

**Elevated cyclic-di-GMP levels and expression of the type III secretion system
promote corneal infection by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa***

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Table S1. Strains and primers used in this study.

Strains and primers	Relevant characteristic(s)	Source or reference
Strains		
PAO1	Prototypic wild-type strain	1
$\Delta wspF$	<i>wspF</i> derivative of PAO1 constructed by allelic exchange	2
$\Delta siaD$	<i>siaD</i> derivative of PAO1 constructed by allelic exchange	3
$\Delta PA5442$	<i>PA5442</i> derivative of PAO1 constructed by allelic exchange	This study
$\Delta wspF\Delta pscJ$	<i>pscJ</i> derivative of $\Delta wspF$ constructed by allelic exchange	This study
$\Delta wspF\Delta pscJ$ COM	$\Delta wspF\Delta pscJ$ mutant complemented by wild-type <i>pscJ</i> gene via the miniCTX2- <i>pscJ</i>	This study
PAO1/ <i>p_{lac}-yhjH</i>	Tc ^r ; PAO1 containing the <i>p_{lac}-yhjH</i> vector	4
PAO1/ <i>p_{cdrA}-gfp</i>	Gm ^r ; PAO1 carrying the <i>p_{cdrA}-gfp</i> report	5
PAO1-miniTn7- <i>p_{lac}-gfp</i>	Gm ^r ; PAO1 tagged by the miniTn7- <i>gfp</i>	4
$\Delta wspF$ -miniTn7- <i>p_{lac}-gfp</i>	Gm ^r ; $\Delta wspF$ tagged by the miniTn7- <i>gfp</i>	4

PAO1/ <i>p_{lac}-yhjH</i> - miniTn7- <i>p_{lac}-gfp</i>	Gm ^r ; Tc ^r ; PAO1/ <i>p_{lac}-yhjH</i> tagged by the miniTn7-gfp	4
PAO1/ <i>p_{exoT}-gfp</i>	Gm ^r ; PAO1 carrying the miniTn7- <i>exoT-gfp</i> report	6
Primers for constructing the deletion mutant		
PA5442-1	agctcggtagccgggTGAAGTCTGGATGTTCTCG	
PA5442-2	TTCAACGAGCCTGGCGCAAAGTCATAGGCGCTTGTCTTG	
PA5442-3	CAAGAACAAGCGCCTATGACTTTGCGCCAGGCTCGTTGAA	
PA5442-4	cgacggccagtgccATCTTTTCCGGTAGCGCTTC	
PA5442-F	AACGGTAGTTCTGCTCCAG	
PA5442-R	CTCGCCCTCGAAGAATTGC	
pscJ-1	agctcggtagccgggACATCAACTCGACGGTGACC	
pscJ-2	AGAAGAAGTGCAGGTTGACAGACCTTTCACCGTTTCGC	
pscJ-3	GCGAACGGTGAAAGGTCTGTCAACCTGGCGCAGTTCTTCT	
pscJ-4	cgacggccagtgccGCATTCATCGCTCGCTTGTC	
pscJ-F	CCGAGCTGCAACACAAGATC	
pscJ-R	GCGACTGGCGTCTAGTTCAA	
pscJCOM-F	CGGGATCCCGAGATCAGGGAGCGTTTCAGC	
pscJCOM-R	GGAATTCCCGCAGTCCAATTCCAGTTGC	
Primers for qRT-PCR analysis		
pelA-F	GACAACTGGATCGCTGCACG	
pelA-R	CTTGAGTTTCTGCGACAGCC	
cupA1-F	TATCACATTCAGCGGCGAAG	
cupA1-R	TCGGTGAGTTGCAGGGTGAAG	
dipA-F	AAGAACCACGAGCCTTACTG	
dipA-R	CCAGCTTGTTCTGCGTGATG	
nbdA-F	CGGCATTCAACGAAGTGTTTC	
nbdA-R	TCGTTGATCCGCTTGAAGTG	
PA0575-F	CCGAGTACGCCATCCACTAC	

PA0575-R	TGATCGGGGTGACCAAATCG
PA1181-F	TCAACAGCGACATCACCG
PA1181-R	CCGATGGAATACAGGGTCAC
PA2072-F	GGCATTTCGTCTTCACCTATC
PA2072-R	CCTTCCAGCCACTTGACGAT
mucR-F	TCAGCCAGCCGTACCAGATA
mucR-R	CTGGTCCTTGGCGTGATACA
GAPDH-F	GACCGTTCCTCGACAAGTTC
GAPDH-R	TCAGCAGGCCTTCGAGATAG
proC-F	ATCAGTTGCTCCGGCTTCAG
proC-R	ATCGACGTGGTCGAGTCCAA
rpoD-F	GGGGCTGTCTCGAATACGTT
rpoD-R	GGGATACCTGACTTACGCGG

Table S2. Mapping statistics of the RNA sequencing raw reads of 2 dpi

	PAO1_2dpi_R1	PAO1_2dpi_R2	PAO1_2dpi_R3	$\Delta wspF$ _2dpi_R1	$\Delta wspF$ _2dpi_R2	$\Delta wspF$ _2dpi_R3	yhjH_2dpi_R1	yhjH_2dpi_R2	yhjH_2dpi_R3
Total reads obtained	40,035,814	42,736,300	45,704,980	38,877,460	43,753,686	44,780,662	44,881,008	44,024,644	39,339,728
Total reads after trimming	38,346,440	40,895,410	44,112,144	37,145,526	41,698,876	42,801,172	43,227,742	42,296,266	37,700,828
Total reads mapped in pairs to <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	1,175,098	716,482	547,026	1,192,838	1,092,994	1,018,384	1,088,030	631,282	404,204
Total reads mapped in pairs to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (%)	3.06	1.75	1.24	3.21	2.62	2.38	2.52	1.49	1.07
Total fragments mapped to <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	587,549	358,241	273,398	596,419	546,497	509,192	544,015	315,641	201,774
Fragments mapped to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> coding genes	513,777 (87.44%)	312,588 (87.26%)	236,872 (86.60%)	516,942 (86.67%)	472,474 (86.46%)	448,172 (88.02%)	474,418 (87.21%)	276,644 (87.65%)	177,663 (87.91%)
Fragments mapped to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> intergenic regions	73,772 (12.56%)	45,653 (12.74%)	36,641 (13.40%)	79,477 (13.33%)	74,023 (13.54%)	61,020 (11.98%)	69,597 (12.79%)	38,997 (12.35%)	24,439 (12.09%)
Total reads mapped in pairs to mouse	26,460,142	29,463,476	31,741,164	25,457,626	28,428,862	29,433,704	30,113,868	30,435,404	26,269,540
Total reads mapped in pairs to mouse (%)	69.00	72.05	71.96	68.53	68.18	68.77	69.66	71.96	69.68

Table S3. Mapping statistics of the RNA sequencing raw reads of 7 dpi

	PAO1_7dpi_R1	PAO1_7dpi_R2	PAO1_7dpi_R3	$\Delta wspF$ _7dpi_R1	$\Delta wspF$ _7dpi_R2	$\Delta wspF$ _7dpi_R3	yhjH_7dpi_R1	yhjH_7dpi_R2	yhjH_7dpi_R3
Total reads obtained	36,342,580	33,049,080	40,675,146	41,007,268	42,895,076	42,955,498	40,264,878	41,793,392	37,251,962
Total reads after trimming	35,621,656	32,490,358	39,353,788	39,629,118	41,411,038	41,401,708	39,009,538	40,425,854	36,351,936
Total reads mapped in pairs to <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	107,380	36,888	63,184	6,066	7,444	3,238	21,574	39,896	81,036
Total reads mapped in pairs to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> (%)	0.30	0.11	0.16	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.06	0.10	0.22
Total fragments mapped to <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	53,690	18,444	31,592	3,033	3,722	1,619	10,787	19,948	40,518
Fragments mapped to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> coding genes	45,974 (85.63%)	16,268 (88.20%)	26,903 (85.16%)	2,635 (86.88%)	3,151 (84.66%)	1,384 (85.48%)	9,302 (86.23%)	17,160 (86.02%)	34,931 (86.21%)
Fragments mapped to <i>P. aeruginosa</i> intergenic regions	7,716 (14.37%)	2,172 (11.80%)	4,689 (14.84%)	398 (13.12%)	571 (15.34%)	235 (14.52%)	1,485 (13.77%)	2,788 (13.98%)	5,587 (13.79%)
Total reads mapped in pairs to mouse	28,087,174	25,627,294	30,082,942	31,136,034	31,910,616	32,332,158	30,199,178	31,233,596	28,989,592
Total reads mapped in pairs to mouse (%)	78.85	78.88	76.44	78.57	77.06	78.09	77.41	77.26	79.75

Table S4. Statistics of differentially expressed bacterial genes for each transcriptomic comparison group

Comparison	Differentially expressed genes				Total
	Up-regulation	Down-regulation	Between 2 to 4-fold change	More than 4-fold change	
<i>in vivo</i> PAO1 vs <i>in vitro</i> planktonic cells	979	1082	1072	989	2061
<i>in vitro</i> biofilm cells vs <i>in vitro</i> planktonic cells	1004	1014	1261	757	2018
<i>in vivo</i> Δ <i>wspF</i> vs <i>in vivo</i> <i>p_{lac}-yhjH</i> -containing strain	46	87	112	21	133
<i>in vivo</i> PAO1 vs <i>in vivo</i> <i>p_{lac}-yhjH</i> -containing strain	49	79	112	16	128
<i>in vivo</i> PAO1 vs <i>in vitro</i> biofilm cells	900	897	977	820	1797

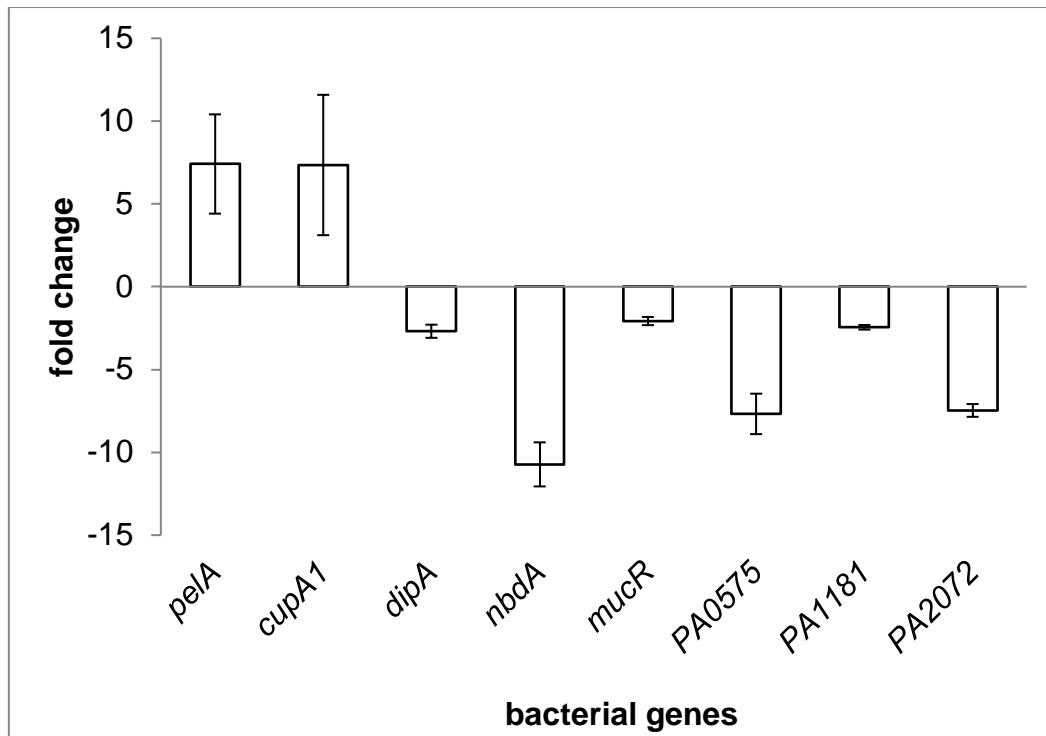


Figure S1. qRT-PCR analysis. Expression of *pelA*, *cupA1*, *dipA*, *mucR*, *nbdA*, *PA0575*, *PA1181*, *PA2072* messenger RNA in 2 dpi *in vivo* PAO1 compared with *in vitro* planktonic cells. Means and s.d. from triplicate experiments are shown. * $p < 0.01$.

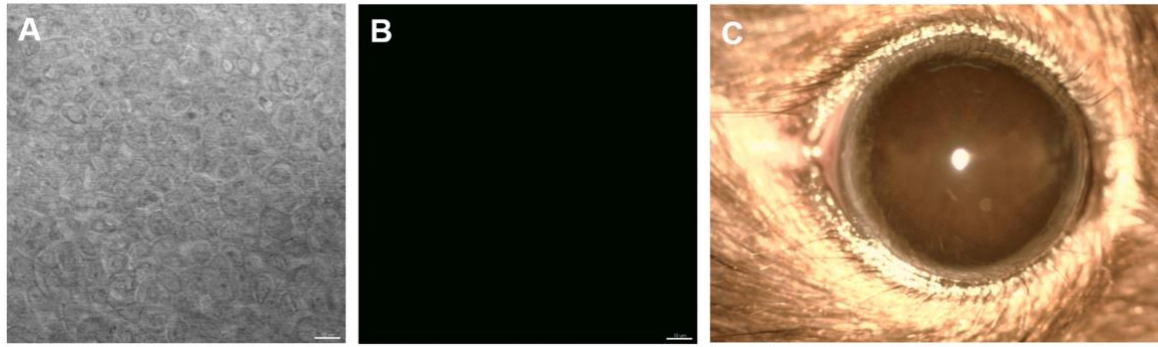


Figure S2. Images of control uninfected mouse corneas. The uninfected mouse corneas were viewed under bright field (A), CLSM (green fluorescence channel) (B) and slit lamp microscopy (C). Experiments were performed in triplicate, and a representative image for each condition is shown. Scale bars, 10 μm .

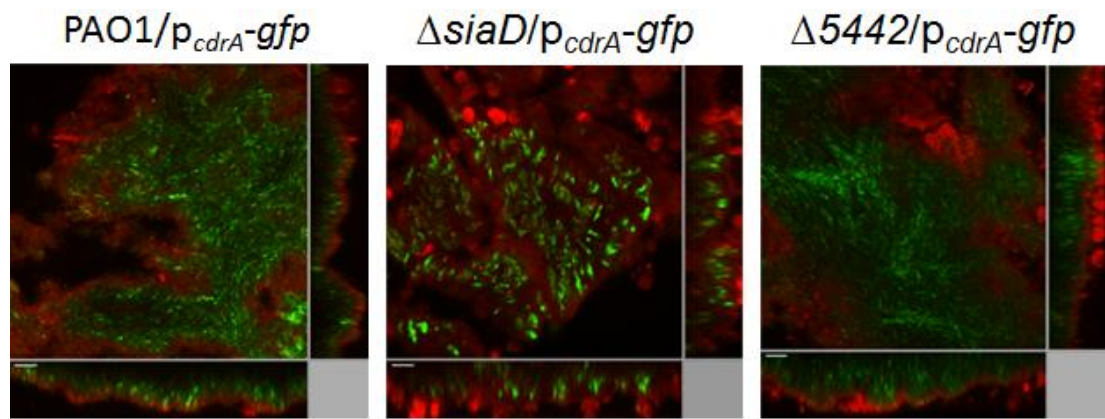


Figure S3. p_{cdrA}-gfp expression in different *P. aeruginosa* DGC mutants (derived from PAO1 wild type) during 2 dpi ocular infections. Experiments were performed in triplicate, and a representative image for each condition is shown. Green and red fluorescence refer to the expression of p_{cdrA}-gfp expression and SYTO[®]62 stain respectively. Scale bars, 20 μm.

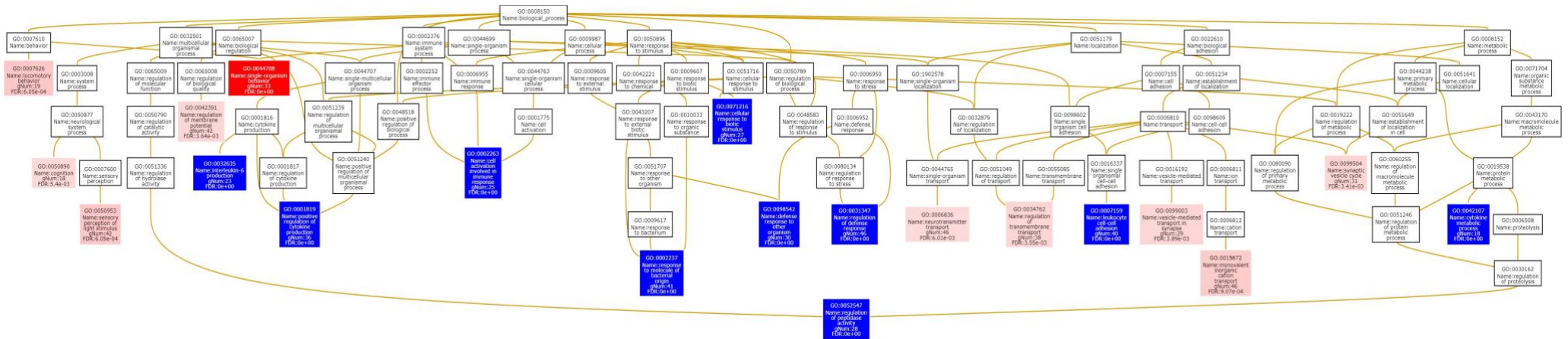


Figure S4. Biological process enrichment of mouse transcriptome using WEB-based GENE SeT ANALYSIS TOOLKIT (WebGestalt) by comparing 7 dpi to 2 dpi $\Delta wspF$ -infected corneal cells RNA-seq data from supplementary data 6. The grouping and classification of each biological process was processed by WebGestalt. The groups highlighted in pink or red indicate the weak or strong upregulation of gene expression in 7 dpi comparing to 2 dpi respectively. The groups highlighted in light blue or dark blue refers to weak or strong downregulation of gene expression in 7 dpi than 2 dpi respectively.

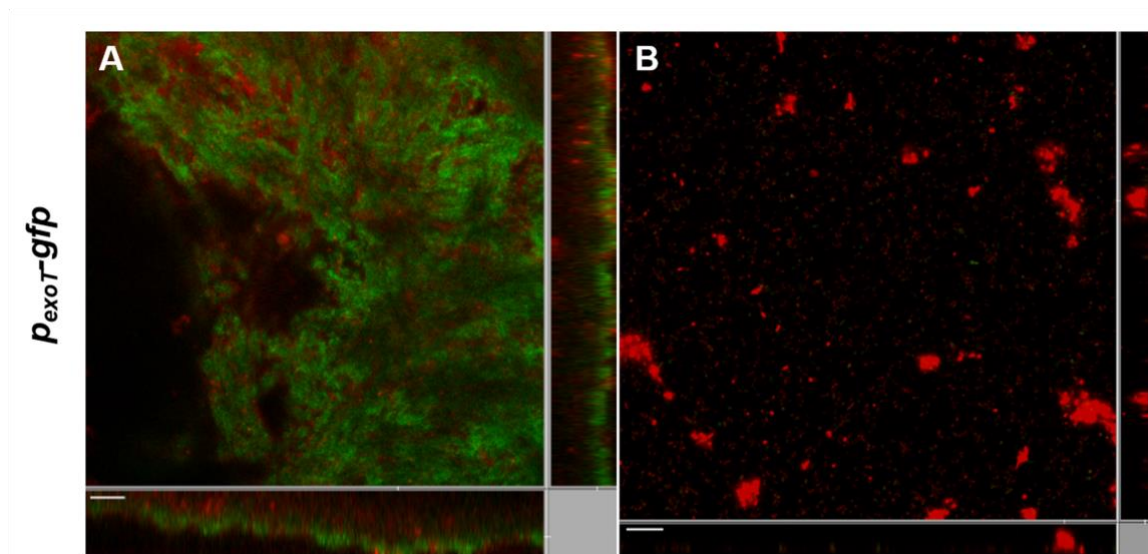


Figure S5. Confocal images of *P. aeruginosa* the T3SS reporter strain, $p_{\text{exoT-gfp}}$, after cultivation *in vivo* and *in vitro* for 2 days. A) Mouse cornea after 2 days infection with the $p_{\text{exoT-gfp}}$ strain. B) 2 days old *in vitro* static biofilm formed by the $p_{\text{exoT-gfp}}$ strain. Green and red fluorescence represents the expression of $p_{\text{exoT-gfp}}$ and staining by SYTO[®]62. Experiments were carried out in triplicates and a representative image is shown for each condition. Scale bars, 20 μm .

Supplementary data 1. Regulated genes in 2 dpi *in vivo* PAO1 compared to *in vitro* planktonic cells.

Supplementary data 2. Regulated genes in *in vitro* biofilm cells compared to *in vitro* planktonic cells.

Supplementary data 3. Shared regulated genes between 2 dpi *in vivo* PAO1 and *in vitro biofilm* cells when compared to *in vitro* planktonic cells.

Supplementary data 4. Regulated genes in 2 dpi *in vivo* $\Delta wspF$ compared to 2 dpi *in vivo* *p_{lac}-yhjH*-containing strain.

Supplementary data 5. Regulated genes 2 dpi *in vivo* PAO1 compared to 2 dpi *in vivo* *p_{lac}-yhjH*-containing strain

Supplementary data 6. Regulated genes in 7 dpi corneal cells compared to 2 dpi corneal cells after infected by $\Delta wspF$ strain.

Supplementary data 7. Regulated genes in 2 dpi *in vivo* PAO1 compared to *in vitro* biofilm cells.

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