# Supplemental Table 1

# Primers used in Plasmid Construction

	Forward Primer $(5'> 3')$	Reverse Primer (5'> 3')	Source
SopE2 promoter and	CCGCTCGAGTAAAAATGTTCCTCG	CATGGTAGTTCTCCTTTTAG	YS1646
secretory signal	ATAAA		
SptP promoter and	CGCCTCGAGTTTACGCTGACTCAT	CATTTTTCTCTCCTCATACTTTA	YS1646
secretory signal	TGG		
SseJ promoter and	CGCCTCGAGACATAAAACACTAGC	CGCCTCGAGACATAAAACACTAG	YS1646
secretory signal	ACT	CACT	
SspH1 promoter and	CGCCTCGAGCGCTATATCACCAAA	CTCTGCGGCCGCGGTAAGACCTG	YS1646
secretory signal	AC	ACGCTC	
SspH2 promoter and	CGCCTCGAGGTTTGTGCGTCGTAT	CTCTGCGGCCGCATTCAGGCAGG	YS1646
secretory signal		CACGCA	
SteA promoter and	CGCCTCGAGGTTTCGCCGCATGTT	CTCTGCGGCCGCATAATTGTCCA	YS1646
secretory signal	G	AATAGT	
SteB promoter and	CGCCTCGAGCGCTCCAGCGCTTCG	CTCTGCGGCCGCTCTGACATTAC	YS1646
secretory signal	Α	CATTT	
Lac promoter	CGCCTCGAGCATTAGGCACCCCAG		Sequence is
-	GCTTTACACTTTATGCTTCCGGCTC		in the
	GTATGTTGTGTGGGAATTGTGAGCG		primers
	GATAA,		
	GTGGAATTGTGAGCGGATAACAAT		
	TTCACACAGGAAACAGCTATGACC		
	ATGACTAACATAACACTATCCAC		
nirB promoter	CGCCTCGAGTTGTGGTTACCGGCC	CGCGCGGCCGCCGGATCTTTACT	DH5α <i>E</i> .
	CGAT	CGCATTAC	coli
pagC promoter	CGCCTCGAGGTTAACCACTCTTAA	AACAACTCCT TAATACTACT	YS1646
	TAA		
SopE2 Secretion	GGCGGTAATAGAAAAGAAATCGA	AAGTCGCGGCCGCCGGATCTTTA	YS1646
Signal	GGCAAAAATGACTAACATAACACT	CTCGC	
	ATCCAC		
SspH1 Secretion	GGCGGTAATAGAAAAGAAATCGA	CTCTGCGGCCGCGGTAAGACCTG	YS1646
Signal	GGCAAAAATGTTTAATATCCGCAA	ACGCTC	
	TACACAACCTT		
rbdA	CGCGCGGCCGCGACTTATTACTAT	TAGTCGGCGCGCCCGCCATATAT	VPI 10463
	GAT	CCCAGG	
rbdB	CCGGCGGCCGCAGAGAAATTTTAT	AGTCGGCGCGCCGTTCACTAATC	VPI 10463
	ATTAAT	ACTAATTG	
EGFP	CGCGCGGCCGCGGGTGAGCAAGGG	AGTCGGCGCGCCTTACTTGTACA	pEGFP_C1
	CGAG	GCTCGTC	

Primers used to replicate the sequences from source DNA are shown. Some sequences were further edited to include an ATG start site between the promoter and secretory signal.

### **Supplemental Table 2**

#### In vitro and in vivo screening of plasmids

	In vitro							In vivo (IM Prime, PO Boost)			
	EGFP Detection (EGFP expressing strains)			Antigen Detection by WB				Serum IgG		Intestinal IgA	
Strains	LB	RAW 264.7 (24h)	LB	Secretion in LB	RAW 264.7 (1hr)	RAW 264.7 (24h)	rbdB	rbdA	rbdB	rbdA	
pQE_null	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SopE2_SopE2_rbdB	+++	+++	+	0	0	0	0	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td><ctl< td=""></ctl<></td></ctl<>	0	<ctl< td=""></ctl<>	
SseJ_SseJ_rbdB	+	++	+	0	0	0	++	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	0	0	
SptP_SptP_rbdB	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	<ctl< td=""><td>+</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	+	0	
SspH1_SspH1_rbdB	+	+	0	0	0	0	++	<ctl< td=""><td>++</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	++	0	
SspH2_SspH2_rbdB	++	++	0	0	0	0	+++	<ctl< td=""><td>+++</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	+++	0	
SteA_SteA_rbdB	+++	++	+	0	0	0	++	<ctl< td=""><td>+++</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	+++	0	
SteB_SteB_rbdB	+	+++	0	0	0	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	0	0	
pagC_SspH1_rbdB	n/a	+++	+	n/a	+	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
SspH2_SspH2_rbdA	++	++	0	n/a	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
lac_SopE2_rbdA	+	+	+	0	0	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	0	0	
lac_SspH1_rbdA	0	0	0	0	0	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	0	0	
nirB_SopE2_rbdA	++	+	+	0	+	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>++</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>++</td></ctl<>	0	++	
nirB_SspH1_rbdA	++	+++	+	0	+	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>0</td></ctl<>	0	0	
pagC_SopE2_rbdA	n/a	++	0	0	0	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>+++</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>+++</td></ctl<>	0	+++	
pagC_SspH1_rbdA	n/a	+++	+	+	+	0	<ctl< td=""><td><ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>+++</td></ctl<></td></ctl<>	<ctl< td=""><td>0</td><td>+++</td></ctl<>	0	+++	

EGFP detection is based on the EGFP expressing strains with the same promoter and secretory signal as the listed strain. Strains that were not assessed are indicated in the table as "n/a". Detection by Western blot is designated as either antigen is detected "+" or not "0". For *in vivo* screening, mice were vaccinated with 10ug of protein IM (rbdA/rbdB) adjuvanted with alum and three weeks later the response was boosted by the YS1646 strains given by PO in 3 doses (n=2-4 mice/group). Serum and intestines were collected 3 weeks after the boost. Titers are shown compared to the control group of the listed protein delivered IM, boosted with pQE\_null strain of YS1646. Titers lower than the control are listed as "<ctl". Titers that match the control are listed as "0". Titers higher than the control were divided into three categories; "+", "++", "+++" with increasing mean titers.

# **Supplemental Table 3**

		Tox A IgG Pre	Tox A IgG Post	Tox A IgA Post	rbdB IgG Pre	rbdB IgG Post	rbdB IgA Post	Salmonella IgG Pre	Salmonella IgG Post
Mean Score (all)	p value	ns	ns	ns	****	****	**	*	ns
	r	/	/	/	-0.735	-0.6555	-0.5047	-0.4031	/
	95% Cl	/	/	/	(-0.8554 <i>,</i> - 0.5392)	(-0.8189 <i>,</i> - 0.3939)	(-0.7278 <i>,</i> - 0.1849)	(-0.6433, - 0.09067)	/
Mean Score (vax)	p value	ns	ns	ns	**	**	**	/	/
	r	/	/	/	-0.7191	-0.6744	-0.6708	/	/
	95% Cl	/	/	/	(-0.9031 <i>,</i> - 0.3124)	(-0.8857 <i>,</i> - 0.2318)	(-0.8843 <i>,</i> - 0.2257)	/	/
Highest Score (all)	p value	ns	ns	ns	***	***	**	*	ns
	r	/	/	/	-0.7177	-0.6068	-0.5158	-0.4031	/
	95% Cl	/	/	/	(-0.8453 <i>,</i> - 0.5128)	(-0.7904 <i>,</i> - 0.3234)	(-0.7348 <i>,</i> - 0.1994)	(-0.6433, - 0.09067)	/
Highest Score (vax)	p value	ns	*	*	ns	ns	*	*	/
	r	/	0.5643	0.6453	/	/	-0.6238	-0.3741	/
	95% Cl	/	(0.0008807, 0.8558)	(0.1283 <i>,</i> 0.8865)	/	/	(-0.8653 <i>,</i> - 0.1475)	(-0.6288, - 0.05671)	/

## Correlations between antibody titers and clinical scores

Correlations are based on Spearman's r coefficient (non-parametric), 95% Confidence Intervals were calculated, and a two tailed p value was determined. \* P<0.05, \*\* P<0.01, \*\*\*\* P<0.001, \*\*\*\* P<0.001



#### **Supplemental Figure 1**

Vaccination with antigen expressing YS1646 increases post-challenge antibody titers in the sera and intestines of survivors. Mice were immunised with a dose of 10µg recombinant antigen (rrbdA and/or rrbdB) intramuscularly, and three doses of  $1x10^9$  cfu of antigen expressing YS1646 (pagC\_SspH1\_rbdA and/or SspH2\_SspH2\_rbdB), orally every other day. 5 weeks after vaccination, mice were challenged with  $1.7x10^7$  cfu of *C. difficile*. 3 weeks after infection, serum and intestines were collected from survivors. Post-challenge serum toxin A specific IgG antibodies (**a**) and rrbdB specific IgG antibodies (**b**) were detected by ELISA. Intestinal toxin A specific IgA antibodies (**c**) and rrbdB specific IgA antibodies (**d**) were detected by ELISA (n= 2-8, one experiment). Mean and standard error of the mean (SEM) are shown. Kruskal-Wallis test and Dunn's Multiple Comparison test were used to compare between all groups. \* P<0.05, \*\* P<0.01, \*\*\* P<0.001, \*\*\*\* P<0.0001 compared to the PBS control group.