

**Table S1. Strains and plasmids**

Strains or plasmids	Genotype or description	Construction	Reference
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>			
PAO1	Wild-type		(Stover et al., 2000)
PAO1 <i>hfq</i> <sup>-</sup>	<i>hfq::aadA</i>		(Sonnleitner et al., 2003)
PAO1 $\Delta$ <i>ersA</i>	markerless $\Delta$ <i>ersA</i>		(Ferrara et al., 2015)
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> RP73	Wild-type		(Bianconi et al., 2015)
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> RP73 $\Delta$ <i>ersA</i>	markerless $\Delta$ <i>ersA</i>		(Ferrara et al., 2020)
<i>Escherichia coli</i>			
TOP10	<i>mcrA</i> $\Delta$ ( <i>mrr</i> - <i>hsdRMS</i> - <i>mcrBC</i> ) $\phi$ 80 <i>lacZ</i> <i>ZDM15</i> $\Delta$ <i>lacX74</i> <i>deoR</i> <i>recA1</i> <i>araD139</i> $\Delta$ ( <i>ara-leu</i> )7697 <i>galU galK rpsL endA1 nupG</i>		Invitrogen
Plasmids			
pGM931	pHERD20T derivative, <i>araC/P<sub>BAD</sub></i> - t $\Omega$ , Ap <sup>r</sup>		(Qiu et al., 2008; Delvillani et al., 2014; Ferrara et al., 2015)
pGM- <i>ersA</i>	pGM931 derivative, <i>ersA</i> under <i>P<sub>BAD</sub></i> , Ap <sup>r</sup>		(Ferrara et al., 2015)
pXG10-SF	sfGFP reporter plasmid; <i>lacZ::gfp</i> under <i>P<sub>LtetO-1</sub></i> , Cm <sup>r</sup>		(Corcoran et al., 2012)
pXG10- <i>anr::sfGFP</i>	pXG10-SF derivative; <i>P<sub>LtetO-1</sub></i> --> <i>anr::gfp</i> , Cm <sup>r</sup>	contains PCR product using oligos 2 and 3	this work
pXG10- <i>dnr::sfGFP</i>	pXG10-SF derivative; <i>P<sub>LtetO-1</sub></i> --> <i>dnr::gfp</i> , Cm <sup>r</sup>	contains PCR product using oligos 4 and 5	this work
pBBR1-MCS5	<i>lacZ</i> $\alpha$ , Gm <sup>r</sup>		(Kovach et al., 1995)
pBBR1- <i>sfGFP</i>	pBBR1-MCS5 derivative; <i>P<sub>LtetO-1</sub></i> --> <i>gfp</i> , Gm <sup>r</sup>		(Ferrara et al., 2015)
pBBR1- <i>anr::sfGFP</i>	pBBR1-MCS5 derivative; <i>P<sub>LtetO-1</sub></i> --> <i>anr::gfp</i> , Gm <sup>r</sup>	contains PCR product using oligos 6 and 7	this work
pBBR1- <i>dnr::sfGFP</i>	pBBR1-MCS5 derivative; <i>P<sub>LtetO-1</sub></i> --> <i>dnr::gfp</i> , Gm <sup>r</sup>	contains PCR product using oligos 6 and 7	this work

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