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Supplemental Information

Recombinant BCG Overexpressing *phoP-phoR*

Confers Enhanced Protection against Tuberculosis

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Figure S1. Sequence alignment of the *phoP-phoR* loci of *M. tb* H37Rv, *M. bovis* AF2122/97 and BCG-Pasteur. (A) The upstream sequences of *phoP* from three strains are showed. Two SNPs are identified at the indicated positions (relative to the start codon) between *M. tb* and *M. bovis* or BCG-Pasteur. No sequence polymorphism is detected with the ORF of *phoP*. (B) Three SNPs between *M. tb* and *M. bovis* or BCG-Pasteur are identified at the indicated positions (relative to the start codon) within the ORO of *phoR*.



Figure S2. Immune response induced by recombinant BCG-Japan strains. C57BL/6 mice (n=4 per group) were immunized subcutaneously with 5×10⁴ CFU of the indicated BCG strains. At 8 weeks post-vaccination, splenocytes were harvested and were incubated with or without PPD (10 µg/ml) for 72 hr and production of the indicated cytokines was analyzed by ELISA. Data are shown as mean ± SEM. No statistical difference was found among the four groups in each of the dataset.



Figure S3. Replication of the recombinant BCG-Japan strains in immunocompetent mice. Groups of 4 male C57BL/6 mice were injected intravenously with 10^8 CFU of rBCG-Japan/pME or rBCG-Japan/PhoPR. At day 1, 14, 21, and 42 post-infection, mice were euthanized. The harvested organs were homogenized separately and plated on 7H11 agar to assess bacterial burden. Data are shown as mean \pm S.D.



Figure S4. Overlap of PhoP activated genes identified from three separate studies.



Figure S5. 2D-TLC analysis of cell wall lipids. (**A**) The apolar lipid extract was developed with the solvent system C: chloroform/methanol (96:4) in the first dimension and toluene/acetone (80:20) in the second dimension, followed by charring with α -naphthol. PGLs: phenolic glycolipids. (**B**) Apolar lipids were developed with the solvent system A: petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (98:2, v/v, 3×) in the first dimension and petroleum ether/acetone (98:2) in the second dimension, followed by charring with 5% phosphomolybdic acid. PDIMs: phthiocerol dimycocerosates. (**C**) Polar lipids were separated with the solvent system E: chloroform/methanol/water (60:30:6) in the first dimension and chloroform/acetic acid/methanol/water (40:25:3:6) in the second dimension, followed by charring with α -naphthol. PIMs: phosphatidylinositol mannosides.