Supplementary Information

The predominance of nucleotidyl activation in phosphonate biosynthesis

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Supporting Information

Supplementary Figure 1. RT-PCR analysis demonstrates expression of genes from clusters shown in Figure 3 for *A. rimae* (top) and *O. uli* (bottom). The *rpoB* gene was used as a positive control.¹ Primers used are listed in Supplementary Table 4.

Supplementary Figure 2. SDS-PAGE of Spn-LicC (lane 1), Tde1415 (lane 2), Ari1348 (lane 3), and Bio-Rad Precision Plus Protein Standard (lane M).

Supplementary Figure 3. Dynamic light scattering data showing molecular weights of 38 kDa for Ari1348, 43 kDa for Spn-LicC, and 146 kDa for Tde1415.

Supplementary Figure 4. HR-ESI-MS of (A) CMP-AEP revealing the [M-H]- ion at *m/z* 429.0582 consistent with a molecular mass of 430.0655 for molecular formula $C_{11}H_{20}N_4O_{10}P_2$ (calculated 430.0655), and (B) CDP-Cho revealing the [M-H]- ion at m/z 487.1001 consistent with a molecular mass of 488.1071 (calculated 488.1073).

Supplementary Figure 5. ¹H NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz) spectra of CMP-AEP: δ 7.95 (d, 1H, H6, $J = 7.6$ Hz), 6.12 (d, 1H, H5, *J* = 7.6 Hz), 6.00 (d, 1H, H1', *J* = 4.0 Hz), 4.82-4.18 (m, 5H, H2', H3', H4', H5'), 3.29 (m, 2H, H2"), 2.15 (m, 2H, H1")

Supplementary Figure 6. ¹³C NMR (D₂O, 100 MHz) spectra of CMP-AEP: δ 166.1 (C4), 157.7 (C2), 141.3 (C6), 96.6 (C5), 89.3 (C4'), 82.5 (C1'), 73.9 (C3'), 69.3 (C2'), 64.8 (C5'), 35.1 (C2''), 26.1 (C1''; $^{1}J_{\text{CP}}$ = 130 Hz). Bottom spectrum represents commercial AEP alone.

Supplementary Figure 7. ³¹P NMR (D_2O , 121 MHz) spectra of (A) CMP-AEP alone and (B) with phosphonoacetic acid (PnAc) and 2-ethylaminophosphonate (AEP). Using PnAc as the internal standard with a reported chemical shift of 15.7,² our measured chemical shifts of CMP-AEP: δ 11.4 (P_A), -11.4 (P_B), $3J = 25.6$ Hz.

Supplementary Figure 8. 31P NMR analysis of 1-hour reactions of 10 µM PntC enzyme with 1 mM AEP and 2 mM of CTP, ATP, or GTP in 50 mM Tris-Cl and 7 mM $MgCl₂$, pH 8.0.

Supplementary Figure 9. Steady-state kinetic analysis of cytidylyltransferase activities of (A) Spn-LicC with AEP, (B) Spn-LicC with P-Cho, (C) Ari-PntC with AEP, (D) Ari-PntC with P-Cho, and (E) Tde-PntC with AEP. Activity not detected for Tde-PntC and P-Cho. Error bars show standard errors of the mean (open square), with all data points shown as filled circles.

Supplementary Figure 10. Cartoon representations of Tde1415 crystal structures. (A) Overall dimeric stucture showing molecule A in blue and molecule B is bi-colored yellow (residues 1-249) and green (residues 250-615). (B) Tde-PntC cytidylyltransferase domain (green) in complex with CMP-AEP. (C) AEPT domain (yellow) complexed with PLP. (D) Superposition of Tde-PntC-apo (cyan) and Tde-PntC:CMP-AEP (green) reveals low RMSD ranging from 0.53 to 0.86 Å. The exception is the disordered residues 14-20 of Tde-PntC-apo (dotted blue line).

Supplementary Figure 11. Time-dependent conversion of 1.5 mM AEP to PnAA catalyzed by 50 nM Tde1415 in the presence of 6 mM pyruvate, 30 μ M PLP, and 300 mM NaCl in Tris-Cl, pH 8. Reactions were run at 20 °C and quenched with an equal volume of methanol at each time point.

Supplementary Figure 12. Mass spectrometry revealing the aminotransferase activity of Tde1415 as shown. A) Detection of AEP (calculated mass = 124.0169) in the presence of Tde1415 (also observed in no enzyme control) and B) detection of PnAA (calculated mass = 122.9853).

Supplementary Figure 13. Proposed mechanism for aminotransferase activity of Tde1415 catalyzing the interconversion of AEP and PnAA. The first structure represents the crystallographically observed state, which unusually does not have an imine linkage between K441 and PLP.

Supplementary Figure 14. Comparison of PntC activity in the presence of different metals. The activity of EDTA-treated enzyme ("No metal") was compared against the same enzyme supplemented with Ca^{2+} , Mg²⁺, or Zn²⁺. All four treatments were repeated in triplicate with and are reported with standard errors. Assays were carried out in 50 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0 with 7.0 mM metal, 7.0 mM CTP, 3.0 mM AEP, and 5.5 µM enzyme. Reactions were allowed to proceed at 20 °C for 2 h, then an internal standard (6.0 mM phosphonoacetic acid) was added immediately prior to acquiring ³¹P NMR spectra. Peak integrations for CMP-AEP were calculated relative to the internal standard. Bars represent mean values with standard errors shown. Individual data points (three for each metal) are shown as open circles. The yield of CMP-AEP product is assigned as 100% for the most active condition (Zn^{2+}) .

B

YgbP 0.41142
Cj1416 0.38747
Oul-PntC 0.18227
Ari-PntC 0.15686
Spn-LicC 0.30922 Hin-LicC 0.3196
Bfr-PntC 0.28599
Tde_PntC 0.2948
FrbH 0.36747

Supplementary Figure 15. (A) Clustal Omega multiple sequence alignment of selected PF12804 cytidylyltransferases. Amino acid sequences were retrieved from NCBI with the following accession numbers: Bfr-PntC from *Bacteroides fragilis* 638R (CBW22390); Tde-PntC from *Treponema denticola* ATCC 35405 (NP_992021); Cj1416 from *Campylobacter jejuni* (CAI38904); Oul-PntC from *Olsenella uli* DSM 7084 (ADK67708); Ari-PntC from *Atopobium rimae* ATCC 49626 (ZP_03568201); Spn-LicC from *Streptococcus pneumoniae* R36A (AAK94072); Hin-LicC from *Haemophilus influenzae* C486 (AJO89865); FrbH from *Streptomyces rubellomurinus* (ABB90397); YgbP (or IspD, CDP-ME synthase) from *Escherichia coli* K-12 (CQR82192). Box denotes the GXG(T/S)RX8PK consensus sequence. The dotted line represents a salt bridge between Glu216 and Arg129 observed in the apo Spn-LicC crystal structure (PDB 1JYK).³ (B) Cladogram of cytidylyltransferases from the alignment. YgbP is a MEP cytidylyltransferase belonging to the IspD Pfam (PF01128), which possesses significant overlap with PF12804.

Supplementary Figure 16. The effects of a second Mg^{2+} ion on Spn-LicC MD simulations. The top panel reproduces the Spn-LicC data from Figure 5b in the main text, which resulted from simulations based on the crystallographic observation of a single Mg^{2+} ion in the active site. The bottom panel shows data resulting from the inclusion of a second Mg^{2+} ion in the simulations.

Supplementary Figure 17. Analysis of Tde1415 active site variants R15A, K25A, and K153A. (A) Activity of each variant based on integration of ³¹P NMR peaks relative to a phosphonoacetic acid internal standard. Averages and standard errors of three measurements are shown as bars, with individual data points included as open circles. (B) SDS-PAGE analysis of purified variant enzymes.

Supplementary Table 1. X-ray data collection and refinement statistics (molecular replacement).*

*One crystal was used for data collection and refinement. **Values in parentheses are for highest-resolution shell.

Supplementary Table 2. Strains used in this study.

Supplementary Table 3. Plasmids used in this study.

Supplementary Table 4. Primers used in this study.

Supplementary References

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- 3. Kwak, B.-Y. *et al.* Structure and mechanism of CTP:phosphocholine cytidylyltransferase (LicC) from Streptococcus pneumoniae. *J. Biol. Chem.* **277**, 4343–4350 (2002).
- 4. Olsen, I., Johnson, J. L., Moore, L. V. & Moore, W. E. Lactobacillus uli sp. nov. and Lactobacillus rimae sp. nov. from the human gingival crevice and emended descriptions of lactobacillus minutus and Streptococcus parvulus. *Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol.* **41**, 261–266 (1991).
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