhsP-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsP</i> complemented with pBAD33- <i>V-RhsP-F</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔclpV2 + V-rhsP-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsPΔclpV2</i> complemented with pBAD33- <i>V-RhsP-F</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsP + rhsP-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsP</i> complemented with pBAD33- <i>RhsP-F</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsP + rhsPc-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsP</i> complemented with pBAD33- <i>rhsPc-F</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsP + WHH domain-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsP</i> complemented with pBAD33-WHH domain-F | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔpaar2 + rhsP-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsPΔpaar2</i> complemented with pBAD33-RhsP-F | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔrhsPi</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>rhsP</i> and <i>rhsPi</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>clpV2</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>clpV2</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>clpV2 + clpV2</i> | Δ <i>clpV2</i> complemented with pBAD33- <i>clpV2</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>opaR</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>opaR</i> (<i>vp2516</i>) | This study |
| Δ <i>opaR-Kan^R</i> | Δ <i>opaR</i> complemented with pBBR1MCS2, Kan ^R | This study |
| Δ <i>opaR -Chl^R</i> | Δ <i>opaR</i> containing pBAD33, Chl ^R | This study |
| Δ <i>opaR + rhsPi</i> | Δ <i>rhsP</i> complemented with pBAD33- <i>rhsPi</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔvp1516</i> | RIMD 2210633, in-frame deletion of <i>rhsP</i> and <i>vp1516</i> | This study |
| Δ <i>rhsPΔvp1516 + rhsP-F</i> | Δ <i>rhsPΔvp1516</i> complemented with pBAD33-RhsP-F | This study |
| <i>E. coli</i> | | |
| DH5αλpir | F- φ80 <i>lacZΔM15 Δ(lacZYA-argF) LAMpir U169 endA1 recA1 hsdR17(rk-,mk+) supE44λ- thi -1 gyrA96 relA1 phoA</i> | Invitrogen |
| BL21(DE3) | F- <i>dcm ompT hsdS gal λ</i> (DE3) | Novagen |
| MFDpir | MG1655 RP4-2-Tc:: Mu1:: <i>aac(3)IV- apha- nic35- Mu2::zeo dapA::(erm-pir) recA</i> | ¹¹ |
| Plasmid | | |

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|------------|
| pET28a | cloning vector, PT7, Kan ^R | Invitrogen |
| pET28a- <i>rhsP</i> | pET28a expressing RhsP tagged with 6×His at C-terminal | This study |
| pET28a- R1092A | pET28a expressing RhsP mutant of R1092A tagged with 6×His at C-terminal | This study |
| pET28a- D1105A | pET28a expressing RhsP mutant of R1105A tagged with 6×His at C-terminal | This study |
| pET28a- D1127A | pET28a expressing RhsP mutant of R1127A tagged with 6×His at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24 | cloning vector, arabinose induced, Amp ^R | Invitrogen |
| pBAD24-VCA0111-FLAG | pBAD24 expressing VCA0111-FLAG | This study |
| pBAD24-VC2208-VSV-G | pBAD24 expressing VC2208-VSV-G | This study |
| pBAD24- <i>rhsP-F</i> | pBAD24 expressing RhsP tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-WHH domain-F | pBAD24 expressing WHH domain tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-W1328A | pBAD24 expressing WHH domain with point mutation of W1328A tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-H1329A | pBAD24 expressing WHH domain with point mutation of W1329A tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-H1330A | pBAD24 expressing WHH domain with point mutation of W1330A tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-H1345A | pBAD24 expressing WHH domain with point mutation of W1345A tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-H1354A | pBAD24 expressing WHH domain with point mutation of W1354A tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24-PID-F | pBAD24 expressing PID (from M1143 to D1244 of RhsP) tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD24- <i>paar2-V</i> | pBAD24 expressing PAAR2 tagged with VSV-G epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33 | cloning vector, arabinose induced, Chl ^R | Invitrogen |
| pBAD33- <i>V-rhsP-F</i> | pBAD33 expressing RhsP tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal and VSV-G at its N-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33- <i>rhsP-F</i> | pBAD33 expressing RhsP tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |

| | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| pBAD33- <i>rhsP-F</i> (R1092A) | pBAD33 expressing point mutated RhsP (R1092A) tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33- <i>rhsP-F</i> (D1105A) | pBAD33 expressing point mutated RhsP (D1105A) tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33- <i>rhsP-F</i> (D1127A) | pBAD33 expressing point mutated RhsP (D1127A) tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33- <i>rhsP_C-F</i> | pBAD33 expressing RhsP _C tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33-WHH domain-F | pBAD33 expressing WHH domain tagged with FLAG epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pBAD33- <i>clpV2</i> | pBAD33 expressing ClpV2 | This study |
| pBAD33- <i>rhsPi</i> (<i>vp1518</i>) | <i>Vp1518</i> cloned into pBAD33 | This study |
| pCX340 | pBBR322 derivative, IPTG induced, Tet ^R | ¹² |
| pCX340- <i>rhsPi</i> (<i>vp1518</i>) | pCX340 with <i>vp1518</i> including stop codon | This study |
| pCX340- <i>vp1519</i> | pCX340 with <i>vp1519</i> including stop codon | This study |
| pCX340- <i>vp1520</i> | pCX340 with <i>vp1520</i> including stop codon | This study |
| pCX340- <i>rhsPi-M</i> | pCX340 expressing RhsPi (VP1518) tagged with Myc epitope at C-terminal | This study |
| pACλCI | Plasmid for bacterial two-hybrid; Encodes λCI (residues 1-236) under the control of lacUV5 promoter; Chl ^R | ¹³ |
| pBRα | Plasmid for bacterial two-hybrid; Encodes the full-length α subunit of RNAP under the control of tandem <i>placUV5</i> and <i>plpp</i> promoters; Carb ^R | ¹³ |
| pACλCI-β-flap (831–1057) | Positive control for bacterial two-hybrid; Encodes residues 1-248 of α fused by a three-alanine linker residues 831–1057 of the β subunit of <i>E. coli</i> RNAP under the control of tandem <i>placUV5</i> and <i>plpp</i> promoters; confers resistance to Carb; used to generate <i>NotI/BamHI</i> -digested backbone to construct various α fusions; Chl ^R | ¹³ |
| pBRα -β-flap (831–1057) | Positive control for bacterial two-hybrid; Encodes residues 1-248 of α fused by a three-alanine-linker residues 831–1057 of the β subunit of <i>E. coli</i> RNAP under the control of tandem <i>placUV5</i> and <i>plpp</i> promoters; used to generate <i>NotI/BamHI</i> -digested backbone to construct various α fusions; Carb ^R | ¹³ |
| pAC- <i>hcp2</i> | pACλCI with <i>hcp2</i> | This study |

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|------------|
| pAC- <i>paar2</i> | pAC λ cI with <i>paar2</i> | This study |
| pAC- <i>vgrG2</i> | pAC λ cI with <i>vgrG2</i> | This study |
| pBR- <i>rhsP</i> | pBR α with <i>rhsP</i> | This study |
| pBR-PID | pBR α with fragment encoding PID | This study |
| pBR- <i>rhsP_N</i> | pBR α with <i>rhsP_N</i> | This study |

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165 **Supplementary Table 3. Buffers formula for auto-proteolysis testing of RhsP and its derivatives**

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| pH | 0.1M acetic acid (ml) | 0.1 sodium acetate (tri-hydrate) (ml) |
|----|--------------------------|--|
| 3 | 982.3 | 17.7 |
| 4 | 847 | 153 |
| 5 | 357 | 643 |
| 6 | 52.2 | 947.8 |

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169 **Supplementary Table 4. Primers used in this study**

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| Name | Sequence | Destination |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Primers for mutant construction | | |
| VP1517up-F | <u>AAAAAGGATCGATCCTCTAGATTGGATTGCGTAT</u> ATCC | For construction of deletion mutant of $\Delta rhsP$ |
| VP1517up-R | ATCAACTCCAGTTGTAACGAGTGTGTCC | |
| VP1517down-F | GTTACAACGGAGTTGATATATGATTAGCC | |
| VP1517down-R | <u>ATCGCATGCGGTACCTCTAGAATT</u> CAGCACAAAGAT CTTT | |
| VP1517-18 cluster up -F | <u>AAAAAGGATCGATCCTCTAGATTGGATTGCGTAT</u> ATCC | For construction of deletion mutant of $\Delta rhsP\Delta rhsPi$ |
| VP1517-1518 cluster up-R | TTGTCAAAGAGTTGTAACGAGTGTG | |
| VP1517-18 cluter down -F | GTTACAACCTTTGACAAAACAGGG | |
| VP1517-1518 cluster down-R | <u>ATCGCATGCGGTACCTCTAGATA</u> CAAATTGTTCG TCTTCA | |
| VP1518FLAG-up-F | <u>AAAAAGGATCGATCCTCTAGACTATT</u> CAGATGGTA GTAAAC | To insert Flag tag following RhsPi (VP1518) |
| VP1518FLAG-up-R | TTACTTGTCGTCATCGTCTTGAGTCAGATTCTAG AAGCTTTCCA | |
| VP1518FLAG-dow n-F | GACGATGACGACAAGTAACTTGACAAAACAGGG AAGA | |
| VP1518FLAG-dow n-R | <u>ATCGCATGCGGTACCTCTAGACAAATT</u> GTTCGTC TTCATG | |
| VPA1025up-F | <u>AAAAAGGATCGATCCTCTAGACACGAAGATAAAT</u> CGCGA | For construction of deletion mutant of $\Delta paar2$ (VPA1025) |
| VPA1025up-R | ACCGACGAGTCTAACGTTCCCTCTAACATTCA | |
| VPA1025down-F | GAACTTAGACTCGTCGGTGTACCGACCCTGC | |
| VPA1025down-R | <u>ATCGCATGCGGTACCTCTAGAAT</u> GTTGGTTGTGTT GATT | |
| VPA1028up-F | <u>AAAAAGGATCGATCCTCTAGAGTTACTTCTTACC</u> C | For construction of deletion mutant of $clpV2$ (VPA1028) |
| VPA1028up-R | TTTAAAGGAAACATACAAGTTAACCTGT | |
| VPA1028down-F | ACAGAGTTAAACTGTATGTTCTTTAAA | |
| VPA1028down-R | <u>ATCGCATGCGGTACCTCTAGAACCGCGAGCTAA</u> GC | |
| VP2516up-F | <u>AAAAAGGATCGATCCTCTAGAAACGCCATT</u> TATA TGGG | For construction of deletion mutant of $\Delta opaR$ (VP2516) |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| VP2516up-R | AAATCTGAGCTATCCATTTCCTGCCATT | |
| VP2516down-F | AAAATGGATAGCTCAGATTGAACACGAAC | |
| VP2516down-R | <u>ATCGCATGCGGTACCTCTAGACGTTAAGGTTACA</u> CCAA | |
| Primers for constructs for complementation | | |
| VP1517-WHH-FLA Gcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGGCTCAAGTATATGATAC | For cloning variable length of <i>RhsP</i> into pBAD33 |
| VP1517C-FLAGcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGTTCCCTTGTGAAGAAGG | |
| VP1517-FLAGcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGATTCCCTCAATTGTTAT | |
| VSVG-VP1517-FL AGcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGTATAACAGACATAGAGATGAACCGACTTGGAA AGATTCCCTCAATTGTTAT | |
| VP1517FLAGcom-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTTACTTGTCGTCATC</u> GTCTT | |
| VP1517-FLAGcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGATTCCCTCAATTGTTAT | For construction of RhsP mutant R1092A in pBAD33 |
| VP1517-R1092A-R | GTCGTAATACGCAGCGAGGTT | |
| VP1517-R1092A-F | AACCTCGCTGCGTATTACGAC | |
| VP1517FLAGcom-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTTACTTGTCGTCATC</u> GTCTT | |
| VP1517-FLAGcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGATTCCCTCAATTGTTAT | For construction of RhsP mutant D1105A in pBAD33 |
| VP1517-D1105A-R | AGATATCGGGGCTTGTGGAT | |
| VP1517-D1105A-F | ATCCAACAAGCCCCGATATCT | |
| VP1517FLAGcom-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTTACTTGTCGTCATC</u> GTCTT | |
| VP1517-FLAGcom-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGATTCCCTCAATTGTTAT | For construction of RhsP mutant D1127A in pBAD33 |
| VP1517-D1127A-R | ACCTGTTGGGGCAATCCACTG | |
| VP1517-D1127A-F | CAGTGGATTGCCCAACAGGT | |
| VP1517FLAGcom-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTTACTTGTCGTCATC</u> GTCTT | |
| VP1518com-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGATTAGCCTTCAGATATTG | For construction of RhsPi in pBAD33 |
| VP1518com-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTTAAGATTCTAGAAG</u> CTTTTCC | |
| VPA1028com-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTC</u> AGGAGGAATTCA ATGGCTTCATTATCA | For construction of ClpV2 in pBAD33 |

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|---|---|--|--|
| VPA1028com-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTAAATAAGTGAGA</u> CTTCT | | |
| VP2516com-F | <u>GGGCTAGCGAATTGAGCTCAGGAGGAATTCA</u> ATGGACTCAATTGCA | For cloning <i>opaR</i> into plasmid pBAD33 | |
| VP2516com-R | <u>GATCCCCGGGTACCGAGCTCTAGTGTTCGCGATT</u> GTAG | | |
| *Bold: Alanine substituted site; Bold and Italic: ribosome-binding site | | | |
| Primers for constructs used in Co-IP | | | |
| pBAD24-vpa1025V SVG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGGGTAAACCAGCAGCAGTGA</u> T | For cloning <i>paar2</i> into plasmid pBAD24-VC2208-VSV-G plasmid | |
| pBAD24-VPA1025 VSVG-R | <u>GATATCAGTGTACTGGTTAAACGTCCCCGATGA</u> GGACGGTCG | | |
| pBAD24-PID-FLA G-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGTCCTTGTGAAGAAGG</u> | For cloning PID into plasmid pBAD24-VCA0111-FLAG plasmid | |
| pBAD24-PID-FLA G-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGTAGTC</u> <u>GTACACATTTGAACATT</u> | | |
| Primers for expressing toxin and antitoxin | | | |
| pBAD24-1517FLA G-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGATTCTCAATTGTTAT</u> | For cloning <i>rhp</i> and WHH domain into plasmid pBAD24-VCA0111-FLAG | |
| pBAD24-1517CT-F LAG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGGCTCAAGTATATGATACTAA</u> | | |
| pPAD24-1517CT-F LAG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGTAGTCTACGAGCTTCTGGAGACG</u> AGTA | Overlapping primers to amplify mutated WHH(W1328A) | |
| pBAD24-1517CT-F LAG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGGCTCAAGTATATGATACTAA</u> | | |
| WHH-W1328A-R | CTTGATGATGATGCGAACAT | | |
| WHH-W1328A-F | ATGTTGCGCATCATCATCAAG | | |
| pPAD24-1517CT-F LAG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGTAGTCTACGAGCTTCTGGAGACG</u> AGTA | Overlapping primers to amplify mutated WHH (H1329A) | |
| pBAD24-1517CT-F LAG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGGCTCAAGTATATGATACTAA</u> | | |
| WHH-H1329A-R | CATCTTGATGATGTGCCAAA | | |
| WHH-H1329A-F | TTTGGGCACATCATCAAGATG | | |
| pPAD24-1517CT-F LAG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGTAGTCTACGAGCTTCTGGAGACG</u> AGTA | Overlapping primers to amplify mutated WHH (H1330A) | |
| pBAD24-1517CT-F LAG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCA</u> <u>CCATGGCTCAAGTATATGATACTAA</u> | | |
| WHH-H1330A-R | ACCATCTTGATGGGCATGCCA | | |
| WHH-H1330A-F | TGGCATGCCCATCAAGATGGT | | |
| pPAD24-1517CT-F | <u>ATCGTCTTGTAGTCTACGAGCTTCTGGAGACG</u> | | |

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|--------------------------|--|---|
| LAG-R | AGTA | |
| pBAD24-1517CT-F LAG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCAACCATGGCTCAAGTATATGATACTAA</u> | Overlapping primers to amplify mutated WHH (H1345A) |
| WHH-H1345A-R | TTCTAACTGAGGCCACACTTT | |
| WHH-H1345A-F | AAAGTGTGCCCTCAGTTAGAA | |
| pPAD24-1517CT-F LAG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGAGTCTACGAGCTTCTGGAGACG</u> AGTA | |
| pBAD24-1517CT-F LAG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCAACCATGGCTCAAGTATATGATACTAA</u> | Overlapping primers to amplify mutated WHH (H1354A) |
| WHH-H1354A-R | CTACCACCTGT <u>GGCAGCTACA</u> | |
| WHH-H1354A-F | TGTAGCTGCCACAGGTGGTAG | |
| pPAD24-1517CT-F LAG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGAGTCTACGAGCTTCTGGAGACG</u> AGTA | |
| | *Bold: Alanine substituted site | |
| pCX340-1518-F | <u>CATATGGGAAGCTTGGGTACCATGATTAGCCTTC</u> AGATATTG | For cloning <i>rhsPi</i> into plasmid pCX340 to express RhsPi-Myc |
| pCX340-1518-R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGGTGCGAATTCTTAAGATTCTAGAA</u> GCTTTTCC | |
| pCX340-1518myc-R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGGTGCGAATTCTTACAGGTCTTCTT</u> CAGAGATCAGTTCTGTTAGATTCTAGAACGCTTT TCC | |
| pCX340-1519-F | <u>CATATGGGAAGCTTGGGTACCATGCTGGCAGAGTA</u> TCAGGCGC | For cloning <i>vp1519</i> into plasmid pCX340 |
| pCX340-1519-R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGGTGCGAATTCTTAGCACAAAGATCT</u> TTAGTGAAG | |
| pCX340-1520-F | <u>CATATGGGAAGCTTGGGTACCATGCTGAATAAAGC</u> AGAATATAA | For cloning <i>vp1520</i> into plasmid pCX340 |
| pCX340-1520-R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGGTGCGAATTCTTAATCAATTTAA</u> ACTCAGCTA | |
| pBAD24-WP021FL AG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCAACCATGTTGAATAAAAGTCAA</u> | For cloning the fragment of the AHH domain in strain WP-021449074 into pBAD24 plasmid |
| pBAD24-WP021FL AG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGAGTCCTACTTCCTACTTTT</u> | |
| pBAD24-WP005FL AG-F | <u>GAGGAATTCAACCATGGTGGTGGGAGAAA</u> | For cloning the fragment of the REase-6 domain in strain WP-005396166 into pBAD24 plasmid |
| pBAD24-WP005FL AG-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGAGTCCTTAGTCCTTC</u> | |
| pBAD24-WP006-F | <u>GAGGAATTCAACCATGAATGAAGGATCTGGT</u> | For cloning the fragment of the AHH domain in strain WP-006742583 into |
| pBAD24-WP006-R | <u>ATCGTCTTGAGTCTCCTCACAGC</u> | |

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|----------------------------------|--|---|
| | | pBAD24 plasmid |
| pCX340-antiWP012 -F | <u>CATATGGGAAGCTTGGGTACCATGACACTAAAT</u> TTGG | For cloning the fragment of the immunity protein of the AHH domain in strain WP-021449074 into pCX340 plasmid |
| pCX340-antiWP012 -R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGTGCGAATTCTAAAAAGGACGC</u> CATT | |
| pCX340-WP005FL AG-F | <u>CATATGGGAAGCTTGGGTACCATGCAAAGCAAAG</u> AATCG | For cloning the fragment of the immunity protein of the REase-6 domain in strain WP-005396166 into pCX340 plasmid |
| pCX340-WP005FL AG-R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGTGCGAATTCTATCGAGTGATCT</u> TCCC | |
| pCX340-WP006-F | <u>CATATGGGAAGCTTGGGTACCATGGCAGGTGAGC</u> ATAGC | For cloning the fragment of the immunity protein of the AHH domain in strain WP-006742583 into pCX340 plasmid |
| pCX340-WP006-R | <u>AGCGTTCTGGTGCGAATTCTAACGCGTCCTAT</u> TGTG | |
| Primer for pET28a cloning | | |
| 28a-vp1517-F | <u>TAAGAAGGAGATATA</u> CCATGATT CCTCAATTGTTA T | For cloning <i>rhsP</i> into pET28a plasmid |
| 28a-vp1517-R | <u>GTGGTGGTGGTGGT</u> TACGAGCTCTGGAGAC GA | |
| 28a-vp1517-F | <u>TAAGAAGGAGATATA</u> CCATGATT CCTCAATTGTTA T | For construction of RhsP mutant R1092A in pET28a |
| VP1517-R1092A-R | GTCGTAATAC CGCAGCGAGGTT | |
| VP1517-R1092A-F | AACCTCG CTGCGTATTACGAC | |
| 28a-vp1517-R | <u>GTGGTGGTGGTGGT</u> TACGAGCTCTGGAGAC GA | |
| 28a-vp1517-F | <u>TAAGAAGGAGATATA</u> CCATGATT CCTCAATTGTTA T | For construction of RhsP mutant D1105A in pET28a |
| VP1517-D1105A-R | AGATATCGGG GCTTGGGAT | |
| VP1517-D1105A-F | ATCCAACAAG CCCCGATATCT | |
| 28a-vp1517-R | <u>GTGGTGGTGGTGGT</u> TACGAGCTCTGGAGAC GA | |
| 28a-vp1517-F | <u>TAAGAAGGAGATATA</u> CCATGATT CCTCAATTGTTA T | For construction of RhsP mutant D1127A in pET28a |
| VP1517-D1127A-R | ACCTGTTGGGG CAATCCACTG | |
| VP1517-D1127A-F | CAGTGGATT GCCCCAACAGGT | |
| 28a-vp1517-R | <u>GTGGTGGTGGTGGT</u> TACGAGCTCTGGAGAC GA | |
| Primers for bacterial two hybrid | | |
| pAC-Hcp2-F | <u>ACGTTGGCGCGGCCGCTATG</u> CAGTCTAACGTA TCT | For cloning Hcp2 into pACλCI plasmid |
| pAC-Hcp2-R | <u>CCTGCGATGCGGATC</u> CTTACATTGTTGACCTTA | |

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| | A | |
| pAC-VgrG2-F | <u>ACGTTGGCGCGGCCGCTATGAAAAAAGCAAGTC</u> AAGA | For cloning VgrG2 into pACλCI plasmid |
| pAC-VgrG2-R | <u>CCTGCGATGCGGATCC</u> TTAAATTCAAAGAGATTGT C | |
| pAC-PAAR2-F | <u>ACGTTGGCGCGGCCGCTATGGGTAAACCAGCAG</u> CAGT | For cloning PAAR2 into pACλCI plasmid |
| pAC-PAAR2-R | <u>CCTGCGATGCGGATCC</u> CTATCCCCGATGAGGACG G | |
| pBR-RhsP-F | <u>AAACCAGAGGC GGCGCTATGATT CCTCAATT GT</u> TAT | For cloning RhsP into pBRα plasmid |
| pBR-RhsP-R | <u>CCGGCGTAGAGGATCC</u> CATACGAGCTCTCTGGAG G | |
| | | For cloning RhsP _N into pBRα plasmid |
| pBR-RhsP _N -R | <u>CCGGCGTAGAGGATCC</u> ACCRGTTGGGTCAATCCA CTGG | |
| pBR-PID-F | <u>AAACCAGAGGC GGCGCTATGTT CCTTGTAAG</u> AAGG | For cloning PID into pBRα plasmid |
| pBR-PID-R | <u>CCGGCGTAGAGGATCC</u> TACGTCACATTGAAACA TT | |
| Primers for Real time PCR | | |
| RT-vp-vgrG1-F | TGCCGATGATAACCAAACAG | For RT-PCR to targeting <i>vgrG1</i> |
| RT-vp-vgrG1-R | CCACCTTCACGACGACTTT | |
| RT-vp-vgrG2-F | TAAAGGTCTTCAAACAGCCA | For RT-PCR to targeting <i>vgrG2</i> |
| RT-vp-vgrG2-R | TTGCCCTACCCGAGGATGAA | |
| RT-vp1517-F | ATTAACCATTACCAATATGC | For RT-PCR to targeting <i>rhsP</i> |
| RT-vp1517-R | GCGAGCGAACGCCATCTTCT | |
| RT-vp1518-F | GCCTTTCAGATATTGAAAAT | For RT-PCR to targeting <i>rhsPi</i> |
| RT-vp1518-R | ATCCAAATACTCCTCATAGT | |
| RT-vp1519-F | TCCGTCGGAGAAGATGGTGT | For RT-PCR to targeting <i>vp1519</i> |
| RT-vp1519-R | GCGCATTACAAATT CCTCA | |
| RT-vp1521-F | AATTGTGCGTGATAGACCAA | For RT-PCR to targeting <i>vp1521</i> |
| RT-vp1521-R | CCAGTTATCCCCTGATCTA | |
| RT-16s-F | ACTCCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG | For RT-PCR to targeting 16srDNA |
| RT-16s-R | ATTACCGCGGCTGCTGG | |

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