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# Type 1 and F17-like Pili Promote the Establishment of the Uropathogenic E. coli Intestinal Reservoir

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**Type 1 and F17-like Pili Promote the Establishment of the Uropathogenic *E. coli* Intestinal Reservoir.**

by

Caitlin N. Spaulding

A dissertation presented to  
The Graduate School  
of Washington University in  
partial fulfillment of the  
requirements for the degree  
of Doctor of Philosophy

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St. Louis, Missouri

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# ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

## **Type 1 and F17-like Pili Promote the Establishment of the Uropathogenic *E. coli* Intestinal Reservoir.**

By

Caitlin N. Spaulding

Doctor of Philosophy in Biology and Biomedical Sciences

Molecular Microbiology and Microbial Pathogenesis

Washington University in St. Louis, 2017

Dr. Scott J. Hultgren, Chair

Urinary tract infections (UTI) affect over 150 million individuals worldwide every year. These infections are associated with significant morbidity and have a sizeable economic impact, with \$5 billion being spent on UTI treatment in the USA annually. Uropathogenic *E. coli* (UPEC) are responsible for 80% of community acquired UTIs and 65% of nosocomial UTI. The current standard of care for UTI is antibiotic therapy. However, 30-50% of women experience recurrent UTI (rUTI) despite receiving antibiotic therapy. The prevalence of single and multi-drug resistant UPEC strains has led to increased reliance on carbapenems, which are primarily reserved for multi-drug resistant infections, to treat an increasing number of patients. Consequently *E. coli* strains resistant to colistin, a drug of last resort for treating carbapenem-

resistant Enterobacteriaceae, have now been isolated in over 30 counties. The rate at which drug-resistant *E. coli* are spreading across the globe emphasizes the urgent nature of the antibiotic-resistance crisis we currently face and the dire need for new, antibiotic-sparing therapies that target UPEC virulence factors. To colonize host tissue, *E. coli* encode chaperone usher pathway (CUP) pili and single UPEC strains can encode up to 16 distinct CUP pilus operons. Although CUP pilus types that promote UPEC colonization of the urinary tract have been identified, no studies investigating a role for CUP pilus types in UPEC intestinal colonization have been published. Still, leading models of infection posit that UPEC in the gut seed UTI by being shed in the feces, and then colonizing the peri-urethral or vaginal tissue and subsequently ascending through the urethra to access the bladder. Using a mouse model of UPEC intestinal colonization I found that two (CUP) pili, F17-like pili and type 1 pili, provide a fitness advantages for UPEC in the gut. The X-ray crystal structure of the F17-like pilus adhesin lectin domain, coupled with molecular studies of glycan binding, disclosed a ligand specificity distinct from other pilus types known to facilitate gastrointestinal colonization. While phylogenomic studies revealed that F17-like pili are closely related to pilus types carried by intestinal pathogens, but are restricted to extra-intestinal pathogenic *E. coli*. Moreover, I found that high-affinity mannose analogues (mannosides) that target the function of type 1 pili and effectively treat UTI reduce intestinal colonization by clinical UPEC isolates, including a multi-drug resistant strain, without disrupting gut microbiota structure. By decreasing the intestinal UPEC reservoir that seeds bladder infection, mannosides could significantly reduce the rate of UTI and rUTI. Further, mannosides act like a molecular scalpel, specifically targeting intestinal UPEC with minimal effects on the overall gut microbiota. Ultimately, therapies like mannosides, which selectively target colonization by a specific pathogen, have potential to revolutionize treatment and prevention of

rUTI. Take together, this dissertation provides invaluable tools and insights into the understudied UPEC intestinal reservoir

# **Chapter 1: Adhesive Pili in UTI Pathogenesis** **and Drug Development**

From:

## **Adhesive Pili in UTI Pathogenesis and Drug Development**

Caitlin N. Spaulding and Scott J. Hultgren

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### **Abstract**

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are one of the most common bacterial infections, affecting 150 million people each year worldwide. High recurrence rates and increasing antimicrobial resistance among uropathogens are making it imperative to develop alternative strategies for the treatment and prevention of this common infection. In this Review, we discuss how understanding the: (i) molecular and biophysical basis of host-pathogen interactions; (ii) consequences of the molecular cross-talk at the host pathogen interface in terms of disease progression; and (iii) pathophysiology of UTIs is leading to efforts to translate this knowledge into novel therapeutics to treat and prevent these infections.



Keywords: UTI; rUTI; CAUTI; pili; UPEC; chaperone-usher pathway (CUP) pili; *Enterococcus*; vaccine; antibiotic-resistance

## **Introduction**

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) can be acquired in the community or hospital setting and are one of the most common bacterial infections that occur, affecting more than 150 million people worldwide each year [1–3]. UTI is clinically divided into two major infections, characterized by the localization of the bacteria in the urinary tract, cystitis and pyelonephritis. Cystitis, or lower UTI, is infection of the bladder. Once in the bladder, bacteria can ascend the ureters and colonize the kidneys, causing pyelonephritis or upper UTI. While the incidence of pyelonephritis is fairly low (~0.3%–0.6%) it is particularly dangerous as uncontrolled bacterial infection can spread to the bloodstream, causing sepsis (which occurs in ~2% of pyelonephritis cases) [4,5]. UTIs are also categorized as uncomplicated or complicated infections. Complicated UTI occurs in patients with: (i) functional or structural urinary tract abnormalities; (ii) renal failure; (iii) immunosuppression; (iv) pregnancy; and/or (v) foreign bodies, such as indwelling catheters, placed within their urinary tract [6–8]. Catheter-associated UTIs (CAUTI), make up 70%–80% of all complicated UTI and are the most common type of nosocomial infection [4,9]. CAUTI are of particular concern as they result in high morbidity, increased mortality and are the most common cause of secondary sepsis in hospital patients. While complicated UTI affects individuals of both genders, uncomplicated UTI primarily affects otherwise healthy women [10]. Pyelonephritis often occurs in healthy, non-pregnant women but can be categorized as a complicated UTI because of the potential of developing a blood stream infection. For women, the lifetime risk of developing an uncomplicated UTI approaches 60% [5]. Of these women who

experience an initial UTI, 20%–30% will go on to experience a recurrent infection (rUTI) within 4–6 months, despite receiving appropriate antibiotic therapy [5,11]. To combat rUTI, these women are treated with frequent antibiotic therapy often to be taken at the time that symptoms arise or immediately following sexual intercourse [6]. However, a subset of these women will continue to experience rUTI as frequently as six or more times a year [12]. Due to its prevalence and high rates of recurrence, UTI is associated with significant economic costs. The financial burden of UTI in the United States, which reflects both direct medical costs and indirect costs such as lost work output and wages, is an estimated \$5 billion annually [5]. These infections also result in significant patient morbidity resulting in serious deterioration in quality of life including: pain, discomfort, disruption of daily activities, and few treatment options other than long-term antibiotic prophylaxis [5,11,13].

While many bacterial organisms cause UTI, the most common causative agent of both uncomplicated and complicated UTI is the gram-negative pathogen uropathogenic *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) (UPEC). UPEC are responsible for 80%–90% of all uncomplicated UTI and approximately 65% of complicated UTIs [5,14,15]. Gram-positive *Enterococcus* species are the second leading cause of complicated UTI (11%) and the third leading cause of uncomplicated UTI (5%) [15]. The source population of UPEC and *Enterococcus* that lead to UTI is thought to be the gastrointestinal tract, where they can reside as either commensal or transient members of the gut microbiota [11,16,17]. When present in the gut, UPEC or *Enterococcus* spp. can be shed in the feces, inoculating peri-urethral or vaginal areas, and are subsequently introduced into the urinary tract during periods of physical manipulation such as during sexual activity or catheterization (Figure 1A) [18]. Upon entering the bladder, uropathogens must bind to an available epithelial receptor and/or, if present, abiotic-surface to establish and maintain

colonization. UPEC and enterococcal species both accomplish this through the expression of distinctive adhesive pili on their surface. After creating a foothold in the bladder, uropathogens employ a myriad of additional virulence factors to establish bladder colonization in the face of an active immune response, micturition, and rapid epithelial cell exfoliation. Historically, antibiotics have been used, very successfully, to treat patients with UTI. However, the rise of single and multi-drug resistant uropathogens as well as high rates of recurrence in women infected with both antibiotic sensitive and drug-resistant uropathogens has become a major concern, highlighting the need to develop alternative strategies to treat patients with UTI and CAUTI. In this review, we will discuss the role of adhesive pili during UTI or CAUTI. Here we will focus mainly on UTI and CAUTI caused by UPEC and *Enterococcus spp.* due to the high prevalence of these pathogens in community-acquired and nosocomial infections. We will also explore the development of alternative, non-antibiotic treatment strategies that target adhesive pili in order to prevent UPEC and *Enterococcus spp.* from initiating infection and thus causing disease.

## **The Role of Chaperone-Usher Pathway (CUP) Pili in UPEC Mediated UTI**

### **CUP Pilus Assembly Mechanisms**

Upon entering the bladder, UPEC must first adhere to the bladder epithelium, also referred to as the urothelium, or risk clearance during urine voiding. Recognition and attachment to host and environmental surfaces is mediated through the expression of non-flagellar, adhesive, extracellular fibers, called pili that bind to receptors present on the host cell surface. In UPEC, many of these adhesive pili belong to a large, conserved family of pili called the chaperone-usher pathway (CUP) pili [20]. CUP pili are assembled by the corresponding chaperone-usher machinery, which are encoded by operons that contain all the dedicated genetic information

necessary to assemble a mature pilus: an outer-membrane pore-forming usher protein, a periplasmic chaperone protein, pilus subunits, and in most cases, a tip adhesin protein. The first crystal structure of a CUP chaperone, PapD, which is involved in the assembly of P pili, revealed that it consists of two-immunoglobulin (Ig) domains [21]. Two key amino acid residues, R8 and K112, present in the cleft of the chaperone were subsequently identified as the active site of the protein [22]. Unlike the chaperone, pilus subunits are composed of an incomplete Ig fold, which lacks the C-terminal beta strand and requires the assistance of the dedicated chaperone for folding and stability (Figure 2B,D). Chaperone-assisted folding occurs by a reaction termed donor strand complementation (DSC) in which conserved alternating exposed hydrophobic residues on the chaperone's G1 strand are buried in complementary pockets in the pilus subunit, allowing for the completion of the subunits Ig fold (Figure 2C) [23,24]. This interaction allows pilus subunits to fold into a primed, high-energy state in complex with the chaperone, ultimately allowing the subunits to be targeted to the outer membrane usher (Figure 2E). The usher, a gated channel, is made up of five functional domains: a 24 stranded transmembrane  $\beta$ -barrel translocation domain (TD), a  $\beta$ -sandwich plug (PLUG) that resides in the pore of the TD in the apo-usher, an N-terminal periplasmic domain (NTD) and two C-terminal periplasmic domains (CTD1 and 2) [25–29]. The usher catalyzes pilus assembly by driving subunit polymerization in a concerted reaction termed donor strand exchange (DSE) (Figure 2E,F) [30–33]. Pilus subunits, excluding the adhesin, encode an N-terminal extension (Nte) comprised of conserved alternating hydrophobic residues. DSE occurs when the chaperone is displaced and an incoming subunit's Nte zips into the previously chaperone-bound groove of a nascently incorporated subunit at the growing terminus of the pilus. This “zip-in-zip-out mechanism” allows for the final folding of

the pilus subunit, such that every subunit in the pilus completes the Ig fold of its neighbor (Figure 2F).

### **The Role of Type 1 Pili during Uncomplicated UTI**

A hallmark of the luminal surface of urothelial cells, also called superficial facet cells, are the presence of uroplakin plaques, which consist of 4 uroplakin integral membrane proteins, that function as a barrier between the toxic contents of the bladder and the underlying urothelium [34,35]. The surface of the uroplakin is studded with mannose [36,37]. The tip adhesin for type 1 pili, FimH, binds mannose with stereochemical specificity. Therefore, upon entering the bladder, FimH is able to bind mannosylated residues on the bladder surface, such as those found on uroplakin as well as  $\beta$ 1- $\alpha$ 3 integrin receptors (Figure 1B) [36,38–40]. FimH mediated interaction with the urothelium induces a signaling cascade that activates Rho family GTPases and results in actin rearrangement within urothelial cells, promoting UPEC invasion (Figure 1C,D) [38,41,42]. Studies in mice have revealed that once inside superficial facet cells, UPEC are able to escape the endocytic vesicle, via unknown mechanisms, into the cytoplasm where they replicate rapidly forming biofilm-like communities called intracellular bacterial communities (IBCs) (Figure 1D,E) [43–45]. In mice, type 1 pili are not only required for cellular adherence and invasion but also for the aggregation of bacteria into an IBC in the host cell cytoplasm [46]. Mouse studies have shown that invasion is a critical step in UPEC pathogenesis in naïve mice, allowing the bacteria to rapidly replicate in a niche protected from many innate immune defense mechanisms and antibiotics. UPEC that cannot invade the urothelium, like those lacking FimH, are quickly cleared from the bladder, emphasizing the importance of this intracellular stage to the success of the pathogen [46]. Mature IBCs contain approximately  $10^4$  bacteria. Upon maturation, bacteria

within the IBC adopt a filamentous morphology and disperse from the biomass, fluxing out of the cell and back into the bladder lumen where they can adhere to and/or invade adjacent facet cells or exposed transitional epithelial cells (Figure 1G,H) [43,44,47,48]. Importantly, evidence of IBCs and bacterial filaments have been observed in women suffering from acute UTI, one to two days post self-reported sexual intercourse, but not in healthy controls or infections caused by Gram-positive organisms, which do not form IBCs [49]. IBCs have also been observed in urine from children with an acute UTI and their presence was correlated with recurrent UTI, supporting the validity of their importance in pathogenesis and the ability of the mouse model to recapitulate human disease [50].

While the collection of tissue biopsies from women with UTI is generally contraindicated, one study of tissue biopsies demonstrated the presence of intracellular UPEC [51]. In urine from UTI patients and/or mice, the expression of type 1 pili has been reported to be variable [52–54]. Several studies, in mice and humans, have demonstrated that UPEC attached to shed epithelial cells in the urine express type 1 pili while planktonic UPEC found in the urine tend to be nonpiliated [54,55]. This suggests that the expression of type 1 pili is niche specific, with type 1 pili being expressed by UPEC that are attached to the epithelial surface.

In addition to type 1 pili, a mosaic of UPEC virulence factors including adhesins, toxins, capsule, siderophores, and flagella have been identified and characterized [39,56–61]; however the direct contribution of these putative urovirulence factors has not been exhaustively studied. In a recent comprehensive genomic analysis of 43 UPEC isolates, we found that “core” genes, defined as genes shared between all *E. coli*, constituted approximately 60% of each strain’s genome. Further, we were unable to find any single set of genes that accurately delineated UPEC from non-UPEC strains (Schreiber and Hultgren, personal communication). The lack of a strict

‘genetic’ definition of UPEC indicates that, in most cases, urovirulence in UPEC is more complicated than carriage of a set of virulence-associated genes that are missing in non-UPEC strains. Instead urovirulence in UPEC strains may be defined by alternative characteristics, like propensity to certain patterns of gene expression, as is seen with niche specific expression of type 1 pili in the bladder [54, 55], or the carriage of different alleles of core genes. There are a number of different alleles of FimH, described later in this review, that alter the affinity of the adhesin for its ligand and may be associated with more virulent strains. These alternative characteristics may explain how genes that are highly conserved in both UPEC and non-UPEC strains, like those that encode type 1 pili, contribute to pathogenesis during UTI.

### **The Host Response to Type 1 Piliated UPEC**

The host has evolved several mechanisms to respond to type 1 pilus mediated binding in a manner that favors bacterial clearance or killing. Caspase-dependent apoptosis and exfoliation of superficial facet cells is observed within hours of type 1 pili binding and invasion in C57BL/6 mice [39,62,63]. This promotes the clearance of infected cells from the host during micturition (Figure 1F). In the absence of cell exfoliation, the host can expel UPEC directly from an invaded cell via a TLR-4 dependent mechanism, reducing the number of successful UPEC invasion events and decreasing the overall number of IBCs formed during acute infection (Figure 1C) [19]. UPEC interactions with the host also leads to the robust recruitment of immune cells, mainly neutrophils and inflammatory monocytes, to the urinary tract as well as the up regulation of pro-inflammatory cytokines which drive the mobilization of additional immune effectors [64–68]. Several natural allele variants of FimH exist. The residues in the mannose-binding pocket of FimH are invariant in all sequenced UPEC isolates [37,69], however there is diversity outside of

this pocket, including at a cluster of amino acids that are positively-selected in UPEC strains [69]. Interestingly, mutations in these positively selected residues results in distinct FimH alleles that are skewed into either elongated or compact conformations, which have been observed in several X-ray crystal structures of FimH [25,26,70]. The elongated conformation corresponds to the mannose binding conformation whereas the compact form binds mannose only weakly or not at all [69,71,72]. When FimH is bound to the FimC chaperone, it adopts an elongated conformation [26] however, upon its incorporation into the tip of the pilus, it can convert to a compact conformation with an altered mannose-binding pocket [25,70]. In the FimCH complex, all of the FimH allele variants tested have a high affinity for mannose. However, when incorporated into a tip-like state, following a DSE reaction with the FimG adaptor, FimH variants differ greatly in their mannose affinity suggesting that depending on the allele, FimH is skewed toward either an elongated or compact form after its incorporation into the tip [73]. Interestingly, UPEC strains containing distinct FimH alleles also display altered levels of pathogenicity during acute and chronic UTI in C57BL/6 [74] and C3H/HeN mice [73]. Of particular interest we found that specific mutations in two positively selected residues, A27 and V163, result in a FimH variant (FimH(A27V/V163A)) that resides within a tip-like complex predominantly in a high-affinity mannose binding conformation [73]. Surprisingly, this FimH allele is severely attenuated in a cystitis model [69,73]. These findings support the hypothesis that FimH resides in an equilibrium of mannose-binding and non-binding conformations, which are governed, in part, by the identity of select residues that are under positive selection in UPEC isolates. The inter-conversion between high and low mannose-binding conformations is likely important for tissue-binding and/or immune evasion, which may begin to explain why the FimH(A27V/V163A) variant, which appears to be “locked” in a high-affinity elongated state is



unable to cause infection *in vivo* despite its high-affinity for mannose. These findings may be related to the important observation made by others that FimH conformation is influenced by shear force leading to a “catch bond” model of FimH function [70–72,75,76]. Thus, the ability of FimH to be incorporated into a pilus tip to interconvert into different conformations affects virulence.

### **The Biophysics of FimH Structure and Function**

Several natural allele variants of FimH exist. The residues in the mannose-binding pocket of FimH are invariant in all sequenced UPEC isolates [37,69], however there is diversity outside of this pocket, including at a cluster of amino acids that are positively-selected in UPEC strains [69]. Interestingly, mutations in these positively selected residues results in distinct FimH alleles that are skewed into either elongated or compact conformations, which have been observed in several X-ray crystal structures of FimH [25,26,70]. The elongated conformation corresponds to the mannose binding conformation whereas the compact form binds mannose only weakly or not at all [69,71,72]. When FimH is bound to the FimC chaperone, it adopts an elongated conformation [26] however, upon its incorporation into the tip of the pilus, it can convert to a compact conformation with an altered mannose-binding pocket [25,70]. In the FimCH complex, all of the FimH allele variants tested have a high affinity for mannose. However, when incorporated into a tip-like state, following a DSE reaction with the FimG adaptor, FimH variants differ greatly in their mannose affinity suggesting that depending on the allele, FimH is skewed toward either an elongated or compact form after its incorporation into the tip [73]. Interestingly, UPEC strains containing distinct FimH alleles also display altered levels of pathogenicity during acute and chronic UTI in C57BL/6 [74] and C3H/HeN mice [73]. Of

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### **The Role of P Pili in Pyelonephritis**

The ability of UPEC to ascend from the bladder to the upper urinary tract likely involves many genetic and environmental factors, one of which is thought to be the up-regulation of P pili and corresponding down-regulation of type 1 pili [77]. P pili, which are encoded by the *pap* operon, mediate adhesion of UPEC to kidney tissue resulting in pyelonephritis [61,78–80]. This binding is dependent on the expression of the P pilus tip adhesin, PapG [56,81]. Three alleles of PapG exist (PapG-I, -II, and -III) and each allele shows a distinct affinity for a series of Gal $\alpha$ 1-4Gal containing glycolipid receptors, which are expressed to various degrees in the kidneys and

ureters of mammals [82]. Human kidneys, for example, abundantly express the ligands for PapG-II, globoside, and thus are colonized with UPEC that express PapG-II alleles. Conversely, PapG-III binds strongly to Forssman glycolipid, which is present in dog but not in human kidneys. Thus, different alleles of PapG mediate host tropisms [83–85].

### **Identifying Roles for Additional CUP Pilus Types during Disease**

A recent analysis of 35 *Escherichia* spp. genomes and 132 plasmids identified a total of 458 CUP pili operons, representing 38 distinct CUP pilus types based on usher phylogeny [86,87]. CUP pili tipped with specific adhesins provides *E. coli* the ability to bind to distinct ligands with stereo-chemical specificity. Single UPEC strains were found to carry as many as 16 distinct, intact CUP pilus systems that likely aid UPEC strains in their colonization of many host niches, including the gut, vagina, urethra, bladder, and kidneys. Thus, it is likely that the retention of many distinct CUP pilus types reflects the adaptation to broad environmental and host niches and their function in facilitating the various tropisms of *E. coli* [88]. Aside from type 1 and P pili, UPEC strains encode a number of additional CUP pilus types for which a role in UPEC pathogenesis is minimally defined or completely undetermined. S pili are known to bind sialosyloligosaccharide residues in host cells and likely mediate infection of the ureters and kidneys [89]. Clinical isolates containing S pili are often associated with more severe outcomes in patients with UTI, including: pyelonephritis, sepsis, and meningitis. The Dr pili adhesin has been shown to bind type IV collagen and decay-accelerating factor (DAF), both of which are expressed in human kidneys. Dr pili enable UPEC colonization of the mouse renal interstitial basement membrane [90,91]. The roles for CUP pili, including F1C, F9, Ygi, Yad, and Auf, have been briefly explored and have been recently reviewed [92–94]. Identifying roles for additional

CUP pilus types will enhance our overall knowledge of UTI pathogenesis and may provide novel drug targets to treat patients with UTI.

### **Outcomes of UTI: Connecting Findings in Humans and Mice**

Much of our understanding of UTI and rUTI pathogenesis comes from studies in mice. The development of murine models of acute and recurrent cystitis have allowed for many important advances in our understanding of UTI pathogenesis. However, it is also worth noting that the UTI mouse models, like all animal models, have limitations. Behavior, genetic, and environment differences between mice and humans make it challenging to translate all murine findings to humans [99]. Here we discuss advances in our understanding of UTI pathogenesis based on experiments performed in relevant mouse models and highlight how these findings have been recapitulated in clinical studies performed in women with UTI or rUTI.

For women with UTI, several disease outcomes are possible, including: asymptomatic bacteruria (ABU), acute self-limiting infection, or chronic/recurrent UTI [5]. Placebo studies in women have shown that approximately 50% of UTIs do not resolve in the absence of effective antibiotic treatment, implying that cystitis is not always self-limiting. These findings highlight the importance of clinical intervention to resolve UTI and the developing crisis of emerging multi-drug resistant uropathogens [95,96]. In naïve mice, there are two major outcomes of UTI: (i) self-limiting acute infection that resolves within days of the initiation of infection with or without the formation of quiescent intracellular reservoirs (QIR); or (ii) persistent, high-titer bacteruria concomitant with high bladder bacterial burden and severe bladder inflammation which, in the absence of antibiotic intervention, can last for the lifetime of the animal and is referred to as chronic cystitis [100] (Figure 1H). The resolution of infection in mice is often

accompanied by QIR formation [97] (Figure 1I). The exfoliation response results in the exposure of the underlying transitional cells, which allows the subsequent invasion of UPEC into these cells. However, unlike superficial facet cells, the underlying transitional cells do not support IBC formation; instead UPEC establish QIRs, which are comprised of 8–12 dormant bacteria in Lamp1+ vesicles [97]. The mechanism of QIR formation is unknown, however, these reservoirs are able to reactivate and release UPEC back into the bladder lumen to initiate a new infection cycle [97,98]. Interestingly, the fate of disease in mice is determined by whether an acute host-pathogen checkpoint, which is influenced by the genetic background of the mice, is triggered. C57BL/6 mice are resistant to chronic cystitis after a single infection; however, they can develop persistent bacteriuria and chronic cystitis when “superinfected”, by multiple transurethral inoculations within a 24 hour period [74]. Elevated levels of interleukin-6 (IL-6), keratinocyte cytokine (KC/CXCL1), and granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) in the serum of C57BL/6 mice prior to the second infection predicted the development of chronic cystitis [74]. These same cytokines have been found to precede chronic cystitis in singly infected C3H/HeN mice, which are prone to the development of chronic cystitis [100]. Superinfection of C3H/HeN mice within a six-hour period doubles the proportion of mice that developed chronic cystitis. Intracellular bacterial replication, regulated hemolysin (HlyA) expression, and caspase 1/11 activation were essential for this increase [74]. The chronic bladder inflammation that accompanies chronic cystitis includes lymphonodular hyperplasia in the bladder submucosa and urothelial hyperplasia that results in the loss of superficial facet cells. Similar histological findings have been observed in humans suffering from persistent bacteriuria and rUTI [101,102].

Proteomic analysis of chronically infected bladders indicates that chronic inflammation also results in bladder epithelial remodeling, which may help to explain why mice that experience

chronic cystitis are more susceptible to rUTI upon further bacterial challenge weeks after antibiotic intervention and resolution of the initial infection [67]. Studies of mice with rUTI may also begin to explain why a history of UTI is a major risk factor for rUTI in women, highlighting the clinical relevance of this mouse model. Elevated soluble serum biomarkers that were predictive of rUTI were also detected in young women with UTI [67]. Interestingly, temperance of the neutrophil response during the first 24 hours of infection, by inhibition of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX 2), protected mice from chronic and recurrent cystitis [67]. These findings may help to explain the outcome of a small clinical trial that compared the outcomes of women with UPEC UTI after being given a three-day course of either ciprofloxacin or ibuprofen. The study found no difference in UTI outcome between these two groups at four or seven days post treatment [103]. Another study found that symptomatically treating women suffering from uncomplicated UTI with ibuprofen (without any antibiotics) resolved infection in two-thirds of the study group [104]. These results indicate that ibuprofen, which works by inhibiting COX 1 and 2, may act to decrease the severity of UTI in these patients. However, the second study also found that women in the ibuprofen treated group suffered from more UTI symptoms (abdominal pain, increased frequency of urination, dysuria) and were more likely to develop pyelonephritis [104].

The development of rUTI is likely a balance between bacterial factors and host genetics. Murine studies have indicated that the innate immune response is critical for combating UTI, which had been recapitulated in human clinical studies [105]. Therefore, mutations in the genes involved in this early immune response can greatly influence the susceptibility of a host to UTI. For example, certain polymorphisms and altered expression levels of innate immune genes, like Toll-like receptor 4 (TLR4) and CXCR1, have been associated with less severe symptomatic UTI but an increase in the development of ABU in women [105]. Alterations in the sequence or

expression of other innate immune genes, like IRF3 and CXCR1, have been associated with increased incidences of acute pyelonephritis [105].

### **Pili are Critical for the Establishment of UPEC and Enterococcus Mediated CAUTI**

The introduction of a catheter into the urinary tract provides an additional surface on which bacteria can adhere and establish infection. Uropathogens that are commonly associated with CAUTI, like those belonging to the *Enterococcus* genus, also encode a number of distinct adhesive factors and pili that permit attachment within the host. Of these factors, the endocarditis- and biofilm-associated (Ebp) pilus has recently been identified to play an essential role in the establishment and persistence of UTI in a catheterized mouse model [106–110]. Upon catheterization, implanted catheters are coated with host-derived fibrinogen and are subsequently bound by Ebp expressing *Enterococcus faecalis* (*E. faecalis*), a common enterococcal uropathogen [109]. The Ebp pilus binds fibrinogen via its tip adhesin, EbpA, which contains an N-terminal fibrinogen-binding domain [109]. The mechanism(s) by which fibrinogen enters the bladder is still under investigation but is likely due to bladder damage that occurs during the catheterization process and subsequent infection. Mechanical stress induced by insertion of the catheter into the bladder results in the induction of a robust inflammatory response and severe bladder edema in humans and mice [107,111–113]. Bladder inflammation, including increases in serum cytokines IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-6, and edema, is elevated further upon introduction of *E. faecalis* into the catheterized mouse [107]. Increases in IL-1 $\alpha$  and IL-6 have been previously shown to stimulate the release of fibrinogen from the liver into the bloodstream as a part of the pro-inflammatory response and circulating fibrinogen may then leak into the urinary tract via tissue damaged during catheterization. Once in the bladder, fibrinogen is deposited on the catheter,

providing a binding site for EbpA expressing *E. faecalis*. Catheterization and the subsequent inflammatory response are essential in mediating CAUTI, as mice infected with *E. faecalis* in the absence of a catheter are quickly cleared from the bladder [107]. Fibrinogen deposited onto the catheter surface not only enhances *E. faecalis* biofilm formation but also promotes growth, increasing the severity of the infection [109]. The ability to bind and utilize fibrinogen may be a general feature of infection in gram-positive bacteria, (as has been shown for *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*), *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (*S. epidermidis*), and Group A streptococci) and potentially in some fungal pathogens (as was recently shown for *Candida albicans*) [114,115]. The Ebp pilus also plays a role in the transition of *E. faecalis* infection from the bladder to the kidneys. In *E. faecalis*, loss of the pilus reduces bacterial colonization of the kidneys and thus lowers the incidence of pyelonephritis in infected mice [110].

UPEC, the leading cause of complicated UTI, can also use CUP pili to colonize the bladder during catheterization [15,116]. However, unlike *Enterococcal* spp., UPEC does not rely on the presence of the catheter to propagate high levels of bacterial colonization. In a CAUTI mouse model, UPEC undergoes the same acute pathogenic lifecycle that is observed in cystitis models, including: invasion into the tissue, IBC formation and maturation, the formation of filaments, and the emergence of filamentous bacteria back into the bladder lumen [116]. However, in the presence of the catheter, UPEC does appear to have a more robust extracellular population during acute infection, which is likely due to UPEC colonization and subsequent biofilm formation on the surface of the catheter [116]. Interestingly, type 1 pili are required for biofilm formation and UPEC colonization of the catheter [116]. These studies continue to define the importance of type 1 pili as a virulence factor during uncomplicated and complicated UTI in mice.



## **Development of Pili-Based Alternative Treatments to Treat or Prevent UTI and CAUTI**

Pili are potential drug targets due to the critical roles they play in UTI and CAUTI pathogenesis. Our understanding of the molecular mechanisms by which pili function and impact disease has permitted the development of novel therapeutics, such as vaccines and small molecule inhibitors, that target pili and block infection by preventing colonization. While a role for pili during intestinal colonization by uropathogens is currently unstudied, identifying and targeting pili that do permit intestinal colonization would provide a unique opportunity to target the source of uropathogens that lead to downstream infections.

### **Vaccines**

A number of promising vaccines that target a wide-range of UPEC virulence factors are currently in development [117–121]. The FimCH vaccine, a subunit vaccine targeting the type 1 pilus adhesin FimH, is one such example. Significant protection was observed in subcutaneously vaccinated mice and cynomolgus monkeys given an intra-muscular vaccination, with the protected animals developing antigen-specific, long-lasting serum IgG antibodies [120,121]. Based on this data, it is presumed that the vaccine works by stimulating these FimH-specific IgG antibodies that block UPEC colonization of the bladder. Consistent with this, the polyclonal antibodies derived from vaccinated mice block FimH function and likely activate immune effector cells, like phagocytes and complement, for clearance of the infection [120,121]. The success of this vaccine in animal models highlights its potential as an alternative treatment to UTI in humans. A FimCH vaccine adjuvanted with PHAD (Avanti Polar Lipids, Alabaster, AL) is currently completing a Phase 1 human study. This study has enrolled about 67 women with and without a history of rUTI (personal communication, Gary Eldridge).

Other CUP pilus types are the focus of additional vaccine candidates. One such candidate is the PapDG subunit vaccine. P pili are strongly associated with pyelonephritis and as such have been designed to target UPEC and prevent complicated upper UTIs [61]. Intraperitoneal administration of the PapDG vaccine protects animals from infection and elicits a specific IgG antibody response in cynomolgus monkeys [118,122]. The Dr fimbriae represents another current vaccine target. Mice vaccinated with purified Dr fimbriae produce high titers of serum antibodies against the fimbriae but do not have lower colonization rates in either the bladder or kidneys [123].

Recent findings revealed an essential role for the Ebp pilus and its adhesin, EbpA, during *E. faecalis* mediated CAUTI in mice. Interestingly, vaccinating mice with EbpA results in significant protection against subsequent *E. faecalis* CAUTI compared to unvaccinated mice or mice vaccinated with other Ebp pilus protein subunits [109]. Vaccinating mice with only the N-terminal portion of EbpA, which contains the fibrinogen-binding domain, is also sufficient to protect mice from subsequent infection and may provide a higher level of protection than vaccination with the entire adhesin.

### **Small Molecular Inhibitors**

The importance of the FimH-mannose interaction during infection in mice has prompted studies that test the effects of oral treatment with D-mannose or mannose-analogs on UTI outcome. Oral D-mannose treatment has been shown in studies to work as well as antibiotics to prevent rUTI. One group found that women who received prophylaxis with D-mannose after an initial UTI had similar rates of rUTI as a group that received antibiotic prophylaxis, indicating that D-mannose may be useful to prevent rUTI [124]. Another strategy to prevent UPEC

pathogenesis has been the design of orally active, synthetic, small-molecule inhibitors of CUP pilus assembly or function. One such class of small molecule inhibitors are mannosides. Mannosides are mannose analogs that were rationally designed to bind within the mannose-binding pocket of FimH with a high affinity and thus block pilus binding of FimH to host receptors (Figure 2) [125,126]. Studies in mouse models have demonstrated that mannosides are potent, fast acting and highly efficacious in the treatment of UTI and CAUTI [116,127–129], highlighting their potential as a novel therapeutic strategy for UTI. Mannoside treatment is especially promising as a novel antibiotic sparing therapeutic because they are effective against multi-drug resistant uropathogens [128]. While D-mannose and mannosides both appear to effectively block FimH-mannose interactions, mannosides have approximately a 1,000,000-fold increase in potency for inhibiting FimH, making them promising antibiotic-sparing therapeutics [125,130].

Another class of compounds are pilicides, which are small, rationally designed 2-pyridinones that block pilus assembly (Figure 2) [131,132]. Pilicides block assembly by binding to the pilus chaperone, preventing chaperone-pilus subunit-usher interactions that are fundamental for pilus biogenesis [133]. While pilicides were originally designed to target type 1 pilus assembly, recent studies have found that pilicide treatment disrupts assembly of at least four-CUP pilus types (type 1-, P-, S-, and Dr- pili) as well as flagellar motility [134,135]. The ability of pilicides to target multiple pilus types makes it an extremely valuable treatment option.

## **Conclusions**

Complicated and uncomplicated UTI are extremely common, affecting a large portion of the global population. The high rate of infection and recurrence of UTIs, their monetary cost, their physical burden, and the increasing occurrence of antibiotic resistant uropathogens emphasize

the need for effective treatments to combat the common causative agents of UTI and CAUTI, like UPEC and *Enterococcus* strains. Understanding the molecular mechanisms by which uropathogens are able to cause disease is the first step to identifying novel drug targets. Adhesive pili, like type 1, P, and Ebp, have been shown to play essential roles in UTI pathogenesis in mouse models and provide potential drug targets that may greatly reduce or prevent infection in patients. While the mouse models of uncomplicated UTI and CAUTI have been shown to mimic disease in human patients, the success of vaccine and small molecular inhibitor therapies against these pili in humans is dependent on determining the efficacy of these treatments in clinical trials.

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### **Author Contributions**

CNS is responsible for the design and content of this review. SJH contributed to the overall organization and content of this work.

## Conflicts of Interest

CNS reported no potential conflicts of interest relevant to this article. SJH has intellectual property in the FimH vaccine and ownership interest in Fimbrion Therapeutics, and may benefit if the company is successful in marketing mannosides.

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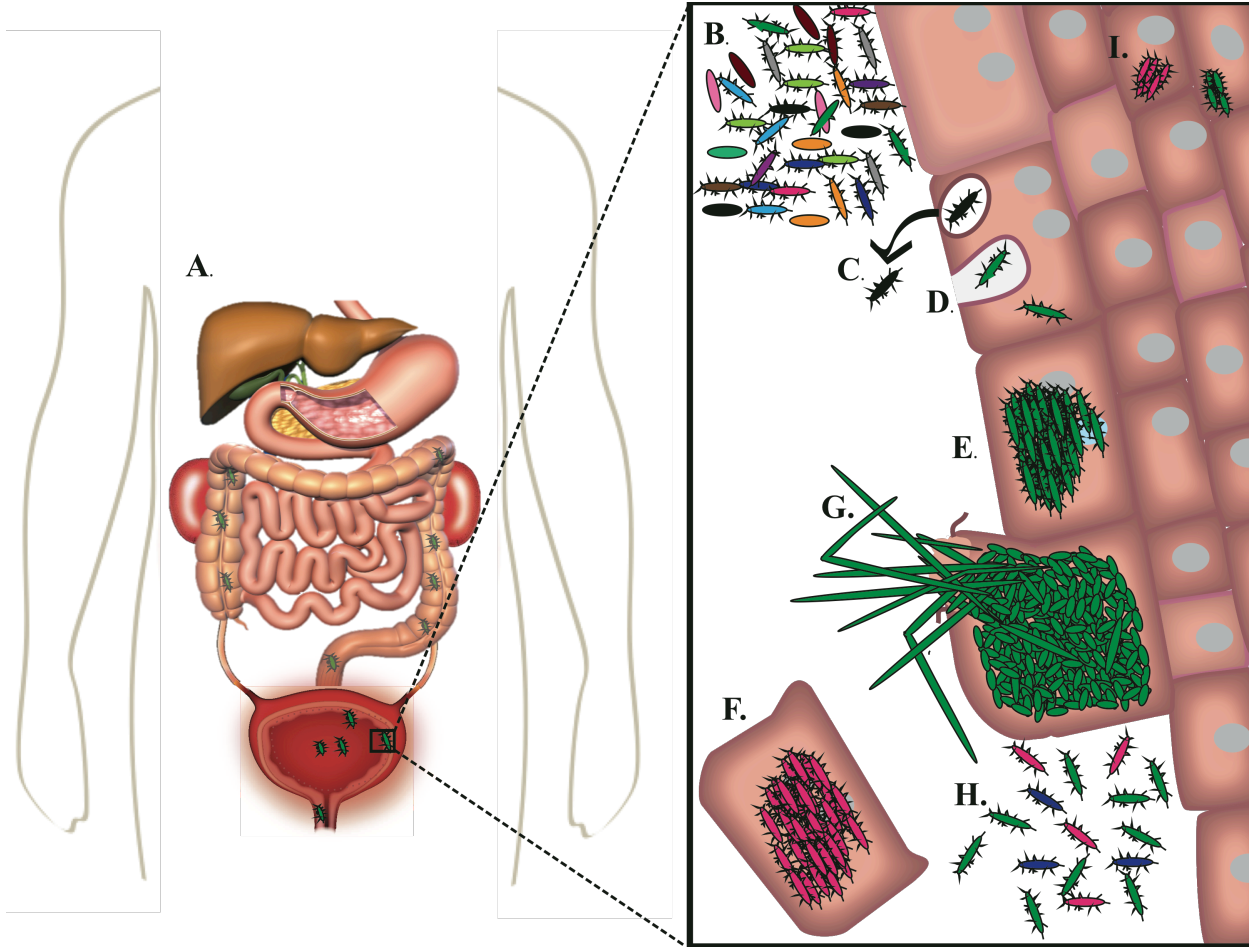
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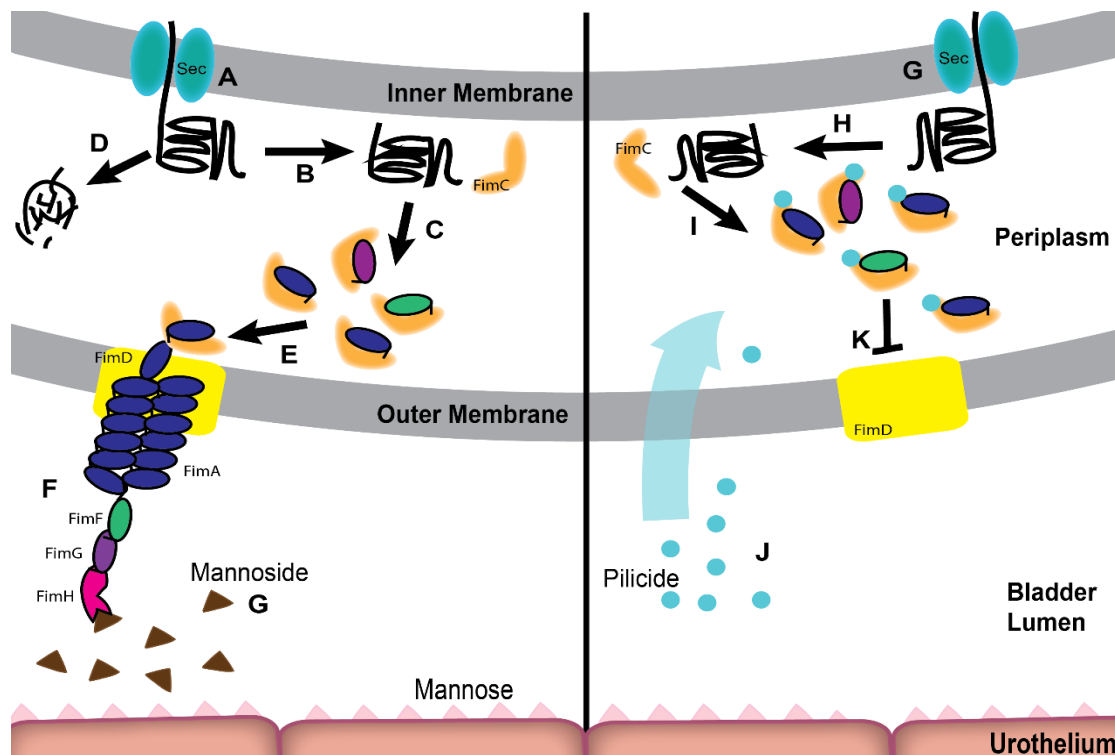
## Figures



**Figure 1. Uropathogenic *E. coli* (UPEC) pathogenic cascade during cystitis.** (A) UPEC residing in the gut are shed in the feces and colonize the peri-urethral and vaginal areas before ascending into the bladder. Upon accessing the bladder, UPEC adhere to the surface of superficial facet cells that line the bladder lumen in a type 1 pili dependent manner (B). Adherent bacteria invade into the facet cells and are either expelled back into the lumen by the cell in a TLR-4 dependent manner [19] (C) or escape from the endocytic vesicle into the cytoplasm (D). Upon invasion, bacteria replicate in the cytoplasm forming intracellular bacterial communities (IBCs) (E). One host mechanism of defense against intracellular UPEC is the shedding of urothelial cells into the urine (F), which reduces the overall

number of UPEC in the bladder. During the late stages of IBC formation, filamentous bacteria dissociate from the IBC, burst out of the cell and back into the bladder lumen where they remain or can invade an adjacent facet cell (**G**). There are two potential outcomes of infection: chronic cystitis or resolution of infection. Uncontrolled bacterial replication in the urine occurs in mice that develop chronic cystitis (**H**). In mice that resolve infection, small pockets of bacteria, termed quiescent intracellular reservoirs (QIRs), form and reside in the underlying urothelium and may seed future rUTI (**I**).





**Figure 2. Mannosides and Pilicides prevent *uropathogenic E. coli* (UPEC) urinary tract infections (UTI) by targeting the function or formation of type 1 pili. (A,G) Unfolded pilus subunits are secreted to the periplasm by the Sec apparatus. (B,H) Upon entering the periplasm, unfolded subunits immediately interact with the cognate chaperone (FimC). Subunits have an incomplete Ig-like fold which must be completed in order to properly fold. In a process called donor strand complementation (DSC) FimC donates its G1  $\beta$ -strand to the subunit, stabilizing it (C,I). Subunits that do not interact with FimC are unable to fold correctly and are degraded (D). The chaperone then delivers the subunit to the outer membrane usher, FimD (E). Upon reaching FimD the subunit is assembled into the maturing pilus via donor strand exchange (DSE) with the adjacent pilus subunit (F). Mannosides prevent type 1 pilus function by binding, in an irreversible manner, to FimH and therefore prevent the interaction of FimH and mannose on the bladder surface (G). Pilicide works by halting pilus**

assembly. These molecules enter the periplasm (**J**) and bind to the pilus chaperone, halting assembly (**K**).

# **Chapter 2: Type 1 and F17-like Pili Promote**

## **UPEC Intestinal Colonization**

Adapted from:

### **Selective depletion of uropathogenic *E. coli* from the gut by a FimH antagonist**

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### **Abstract**

Uropathogenic *E. coli* (UPEC) are responsible for 80% of community-acquired and 65% of nosocomial urinary tract infections (UTI)<sup>1,2</sup>, which together affect 150 million people annually<sup>3</sup>. Despite effective antibiotic therapy, 30-50% of patients experience recurrent UTI (rUTI)<sup>3</sup>. In addition, the growing prevalence of UPEC strains resistant to last-line antibiotic treatments like fluoroquinolones, and more recently carbapenems and colistin, make UTIs a prime example of the current antibiotic-resistance crisis and emphasize the dire need to develop new approaches for treatment and prevention of bacterial infections<sup>4,5</sup>. It is widely accepted that

UPEC: i) establish reservoirs in the gut; ii) are shed in the feces; iii) are then able to colonize the peri-urethral area or vagina and subsequently ascend through the urethra to the bladder and/or kidneys, where they cause cystitis and/or pyelonephritis, respectively<sup>6</sup>. Chaperone-usher pathway (CUP) pili such as the mannose-binding type 1 pilus mediate colonization of the bladder, but little is known regarding the mechanisms underlying UPEC persistence in the intestinal tract. Single UPEC isolates can encode up to 16 distinct CUP pilus operons and each pilus type is thought to enable colonization of a microhabitat within a host or the environment<sup>7</sup>. In the present study, we use a mouse model to examine the ability of a human UPEC strain harboring nine different CUP operon mutants to colonize the gut. We found that both F17-like and type 1 pili promote intestinal colonization and show distinct binding to epithelial cells distributed along colonic crypts. Phylogenomic and structural analyses reveal that F17-like pili are closely related to pilus types carried by intestinal pathogens, but are restricted to extra-intestinal pathogenic *E. coli* (ExPEC), and have a distinct ligand specificity.

## **Main Text**

### **Type 1 and F17-like pili promote UPEC intestinal colonization**

To examine the role of CUP pili in colonization of the gut by human UPEC strains, we developed a streptomycin mouse model of UPEC intestinal colonization<sup>8</sup>. We pretreated 6-week old female C3H/HeN and C57BL/6 mice with an oral dose of streptomycin, followed 1 day (d) later by an oral gavage ( $10^8$  CFU) of a well-characterized human cystitis UPEC strain (UTI89) containing engineered chromosomal kanamycin or chloramphenicol antibiotic resistance markers. Sampling of feces collected 1-21 d following oral inoculation, plus surveys along the length of the gut conducted at the time of sacrifice, revealed that stable colonization was

achieved in both mouse backgrounds when they had been pretreated with streptomycin, in contrast to controls that did not receive antibiotic (**Figure 3**).

The UTI89 genome contains 11 distinct CUP operons, 9 of which include all of the genes necessary to assemble a full, functional pilus. To determine if any of the 9 intact CUP operons promote intestinal colonization, C3H/HeN mice were co-colonized with wildtype (WT) UTI89 and one of 9 different mutant strains, each lacking a single CUP operon. Individual deletion of 7 CUP pilus operons *yfc*, *yeh*, *yad*, *pap*, *sfa*, *yqi*, and *mat* had no effect on the fitness of UTI89 in the gut compared to the isogenic WT strain (**Figure 4a-g**). However, deletion of the *fim* or *ucl* pilus operons, which encode type 1 and F17-like pili, respectively, resulted in significant colonization defects (up to 100- and 1000-fold, respectively; **Figure 4h,i**). Deletion of the gene encoding the type 1 pilus adhesin, *fimH*, mirrored the intestinal defect caused by deletion of the full type 1 pilus operon (**Figure 5a**). Deletion of both pilus types in a single strain produced a fitness defect greater than either individual deletion alone, suggesting that these two pilus types do not have redundant roles (**Figure 4j,k**).

### **F17-like pili do not contribute to UTI in a mouse model of UTI**

In a mouse model, type 1-mediated binding to mannose is indispensable for bladder colonization and for invasion of the urothelial cells that line the bladder on its luminal side<sup>1,2</sup>. Once inside urothelial cells, a single bacterium can rapidly divide to form an intracellular bacterial community (IBC) containing  $10^4$ - $10^5$  organisms<sup>1,2</sup>. Additionally, in mice that spontaneously resolve bacteriuria, small collections of bacteria can remain in quiescent intracellular reservoirs (QIRs) located within transitional bladder cells underlying the urothelium<sup>1,2</sup>. Bacteria from QIRs can serve to seed rUTI<sup>1,2</sup>. Numerous studies have shown

that mutations in *fimH* abolish the ability of UPEC to colonize the bladder, form IBCs and QIRs<sup>1,2,9</sup>. In contrast, we found no role for the F17-like pilus in bladder colonization (**Figure 6**). Both the WT and UTI89 $\Delta$ *ucl* strains (i) produced similar numbers of IBCs 6 hours post infection (**Figure 6e**), (ii) had similar CFUs 28 days post infection in the urine, bladder, and kidneys (**Figure 6b,d**) and (iii) were capable of maintaining bladder-associated CFUs after resolution of bacteriuria, suggesting that UTI89 and UTI89 $\Delta$ *ucl* are similarly capable of forming QIRs (**Figure 6c,d**). Paradoxically, one study found that genetically engineered *E. coli* strains overexpressing the *ucl* operon *in vitro* bind to desquamated epithelial cells harvested from human urine<sup>10</sup>. It is possible that this paradox is explained by differences between mouse and human bladders or that over-expression of F17-like pili *in vitro* may promote binding to cells from a habitat where the F17-like pilus is not normally expressed *in vivo*. Thus, in contrast to the significant reduction in intestinal colonization seen for both type 1 and F17-like mutants, no role was observed for the F17-like pilus in the rate or severity of bladder infection in individual or concurrent transurethral inoculations of UTI89 and isogenic UTI89 $\Delta$ *ucl* strains into the bladders of C3H/HeN mice.

### **Type 1 and F17-like pili bind to distinct micro-habitats in the mouse colon**

Type 1 and F17-like operons each encode a two-domain tip adhesin, FimH and UclD, respectively. The N-terminal lectin domain of the adhesin is responsible for recognition and attachment to specific ligands, while the C-terminal pilin domain connects the adhesin to the bulk of the pilus<sup>2</sup>. We cloned and purified the lectin domains of FimH and UclD and tested their ability to bind to sections of mouse colon. Purified FimH lectin domain (FimH<sup>LD</sup>) bound to more differentiated epithelial cells located in the upper portion of crypts and in ‘surface epithelial

cuffs' (the colonic homologs of small intestinal villi) (**Fig. 4l**). FimH binding was prevented by pretreatment of the tissue sections with PNGase, which cleaves N-linked oligosaccharides. This is consistent with known FimH specificity for mannosylated ligands since mannose is a major constituent of N-linked oligosaccharides (**Fig 4l**). FimH<sup>LD</sup> also bound to Caco-2 cells (an immortalized human enterocyte-like cell line derived from colorectal carcinoma) and binding was inhibited by both D-mannose and a high affinity mannose-analog (mannoside), M4284<sup>11</sup> (**Figure 5b**). The UclD lectin domain, UclD<sup>LD</sup>, also bound to colonic epithelial cells in tissue sections. Binding was inhibited by pretreatment of the tissue sections with O-glycosidase, an enzyme that cleaves O-linked oligosaccharides, suggesting that the UclD ligand is contained within an O-glycan (**Fig. 4m**). Interestingly, FimH<sup>LD</sup> and UclD<sup>LD</sup> appeared to bind at distinct locations within the mouse colon; while FimH<sup>LD</sup> bound to the upper region of the crypts, UclD<sup>LD</sup> binding was restricted to the lower portion of crypts, suggesting that these pilus types promote colonization of specific niches due to binding of different carbohydrate structures expressed by epithelial cells at different stages of their differentiation (**Fig 4l-m**).

### **F17-like pili are closely related to pilus types used for intestinal colonization and pathogenesis**

CUP pili are highly conserved throughout Proteobacteria and are assembled by dedicated chaperone-usher assembly machines encoded by each respective CUP operon along with the various subunit types comprising the pilus fiber<sup>2,7</sup>. The sequence identity between usher genes of distinct CUP pilus types is greater than the identity of genes that encode other CUP pilus proteins and thus can be compared to elucidate the evolutionary relationship of CUP pili amongst all proteobacterial strains<sup>7,12</sup>. Using this type of usher analysis, six large clades of pili have been

described. The  $\gamma$  clade, which is the largest, has been divided into subclades, including the  $\gamma_1$  subclade containing the *fim* operon of *E. coli*, *Klebsiella*, and *Salmonella* and the  $\gamma_4$  clade containing the *ucl* operon<sup>7,12</sup>. To examine the evolutionary origin of F17-like pili, we performed a homology search of a database of  $\gamma$ -Proteobacterial genomes and found that the UTI89 F17-like usher gene sequence (*uclC*) shared highest identity with other *E. coli uclC* sequences and with orthologous usher sequences of *P. mirabilis*, a bacterium that can colonize the gut, and *S. enterica*, an intestinal pathogen (**Table 1**). The *uclC* usher gene was also closely related to the gene encoding the F17 pilus usher (thus the derivation of the name, F17-like), as well as two ushers for uncharacterized pilus types, *pVir99* and *ECs1278* (**Table 1**). A phylogenetic analysis showed clustering of these *E. coli* and *Proteus* species' ushers into a distinct sub-branch within the broader F17 group usher phylogeny, suggesting that they share a common ancestor (**Figure 7**). *E. coli* are categorized into six distinct groups or clades of genetically related strains (clades A-E)<sup>10,13</sup>. F17-like pili are encoded by genes present in only 10% of all *E. coli* strains; these strains are almost exclusively in the B2 clade that harbors the majority of extraintestinal pathogenic *E. coli* (ExPEC)<sup>10</sup>. In contrast, F17 and ECs1278 pilus operons are found in the intestinal pathogens, enterotoxigenic *E. coli* (ETEC) and enterohemorrhagic *E. coli* (EHEC), respectively, which are specific to clades E, B1, and occasionally A<sup>14,15</sup>. These findings suggest that UPEC strains in clade B2 may have acquired the *ucl* operon from a different species and retained this factor to facilitate its residency in the gut. A number of genetic variants of the *E. coli* F17 adhesin, F17G, have evolved that bind different ligand variants, all containing a core N-acetylglucosamine (GlcNAc) moiety<sup>16</sup>. No binding of UclD<sup>LD</sup> was observed to GlcNAc, either with the Center for Functional Glycomics glycan array or via differential scanning fluorimetry, indicating that the F17-like pilus binds a ligand distinct from that of the F17 pilus (**Fig. 4n**).



Interestingly, although the amino acid sequence of the full length UclD adhesin has diverged from that of the F17 adhesin F17G, it is virtually invariant across all strains encoding it (>99%), suggesting that there is a single, distinct ligand for UclD adhesins<sup>10</sup>.

### **Structural analysis of the F17-like adhesin, UclD**

To examine the distribution of F17-like pili specifically in UTI isolates, a comparative genomic analysis was performed on 43 strains isolated from a cohort of 14 women at the time of initial presentation with acute UTI, or during subsequent recurrent UTIs<sup>17</sup>. Fourteen of the rUTI events were caused by B2 strains, which encompass the majority of *E. coli* strains that cause UTI<sup>10,13</sup>. Of these 14 strains, 13 encoded F17-like pili (~93%) (**Figure 8**). In contrast, F17-like pili have been found in less than 50% of all B2 strains<sup>10</sup> (*E. coli* reference collection (ECOR)). We concluded that F17-like pili are enriched in B2 isolates associated with rUTI episodes in women from this cohort. This data, along with our findings that F17-like pili promote UPEC intestinal colonization, suggest that F17-like pili might be associated with UPEC persistence in women with rUTI due to their ability to promote maintenance of a UPEC intestinal reservoir.

To better understand the role of the F17-like pilus in gut colonization, we solved two high resolution X-ray crystal structures of UclD<sup>LD</sup>. Overlay of the structures in the P2<sub>1</sub> (green) and P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub> (gray) space groups resolved to 1.05 Å and 1.6 Å, respectively (**Table S2**) reveals they are nearly identical (**Figure 9a-1**). These structures show that nine β-strands within UclD<sup>LD</sup> coalesce to form an elongated β-barrel structure. Seven additional β-strands, one α-helix and two short 3/10 helices, that are located within inter-strand loops, comprise the remainder of the protein (**Figure 9a-1**). Comparison of the P2<sub>1</sub> UclD<sup>LD</sup> structure with the previously solved lectin domain structure of an F17 adhesin, F17G<sup>LD</sup> (**Figure 9a-2**), (PDB 1OIO<sup>18</sup>) indicates that, despite

a sequence identity of only 25%, the overall secondary structure characteristics are remarkably conserved between these two pilus types as seen when the structures are overlaid (**Figure 9a-3**). Nevertheless, a structural alignment of the two lectin domains reveals two large insertions in UclD relative to the F17G sequence (**Figure 9b**; highlighted in orange and yellow). The first insertion is an elongation of the loop located between strands 4 and 5 and is highlighted in orange in **Figure 9b,c**. The second insertion is located between strands 8 and 9 (highlighted in yellow in **Figure 9b,c**), and contains a short 3/10 helix. Previous studies have demonstrated that the GlcNAc receptor binding site for the F17G adhesin is located on the side of the lectin domain (**Figure 9a,d**)<sup>16</sup>. Comparison of the UclD<sup>LD</sup> and F17G<sup>LD</sup> structures suggests the presence of a transverse binding site along the surface of UclD<sup>LD</sup> located in a similar position to the GlcNAc binding site on F17G (**Figure 9a,d**). This binding site, highlighted in purple in **Figure 9c** and by purple residues and stars in **Figure 9b** is directly adjacent to the helix-containing insertion located between strands 8 and 9 (colored yellow in **Figure 9b,c**), and located slightly above the elongated loop between strands 4 and 5 (colored orange in **Figure 9b,c**). The proximity of the putative binding pocket to both insertions suggests that these regions may be involved in creating UclD's unique receptor binding specificity.

The proposed UclD binding pocket is comprised of residues found in the loops connecting strands 6 and 7, strands 8 and 9, and within strands 2b and 9. Six key residues (Q43, W103, D119, N131, T134, and S136) within this pocket are denoted with stars in **Figure 9b** and shown as sticks in **Figure 9d**). The corresponding residues in the F17G binding site are chemically distinct from their UclD counterparts, (**Figure 9b,d**) providing further evidence to support our observation that UclD does not share a molecular ligand with F17G.

Comparison of residue positioning and electrostatic surface potential of the putative binding site between both UclD<sup>LD</sup> structures suggests that W103 may play a key role in the coordination of a sugar residue within the binding pocket, as tryptophan residues have an established role in aromatic-sugar stacking interactions in bacterial carbohydrate binding proteins<sup>19</sup>. In the P2<sub>1</sub> space group, W103 is positioned adjacent to a putative binding pocket that is 11 Å wide and 7 Å deep. In contrast, the P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub> structure shows well-resolved density indicating that the W103 side chain is flipped approximately 120 degrees, partially occluding the proposed binding pocket (**Figure 9d**). These differences may arise from differences in crystal packing, but may also indicate flexibility in the W103 residue that may play a regulatory role in ligand binding.

## Conclusions

Identifying the role of novel UPEC virulence factors, like type 1 and F17-like pili in gut colonization, revealed new mechanisms of UPEC association with its host. Specifically, identification of the role of F17-like pili in intestinal colonization and its relatedness to homologs in other bacteria that inhabit the gut provides new insights into a previously uncharacterized CUP pilus type. Further examination of the ligands and micro-evolution of this pilus type is needed to dissect the specifics of its role in gut colonization. In addition, identification of genes involved in UPEC colonization of the gut may also provide a method by which UTI patients could be stratified for epidemiologic studies of disease recurrence risk as well as for proof of concept clinical studies of the efficacy of CUP-directed treatment regimens.

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## **Materials and Methods**

### **Ethics statement**

The Washington University Animal Studies Committee approved all procedures used for the mouse experiments described in the present study. Overall care of the animals was consistent with *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* from the National Research Council and the USDA *Animal Care Resource Guide*. For collection of colonic tissues for adhesion binding studies, mice were sacrificed according to institutional, national and European animal regulations, using protocols that were also approved by the animal ethics committee of Ghent University.

### **Bacterial strains**

CUP operon and adhesin deletions in UTI89 were engineered by replacing the gene(s) of interest with antibiotic-resistance markers using the  $\lambda$  Red Recombinase system<sup>20</sup>. Earlier reports

described WT UTI89 and its isogenic *fim* and *fimH* mutants<sup>21,22</sup> as well as EC958<sup>23</sup>, 41.4p<sup>24</sup> and CFT073<sup>25</sup>.

### **Colonization of mice with UPEC strains**

6-week old female C3H/HeN mice were obtained from Envigo or Charles Rivers Labs (CRL). 6-week old female C57BL/6 mice were also obtained from Envigo. Animals were maintained in a single room in our vivarium for no more than 2 days prior to treatment. Prior to and after treatment all animals received PicoLab Rodent Diet 20 (Purina) *ad libitum*. All animals were maintained under a strict light cycle (lights on at 0600h, off at 1800h). For competitive infections, if a phenotype was observed after testing five mice (1 biological replicate), the experiment was repeated 1-2 times (total of n=10-16 mice, 2-3 biological replicates). For 16S rRNA analyses, 4-5 mice were examined (1 biological replicate). For all other experiments, 9-16 mice were tested and the experiment was repeated 2-3 times (2-3 biological replicates).

Exclusion criteria for mice were pre-established; (i) both introduced strains in competitive infections became undetectable during the course of a 14 day experiment, and (ii) mice died or lost > 20% of their body weight. No mice in this study met these criteria. Mice were acquired from indicated vendors and randomly placed into cages (n=5 mice/cage) by employees of Washington University's Division of Comparative Medicine (DCM); no additional methods for randomization were used to determine how animals were allocated to experimental groups. Investigators were not blinded to group allocation during experiments.

Animals received a single dose of streptomycin (1000mg/kg in 100  $\mu$ L water by oral gavage (PO)) followed 24 h later by an oral gavage of  $\sim 10^8$  CFU UPEC in 100  $\mu$ L phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). Bladder infections were performed via transurethral inoculation<sup>26</sup>. UPEC

strains were prepared for inoculation as described previously<sup>26</sup>. Briefly, a single UTI89 colony was inoculated in 20 mL of Luria Broth (LB) and incubated at 37°C under static conditions for 24 h. Bacteria were then diluted (1:1000) into fresh LB and incubated at 37°C under static conditions for 18-24 h. Bacteria were subsequently washed three times with PBS and then concentrated to  $\sim 1 \times 10^8$  CFU per 100  $\mu$ L for intestinal infections and  $\sim 1 \times 10^8$  CFU per 50  $\mu$ L for bladder infections.

In all cases, fecal and urine samples were collected directly from each animal at the indicated time points. Fecal samples were immediately weighed and homogenized in 1 mL PBS. Urine samples were immediately diluted 1:10 prior to plating. Mice were sacrificed via cervical dislocation under isoflurane anesthesia and their organs were removed and processed under aseptic conditions. Intestinal segments (cecum and colon) were weighed prior to homogenization and plating on LB supplemented with the appropriate antibiotic.

### **Enumeration of bladder intracellular bacterial communities (IBCs)**

6 week old C3H/HeN mice were given a single oral dose of either M4284 (100mg/kg) or vehicle control (10% cyclodextrin) 30 min before transurethral inoculation with UTI89. To accurately count the number of IBCs, mice were sacrificed 6 hours after infection. Bladders were removed aseptically, bi-sected, splayed on silicone plates and fixed in 4% (v/v) paraformaldehyde. IBCs, readily discernable as punctate violet spots, were quantified by LacZ staining of bladder wholemounts<sup>27,28</sup>.

### **Immunofluorescence Studies**

The protocols used for immunohistochemical analysis are based on a previous study<sup>29</sup>.

Following sacrifice of 6 week old, female C57BL/6 mice (supplied by VIB-Ghent University breeding program, Belgium), segments of colon were fixed in methanol-Carnoy for a minimum of 3 hours at room temperature. The fixed tissues were then embedded in paraffin and 4- $\mu$ m-thick sections were cut and placed on glass slides. Slides were de-paraffinized and re-hydrated by incubating them in xylene, isopropanol, 100% ethanol and finally 70% ethanol (each step involving a 3 min incubation in the reagent followed by another 3 min incubation in fresh reagent). Slides were subsequently rinsed in tap water and PBS, placed in blocking buffer (5% fecal calf serum prepared in PBS) at room temperature for 30 min, and then incubated with rabbit polyclonal antibodies to Muc2 [1/2000; Mucin 2 (H-300), Santa Cruz Biotechnology] for 2 h. After three washes with PBS, slides were incubated with a goat anti-rabbit Dylight-488 labeled secondary antibody (1/1000 dilution, ThermoFisher Cat No. 35553) in blocking buffer for 1 h at room temperature. Slides were washed three times with PBS before counterstaining with bis-benzimide (Hoechst dye) (1/1000 in PBS) for 10 min at room temperature. Finally, slides were incubated with FimH<sup>LD</sup> or UclD<sup>LD</sup> (P2<sub>1</sub>) protein, labeled with NHS 650nm Dylight, in blocking buffer at 4°C overnight. Prior to staining, sections were treated with O-glycosidase (NEB) or PNGaseF (SIGMA) at 37°C using buffers and protocols supplied by manufacturer . Slides were washed subsequently with PBS before treatment with fluoro mounting medium (n-propyl gallate in glycerol) and viewing under a confocal microscope (Leica Microsystems LAS-AF-TCS SP5) using a 20x125 objective.

### **Carriage of F17-like pili**

We examined 43 available UPEC isolates (**Table 2**). These isolates originated from a clinical study of 14 women who experienced at least two episodes of UTI (an initial UTI and one or

more rUTI) during the 90 day study window<sup>17</sup>. The isolates used in this work were sequenced in a previous study<sup>24</sup> (Bioproject ID: PRJNA269984) and include (i) 14 isolates collected at enrollment, (ii) 18 isolates collected during rUTI (10 women experienced a single rUTI while four women experienced two rUTI events), and (iii) 11 isolates collected in the days leading up to an rUTI.

The distribution of the F17-like operon in these clinical *E. coli* isolates was determined using BLAST and the F17-like operon from UTI89 as the query sequence. A “hit” was considered as any genome sequence that matched the entire length of the query sequence with >75% identity. As a control to prevent false negatives in the BLAST search of draft genomes, DNA sequencing reads from each clinical UPEC isolate were mapped against a reference sequence constructed by concatenating all the *ucl* genes with 100 N’s separators using Geneious v6.1.7<sup>30</sup>.

### **Phylogenetic Analyses and Sequence Alignments**

Amino acid alignments of full-length UTI89 UclD, *P. mirabilis* UcaD, *S. enterica* UclH, and ETEC F17G were conducted using the MAFFT L-INS-i iterative refinement method and the default BLOSUM62 scoring matrix (**Table 1**)<sup>31</sup>. MAFFT collected up to 100 homologs with E values of less than 1e-10 to each sequence from the SwissProt database to improve alignment accuracy. Homologs are automatically removed from the final alignment. The alignment was visualized using Geneious<sup>30</sup>. A homology search of the coding sequence database of the European Nucleotide Archive (ENA) was conducted using the Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST)<sup>32</sup> using the UTI89 *uclC* (ENA accession: ABE10308) and EDL933 *ECs1278* (ENA accession: AIG67653) as queries. Sequences that matched either gene sequence with



>50% identity were downloaded and then filtered to remove partial hits (<80% length of query sequence) and sequences with nonsense mutations, which resulted in a total of 659 sequences (**Supplementary table 1**). Duplicate sequences were then removed, resulting in a list of 122 unique, representative sequences. These sequences were then aligned with the UTI89 *fimD* usher sequence (ENA accession: ABE10417) as an outgroup using the MAFFT MAFFT L-INS-i alignment method and the 200PAM scoring matrix<sup>31</sup>: The phylogenetic relationship between gene sequences was then estimated using RAxML v8.1.3 with the GTRCAT model and supported with 1000 bootstrap replicates; the tree was visualized using the tool interactive Tree of Life (iTOL) v3<sup>33</sup>.

### **Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) targeting FimH**

Caco-2 cells (ATCC Number HTB-37) were cultured in minimum essential medium (MEM) supplemented with 20% fetal bovine serum (FBS). Cell cultures tested negative for mycoplasma. Cells were split into 48-well plates, grown to 100% confluence and then fixed with paraformaldehyde for 15 min followed by treatment with blocking buffer (1x PBS containing 2% BSA) for 2h. A truncated FimH, corresponding to residues 1-178 of the mature FimH adhesin (FimH<sup>LD</sup>), expressed in *E. coli* and purified as described previously<sup>34</sup>, was serially diluted in blocking buffer and incubated with the fixed CaCo-2 cells for 1h at room temperature. To test the effect of D-mannose or M4284 on FimH binding, 0.2 mg/mL FimH<sup>LD</sup> was pre-incubated for 5 min in the presence or absence of 1 mM D-mannose (Sigma-Aldrich) or 1mM M4828 (in 20 mM Tris pH 8.0 or 20 mM Tris plus water or 10% cyclodextrin, respectively) before serial dilution and incubation. Wells were washed four times with PBS/0.05% Tween 20 (PBST) prior to incubation with a polyclonal rabbit anti-T3 antibody against FimH<sup>LD</sup> (generated against FimH

residues 1-165; ref. 39) for one hour at room temperature. Following another series of four washes, secondary antibody (goat anti-rabbit Ig conjugated to horse radish peroxidase; ThermoFisher, Catalog Number 32460) was incubated with the cells for 1 h at room temperature (24°C) before washing in PBST. Plates were developed with the BD OptEIA TMB substrate reagent kit for 5 min at room temperature (24°C) before quenching with 1 M H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Binding was assessed by measuring the absorbance at 450 nM on a TECAN infinite 2 PRO plate reader. Wells lacking protein were used as control. All conditions were examined in quadruplicate.

### **F17-Like Constructs and Purification**

For the P2<sub>1</sub> UclD<sup>LD</sup> construct, the first 197 amino acids of the mature UclD adhesin protein were cloned into pDEST14 using Gateway® technology (Invitrogen), resulting in plasmid pUclD<sup>AD</sup>. Expression was induced with 1mM IPTG. Periplasmic extracts were prepared by resuspending bacterial pellets in 20mM Tris/20% sucrose (pH 8) (4 ml/per gram of pellet). Subsequently, 40µl of 0.5M EDTA and 10mg/ml lysozyme were added per gram of pellet and the suspension was incubated on ice for 30 min. This step was followed by addition of 40 µl of 2.5M MgCl<sub>2</sub> per gram of cell pellet and incubation on ice for 5 min. Cells were spun at 15,000 x g and the supernatant was saved as the periplasmic extract. The extract containing the UclD lectin domain was dialyzed against 20mM HEPES pH 7, passed over a SP FF cation exchange column (GE) and bound material eluted with 20mM HEPES pH7/ 1M NaCl. Pooled fractions containing UclD lectin domain were then applied to a Phenyl Hi Trap column (GE) after addition of 1M ammonium sulfate. Elution was performed using 20mM HEPES pH 7.

To generate purified UclD<sup>LD</sup> for the P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub> space group, DNA from the UTI89 *uclD* gene encoding the N-terminal 217 amino acids of the protein were cloned into pTRC99a with a

C-terminal 6-His tag. This construct was expressed in the periplasm of *E. coli* DL41(DE3), a methionine auxotroph strain suitable for expression of native or selenomethionine-labeled protein. Periplasmic extracts were first dialyzed against PBS supplemented with 250 mM NaCl, then bound to a Cobalt (Goldbio) column; bound proteins were eluted with PBS containing 250 mM NaCl, and 250 mM imidazole. Pooled fractions were dialyzed into 20 mM MES (pH 5.8), bound to an HR16/10 Mono S cation exchange column (GE Healthcare), and eluted with 300 mM NaCl. Following cleavage of the periplasmic localization sequence, the mature form of UclD<sup>LD</sup>-6xHis contained 203 amino acids.

Selenomethionine-labeled protein was purified using the same protocol, but all buffers were supplemented with 2 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol and 1 mM EDTA to prevent oxidation. EDTA was omitted from the periplasmic dialysis buffer to prevent chelation of immobilized cobalt.

### **Crystallization and Structure Determination**

For the P2<sub>1</sub> UclD<sup>LD</sup> structure solved in the P2<sub>1</sub> space group, UclD<sup>LD</sup> (15mg/ml) was crystallized using sitting drop vapor diffusion against a solution containing 16% PEG 4000, 0.1M Tris HCl pH 8.5, 0.2M magnesium chloride. UclD crystals were flash cooled to 100°K in a solution containing 16% PEG 4000, 0.1M Tris HCl pH 8.5, 0.2M magnesium chloride and 30% glycerol. Data were collected at beamline ID29 (ESRF, Grenoble, France) to 1.05 Å resolution. Data were indexed and processed with XDS<sup>35</sup>, scaled and merged using SCALA in the CCP4 suite<sup>36</sup>. Data and refinement statistics can be found in **Table 3**.

For the UclD<sup>LD</sup> structure solved in the P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub> space group, UclD<sup>LD</sup> (10 mg/ml 10 mM MES 5.8) was crystallized by the hanging drop vapor diffusion method against a well solution

containing 0.1 M potassium phosphate (monobasic), 0.2 M potassium iodide and 20% PEG 3350. One microliter of the protein solution was mixed with 1  $\mu$ L well solution and incubated at 18 °C. Crystals were harvested and transferred to a solution containing 0.1 M  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$ , 0.2 M KI and 20% PEG 3350 supplemented with 20% glycerol before being flash-frozen in a bath of liquid  $\text{N}_2$ . Data were collected at beamline 4.2.2 (ALS Berkeley) to 1.6 Å resolution. Data were indexed and processed with XDS<sup>35</sup>, scaled and merged AIMLESS in the CCP4 suite<sup>36</sup> and phased with the Single anomalous dispersion (SAD) method using phenix.autosol, and refined with phenix.refine<sup>37</sup>. Data and refinement statistics can be found in **Table 3**. RMSD values were calculating using the DALI server<sup>38</sup>. Structural alignments were performed in Promal's 3D using the default settings. Secondary structure assignments for UclD<sup>LD</sup> were completed using DSSP.

### **Differential Scanning Fluorimetry**

Purified UclD<sup>LD</sup> (1.4 mg/well) was incubated with 5x Sypro orange fluorescent dye in 20 mM Tris (pH 8.0) with or without 10 mM monosaccharide in a total volume of 70  $\mu$ L. Samples were heated from 20 °C to 100 °C in 30-second/0.5 °C increments using a Bio-rad C1000 thermocycler with CFX96 RT-PCR attachment. The reported melting temperatures were determined by the inflection point of the sigmoidal graph.

### **Data Availability**

Sequences used to examine the carriage of F17-like pili in clinical rUTI isolates were previously published<sup>24</sup> and are deposited in the NCBI under the Bioproject ID: PRJNA269984.

Crystallography data have been deposited in the PDB under accession codes: 5NWP (P2<sub>1</sub>) and 5VQ5 (P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>).

## Statistical Analysis

The statistical significance of differences between groups in experiments (excluding competitive infections) was determined by a Mann Whitney U test. Competitive Index (CI) was defined as (CFU output strain A/CFU output strain B)/(CFU input strain A/CFU input strain B). For competitive infections, statistical significance was determined by a Wilcoxon Signed Ranked test. Statistical analyses were performed using Graphpad Prism 7.

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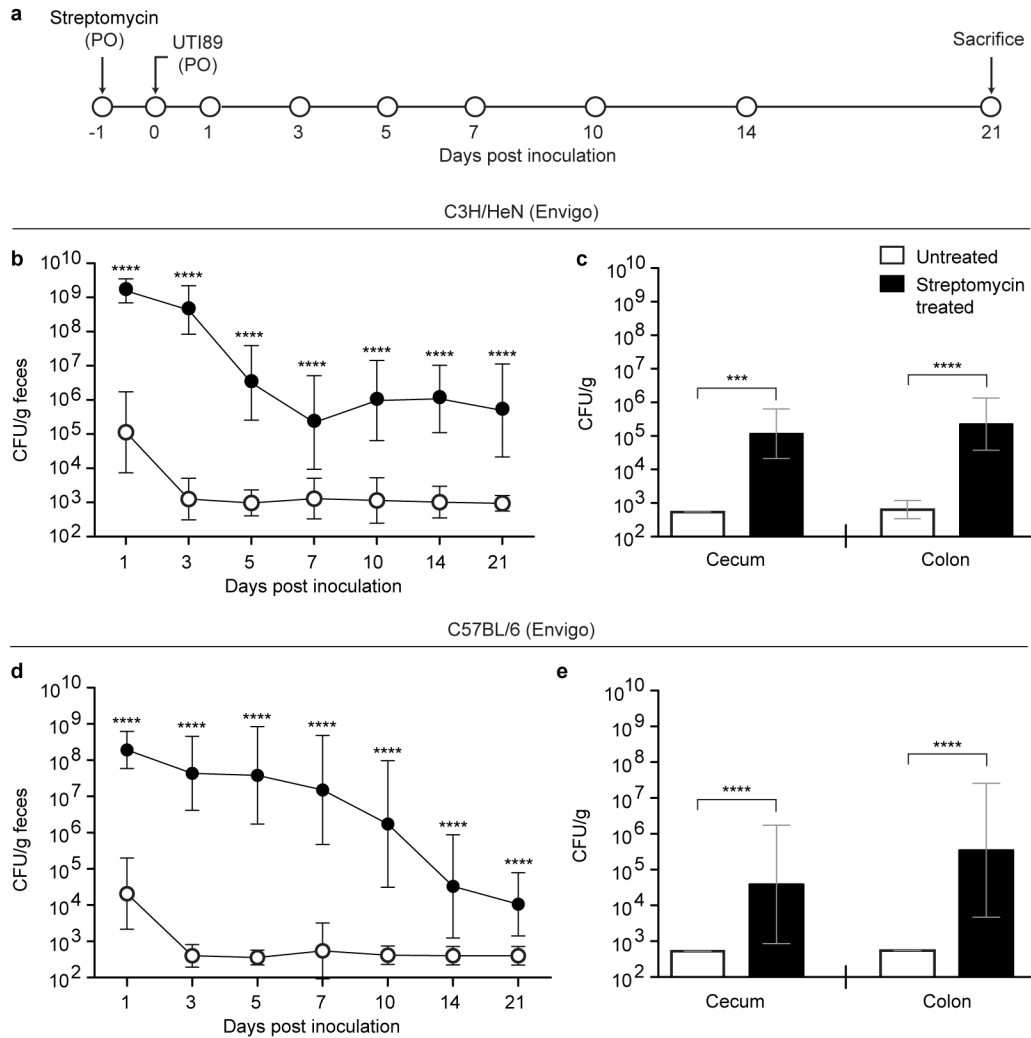
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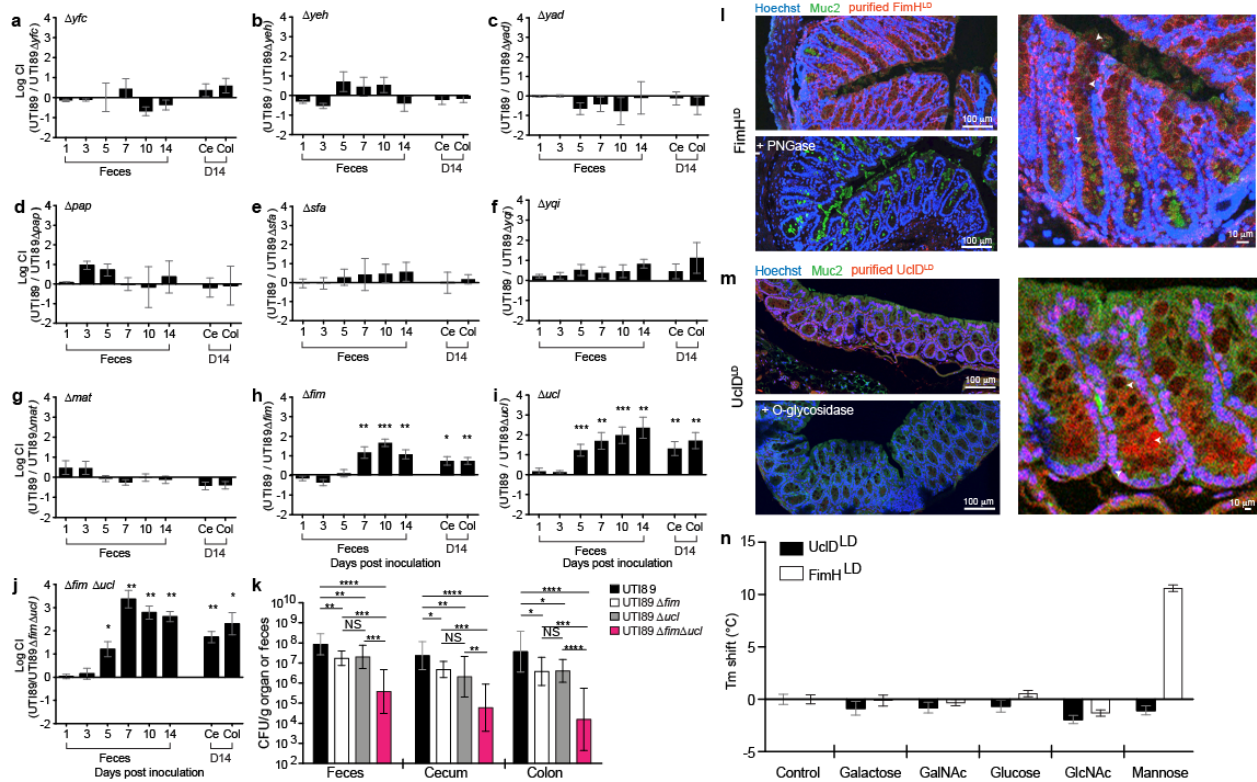
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## Figures



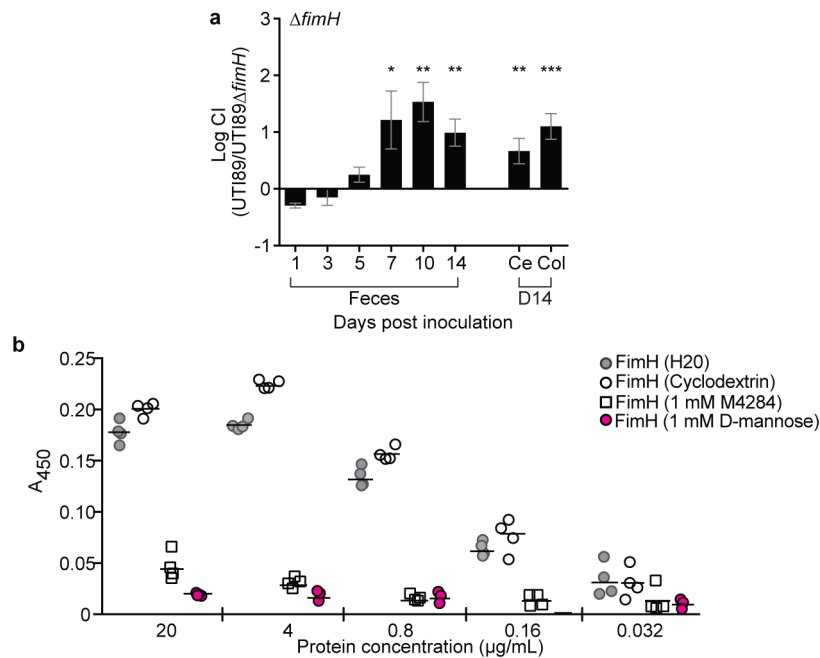
**Figure 3. Streptomycin treatment allows for persistent UTI89 colonization of the intestine in female C3H/HeN and C57BL/6 mice.** (a) Mice were pretreated with streptomycin and subsequently colonized via oral gavage (PO) with UTI89, a prototypical human UPEC cystitis isolate. (b-e) Colonization of UTI89 in C3H/HeN mice from Envigo (panels b,c) or C57BL/6 mice from Envigo (panels d,e) was assessed by quantifying colony forming units (CFU) in fecal samples collected over the course of 21 days from mice who did not receive streptomycin (white circles) or mice pretreated with the antibiotic (black circles). CFU analysis of levels of

colonization in the cecum and colon were defined by analyzing tissue homogenates prepared 21 days post colonization. Symbols represent geometric means  $\pm$  SD, \* $p$ <0.05, \*\* $p$ <0.01, \*\*\* $p$ <0.001, \*\*\*\* $p$ <0.0001 (Mann Whitney U test).  $n$ =15 mice, 3 replicates (panels b-e).

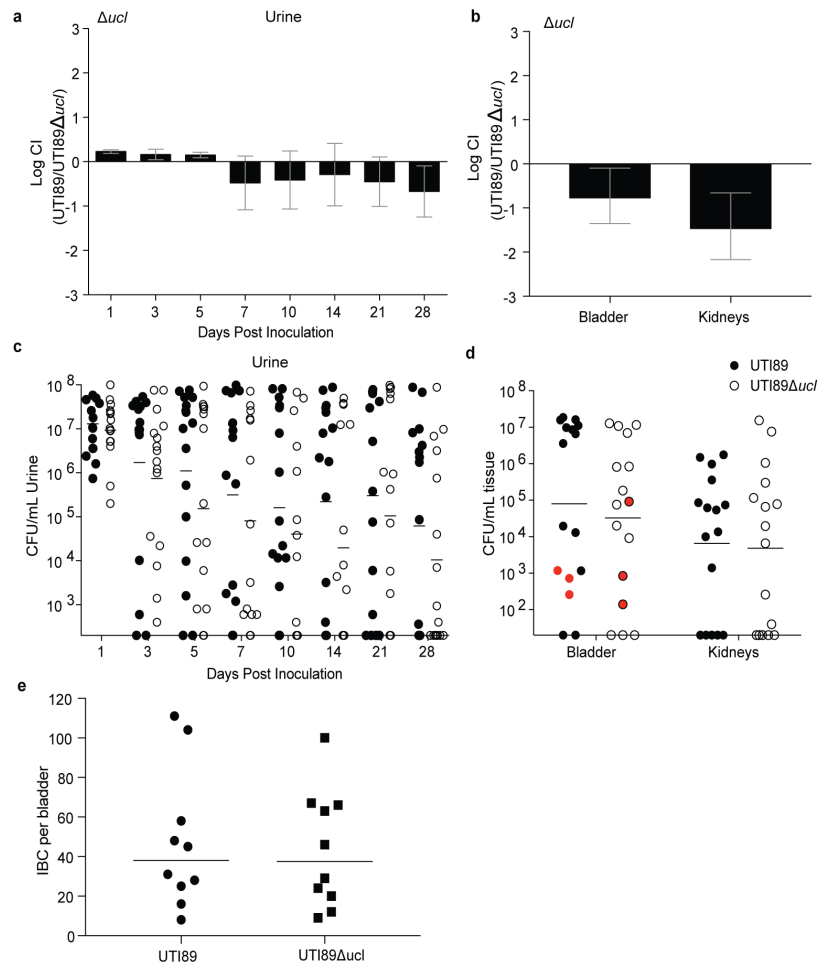


**Figure 4. Type 1 and F17-like pili promote UPEC intestinal colonization.** (a-i) C3H/HeN mice were treated with streptomycin and concurrently colonized with  $1 \times 10^8$  CFU of Wildtype (WT) UTI89 and one of 9 CUP operon knockout strains. (a-g) Deletion of 7 CUP operons had no impact on the fitness of UTI89. (h,i) Loss of operons that encode type 1 and F17-like pili (*fim* and *ucl* operons, respectively) decreased fitness compared to the WT strain. (j) Deletion of the *fim* and *ucl* operons in a single strain produced a fitness defect greater than deletion of each pilus alone. (k) Strains lacking either or both pilus operons also had fitness defects at 4 days post

gavage when singly-colonized. (l,m) Purified adhesin lectin domains for the type 1 and F17-like pilus (FimH<sup>LD</sup> and UclD<sup>LD</sup>, respectively) were tested for binding to mouse colonic sections. Sections were stained with Hoechst (blue) and rabbit antibodies to Muc2, a prominent mucus-associated glycoprotein (green). Purified FimH<sup>LD</sup> binds to epithelial cells positioned in the upper half of crypts and surface epithelial cuffs. FimH<sup>LD</sup> binding is lost by pre-treatment of sections with PNGase (compare top and bottom images in panel l). UclD<sup>LD</sup> binds to epithelial cells located in the lower half of crypts. Binding is inhibited by pretreatment of sections with O-glycosidase (compare top and bottom images in panel m). To the right of the overview images in panels l and m, we show higher power views of individual crypts. Arrowheads point to examples of sites of binding of the purified adhesins. (n) The absence of a shift in the melting temperature of UclD<sup>LD</sup> in the presence of five monosaccharides tested using differential scanning fluorimetry suggests that none of these sugars bind UclD<sup>LD</sup> in solution. In contrast, FimH<sup>LD</sup> binds monomannose with high affinity, resulting in a mean melting temperature shift of ~11°C. Abbreviations. Ce= cecum, Col= colon. CI= competitive index. Bars represent mean values ± SEM in panels a-j, n and geometric means ± SD in panel k. \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001 by Wilcoxon Signed Ranked test (panels a-j) or Mann Whitney U test (panel k). n=5 mice, 1 replicate (panels a, d-g), n=6 mice, 1 replicate (panel c); n=9, 2 replicates (panel j); n= 10 mice, 2 replicates (panels b,h) n=15 mice, 3 replicates (panels i,k).



**Figure 5. The FimH adhesin is required for type 1 pilus-dependent colonization of the mouse gut and for binding to human intestinal epithelial cells.** (a) C3H/HeN mice from Envigo were pretreated with streptomycin and colonized with  $1 \times 10^8$  CFU of WT UTI89 and UTI89 $\Delta$ *fimH*. The WT strain is able to outcompete the strain lacking the FimH adhesin. (b) The ability of purified FimH lectin domain (FimH<sup>LD</sup>) to bind to Caco-2 cells was assessed by FimH-ELISA. Pre-incubation of FimH<sup>LD</sup> with a 50-fold excess of D-mannose (5mM) or M4284 (5mM) results in significant reductions in FimH binding to the Caco-2 cells while 10% cyclodextrin (M4284 vehicle) alone had no significant effect. All data shown are normalized to wells that were not exposed to the purified adhesin. Abbreviations CI= competitive index. Ce= cecum, Col= colon. Bars represent mean values  $\pm$  SEM, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$  (Wilcoxon Signed Ranked test) in panel a. Bars represent mean  $\pm$  SEM, \* $p < 0.05$  (Mann Whitney U test) in panel b.  $n = 14$  mice, 3 replicates (panel a);  $n = 4$  replicates/treatment (panel b).



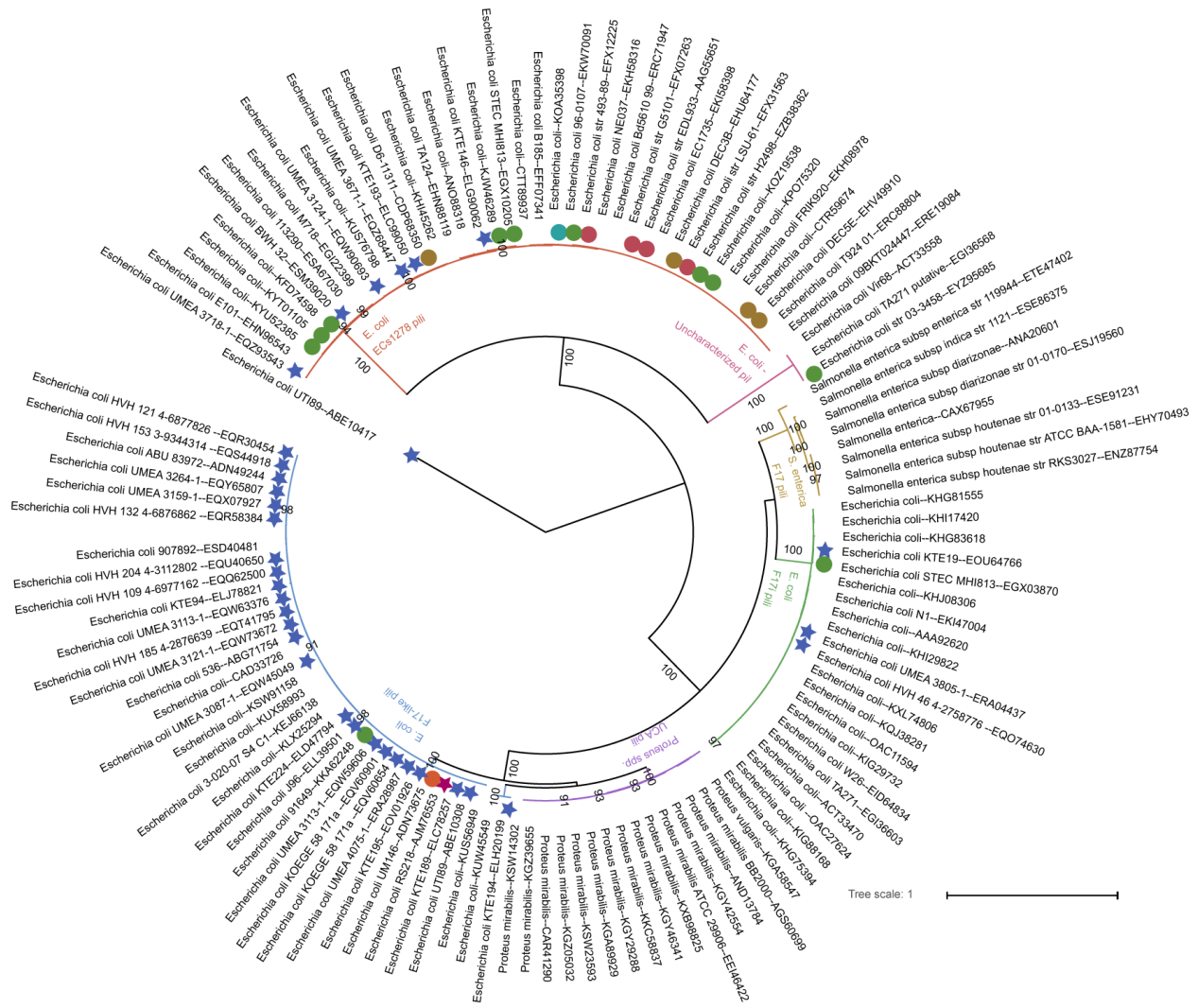
**Figure 6. F17-like pili are not required for UTI in mice.** C3H/HeN mice received a transurethral inoculation of UTI89 (WT) and UTI89 $\Delta ucl$ , concurrently (a, b), or individually (c-e). (a) UTI89 $\Delta ucl$  and WT strains persist at similar levels in the urine over 28 d in competitive infections. (b) The two strains are also present at equal levels in the bladder and kidney at the time of sacrifice 28 days post infection. (c) Single infection with the WT strain (black circles) or the F17-like mutant strain (white circles) produces similar levels of bacteruria over 28 days. (d) Single strain infection also produces similar levels of viable cells in homogenates of whole bladder or kidneys harvested at the time of sacrifice (28dpi). There was no statistically

significant difference in the number of mice that resolved bacteriuria while maintaining bladder-associated CFUs after transurethral infection with either WT or UTI89 $\Delta ucl$  (highlighted in red in panel d), suggesting that both of these strains are capable of forming similar numbers of QIRs.

(e) Mice infected transurethrally with WT or UTI89 $\Delta ucl$  formed a similar number of intracellular bacterial communities (IBCs) at 6 hours in the bladder, indicating that loss of the *ucl* operon does not alter UTI89's ability to form IBCs. CI= competitive index. Bars represent mean  $\pm$  SEM

(panels a,b), geometric mean (panels c,d) or median (e). No significant difference was detected between any samples by Wilcoxon Signed Ranked test (panels a,b) or Mann Whitney U test (panels c-e). n=10 mice, 2 replicates (panels a-b, e). n=16 mice, 3 replicates (panels c-d).





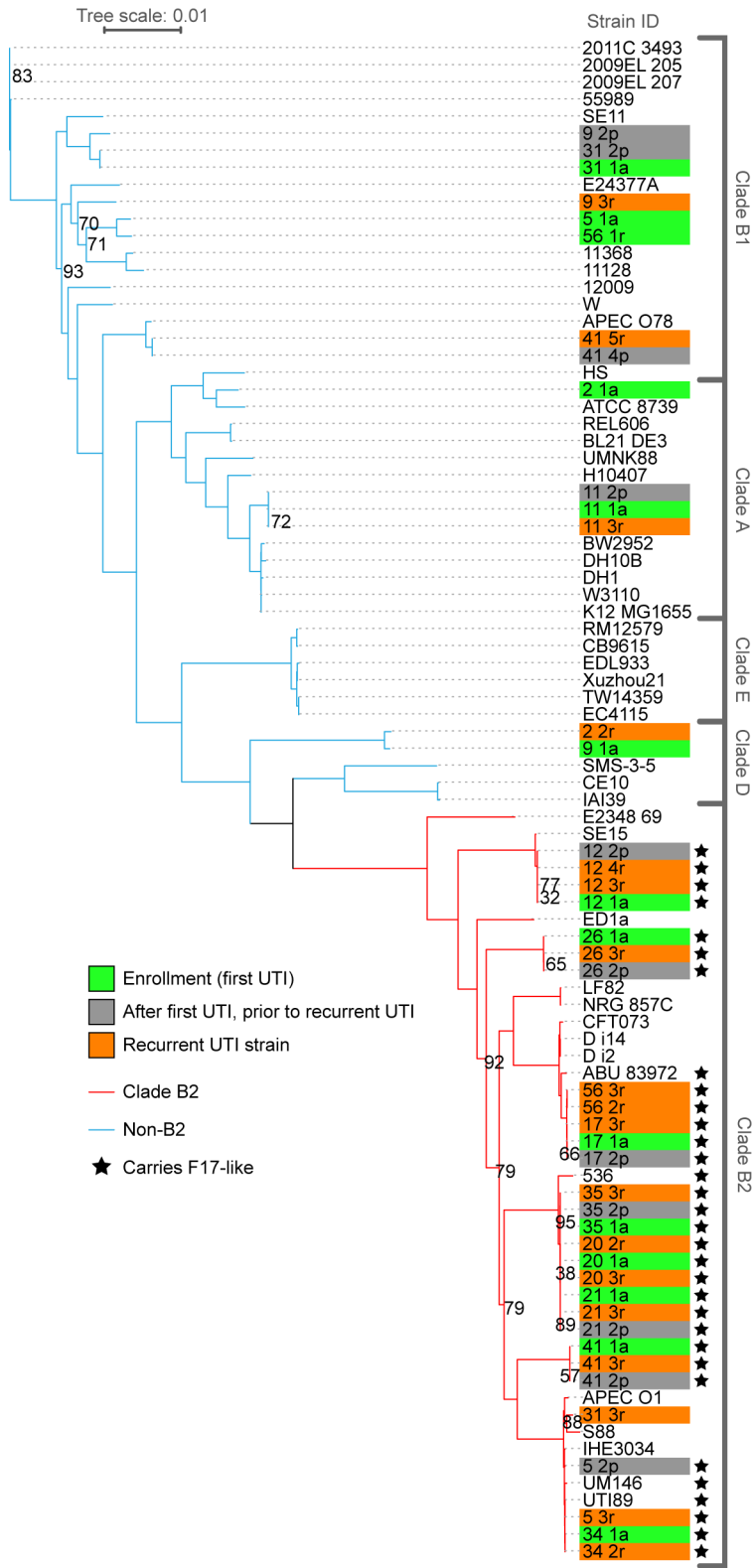
**Pilus type**

- Proteus spp. - Uca
- S. enterica - F17
- E. coli F17-like
- E. coli - F17
- E. coli - Uncharacterized
- E. coli - ECs1278

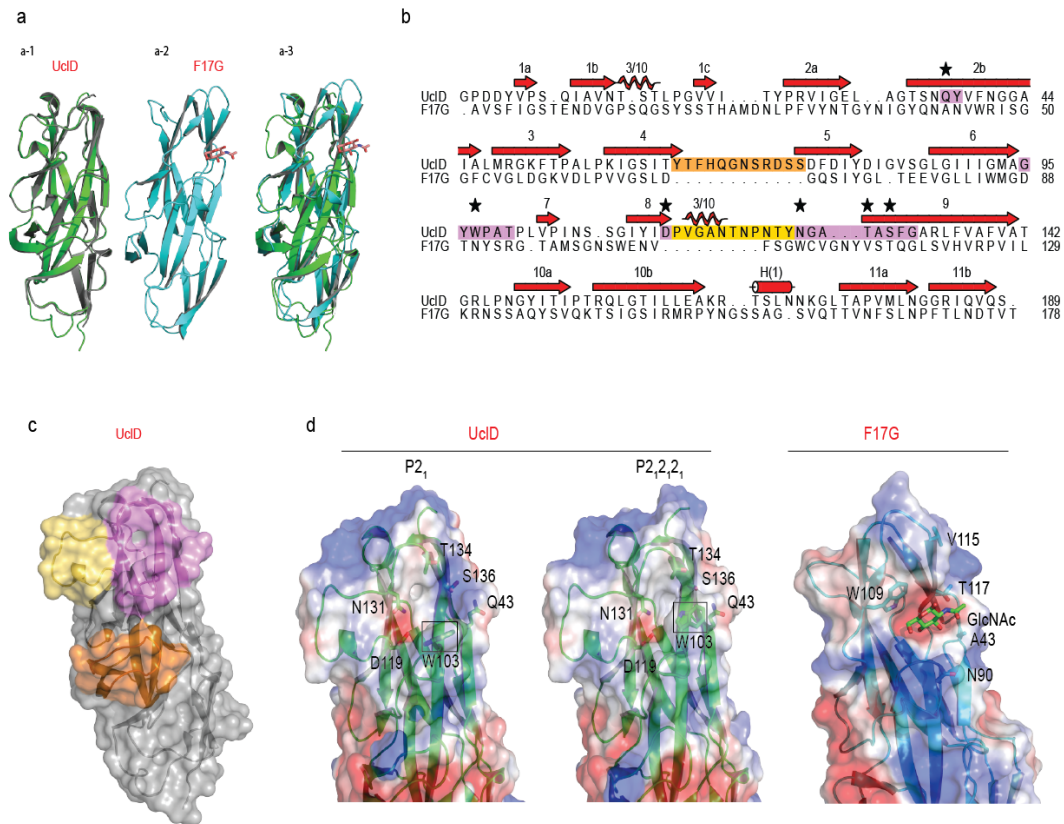
**E. coli pathotype**

- UPEC
- NMEC
- EHEC
- AIEC
- EPEC
- STEC
- ETEC

**Figure 7. Distribution of F17 usher homologs in Enterobacteriaceae.** The phylogenetic relationships between F17 homologs was estimated using the sequence of the usher genes. Branch colors indicate host strain and pilus identity, while colored symbols indicate the annotated pathotype of the *E. coli* strain for each sequence as determined by publically available annotations. Stars indicate extraintestinal pathogenic *E. coli* (ExPEC) strains while circles indicate intestinal pathogenic *E. coli* strains. Carriage of F17-like pili is enriched in UPEC strains while F17 and ECs1278 pili are more common in intestinal pathogens such as EHEC. The strain names for each sequence and ENA accession IDs are given. Numbers beneath the branches indicate the percentage of support from 1000 bootstrap replicates (numbers greater than 80% are shown).



**Figure 8. Phylogenetic distribution of F17-like carriage in UPEC from patients with rUTI.** The phylogeny of a set of clinical UPEC strains (n=43 with taxon labels highlighted in green, orange, or grey) was contextualized with reference *E. coli* strains (n=46, unhighlighted taxon labels) by comparing the concatenated single-copy, core genes of the strains using the RAxML algorithm and the GTRCAT model<sup>39</sup>. Highlighted taxon labels indicate UPEC isolates collected at enrollment (green) and during recurrent UTI (orange). In all cases, patients cleared each infection prior to recurrence, no patient exhibited signs of asymptomatic bacteriuria. The study design also allowed for the collection, from cohort participants, of *E. coli* isolates present in the urine in the days leading up to their clinical visit and rUTI diagnosis (highlighted in grey), as described previously<sup>17</sup>. Branch lines indicate phylogenetic background for strains from clade B2 (red branch lines) and non-B2 clades (blue branch lines). Carriage of F17-like pili (black stars) was limited to the B2 clade and enriched within rUTI UPEC isolates. Bootstrap supports are indicated at internal nodes. Bootstrap values >95 have been removed. The clade to which each strain belongs is indicated in brackets to the right.



**Figure 9. Structural analysis of UclD<sup>LD</sup>.** (a) Comparison of the structures of UclD<sup>LD</sup> and F17G<sup>LD</sup>. Superposition of the P<sub>2</sub><sub>1</sub> UclD<sup>LD</sup> (green) P<sub>2</sub><sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub> UclD<sup>LD</sup> (grey) crystal structures (a-1). Crystal structure of the F17G adhesion (PDB 1OIO<sup>18</sup>) (a-2). Superposition of the P<sub>2</sub><sub>1</sub> UclD<sup>LD</sup> (green) and F17G<sup>LD</sup> (cyan) crystal structures (a-3). Despite a primary sequence identity of only 25%, the structures superimpose with an C $\alpha$  root mean square deviation of of 2.7 Å. (b) Structural alignment of the UclD<sup>LD</sup> and F17G<sup>LD</sup> amino acid sequences using the PROMALS3D server. All 16 regions assigned as  $\beta$ -strands by the Dictionary of Secondary Structure of Proteins (DSSP)<sup>40</sup> are conserved in both proteins despite low sequence identities. UclD residues highlighted in purple are postulated to contribute to binding of a small core ligand, while surrounding residues highlighted in yellow and orange may bind to different moieties on a larger molecular receptor. Starred residues are represented as sticks in panel d. (c) Surface

representation of the UclD<sup>LD</sup> structure, with key regions of divergence highlighted in yellow, orange, and purple according to the representation in panel b. (d) Comparison of residue positioning and electrostatic surface potential of the putative binding site between the two UclD<sup>LD</sup> structures and the known binding site of the F17G<sup>LD</sup> structure. We believe that the side chain and/or backbone positions of Q43, W103, D119, N131, T134, and S136, shown here in the stick representation, likely coordinate binding to a glycan-containing sugar residue in the putative binding pocket. The residues occupying the analogous positions on F17G are also shown as sticks.

# **Chapter 3: Selective depletion of uropathogenic**

## ***E. coli* from the gut by a FimH antagonist**

Adapted from:

### **Selective depletion of uropathogenic *E. coli* from the gut by a FimH antagonist**

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#### **Abstract**

UTIs are a major contributor to global antibiotic use. In the United States alone, 9% of all antibiotics prescribed in a year are for the treatment of UTIs<sup>1</sup>. The global prevalence of single and multi-drug resistant UPEC isolates highlights our reliance on antibiotics to treat these infections and stresses the need to develop alternative treatments to combat resistant pathogens. However, the development and spread of antibiotic resistance is not the only issue with our current method of treatment. An increasing number of published papers are finding that disruption of the gut microbiota by orally administered antibiotics, especially during childhood,

may affect its functional properties in ways that are deleterious to the host, not only in the short term but for more protracted periods of time if the antibiotic perturbation is not followed by adequate restoration of the community<sup>2,3</sup>. Therefore, developing treatments for pathogens, like UPEC, that can specifically target a pathogen without damaging the remainder of the microbial community is important. This ‘molecular-scalpel’ approach to drug development is increasing in scope. Treatment with mannoside has recently been shown to target the intestinal population of AIEC in a transgenic mouse model<sup>4</sup>. The identification of a selective therapy that is designed to target staphylococci spp. but has minimal other effects on the microbiota has shown that this type of treatment is possible<sup>5</sup>. Another study found that a cocktail of bacteriophages could target UPEC in the gut with minimal impact on the overall composition of the microbiota; however, the translatability of these types treatment to a wide-range of uropathogens and in hosts with different genetics and microbial compositions is unknown<sup>6</sup>.

My finding that type 1 pili promote UPEC intestinal colonization, outlined in Chapter 2, provided an exciting and unique opportunity determine if an anti-adhesive therapeutic could provide an alternative, and potentially antibiotic sparing, method to removing UPEC from the host. The essentiality of the FimH-mannose interaction during UTI prompted the design and development of orally active, synthetic, small-molecule inhibitors of FimH called mannosides, which are mannose analogs that are rationally designed to bind within the mannose-binding pocket of FimH with a high affinity<sup>7</sup>. Therefore, I tested the ability of oral mannoside treatment to target UPEC in both the gut and bladder. My findings show that mannoside treatment successfully targets a pilus type that is importance for intestinal colonization in mice and humans. This treatment targets a range of UPEC strains and is successful regardless of host genetics or microbiota composition. This treatment specifically targets UPEC while leaving the



surrounding microbiota uninjured and can simultaneously target UPEC in the gut reservoir and at the site of infection.

Aside from providing a much-needed method to treat individuals infected with drug resistant uropathogens, a selective treatment, like mannosides, would also reduce the exposure of entire gut microbiota to antibiotics and thus could curb the development of antibiotic resistant pathogens. Due to their prevalence worldwide, UTIs are and will continue to be a major contributor to antibiotic use and resistance. Unfortunately, high rates of UTI and rUTI worldwide have provided almost persistent exposure of uropathogens to antibiotics, resulting in the development and swift expansion of UPEC strains encoding resistance genes to one or more classes of antibiotics. Without effective antibiotics active against uropathogens, UTIs, which are typically considered low risk infections, will become life threatening and many urological procedures will carry excessive risk. The need to develop alternative, antibiotic-sparing therapies to treat individuals with UTI is obvious and pressing.

## **Main Text**

### **Mannosides target and reduce type 1-expressing UPEC in the gut reservoir**

As outlined in Chapter 2, FimH and UclD promote gut colonization and epithelial cell binding by UTI89. Therefore I conducted a proof-of-concept study designed to eliminate the UPEC intestinal reservoir in this mouse model using a candidate adhesin-directed therapeutic. M4284 is a high affinity biphenyl mannoside that inhibits FimH binding to Caco-2 cells (**Figure 5**). M4284 has a binding affinity for FimH that is ~100,000-fold higher than the natural sugar D-mannose<sup>7,8</sup>. Pharmacokinetic (PK) analysis showed that after a single oral gavage, M4284 remains present at high concentration in the feces of recipient mice for up to 8 hours (h) (**Figure**

**10a).** In a follow-up experiment, mice were treated with streptomycin, orally gavaged with UTI89 24 h later, and 3 d later given 3 doses of M4284 (100mg/kg) over a 24 h period (**Figure 10b**). This dosing regimen was previously used to successfully treat UPEC infection of the mouse bladder with mannoside<sup>9-11</sup>. Treatment with M4284 significantly reduced levels of UTI89 in feces as well as cecum and colon by up to 1.5 logs (98% reduction) (**Figure 10c**). Treating mice with up to 5 oral doses of M4284 (3 doses administered over 24 h followed by two additional doses given over the remaining 48 h) reduced the UTI89 population to an even greater extent (up to 1000-fold) (**Figure 11a,b**). Moreover, the overall number of UPEC continued to be lower in mannoside-treated mice up to 5 days after termination of treatment (**Figure 11c,d**). While D-mannose blocks FimH binding *in vitro* at high concentrations (**Figure 5**), treating mice with D-mannose had no effect on UTI89 titers in the cecum, colon, and feces (**Figure 10d**). Thus, unlike D-mannose, M4284 can effectively compete with the natural receptor at nanomolar concentrations and prevent FimH-mediated host-pathogen interactions.

### **Mannosides simultaneously target UPEC in the gut and bladder**

There is no mouse model of spontaneous UTI. Moreover, the proximity of the mouse urethra to soiled bedding and the coprophagic behavior of these animals make creating such a model challenging. Thus, there is no direct way to test how reducing the UPEC intestinal reservoir would alter the rate of UTI. However, the established ID<sub>50</sub>, or minimum number of UPEC that result in a 50% infection rate in the mouse model of UTI, is 10<sup>5</sup> CFU<sup>12</sup>. Decreasing the inoculation dose of UPEC introduced into the bladder from 10<sup>8</sup> to 10<sup>6</sup> CFU resulted in significantly reduced rates of UTI (**Figure 12**) suggesting that the 1-1.5 log (or 90-95%)

mannoside-driven reduction in fecal UPEC levels would reduce the numbers of bacteria available to be inoculated into the urinary tract and likely reduce the rate of UTI and/or rUTI.

M4284 has low oral bioavailability (<2 %). Thus, >98% of the drug is not absorbed into the systemic circulation, allowing the compound to exert its effects on type 1-expressing UPEC in the gut but potentially limiting its effectiveness in the bladder<sup>7</sup>. To assess whether M4284 could treat an active infection in the bladder while simultaneously reducing the intestinal UPEC reservoir, mice were orally gavaged with UTI89 and 24 h later given a UTI via transurethral inoculation. Two days after inoculation of UTI89, 3 doses of M4284 were administered orally over a 24 h period. Animals were sacrificed 8 h after the last dose and colonization was assessed (**Figure 10e**). M4284 significantly reduced UTI89 titers throughout the length of the distal gut (up to 98%) and in the urinary tract (96-99%) (**Figure 10f,g**), demonstrating that this mannoside has sufficient oral absorption to exert its effect in the bladder.

### **Oral mannoside treatment has minimal effects of the structure of the gut microbiota**

To determine whether mannoside treatment affects the gut microbiota structure, we treated C3H/HeN mice that had not been given streptomycin or infected with UPEC with 3 doses of M4284 or vehicle alone (10% cyclodextrin). Sequencing bacterial 16S rRNA gene amplicons generated from fecal samples collected 24 h after cessation of treatment revealed that M4284 produced no significant changes in the overall phylogenetic configuration of the microbiota as judged by the unweighted UniFrac dissimilarity metric, in contrast to the significant perturbations produced by treatment with ciprofloxacin, a fluoroquinolone antibiotic (**Figure 13a,b, Figure 14a,b**). Using this same metric, we found that M4284 treatment did not produce significant perturbations in bacterial community structure in mice pretreated with streptomycin

and then colonized with UTI89 (**Figure 15**). We concluded that M4284 can function to selectively extirpate UPEC from the gut in our preclinical model. Interestingly, the operon encoding type 1 pili is carried by nearly every sequenced *E. coli* strain<sup>13</sup> and is highly conserved throughout the family Enterobacteriaceae<sup>14</sup>. However, we found that M4284 treatment has no significant effect on the abundance of Enterobacteriaceae (**Figure 14a,b**), suggesting that these bacteria may not be expressing type 1 pili during M4284 exposure or that they reside within inaccessible intestinal habitats, like biofilms, and are therefore not greatly affected by mannoside treatment. Further examination of the effects of M4284 treatment on gut colonization by different species/strains of Enterobacteriaceae is needed to more fully interpret the significance of these findings.

### **Mannoside treatment decreases gut colonization by genetically diverse UPEC clinical isolates**

Clinical isolates of UPEC strains are genetically diverse, differing significantly in their carriage of different pathogenicity associated islands, CUP pili, and resistances to commonly-used antibiotics. Only 60-75% of each UPEC strain's genome is comprised of a set of shared genes; *fimH* is part of this core genome. Therefore, we examined the efficacy of M4284 against a panel of four diverse UPEC clinical isolates, UTI89, CFT073, EC958, and 41.4p. These isolates reflect some of the genetic diversity of UPEC; UTI89, EC958, and CFT073 belong to clade B2, while 41.4p is a member of clade B1. UTI89, EC958, and 41.4p are cystitis isolates, while CFT073 is a urosepsis isolate. EC958 also encodes resistance genes to a number of clinically relevant antibiotics. We were able to establish and maintain intestinal colonization of our mouse model with each isolate tested, and found that M4284 treatment produced similar, statistically

significant reductions in the levels of each UPEC strain in the cecum, colon, and feces (**Figure 13b-f**). In each case, the percent reduction in feces or cecum/colon was similar (**Figure 16a**).

### **Mannoside treatment reduces UTI89 intestinal colonization in mice of different genetic backgrounds with diverse gut microbiota communities**

Since UTI and rUTI occur in individuals of diverse genetic backgrounds and varied gut microbiota configurations, we also tested the efficacy of M4284 in both C3H/HeN and C57Bl/6 mice, each from different vendors with different gut microbial community configurations (e.g. **Figure 14c**). We found that this treatment reduced the UTI89 intestinal reservoir in each case tested, with the percentage of UPEC removed from the feces, cecum, and colon not varying significantly between the three groups of mice (**Figure 14f-h, Figure 16b**). From these results, we concluded that M4284 treatment has activity against different UPEC strains in different host genetic backgrounds and gut microbial community contexts.

### **Conclusions**

As the prevalence of antibiotic-resistant pathogens continues to rise, the need to develop highly targeted/specific therapeutic approaches has gained increased urgency<sup>5,6</sup>. Additionally, an increasing number of studies are finding that disruption of the gut microbiota by orally administered antibiotics, especially during childhood, may affect its functional properties in ways that are deleterious to the host, not only in the short term but for more protracted periods of time<sup>2,3</sup>. Therefore, developing therapeutic agents, like mannosides, that can specifically target a pathogen without disrupting the remainder of a microbial community has important ramifications

not only for UPEC but potentially for other infections, including those caused by enteropathogens.

## **Acknowledgments**

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## **Competing Financial Interests (CFI)**

JWJ and SJH are inventors on patent application US8937167, which covers the use of mannoside-based FimH ligand antagonists for the treatment of disease. JWJ and SJH have ownership interest in Fimbrion Therapeutics, and may benefit if the company is successful in marketing mannosides.

## **Materials and Methods**

### **Ethics statement**

The Washington University Animal Studies Committee approved all procedures used for the mouse experiments described in the present study. Overall care of the animals was consistent with *The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* from the National Research Council and the USDA *Animal Care Resource Guide*. For collection of colonic tissues for adhesion binding studies, mice were sacrificed according to institutional, national and European animal regulations, using protocols that were also approved by the animal ethics committee of Ghent

University.

### **Bacterial strains**

CUP operon and adhesin deletions in UTI89 were engineered by replacing the gene(s) of interest with antibiotic-resistance markers using the  $\lambda$  Red Recombinase system<sup>15</sup>. Earlier reports described WT UTI89 and its isogenic *fim* and *fimH* mutants<sup>12,16</sup> as well as EC958<sup>17</sup>, 41.4p<sup>18</sup> and CFT073<sup>19</sup>.

### **Colonization of mice with UPEC strains**

6-week old female C3H/HeN mice were obtained from Envigo or Charles Rivers Labs (CRL). 6-week old female C57BL/6 mice were also obtained from Envigo. Animals were maintained in a single room in our vivarium for no more than 2 days prior to treatment. Prior to and after treatment all animals received PicoLab Rodent Diet 20 (Purina) *ad libitum*. All animals were maintained under a strict light cycle (lights on at 0600h, off at 1800h). For competitive infections, if a phenotype was observed after testing five mice (1 biological replicate), the experiment was repeated 1-2 times (total of n=10-16 mice, 2-3 biological replicates). For 16S rRNA analyses, 4-5 mice were examined (1 biological replicate). For all other experiments, 9-16 mice were tested and the experiment was repeated 2-3 times (2-3 biological replicates).

Exclusion criteria for mice were pre-established; (i) both introduced strains in competitive infections became undetectable during the course of a 14 day experiment, and (ii) mice died or lost > 20% of their body weight. No mice in this study met these criteria. Mice were acquired from indicated vendors and randomly placed into cages (n=5 mice/cage) by employees of Washington University's Division of Comparative Medicine (DCM); no additional methods for

randomization were used to determine how animals were allocated to experimental groups. Investigators were not blinded to group allocation during experiments.

Animals received a single dose of streptomycin (1000mg/kg in 100  $\mu$ L water by oral gavage (PO)) followed 24 h later by an oral gavage of  $\sim 10^8$  CFU UPEC in 100  $\mu$ L phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). Bladder infections were performed via transurethral inoculation<sup>20</sup>. UPEC strains were prepared for inoculation as described previously<sup>20</sup>. Briefly, a single UTI89 colony was inoculated in 20 mL of Luria Broth (LB) and incubated at 37°C under static conditions for 24 h. Bacteria were then diluted (1:1000) into fresh LB and incubated at 37°C under static conditions for 18-24 h. Bacteria were subsequently washed three times with PBS and then concentrated to  $\sim 1 \times 10^8$  CFU per 100  $\mu$ L for intestinal infections and  $\sim 1 \times 10^8$  CFU per 50  $\mu$ L for bladder infections.

In all cases, fecal and urine samples were collected directly from each animal at the indicated time points. Fecal samples were immediately weighed and homogenized in 1 mL PBS. Urine samples were immediately diluted 1:10 prior to plating. Mice were sacrificed via cervical dislocation under isofluorane anesthesia and their organs were removed and processed under aseptic conditions. Intestinal segments (cecum and colon) were weighed prior to homogenization and plating on LB supplemented with the appropriate antibiotic.

### **Mannoside Treatment**

D-mannose or the mannoside M4284 (which has been characterized in a prior published study<sup>11</sup>), were diluted in vehicle (water and 10% cyclodextrin, respectively) and administered to 6 week old C3H/HeN mice at a dose of 100mg/kg. Control animals were treated with water or 10% cyclodextrin alone. Unless stated otherwise, three doses of M4284, cyclodextrin, or D-mannose



were given via oral gavage over 24 hours, with doses administered 8 h apart. Mice were sacrificed and intestinal tissues were processed for analysis of viable bacteria (CFU) 8 h after the last dose, unless otherwise noted. To test the effect of M4284 on intestinal UPEC titers after treatment was terminated, mice were sacrificed 5 days after the last dose of mannoside. To test the effect of additional doses on M4284 treatment on UPEC titers, mice were given 5 doses of mannoside; the first 3 doses were administered 8 h apart, followed 12h later by the 4<sup>th</sup> dose, and 24h later by the 5<sup>th</sup> dose. Mice were sacrificed 24h after the 5<sup>th</sup> dose.

### **Effect of antibiotic exposure on the microbiota**

Six week old female C3H/HeN mice from Envigo and CRL were subjected to the following treatments: (i) none (naïve control mice, Untreated), (ii) three doses of M4284 (100mg/kg; in 10% cyclodextrin) or 10% cyclodextrin given 8 h apart, or (iii) ciprofloxacin (two doses of 15mg/kg given 12 h apart). All doses were given via oral gavage. Five mice were included for each treatment type (1 biological replicate) and fecal samples were collected prior to treatment and 24 hours after the last dose of each treatment. Another group of four C3H/HeN mice from Envigo (1 biological replicate) were pretreated with streptomycin and colonized with UTI89 before receiving treatment with either three doses of M4284 (100mg/kg; in 10% cyclodextrin) or with 10% cyclodextrin alone; fecal samples were collected prior to treatment but after exposure to streptomycin and UTI89 and 24 hours after the last dose of each treatment.

### **Bacterial 16S rRNA sequencing**

DNA was extracted by bead beating in extraction buffer [200 mM Tris (pH 8.0), 200 mM NaCl, 20 mM EDTA], 210µL of 20% SDS and 500µL phenol:chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (pH 7.9,

25:24:1). This crude DNA extract was purified (Qiaquick PCR purification kit) and PCR used to generate amplicons from the V4 region of bacterial 16S rRNA genes using primers and cycling conditions described previously<sup>21</sup>. Amplicons were pooled in equimolar ratios and sequenced on an Illumina MiSeq instrument (paired end 250 nt reads). Paired V4-16S rRNA sequences were merged using FLASH software<sup>22</sup>, demultiplexed, and reads clustered into 97%ID OTUs (2013 Greengenes OTU reference database; QIIME version 1.9.0<sup>23</sup>). A custom database using modified NCBI bacterial taxonomy was used to train the Ribosomal Database Project (RDP) version 2.4 classifier and assign taxonomy to picked OTUs<sup>24</sup>. The resulting OTU table was filtered to include only OTUs found in at least two samples at greater than or equal to 0.1% relative abundance.

### **Data Availability**

Bacterial V4-16S rRNA datasets have been deposited in the European Nucleotide Archive (ENA) under accession number PRJEB19121.

### **Code Availability**

No new code was generated for this study. All software was obtained from publicly available sources; papers describing the software are cited in the text.

### **Statistical Analysis**

The statistical significance of differences between groups in experiments (excluding competitive infections) was determined by a Mann Whitney U test. Competitive Index (CI) was defined as (CFU output strain A/CFU output strain B)/(CFU input strain A/CFU input strain B). For

competitive infections, statistical significance was determined by a Wilcoxon Signed Ranked test. Statistical analyses were performed using Graphpad Prism 7.

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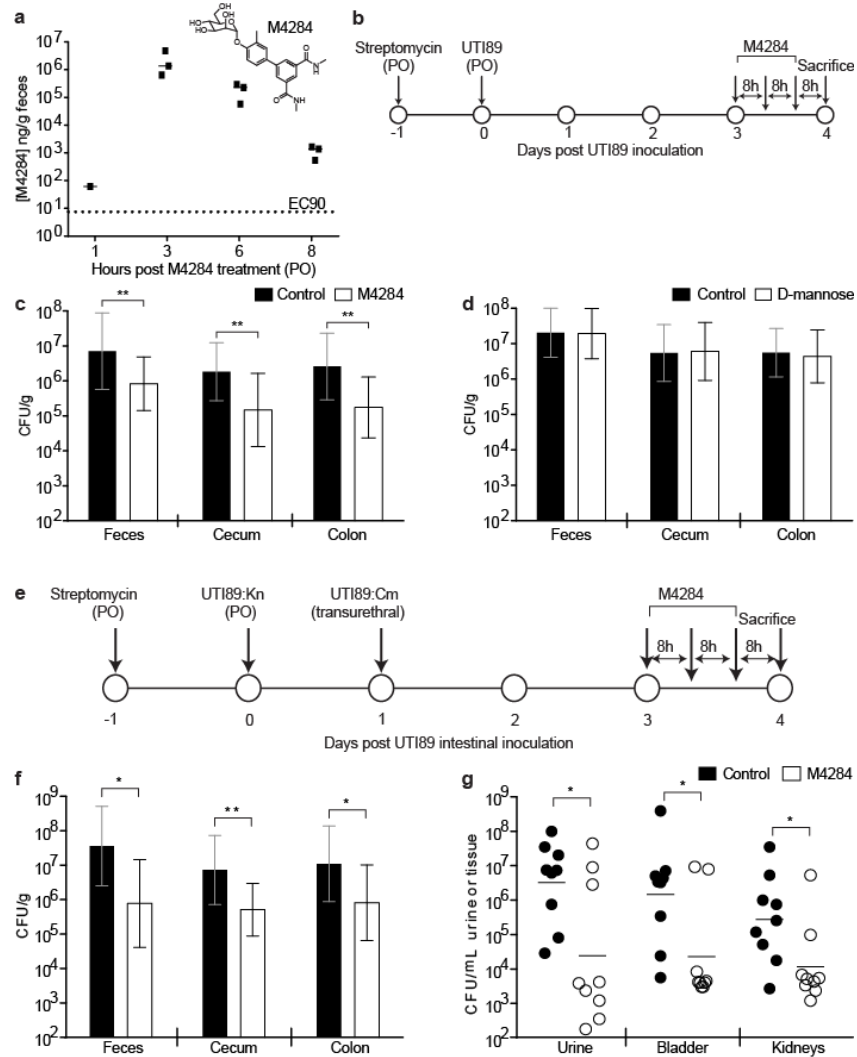
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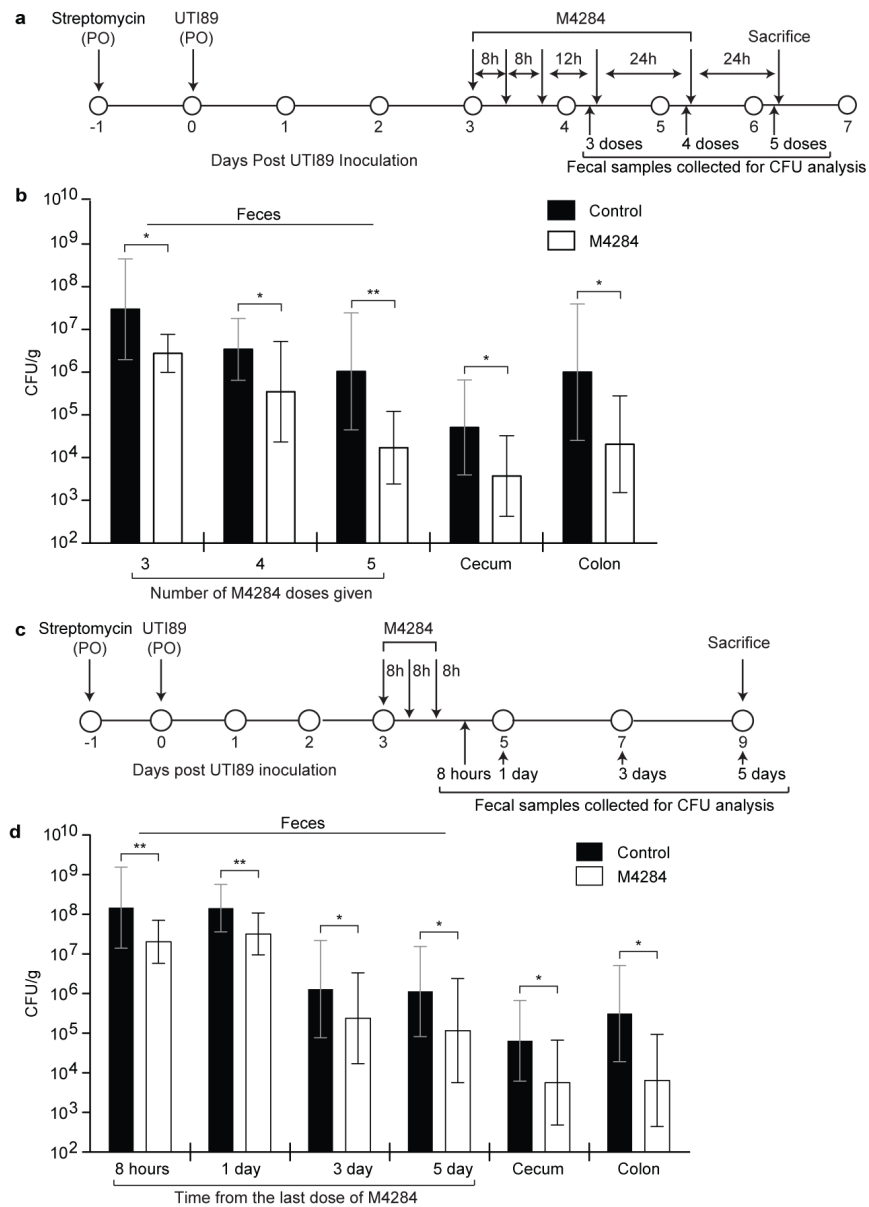
## Figures



**Figure 10. Mannoside simultaneously reduces the UPEC intestinal reservoir and treats**

**UTI.** (a) The concentration of M4284 in the feces of mice remains higher than the EC90 of the drug after a single, oral dose of 100mg/kg. (b) To test the efficacy of M4284 to target UTI89 in

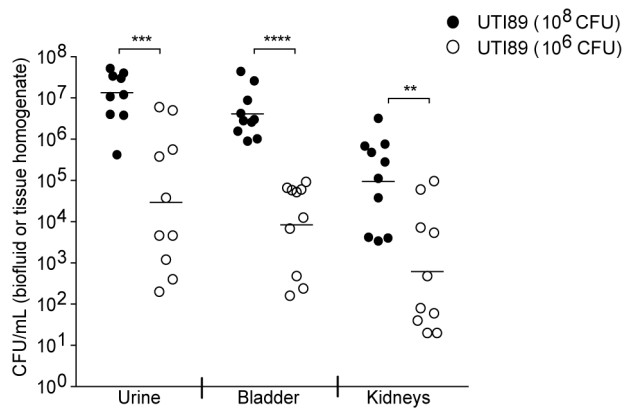
the mouse intestine, mice were pretreated with streptomycin and colonized with UTI89. Starting at 3 days post colonization (dpc), mice were given 3 oral doses of M4284 (100mg/kg) or 10% cyclodextrin (control). (c) UTI89 levels in the feces and intestinal segments were assessed 8 h after the last dose of mannoside. (d) While mannoside treatment reduced the UTI89 intestinal load, treatment with D-mannose did not. (e) To determine if M4284 treatment can simultaneously treat an active UTI and target UPEC in the gut, mice were pretreated with streptomycin and then received an oral gavage of UTI89. One day later, they were given a UTI via a transurethral inoculation of this uropathogen. Two days later, they received 3 oral doses of M4284 (100mg/kg). M4284 reduces UTI89 titers in the gut (f) and urinary tract (g). Bars represent mean $\pm$  SEM (a), geometric means  $\pm$  SD (c,d,f), geometric mean (g) \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01 by Mann Whitney U test. n=9 mice, 2 replicates (panels f, g), n= 10 mice, 2 replicates (panel d)



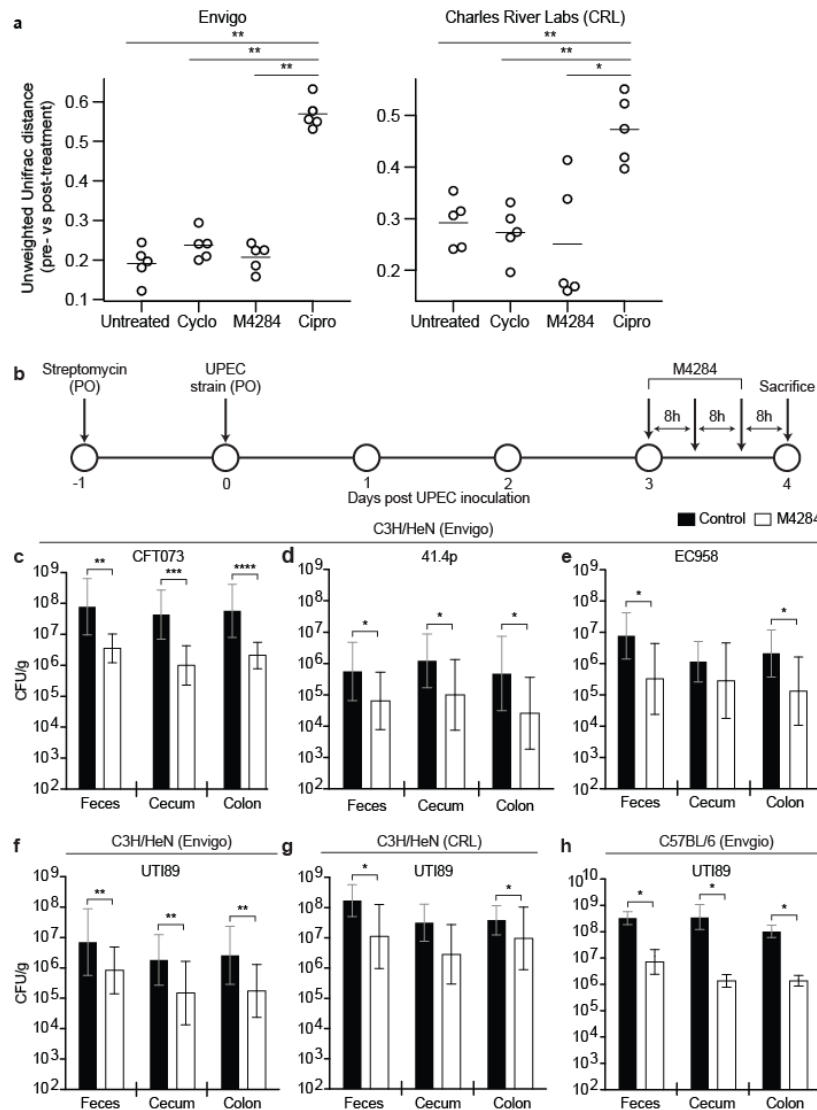
**Figure 11. Testing the effects of more prolonged dosing of M4284 and analysis of the duration of its effects.** (a) C3H/HeN mice from Envigo were given two additional doses of M4284 (5 doses total). (b) Animals treated as in panel (a) show a continued decrease in UTI89 levels in their feces (fecal samples were processed after 3, 4, and 5 doses of M4284), and at the time of sacrifice in the cecum and colon, compared to control mice treated with vehicle alone



(10% cyclodextrin). (c,d) The effects of mannoside treatment persist out to 5 days post M4284 exposure. Bars represent geometric mean  $\pm$  SD, \* $p$ <0.05, \*\* $p$ <0.01 by Mann Whitney,  $n$ =9-10, 2 replicates (panel b),  $n$ =16 mice, 3 replicates (panel d).

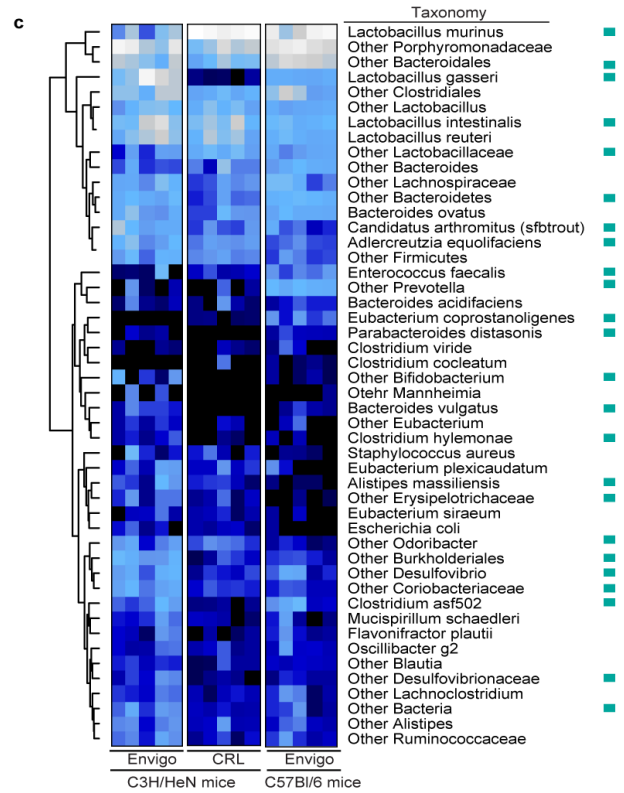
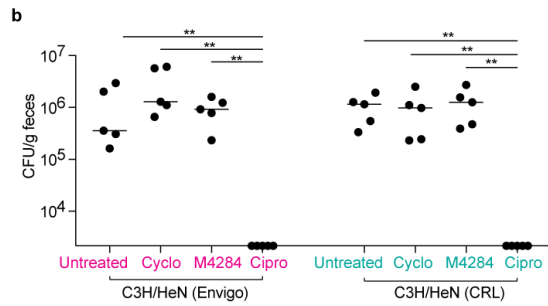
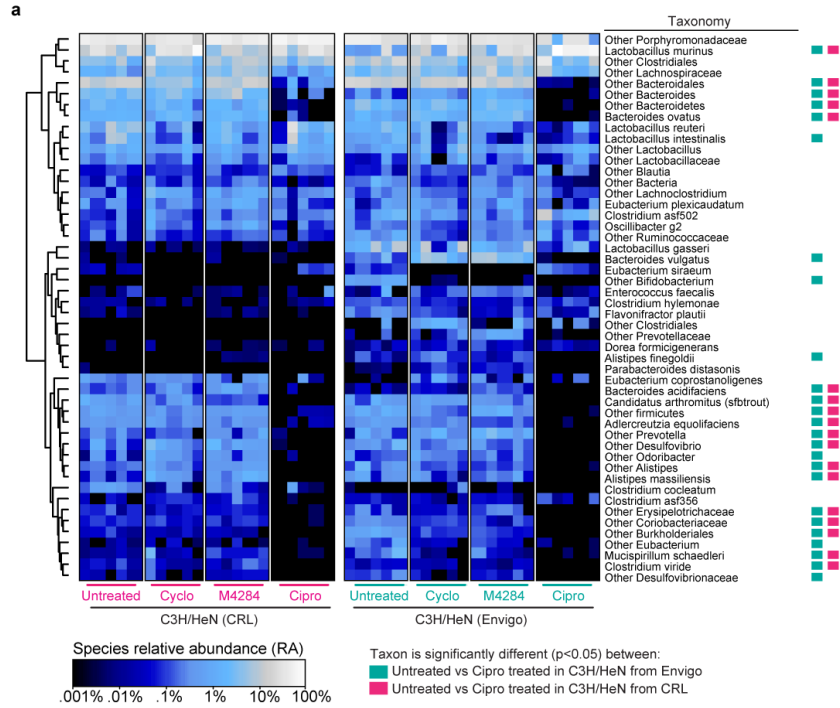


**Figure 12. The severity of UTI outcome is directly linked to the dose of UTI89 inoculated into the urinary tract.** C3H/HeN mice (Envigo) were given an experimental UTI via transurethral inoculation of either 10<sup>8</sup> or 10<sup>6</sup> CFU of UTI89. The doses were chosen to represent the reduction observed in intestinal UTI89 titers before and after treatment with the M4284 mannoside. Mice were sacrificed 24 hours after inoculation and UTI89 titers in urine, bladder, and kidneys were defined by quantifying CFU. Mice receiving the 10<sup>6</sup> dose of UTI89 had significantly fewer bacteria in all three biospecimen types, indicating an important relationship between the number of bacteria introduced into the urinary tract and the severity of UTI outcome. Bars represent geometric means, \*\* $p$ <0.01, \*\*\* $p$ <0.001, \*\*\*\* $p$ <0.0001 by Mann Whitney U test.  $n$ =10 mice, 2 replicates.



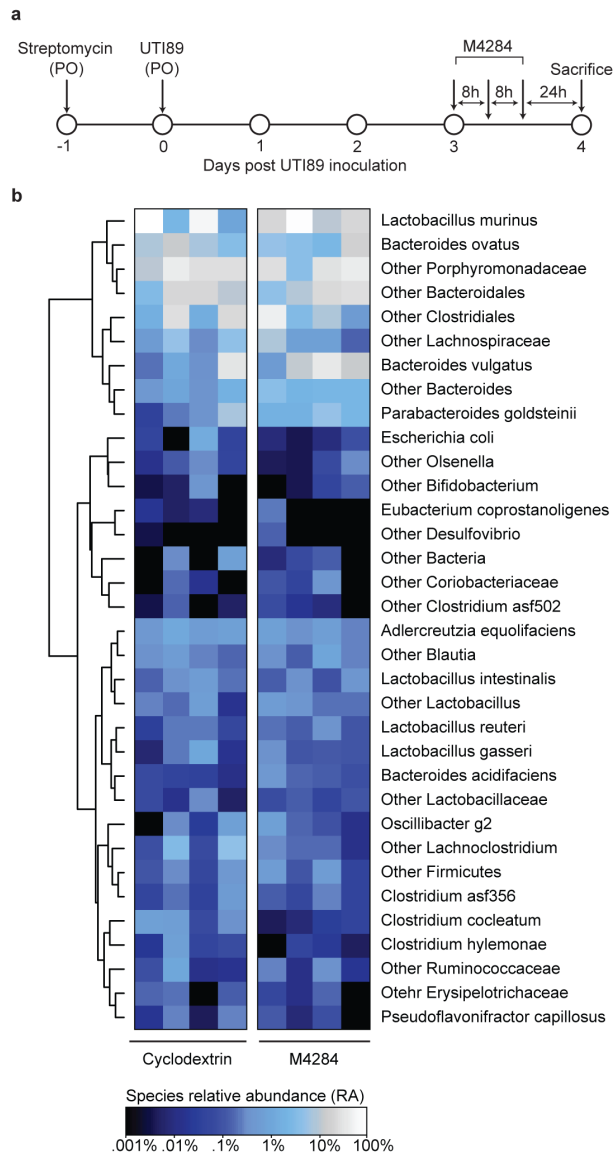
**Figure 13. Mannoside treatment has minimal effect on the overall configuration of the fecal microbiota and targets different human UPEC isolates in mice with different genetic backgrounds.** Mice were given one of the following treatments: (i) M4284 (100mg/kg; 3 doses over 24 h), (ii) cyclodextrin (10%, Cyclo; 3 doses over 24 h); or (iii) ciprofloxacin (Cipro; 15mg/kg; 2 doses over 24 h). Naïve, untreated mice served as controls (Untreated). Fecal community structure was defined by sequencing bacterial 16S rRNA gene amplicons. (a) For

each treatment performed on C3H/HeN mice obtained from Envigo and Charles Rivers Labs, the change in microbiota configuration was determined by measuring the unweighted UniFrac distance between samples obtained from each mouse before treatment and 24 h after they received their last dose (larger UniFrac distance equates to a larger shift in community structure (beta diversity)). (b) Mice of different genetic backgrounds were colonized by oral gavage with one of 4 different UPEC strains. At 3 dpc, mice were given 3 doses of M4284 and sacrificed 8 h after the last dose. (c-f) The intestinal tracts of C3H/HeN mice from Envigo labs were colonized by each of the genetically diverse human UPEC isolates. (g,h) The ability of M4284 to target UTI89 in C3H/HeN mice from Charles Rivers Labs (CRL) (panel g) and C57BL/6 mice from Envigo Labs (panel h) was also assessed. bar = median value. \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$  (Mann Whitney U test).  $n = 5$  mice, 1 replicate (panel a). Bars represent geometric means  $\pm$  SD, \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\* $p < 0.0001$  (Mann Whitney U test) (panels c-h).  $n = 9-10$  animals, 2 replicates (panels c-e, g-h);  $n = 14-15$  mice, 3 replicates (panel f)



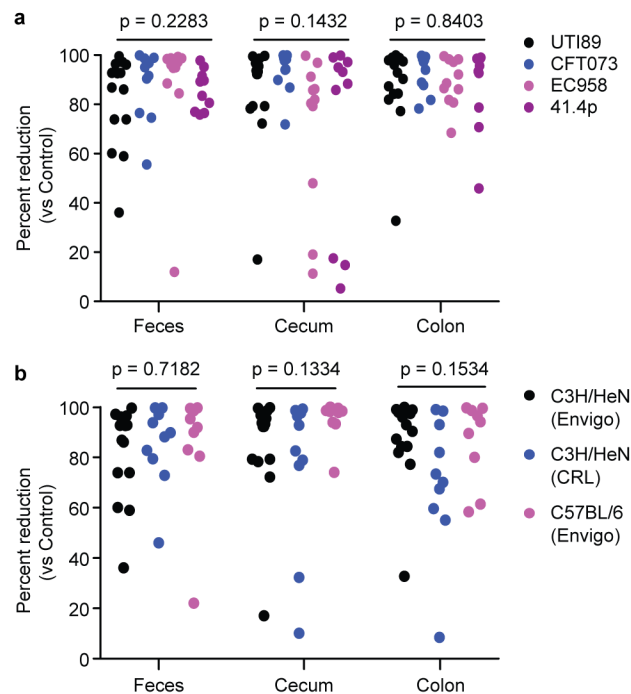
**Figure 14. 16S rRNA-based comparison of fecal bacterial communities in mice obtained from Envigo and Charles Rivers Labs and mice of different genetic backgrounds from a common vendor.** (a) C3H/HeN mice were treated with M4284 (100mg/kg, 3 doses over 24 h), vehicle alone (10% cyclodextrin (Cyclo), 3 doses over 24 h), or ciprofloxacin (Cipro; 15mg/kg, 2 doses over 24 h). Untreated mice served as reference controls. Heatmaps show the effect of each of the treatments on animals from Charles Rivers Labs (CRL) and Envigo Labs (Envigo). Each row represents a species-level bacterial taxon, while each column represents a mouse sampled 24 hours after the termination of the indicated treatment. Colored boxes next to the taxon names indicate species whose relative abundance was significantly changed by Cipro treatment ( $p < 0.05$ ; Wilcoxon Signed Rank test with FDR correction). Individual comparisons between untreated and other treatment types did not disclose changes that were statistically significant by Wilcoxon Signed Rank test with FDR correction. (b) Corresponding fecal samples collected 24 h after treatments (as shown in Extended Data **Figure 8a**) were homogenized, diluted serially, and plated on MacConkey medium. The abundance of bacteria capable of growing on the selective medium was similar between fecal samples taken from untreated mice and those collected 24 hours after treatment with cyclodextrin and M4284. No colonies were detected from fecal samples collected 24 hours after ciprofloxacin treatment.  $n=5$  mice, 1 replicate. Bars= median value,  $**p < 0.001$  (Mann Whitney U test). (c) Comparison of the representation of bacterial taxa in the fecal microbiota of untreated mice obtained from different vendors or representing different genetic backgrounds. Each row in the heatmap represents a species-level taxon, while each column represents a mouse of the indicated genetic background from the indicated vendor. Colored boxes indicate species whose relative abundances were significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ )

between all three groups of animals (Kruskal-Wallis test with FDR correction). Rows of each heatmap were hierarchically clustered according to pair-wise distances using Pearson correlation.



**Figure 15. Bacterial 16S rRNA-based analysis showing that the fecal microbiota of C3H/HeN mice pretreated with streptomycin and colonized with UTI89 is minimally altered by M4284 treatment.** (a) C3H/HeN mice from Envigo were pretreated with streptomycin and 24 h later colonized with UTI89 by oral gavage. Three days after inoculation, mice were treated with 3 doses of M4284 (100mg/kg, 3 doses over 24 h) or vehicle alone (10% cyclodextrin (Cyclo), 3 doses over 24 h). Fecal samples were collected 24 h after the last dose of M4284 or vehicle. (b) Heatmap showing the effect of each treatment type. Each row represents a

bacterial species-level taxon, while each column represents a mouse 24 h after the indicated treatment. Rows of the heatmap were hierarchically clustered according to pair-wise distances using Pearson correlation. No treatments produced changes that were statistically significant, as judged by Wilcoxon Signed Rank test with FDR correction.



**Figure 16. The percent reduction in strains by M4284 treatment is similar in mice colonized with genetically distinct human isolates and in multiple strains of mice colonized by UTI89.** (a) The percent reduction in the indicated UPEC strains from M4284-treated versus untreated control C3H/HeN mice from Envigo (based on data presented in Fig. 4c-f). (b) These values were also determined for C3H/HeN mice from Charles Rivers Labs (CRL) and C57BL/6 mice from Envigo (based on data shown in Fig. 4g,h). P values based on Kruskal-Wallis test.



# Chapter 4: Conclusions and Future

## Directions

### **Significance**

The steady increase in the number of clinical infections caused by single and multi-drug resistant bacterial pathogens worldwide highlights the antibiotic crisis we currently face. A recent review on antimicrobial resistance headed by the British government has indicated that unless we intervene now, superbugs could kill more people than cancer by 2050.

One manifestation of this crisis are urinary tract infections (UTI) caused by UPEC. Over a hundred million people are affected by UTIs each year. The global prevalence of UPEC strains resistant to so-called ‘last-line antibiotics’ like fluoroquinolones and now carbapenems is increasing at an alarming rate and may foreshadow the end of the road for antibiotics in the treatment of some patients with UTIs.

The mechanisms by which UPEC cause acute and recurrent UTIs have been studied extensively; this includes analyses of the roles of chaperone-usher pathway (CUP) pili in colonization of the bladder and kidneys. While UPEC cause infection in the urinary tract, the gut is considered to serve as a primary reservoir from which UPEC strains can emerge to colonize the vagina and peri-urethral area, and subsequently the bladder. However, prior to my thesis work, little was known regarding the mechanism(s) by which UPEC is able to establish itself in the gut.

Ultimately, my research has provided significant advances in our knowledge of UPEC pathogenesis. My work revealed novel *E. coli* virulence factors (type 1 and F17-like pili) that

promote intestinal colonization by UPEC. Identification of a role for F17-like pili in intestinal colonization provides new insights into a previously uncharacterized CUP pilus type.

Identification of a role for type 1 pili in intestinal colonization reveals a new, unexpected function for a pilus that is essential for infection in the bladder.

I also present a new antibiotic-sparing approach for precision targeting of UPEC in its intestinal reservoir. If taken to clinical practice, such a treatment would reduce the exposure of the gut bacterial community to antibiotics. Further, administration of high-affinity mannosides offers an opportunity to use these compounds as ‘probes’ to identify potential interactions between other members of the human gut microbial community and mannose-containing glycans present in the body. Overall, my thesis work provides a powerful example of how anti-microbial measures can selectively deplete a bacterial pathogen, within the context of the complex gut microbial community, during acute infection or from its asymptomatic reservoir.

## **Future Directions**

### **Where is the UclD ligand-binding site?**

Based on the structural homology between UclD and F17G, I identified a putative ligand-binding site on the crystal structure of UclD. Further, due to their location within the putative pocket, I identified six residues that I hypothesize to mediate ligand binding. Moving forward, it will be important to verify this putative binding site. One way to verify that this is the correct site would be a mutagenesis study. By mutating each of the hypothesized ‘key’ residues and assessing their ability to bind to the upper region of the colonic crypts in mouse sections, I would be able to confirm the location of the binding site. If none of the hypothesized residues result in the loss of crypt binding, then I would turn to *in silico* modeling to predict other regions of the

protein that could contain a ligand-binding site and perform a similar mutagenesis study.

Identifying residues that are critical to ligand binding by UclD is necessary for the creation of small-molecule ligand antagonists that could be used to target the function of F17-like pili in the gut.

### **What is the ligand bound by UclD?**

The other essential piece of information required to develop small-molecule ligand antagonists that target UclD is the identity of the ligand bound by the adhesin. No binding of UclD is observed to any ligands present on the Center for Functional Glycomics glycan array nor have we identified a ligand using differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF). However, my work suggests that the ligand bound by UclD is contained within an O-glycan. Excitingly, correspondence with Dr. Richard Cummings, the director of the Center for Functional Glycomics, has indicated that the center is producing an array containing only structural variations of O-glycans. This ‘O-glycan’ array will provide a platform tailored toward finding a potential ligand(s) for UclD. In tandem with the “O-glycan” array, I would also perform *in silico* screens to identify ligands that bind virtually within the UclD binding pocket. This type of analysis would allow us to screen a large number of potential ligands, including those contained within O-glycans. Any ligands identified via *in silico* screens or through the ‘O-glycan’ array would be verified using differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF) and/or Bio-layer Interferometry (BLI).

## **Does oral mannoside treatment effect the commensal *E. coli* population?**

In collaboration with Dr. Jeffrey Gordon and Dr. Andrew Kau, I was able to show that oral mannoside exposure has minimal effects on the overall structure of the mouse fecal microbiota. Interestingly, while most Enterobacteriaceae carry the *fim* operon<sup>1-3</sup>, mannoside treatment does not significantly affect the abundance of intestinal Enterobacteriaceae, suggesting that these bacteria may not be expressing type 1 pili during mannoside exposure or that they reside within inaccessible intestinal habitats. However, further examination of the effects of mannoside treatment on gut colonization by different species/strains of Enterobacteriaceae is needed to more fully interpret the significance of these findings.

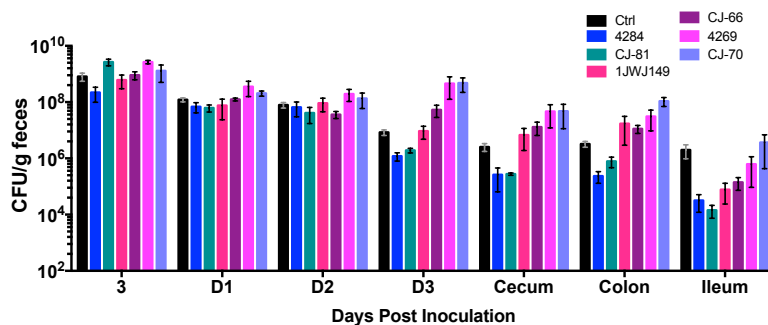
Because *E. coli* makes up a very small portion of the overall microbiota population, 16S rRNA sequencing is not the most sensitive way to explicitly determine the effect of oral mannoside treatment on this population. A better way to directly assess the effects of oral mannoside treatment on the commensal *E. coli* population would be to examine gnotobiotic mice harboring defined microbiota communities. After inoculating gnotobiotic mice with defined microbiota communities (made up of ~10-15 members that represent bacteria associated with the microbiota of healthy individuals, including different species/strains of Enterobacteriaceae), I could treat the mice with mannosides and then track the colonization levels of the organisms in the defined community, including levels of the type 1 pilus-encoding Enterobacteriaceae. This type of experiment would allow me to directly examine if and/or how mannoside treatment alters the colonization levels of Enterobacteriaceae. Further, performing this experiment in gnotobiotic mice that are also colonized intestinally by UPEC prior to oral mannoside treatment would allow me to determine if mannoside treatment selectively extirpates UPEC while leaving the rest of the microbiota, including the commensal *E. coli* strains, untouched.

One of my hypotheses for why mannoside treatment may not alter type-1 encoding commensal Enterobacteriaceae is that, unlike UPEC strains, these bacteria do not express type 1 pili in the gut. Examining which CUP pilus types are expressed by commensal *E. coli* in naïve mice (that have not been exposed to UPEC or streptomycin, or in mice that have been treated with streptomycin but not inoculated with UPEC) would begin to test the validity of this hypothesis. Performing RT-PCR on RNA extracted from feces, cecal content, or colon content from these mice would be one way to determine which CUP pilus types are being expressed by commensal Enterobacteriaceae. Additionally, I could inoculate gnotobiotic mice with *E. coli* strains that express genetically encoded fluorescent proteins. After treating these mice with a fluorescently conjugated mannoside, I could perform immunohistochemistry on colon sections from these mice. This would allow me to simultaneously investigate the expression of type-1 pili and delineate the localization of *E. coli* in this mouse model.

### **What are the mannoside structures that work best to target UPEC in the gut?**

Not all available mannoside compounds have the same efficacy in the gut. Out of six compounds I tested, two compounds reduced UTI89 titers in the intestines, two had no effect, and two appear to slightly increase UTI89 colonization (**Figure 17**). Differences in the efficacy of these compounds could be due to a number of variables, including: bioavailability in the gut and/or the ability to withstand cleavage by intestinal enzymes. Testing a panel of structurally distinct mannoside compounds with varied functional groups in our mouse model of UPEC intestinal colonization would provide some insight into which functional groups and core structures are the most effective *in vivo*. Further, analyzing the bioavailability (in the serum, feces, and urine) of compounds that both successfully and unsuccessfully target intestinal UPEC

in mice would provide insight into how changing the chemical structures of the compounds alters the ability of the compound to reach the desired host site.



**Figure 17. Not all mannoside compounds reduce the intestinal UPEC population.** C3H/HeN female mice were pretreated with streptomycin and colonized with UTI89. Starting at 3 days post UTI89 colonization, mice were given three doses of a mannoside compound (100mg/kg) or 10% cyclodextrin (ctrl) (PO). UTI89 levels in the feces and intestinal tissue were assessed 8 hours after the last dose was given.

### Does UPEC bind in the colonic crypts *in vivo*?

Using immunofluorescence (IF) studies, our collaborators in Han Remaut's lab found that the purified lectin domains of FimH and UclD bind to distinct areas within mouse colonic crypts. This led us to speculate that *in vivo*, FimH may promote binding to the upper region of the crypts and surface epithelial cuffs while UclD binds a ligand in the lower crypts. However, several limitations of this IF study are: 1) binding was assessed with purified protein, rather than with whole bacteria, and 2) we observed binding to colonic sections that were mounted on microscope slides, rather than *in vivo*.

To address the first point, we chose to examine binding with purified protein, rather than whole bacteria because using bacteria introduces variables that are difficult to control. For example, even when we grow UPEC strains under *in vitro* conditions shown to induce expression of type 1 pili, we still observe expression of other pili (S and P types), by RNA and functional analyses<sup>3,4</sup>. Furthermore, when we genetically engineer the promoter of *fimS* to remain in the Phase ON orientation, thus “locking ON” type 1 pilus expression, there is still some expression of other CUP pilus types<sup>4</sup>. Thus, obtaining a pure population of UPEC expressing exclusively one pilus type is not straightforward and complicated by co-expression of other pilus types. Therefore, we feel that using purified protein is currently the best way to explicitly characterize the role of a specific pilus type in tissue binding.

Addressing the second limitation of our study, colonic sections were used because imaging of bacterial binding *in vivo* is currently limited to techniques like *in vivo* bioluminescence imaging, which provides a general idea of the organ where binding is occurring but cannot provide the cellular detail we gain by imaging tissue sections. However, a major question derived from our findings that purified protein binds within the colonic crypts is: does UPEC bind within the crypts in mice and/or humans or is it an artifact of sectioning tissue?

In order to colonize the colonic epithelium, a bacterium first must overcome the formidable barriers established by the host. The first level of that barrier is the secretion of antimicrobial peptides (AMPs) by colonic enterocytes. AMPs like  $\beta$ -defensins and cathelicidins target a wide range of microbes, including gram positive and negative bacteria, fungi, and viruses, and work to dramatically reduce the number of microbes that can directly interact with the host surface<sup>5</sup>. The second major host barrier is the presence of colonic mucus. The mucus layer is made up of two layers, an outer and inner layer. The outer mucus layer is thicker than the

inner layer (~100  $\mu\text{m}$  in mice) and is commonly colonized by bacteria<sup>6</sup>. The outer layer of mucus is constantly turning over and shedding older mucus into the lumen of the gut, which are then expelled in the feces. The shedding of the outer mucus layer makes it more difficult for bacteria to transit through this layer to colonize the inner layer or epithelium. The inner mucus layer is attached to the colonic epithelium and ranges in thickness from 50  $\mu\text{m}$  in mice to over 100  $\mu\text{m}$  in humans<sup>6</sup>. In the past, it was thought that the inner mucus layer is largely devoid of bacterial colonization. However, recent imaging studies using a fixative that preserves the mucus layer (Carnoy's Fixative) identified bacteria in a "significant fraction" of colonic crypts from healthy mice, indicating that this inner membrane is not sterile<sup>7</sup>. Interestingly, studies profiling crypt-associated bacterial communities using laser microdissection and sequencing found that this habitat is often enriched for Proteobacteria capable of aerobic metabolism, like *E. coli*<sup>8</sup>.

However, for UPEC to colonize the crypts they must also be able to access and bind a ligand. Unfortunately, not knowing the ligand for the UclD adhesin limits our ability to determine if a corresponding ligand is present in the lower crypts. Nonetheless, we can explore the presence of a mannose containing ligand in this habitat.

Carcinoembryonic antigen-related cell adhesion molecules (CEACAMs) are a group of immunoglobulin-related glycoproteins that are highly mannosylated. Several CEACAM family members, including CEACAM1, CEACAM6, and CEACAM7, are associated with the normal colorectal mucosa<sup>9</sup>. Excitingly, one of these receptors, CEACAM7, has been shown to localize to the apical surface of highly differentiated epithelial cells in the colorectal mucosa, like those found in the upper crypts and in epithelial surface cuffs<sup>9</sup>. The presence of a highly mannosylated receptor in the same region where we observe FimH binding in our mouse colon sections, suggests that CEACAM7 might act as a ligand for FimH *in vivo*. Another CEACAM that has



been well studied is CEACAM6. While CEACAM6 is expressed at low levels within crypts of healthy individuals, CEACAM6 levels are elevated in the crypts of patients with colorectal cancer<sup>9,10</sup>. One study, using a chronic infection model of CEACAM6 expressing mice, showed that a B2 *E. coli* strain isolated from a patient with colon cancer persists to high levels in the gut, induces colon inflammation, epithelial damages and cell proliferation<sup>11</sup>. This study did not test whether colonization, in these mice, was mediated by type 1 pili, however, my findings suggest that this enhanced intestinal colonization could be mediated by the interaction between type 1 pili and CEACAM6. The ability of FimH to bind to the host intestinal surface *in vivo* is further supported by studies finding that patients with the IBD syndrome Crohn's disease (CD) express abnormally high levels of CEACAM6 on their ileal epithelium<sup>12-15</sup>, which is bound by type 1 pili expressing adherent-invasive *E. coli* (AIEC).

Altogether, these data suggest that there is a mannose containing ligand in the upper colonic crypts that could be bound by FimH. However, the thick mucus layer, microbiota, and plethora of AMPs could make accessing the crypts challenging, particularly in a healthy host.

An interesting way to test the ability of FimH or UclD to bind within the crypts in a more physiological setting would be to use intestinal spheroid systems. Spheroids take advantage of proliferative stem/progenitor cells which can be rapidly expanded using conditioned media that contains signaling proteins that promote cellular growth (Wnt3a, R-spondin and Noggin)<sup>16</sup>. Upon differentiation, these cells maintain structural and cellular characteristics of intestinal cells. When grown on a transwell membrane, spheroids form crypts and functional, polarized monolayers covered by a secreted mucus<sup>16</sup>. While spheroids do not completely replicate the intestinal environment (they lack a microbiota and immune system), they would allow us to

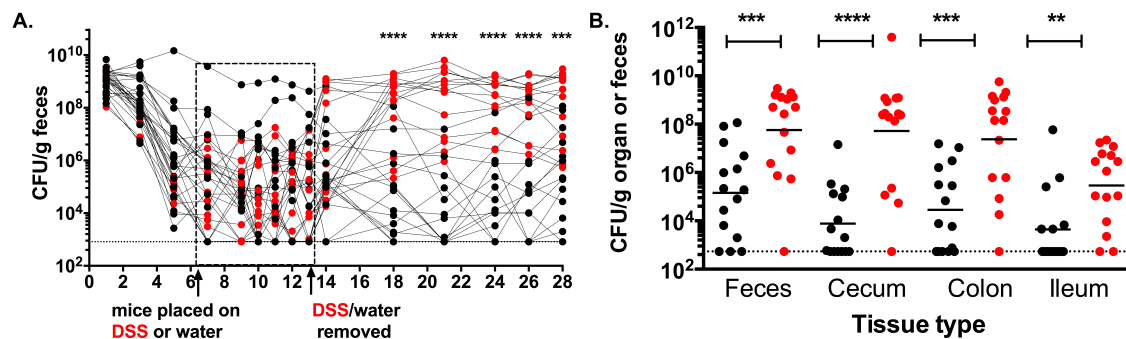
determine if the adhesins bind to the same locations in human cells and in the presence of a mucus membrane.

### **Does the type of intestinal inflammation effect which CUP pili are used for gut colonization?**

The majority of characterized CUP adhesins bind glycan moieties; therefore, any changes in the intestinal glycan landscape, including altered expression of glycosylated proteins, could expose ligands for CUP pilus types. Interestingly, previous work has found that the presence of distinct CUP pilus ligands differs between body sites/habitats and, in some cases, is influenced by inflammation. For example, Fml pili promote colonization of the bladder during chronic cystitis, a state of severe, chronic bladder inflammation<sup>17</sup>. The Fml pilus adhesin, FmlH, binds to Gal ( $\beta$ 1-3) GalNAc, which is only expressed on the surface of the bladder epithelium during periods of bladder inflammation and remodeling. Accordingly, studies have found that intestinal disorders and dysbioses have divergent effects on the gut environment, altering the composition of the microbiota and stimulating distinct immune responses. Interestingly, the inflammatory state influences the intestinal glycan landscape in the gut of patients with CD. High levels of intestinal inflammation and/or bacterial dysbiosis cause patients with CD to express abnormally high levels of CEACAM6 on their ileal epithelium<sup>12-15</sup>. And as stated before, CEACAM6 is bound by type 1 pili expressing adherent-invasive *E. coli* (AIEC).

To determine how distinct types of intestinal inflammation alter the role of CUP pili in UPEC intestinal colonization, I would examine the ability of individual CUP pilus mutant strains to compete with the isogenic wildtype strain (UTI89) in IL-10 deficient mice, which are prone to spontaneous colitis<sup>18</sup>, or in mice treated with dextran sulfate sodium (DSS). DSS is a chemical

inducer of colitis and is an accepted mouse model of IBD<sup>19,20</sup>. DSS, which results in the recruitment of mainly neutrophils to the gut, has a different inflammatory response than streptomycin, which results in recruitment of both neutrophils and inflammatory monocytes<sup>20-23</sup>. Interestingly, I found that treating C3H/HeN mice with DSS, *ad libitum*, greatly enhances UPEC intestinal fitness (**Figure 18**). In DSS treated mice, UTI89 colonization of the gut occurs for a more protracted period of time than is observed in streptomycin treated mice. The distinct impact of these two treatments on the intestinal environment may effect the intestinal glycan landscape in a way that effects which CUP pilus types are used by UPEC to colonize the intestine.



**Figure 18. Stimulating acute colitis in mice increases UTI89 intestinal colonization.**

Streptomycin treated mice were colonized with UTI89. Starting at 7 days post infection (dpi) mice were provided drinking water supplemented with (red) or without (black) 3% DSS. Longitudinal fecal (A) and tissue (B) (at 28 dpi) show that DSS treatment enhances UPEC intestinal colonization. Mann-Whitney U test, \*\* $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\* $p < 0.0001$ .

**Which CUP pili promote intestinal colonization by other uropathogens and enteropathogens?**

Like UPEC, other uropathogens (such as *Proteus*, *Enterobacter*, and *Klebsiella* species) reside in the gut and are able to cause UTI after being shed in the feces and entering the bladder. However, the bacterial factors that promote intestinal colonization by these uropathogens are understudied. Each of these bacterial species encode a range of CUP pilus types, some of which have been shown to promote UTI<sup>1</sup>. For example, in a mouse model of UTI caused by *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, type 1-mediated binding to mannose is indispensable for invasion into urothelial cells and the formation of IBCs<sup>24</sup>. Yet, a role for CUP pilus types utilized by these uropathogens in the gut has not been explored. This is an interesting question to pursue since many of these organisms contain CUP pili that are distinct from those carried by UTI89 (for example, *Klebsiella* species carry type 3 pili, which are absent in UPEC) and thus may uncover roles for other uncharacterized pilus types. Further, identifying bacterial factors, like CUP pilus types, that promote colonization of these non-UPEC uropathogens in the gut is necessary to gain insight into how these organisms cause disease in the host and may provide targets for anti-adhesive drugs.

Following the same experimental plan outlined in Chapter 2, I would identify CUP pilus types that promote intestinal colonization by non-UPEC uropathogens (i.e. creating individual CUP pilus deletion mutants in each background strain and test their ability to compete with an isogenic wildtype strain in the streptomycin mouse model). A benefit of this experimental plan is that it can also be adapted to identify CUP pilus types that promote intestinal colonization by enteropathogens, like AIEC.

Moreover, identification of intestinally expressed CUP pilus types and their corresponding ligands for non-UPEC uropathogens or enteropathogens could allow for the development of ligand antagonists, like mannosides.

An exciting finding would be identifying a role for type 1 pili in intestinal colonization by any of the non-UPEC strains, as this would allow us to test the efficacy of mannosides to target these organisms in the gut.

Perhaps one of the most promising candidates would be *Klebsiella* species, which carry type 1 pili and, like UPEC, have been shown to use these pili during UTI<sup>24</sup>. If type 1 pili promote *Klebsiella* intestinal colonization then oral mannoside treatment might be effective at targeting and reducing the *Klebsiella* population in both the gut and bladder.

Of note, however, sequence variation in the FimH adhesin between UPEC strains and *K. pneumoniae* results in differences in the function of the type 1 pilus in the bladder. In *K. pneumoniae*, for example, FimH-dependent biofilm formation is inhibited by heptyl mannose, but not methyl mannose, suggesting that mannose binding to the *K. pneumoniae* FimH may involve contacting residues outside of the mannose binding pocket and thus may be more complex than what occurs in UPEC<sup>24</sup>. Changes in the mannose-FimH interaction in *Klebsiella* might alter the ability of mannosides to effectively target this organism in the gut. In this case, examining the ability of mannoside to target and reduce type-1 expressing *Klebsiella* from binding to guinea pig red blood cells *in vitro* (via hemagglutination assays), would be a good start to determine if mannoside could block FimH activity of *Klebsiella* species.

Another promising candidate might be AIEC, which use type 1 pili and FimH to bind to ligands present in the gut. As discussed earlier, AIEC use type 1 pili to bind to CEACAM6 on the ileal surface during period of intestinal inflammation. To determine if oral mannoside treatment could target and reduce the AIEC population and potentially reduce intestinal inflammation in CD patients, I would intestinally colonize mice (either using my streptomycin model or using IL-10 KO mice) with AIEC and then treat the mice with mannosides. Assessing

the overall number of AIEC present in treated versus control mice would allow me to examine if mannosides target AIEC in the gut.

It would also be interesting to determine if mannoside treatment has any effect on the level or type of intestinal inflammation or the overall structure of the microbiota in mice with IBD-like syndromes (IL-10 deficient mice or DSS treated mice). Microbial dysbiosis is associated with the onset and/or severity of IBD in patients. Therefore, if mannoside treatment is able to reduce the AIEC population in the gut, it might free up niche space or nutrients for competing organisms and thus alter the microbiota structure in a way that could change the inflammatory state. Performing cytokine analyses on serum and fecal, cecal, or colon contents from mice treated with mannosides would provide insight into any effects mannoside treatment might have on the inflammatory state of mouse models of IBD. Further, 16S rRNA profiling of the fecal microbiota of these mice would also allow me to determine how oral mannoside treatment alters the structure of the gut microbiota.

### **Will oral mannoside treatment work to reduce UPEC in the gut and bladder of humans?**

In the end, evaluation of the efficacy and safety of mannosides in the treatment and prevention of UTI in humans will require clinical trials. I envision that such a trial would enroll young females (college age) who have a history of chronic/recurrent UTI (3 or more UTIs a year). Upon experiencing a UTI, these women would be enrolled into the study, an enrollment urine and fecal sample would be collected, and they would receive treatment with an appropriate antibiotic. Following this, half of the women would receive long-term daily treatment with an oral mannoside and half the women would be treated with a placebo control. Longitudinal fecal collection would take place, allowing us to examine the effect of mannoside on the UPEC

population in the gut and on the overall structure of the microbiota over time. Rates of recurrent UTI would also be determined in control vs. mannoside treated individuals.

This study design, which mimics a study that has been done to examine the affects of drinking cranberry juice on UTI frequency<sup>25</sup>, would evaluate the efficacy of mannoside treatment on reducing the rate of recurrent UTIs and its effect on the bacteria present in the gut microbiota.

### **How will UPEC develop resistance to mannosides?**

The ability of bacteria to develop and spread resistance to therapeutics and antibiotics is causing a major health care crisis. Creating treatments, like mannosides that can selectively target specific bacteria while leaving the remainder of the microbiota unharmed could help to slow the development and spread of resistance. However, what are the chances that UPEC will develop resistance to mannosides, leaving these compounds ineffective?

Bacteria spread resistance through vertical transmission, where mutations that promote resistance are passed through a population by replication, or through horizontal transmission, where resistance genes can be swapped from one microbe to another. Regardless of how a microbe acquires them, resistance genes can function through a number of distinct mechanisms, including: i) making the cell wall impermeable to the drug, ii) altering the protein bound by the drug, iii) producing an enzyme(s) that cleaves the drug into an inactive form or degrade it, or iv) removing the drug from inside the cell via efflux pumps or transporters<sup>26</sup>. Because mannosides target a virulence factor expressed on the extracellular surface of UPEC, resistance mechanisms that prevent the drug from entering or remaining in the bacterial cell are not of concern. While UPEC might develop or recycle an enzyme to cleave mannosides, this enzyme would need to differentiate mannosides from mannose or risk cleaving the endogenous ligand for the type 1

pilus. Altering the protein bound by the mannosides is also possible, however, there are several reasons why this method of resistance is also not ideal for UPEC.

To develop resistance in this manner, UPEC would need to evolve a FimH protein that is resistant to mannoside binding but retains its ability to bind mannose. However, type 1 pili and the FimH adhesin are highly conserved throughout enterobacteriaceae. In fact, the residues that make up the FimH binding pocket are invariant among all sequenced UPEC strains. Further, unlike antibiotics that kill or stall bacterial growth, mannosides prevent the function of a non-essential colonization factor, creating less selective pressure to develop resistance to the drug.

Despite all this, the development of resistance to mannosides is certainly possible. It may be possible to predict the type of genetic mutations that would provide resistance. Random mutagenesis of the FimH protein followed by screening these mutagenized adhesins for variants that retain D-mannose binding but are resistant to mannoside might provide a resistant variant

### **What other bacterial genes are important for UPEC intestinal colonization?**

I anticipate that bacterial genes other than CUP pili play a role in UPEC intestinal colonization. To determine what other genes are important for gut colonization, I would first want to assess the feasibility of performing a broad unbiased mutagenesis screen of UPEC in the gut. First, I would test for an intestinal bottleneck using an isogenic set of UTI89 derivatives, each carrying a unique genetic barcode tag<sup>27</sup>. A gut colonization bottleneck would preclude my ability to assess the fitness of large collections of different mutants simultaneously in the gut model, and thus make the screening of large random mutant library impractical. If there is no severe gut colonization bottleneck, I would use a transposon mutant library that is already made in UTI89 and screen for mutations that are defective in gut colonization using TnSeq<sup>28</sup>.



## Impact and Closing Remarks

In this work, I identify novel *E. coli* virulence factors (type 1 and F17-like pili) that promote intestinal colonization. I also present a new antibiotic-sparing approach for precision targeting of UPEC in its intestinal reservoir. If taken to clinical practice, such a treatment would reduce the exposure of the gut bacterial community to antibiotics. Further, administration of high-affinity mannosides offers an opportunity to use these compounds as ‘probes’ to identify potential interactions between other members of the human gut microbial community and mannose-containing glycans present in this body habitat that affect their fitness.

Identification of the F17-like pilus in intestinal colonization provides new insights into a previously uncharacterized CUP pilus type. This data suggest, unexpectedly, that extra-intestinal pathogenic *E. coli*, like UPEC, acquired an F17-family CUP from intestinal pathogens, and evolved it into a unique virulence factor that promotes the establishment and/or maintenance of an asymptomatic UPEC intestinal reservoir. Identification of genes involved in UPEC colonization of the gut provide new avenues for therapeutic development and may also provide a method to stratify UTI patients for epidemiologic studies of recurrent disease risk as well as for proof of concept clinical studies of the efficacy of CUP-directed treatment regimens: end point markers for such studies could include reduction/elimination of the intestinal reservoir, treatment of acute UTI and reduction in rUTI.

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### ***Supplementary Tables***

**Supplementary Table 1:** The phylogenetic relationships between F17 homologs as

determined by comparing relatedness of bacterial usher gene sequences.

| ENA Sequence ID | Name of Sequence   | Percent Identity to UT189 uclC |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|
| ABE10308        | Escherichia coli UT189 putative F17-like fimbrial usher                                | 100                            |
| EFJ62248        | Escherichia coli MS 200-1 fimbrial usher protein                                       | 100                            |
| EFU54800        | Escherichia coli MS 153-1 fimbrial usher protein                                       | 100                            |
| EGB83651        | Escherichia coli MS 60-1 fimbrial usher protein  | 100                            |
| ESE31717        | Escherichia coli A35218R fimbrial usher protein  | 100                            |
| ADN73675        | Escherichia coli UM146 putative F17-like fimbrial usher                                | 100                            |
| ALD32943        | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| EDV68536        | Escherichia coli F11 fimbrial usher protein  | 100                            |
| ELC94190        | Escherichia coli KTE191 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELD03594        | Escherichia coli KTE201 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELD16276        | Escherichia coli KTE206 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELE16801        | Escherichia coli KTE55 F17-like fimbrial usher   | 100                            |
| ELF44072        | Escherichia coli KTE8 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELH71006        | Escherichia coli KTE215 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELI17337        | Escherichia coli KTE106 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELI42231        | Escherichia coli KTE124 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELI66860        | Escherichia coli KTE131 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| ELI88553        | Escherichia coli KTE145 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| EQN12131        | Escherichia coli HVH 4 (4-7276109) F17-like fimbrial usher                             | 100                            |
| EQO02162        | Escherichia coli HVH 28 (4-0907367) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 100                            |
| EQP01733        | Escherichia coli HVH 56 (4-2153033) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 100                            |
| EQP59624        | Escherichia coli HVH 77 (4-2605759) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 100                            |
| EQQ43504        | Escherichia coli HVH 100 (4-2850729) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| EQQ70585        | Escherichia coli HVH 111 (4-7039018) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| EQQ80267        | Escherichia coli HVH 112 (4-5987253) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| EQS09284        | Escherichia coli HVH 143 (4-5674999) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| EQS64201        | Escherichia coli HVH 161 (4-3119890) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| EQS94171        | Escherichia coli HVH 171 (4-3191958) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| EQV28377        | Escherichia coli KOEGE 30 (63a) F17-like fimbrial usher                                | 100                            |
| EQV75237        | Escherichia coli KOEGE 70 (185a) F17-like fimbrial usher                               | 100                            |
| EQX61640        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3185-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| EQX71663        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3193-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| EQY26881        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3220-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| EQY49990        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3244-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| EQZ33281        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3617-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ERA15291        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3834-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ERA29104        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3955-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ERA85411        | Escherichia coli HVH 228 (4-7787030) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 100                            |
| ERB29121        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3298-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ESK12150        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3290-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ESK22344        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3426-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ESK23671        | Escherichia coli UMEA 3693-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100                            |
| ETF18627        | Escherichia coli HVH 23 (4-6066488) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 100                            |
| EZQ53413        | Escherichia coli BIDMC 83 F17-like fimbrial usher                                      | 100                            |
| KDG55831        | Escherichia coli CHS 69 hypothetical protein   | 100                            |
| KDN08559        | Escherichia coli Outer membrane usher protein htrE precursor                           | 100                            |
| KDO88538        | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100                            |
| KDT41029        | Escherichia coli 3-105-05 S4 C2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 100                            |

|          |  |      |
|----------|--|------|
| KDY41355 | Escherichia coli 2-427-07 S4 C2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 100  |
| KEJ39633 | Escherichia coli 2-460-02 S1 C3 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 100  |
| KEO42424 | Escherichia coli 2-460-02 S1 C2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 100  |
| KIE65152 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KLX09881 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 100  |
| KLX89280 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 100  |
| KLX98072 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 100  |
| KLY02293 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 100  |
| KNY00060 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KSX67622 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KSX77117 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KSY42022 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KTk66169 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUR86703 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS25287 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS30331 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS39441 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS56802 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS66696 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS97674 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUS99347 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUV71654 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUW51062 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUW91068 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUW97800 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUX04485 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KUX29835 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KXL01352 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KZH53165 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KZH65083 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KZJ04397 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KZP40296 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| AJM76553 | Escherichia coli RS218 F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| KIE78191 | Escherichia coli RS218 F17 fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| ELC78257 | Escherichia coli KTE189 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| ELI07650 | Escherichia coli KTE104 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| EQW59606 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3113-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100  |
| ERA28987 | Escherichia coli UMEA 4075-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 100  |
| EQV60654 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 58 (171a) F17-like fimbrial usher                               | 99.9 |
| EOV01926 | Escherichia coli KTE195 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 100  |
| EQP64368 | Escherichia coli HVH 78 (4-2735946) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 100  |
| EQV60901 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 58 (171a) F17-like fimbrial usher                               | 99.9 |
| ELL39501 | Escherichia coli J96 putative F17-like fimbrial usher                                  | 99.7 |
| KLX25294 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.7 |
| ELD47794 | Escherichia coli KTE224 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| ELE94443 | Escherichia coli KTE87 F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.7 |
| ELF33437 | Escherichia coli KTE169 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| ELF79243 | Escherichia coli KTE43 F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.7 |
| ELH90555 | Escherichia coli KTE218 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| ELJ02444 | Escherichia coli KTE153 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| ELJ33477 | Escherichia coli KTE168 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| EQN27402 | Escherichia coli HVH 7 (4-7315031) F17-like fimbrial usher                             | 99.7 |
| EQN57805 | Escherichia coli HVH 20 (4-5865042) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 99.7 |
| EQO39143 | Escherichia coli HVH 38 (4-2774682) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 99.7 |
| EQO97005 | Escherichia coli HVH 55 (4-2646161) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 99.7 |

|          |  |      |
|----------|--|------|
| EQP16163 | Escherichia coli HVH 61 (4-2736020) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 99.7 |
| EQP98545 | Escherichia coli HVH 89 (4-5885604) F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 99.7 |
| EQU05851 | Escherichia coli HVH 197 (4-4466217) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.7 |
| EQU53211 | Escherichia coli HVH 207 (4-3113221) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.7 |
| EQV19738 | Escherichia coli HVH 225 (4-1273116) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.7 |
| EQW65711 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3088-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.7 |
| EQX13871 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3160-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.7 |
| ERA80937 | Escherichia coli HVH 160 (4-5695937) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.7 |
| ERF50184 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3652-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.7 |
| KDY17150 | Escherichia coli 2-316-03 S4 C3 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 99.7 |
| KIE68021 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KUT57088 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KUX63359 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KZH92368 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KZH92802 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KZJ70388 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KEJ66138 | Escherichia coli 3-020-07 S4 C1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 99.7 |
| KSW91158 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KUX58993 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.7 |
| KKA62248 | Escherichia coli 9.1649 fimbrial usher protein   | 99.8 |
| KUS56949 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.8 |
| CAD33726 | Escherichia coli putative F17-like fimbrial usher                                      | 99.7 |
| ABG71754 | Escherichia coli 536 putative F17-like fimbrial usher                                  | 99.6 |
| EQW45049 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3087-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.7 |
| EQW73672 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3121-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| EQW75725 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3121-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| EQY34770 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3222-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| EQY34808 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3222-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| EQT41795 | Escherichia coli HVH 185 (4-2876639) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.8 |
| EQT46554 | Escherichia coli HVH 185 (4-2876639) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.8 |
| EQU37953 | Escherichia coli HVH 204 (4-3112802) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.8 |
| EQW63376 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3113-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.8 |
| EQU40650 | Escherichia coli HVH 204 (4-3112802) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.6 |
| EQQ62500 | Escherichia coli HVH 109 (4-6977162) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.6 |
| EQQ82588 | Escherichia coli HVH 114 (4-7037740) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.6 |
| EQR09972 | Escherichia coli HVH 117 (4-6857191) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.6 |
| EQU89480 | Escherichia coli HVH 216 (4-3042952) F17-like fimbrial usher                           | 99.6 |
| EQY63999 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3257-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| KLX39893 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.6 |
| KLX42170 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.6 |
| KTK78416 | Escherichia fergusonii F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| KUV23781 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| KUV45571 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| KXL00261 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| KZI73335 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EEJ46853 | Escherichia coli 83972 fimbrial usher protein  | 99.7 |
| ESD40481 | Escherichia coli 907892 fimbrial usher protein   | 99.6 |
| EFJ55400 | Escherichia coli MS 185-1 fimbrial usher protein                                       | 99.6 |
| EFJ93345 | Escherichia coli MS 45-1 fimbrial usher protein  | 99.6 |
| ADN49244 | Escherichia coli ABU 83972 putative F17-like fimbrial usher                            | 99.6 |
| ELC24324 | Escherichia coli KTE15 F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.6 |
| ELC59545 | Escherichia coli KTE39 F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.6 |
| ELC84925 | Escherichia coli KTE188 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| ELD42488 | Escherichia coli KTE214 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| ELD59758 | Escherichia coli KTE230 F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |



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| ELE78785 | Escherichia coli KTE86 F17-like fimbrial usher               | 99.6 |
| ELH41419 | Escherichia coli KTE183 F17-like fimbrial usher              | 99.6 |
| ELJ74739 | Escherichia coli KTE88 F17-like fimbrial usher               | 99.6 |
| ELJ98001 | Escherichia coli KTE99 F17-like fimbrial usher               | 99.6 |
| EOV89522 | Escherichia coli KTE89 F17-like fimbrial usher               | 99.6 |
| EQO41248 | Escherichia coli HVH 39 (4-2679949) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EQW11354 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3022-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQW13192 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3022-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQW51065 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3097-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQX17451 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3161-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQX36137 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3173-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQY06764 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3208-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQY24271 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3217-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQY50557 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3233-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQY95004 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3337-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQZ06873 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3341-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQZ19130 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3490-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| ERA47360 | Escherichia coli UMEA 4076-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| ERA64849 | Escherichia coli HVH 156 (4-3206505) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQX07927 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3159-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQX39702 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3175-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQX54816 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3178-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQY38465 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3221-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQY41172 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3230-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQZ85064 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3707-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| EQZ91173 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3705-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |
| ETF28844 | Escherichia coli HVH 83 (4-2051087) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EYB58385 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                          | 99.6 |
| KEP00361 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                          | 99.6 |
| KUW14700 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                          | 99.6 |
| KYS70882 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                          | 99.6 |
| ELE03318 | Escherichia coli KTE53 F17-like fimbrial usher               | 99.6 |
| ELE37879 | Escherichia coli KTE67 F17-like fimbrial usher               | 99.6 |
| ELH68122 | Escherichia coli KTE207 F17-like fimbrial usher              | 99.6 |
| ELI71746 | Escherichia coli KTE133 F17-like fimbrial usher              | 99.6 |
| EQN00413 | Escherichia coli HVH 2 (4-6943160) F17-like fimbrial usher   | 99.6 |
| EQN45609 | Escherichia coli HVH 13 (4-7634056) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EQP06349 | Escherichia coli HVH 58 (4-2839709) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EQQ16954 | Escherichia coli HVH 92 (4-5930790) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EQQ37550 | Escherichia coli HVH 96 (4-5934869) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EQR41036 | Escherichia coli HVH 125 (4-2634716) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQS92042 | Escherichia coli HVH 169 (4-1075578) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQU67332 | Escherichia coli HVH 212 (3-9305343) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQV24276 | Escherichia coli HVH 227 (4-2277670) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQV64639 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 56 (169a) F17-like fimbrial usher     | 99.6 |
| ESP19911 | Escherichia coli HVH 86 (4-7026218) F17-like fimbrial usher  | 99.6 |
| EQR58384 | Escherichia coli HVH 132 (4-6876862) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQS17497 | Escherichia coli HVH 144 (4-4451937) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQU92514 | Escherichia coli HVH 218 (4-4500903) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQV01012 | Escherichia coli HVH 220 (4-5876842) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| ERA64868 | Escherichia coli HVH 157 (4-3406229) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| ERA79243 | Escherichia coli HVH 159 (4-5818141) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| KZI09905 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                          | 99.6 |
| EQS44918 | Escherichia coli HVH 153 (3-9344314) F17-like fimbrial usher | 99.6 |
| EQY65807 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3264-1 F17-like fimbrial usher         | 99.6 |

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| EQY74298 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3268-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| EQZ69900 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3687-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| EQZ74168 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3694-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| ERA06117 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3821-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| ERA44053 | Escherichia coli UMEA 4207-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| ESJ99313 | Escherichia coli HVH 98 (4-5799287) F17-like fimbrial usher           | 99.6 |
| ESK27829 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3342-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| EYB60166 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| KEP02518 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| KHO56518 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| KUS42725 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                                   | 99.6 |
| EQP44047 | Escherichia coli HVH 74 (4-1034782) F17-like fimbrial usher           | 99.6 |
| EQT05774 | Escherichia coli HVH 172 (4-3248542) F17-like fimbrial usher          | 99.6 |
| EQV53030 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 43 (105a) F17-like fimbrial usher              | 99.6 |
| EQV55245 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 44 (106a) F17-like fimbrial usher              | 99.6 |
| EQV65664 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 61 (174a) F17-like fimbrial usher              | 99.6 |
| EQW35180 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3053-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 99.6 |
| EQR30454 | Escherichia coli HVH 121 (4-6877826) F17-like fimbrial usher          | 99.6 |
| OAC27962 | Escherichia coli F17-like fimbrial usher                              | 99.6 |
| ELJ78821 | Escherichia coli KTE94 F17-like fimbrial usher                        | 97.9 |
| EOX21851 | Escherichia coli KTE185 F17-like fimbrial usher                       | 97.9 |
| ELH20199 | Escherichia coli KTE194 F17-like fimbrial usher                       | 79.9 |
| ELI19171 | Escherichia coli KTE113 F17-like fimbrial usher                       | 79.9 |
| EQV28775 | Escherichia coli KOEGE 30 (63a) F17-like fimbrial usher               | 79.9 |
| EQW14192 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3014-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 79.9 |
| EQX15781 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3160-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 79.9 |
| EQX72890 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3193-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 79.9 |
| ERA29942 | Escherichia coli UMEA 4075-1 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 79.9 |
| KXL21895 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                                   | 79.9 |
| KUW45549 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                                   | 79.9 |
| AGS60699 | Proteus mirabilis BB2000 fimbrial usher protein                       | 79.4 |
| AND13784 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.5 |
| EKB01574 | Proteus mirabilis WGLW6 hypothetical protein                          | 79.5 |
| KSA05685 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.5 |
| KGA58547 | Proteus vulgaris hypothetical protein                                 | 79.3 |
| CAR41290 | Proteus mirabilis fimbrial usher protein                              | 79.2 |
| KGQ15598 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.2 |
| KGA89929 | Proteus mirabilis hypothetical protein                                | 79.2 |
| KGZ05032 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.2 |
| KGZ39655 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| KSW14302 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| KSW23593 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| EEl46422 | Proteus mirabilis ATCC 29906 fimbrial usher protein                   | 79.1 |
| KGy29288 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| KGy42554 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| KGy46341 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| KXB98825 | Proteus mirabilis fimbrial usher protein                              | 79   |
| KKC58837 | Proteus mirabilis F17 fimbrial usher                                  | 79.1 |
| ETE47402 | Salmonella enterica subsp fimbrial usher protein                      | 58.1 |
| KUR52793 | Salmonella enterica subsp.F17 fimbrial usher                          | 58.1 |
| CAX67955 | Salmonella enterica putative fimbrial biogenesis usher protein        | 59.1 |
| EHY70493 | Salmonella enterica subsp. fimbrial usher protein                     | 59   |
| ENZ87754 | Salmonella enterica subsp.Outer membrane usher protein htrE precursor | 59   |
| ESE91231 | Salmonella enterica subsp. fimbrial usher protein                     | 60.6 |
| ANA20601 | Salmonella enterica subsp. diarizonae F17 fimbrial usher              | 59.2 |

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| ANA24823 | Salmonella enterica subsp. diarizonae F17 fimbrial usher        | 59.2 |
| ANA29166 | Salmonella enterica subsp. diarizonae F17 fimbrial usher        | 59.2 |
| ESJ19560 | Salmonella enterica subsp fimbrial usher protein                | 59.3 |
| ESE86375 | Salmonella enterica subsp. fimbrial usher protein               | 59.5 |
| ACT33470 | Escherichia coli Vir68 F17 fimbrial usher protein               | 58.9 |
| EGI36603 | Escherichia coli TA271 outer membrane usher protein HifC        | 58.9 |
| KHG75394 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| KHI16177 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| KHI55142 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| KXQ50743 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| KIG88168 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.8 |
| EID64834 | Escherichia coli W26 outer membrane usher protein HifC          | 58.9 |
| KLG28392 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| KIG29732 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| KHI29822 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.9 |
| AAA92620 | Escherichia coli transmembrane protein                          | 59.6 |
| ERA04437 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3805-1 F17-like fimbrial usher            | 59.6 |
| EQO74630 | Escherichia coli HVH 46 (4-2758776) F17-like fimbrial usher     | 59.6 |
| EQS48079 | Escherichia coli HVH 153 (3-9344314) F17-like fimbrial usher    | 59.6 |
| KIO84626 | Escherichia coli 97.0264 fimbrial usher protein                 | 59.6 |
| KXL74806 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| KXL87851 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| KXM02269 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| KXM18522 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| KXM45748 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| KXN29657 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| KXN32898 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.6 |
| OAC11594 | Escherichia coli fimbrial transmembrane protein F17a-C          | 59.6 |
| OAC27624 | Escherichia coli fimbrial transmembrane protein F17a-C          | 59.7 |
| KQJ38281 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 58.8 |
| EKI47004 | Escherichia coli N1 transmembrane protein                       | 58.9 |
| KHJ08306 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.1 |
| EGX03870 | Escherichia coli STEC MHI813 outer membrane usher protein hifC  | 59.6 |
| EOU64766 | Escherichia coli KTE19 F17-like fimbrial usher                  | 59.7 |
| KHI17420 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59   |
| KIG71063 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59   |
| KHG81555 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.8 |
| KHH99754 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.8 |
| KIG38390 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.8 |
| KHG83618 | Escherichia coli F17 fimbrial usher                             | 59.7 |
| ACT33558 | Escherichia coli Vir68 hypothetical protein                     | 42   |
| EYZ95685 | Escherichia coli O119:H4 str. 03-3458 deoxyribonuclease HsdR    | 42   |
| EGI36568 | Escherichia coli TA271 putative fimbrial usher protein          | 42   |
| EKH08978 | Escherichia coli FRIK920 putative outer membrane usher protein  | 43.6 |
| EKH17933 | Escherichia coli PA34 putative outer membrane usher protein     | 43.6 |
| EKH20639 | Escherichia coli FDA506 putative outer membrane usher protein   | 43.6 |
| EKH25450 | Escherichia coli FDA507 putative outer membrane usher protein   | 43.6 |
| EKH32471 | Escherichia coli FDA504 putative outer membrane usher protein   | 43.6 |
| EKH39969 | Escherichia coli FRIK1999 putative outer membrane usher protein | 43.6 |
| EKH49904 | Escherichia coli NE1487 putative outer membrane usher protein   | 43.6 |
| EKH59659 | Escherichia coli FRIK2001 putative outer membrane usher protein | 43.6 |
| EKH67664 | Escherichia coli PA4 putative outer membrane usher protein      | 43.6 |
| EKH77367 | Escherichia coli PA23 putative outer membrane usher protein     | 43.6 |
| EKH77904 | Escherichia coli PA49 putative outer membrane usher protein     | 43.6 |
| EKH83279 | Escherichia coli PA45 putative outer membrane usher protein     | 43.6 |

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| EKH92578 | Escherichia coli TT12B putative outer membrane usher protein                        | 43.6 |
| EKH96483 | Escherichia coli MA6 putative outer membrane usher protein                          | 43.6 |
| EKI11323 | Escherichia coli CB7326 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKI69610 | Escherichia coli EC1736 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKJ30920 | Escherichia coli EC1868 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKJ31064 | Escherichia coli EC1866 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKJ45004 | Escherichia coli EC1869 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKJ47884 | Escherichia coli NE098 putative outer membrane usher protein                        | 43.6 |
| EKJ49469 | Escherichia coli EC1870 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKJ63277 | Escherichia coli FRIK523 putative outer membrane usher protein                      | 43.6 |
| EKJ65985 | Escherichia coli 0.1304 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKK33136 | Escherichia coli 5.2239 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| EKK33786 | Escherichia coli 6.0172 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKK58486 | Escherichia coli 8.0586 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| EKK78428 | Escherichia coli 8.0416 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKK89063 | Escherichia coli 10.0821 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKV83394 | Escherichia coli 89.0511 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKV99677 | Escherichia coli 90.2281 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW00030 | Escherichia coli 90.0039 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW00417 | Escherichia coli 90.0091 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW16280 | Escherichia coli 93.0056 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW16942 | Escherichia coli 93.0055 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW17713 | Escherichia coli 94.0618 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW33758 | Escherichia coli 95.0183 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW48481 | Escherichia coli 96.0428 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW54352 | Escherichia coli 96.0939 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW66086 | Escherichia coli 96.0932 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW81431 | Escherichia coli 97.1742 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW85444 | Escherichia coli 97.0007 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW93747 | Escherichia coli 99.0713 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW95043 | Escherichia coli 99.0672 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKY42416 | Escherichia coli 96.0109 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV20957 | Escherichia coli 99.0814 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV28748 | Escherichia coli 99.0815 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV56195 | Escherichia coli 99.1753 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV72838 | Escherichia coli ATCC 700728 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 43.6 |
| ELV73067 | Escherichia coli PA11 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein        | 43.6 |
| ELV79731 | Escherichia coli 99.1805 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV87097 | Escherichia coli PA13 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein        | 43.6 |
| ELV94460 | Escherichia coli PA2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein         | 43.6 |
| ELW08784 | Escherichia coli PA8 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein         | 43.6 |
| ELW19147 | Escherichia coli 7.1982 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ELW21161 | Escherichia coli 99.1781 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELW24342 | Escherichia coli 99.1762 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELW37584 | Escherichia coli 3.4880 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ELW42989 | Escherichia coli 95.0083 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELW44766 | Escherichia coli 99.0670 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERB76857 | Escherichia coli B107 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein        | 43.6 |
| ERB87400 | Escherichia coli B26-1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |
| ERB97963 | Escherichia coli B26-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |
| ERC04184 | Escherichia coli B28-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |
| ERC05409 | Escherichia coli B28-1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |
| ERC12039 | Escherichia coli B29-1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |
| ERC21172 | Escherichia coli B29-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |
| ERC23962 | Escherichia coli B36-1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein       | 43.6 |

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| ERC27098 | Escherichia coli B36-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein    | 43.6 |
| ERC35253 | Escherichia coli B7-1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERC44510 | Escherichia coli B7-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERC44972 | Escherichia coli B93 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERC50784 | Escherichia coli B94 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERC69414 | Escherichia coli type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein          | 43.6 |
| ERC84429 | Escherichia coli T234_00 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein  | 43.6 |
| ERC89721 | Escherichia coli 14A type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERD03249 | Escherichia coli B104 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD03476 | Escherichia coli B103 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD04377 | Escherichia coli 2886-75 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein  | 43.6 |
| ERD18377 | Escherichia coli B105 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD19275 | Escherichia coli B106 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD20316 | Escherichia coli B108 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD33082 | Escherichia coli B109 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD34566 | Escherichia coli B112 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD41195 | Escherichia coli B113 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD50200 | Escherichia coli B114 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD51964 | Escherichia coli B15 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERD53995 | Escherichia coli B17 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERD66870 | Escherichia coli B40-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein    | 43.6 |
| ERD67707 | Escherichia coli B49-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein    | 43.6 |
| ERD68267 | Escherichia coli B40-1 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein    | 43.6 |
| ERD80446 | Escherichia coli B5-2 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERD83897 | Escherichia coli B83 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERD87954 | Escherichia coli B84 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERD94118 | Escherichia coli B85 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERE09951 | Escherichia coli type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein          | 43.6 |
| ERE24559 | Escherichia coli T1282_01 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 43.6 |
| ERE35233 | Escherichia coli B90 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ETJ78460 | Escherichia coli ATCC BAA-2192 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| EYV59047 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2009EL2109 fimbrial protein                        | 43.6 |
| EYV68242 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2009EL1705 fimbrial protein                        | 43.6 |
| EYV81494 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5806 fimbrial protein                             | 43.6 |
| EYV86677 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. F7350 fimbrial protein                             | 43.6 |
| EYW03298 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2312 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW21095 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2114 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW38000 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2113 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW38081 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2112 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW42507 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2111 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW47992 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2108 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW50954 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2109 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW52560 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2107 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW58006 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2106 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW66459 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2105 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW69628 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2104 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW78793 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2103 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW79101 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2101 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW87064 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2099 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYW92680 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 08-4169 fimbrial protein                           | 43.6 |
| EYX08878 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 08-3037 fimbrial protein                           | 43.6 |
| EYX09370 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 08-3527 fimbrial protein                           | 43.6 |
| EYX22958 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2097 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYX27122 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2098 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |
| EYX31783 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2096 fimbrial protein                       | 43.6 |

|          |  |      |
|----------|--|------|
| EYX41317 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2093 fimbrial protein | 43.6 |
| EYX42359 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2094 fimbrial protein | 43.6 |
| EYX49506 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2091 fimbrial protein | 43.6 |
| EYX49623 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2092 fimbrial protein | 43.6 |
| EYX53190 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2090 fimbrial protein | 43.6 |
| EYZ27349 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 07-3091 fimbrial protein     | 43.6 |
| EYZ39043 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 06-4039 fimbrial protein     | 43.6 |
| EYZ50667 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 06-3745 fimbrial protein     | 43.6 |
| EYZ53932 | Escherichia coli O55:H7 str. 06-3555 fimbrial protein      | 43.6 |
| EZA86831 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. F6142 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZA96722 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. F6750 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB05142 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. F6749 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB09946 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. F6751 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB13848 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. F7377 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB34113 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. H2495 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB34923 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. G5303 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB41263 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1420 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB51029 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1793 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB57624 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1792 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB68752 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1795 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB70893 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1796 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB76896 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1845 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB84586 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1927 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB85896 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2188 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB86437 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K1921 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB93552 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2192 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZB97777 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2324 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC02291 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2191 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC11600 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2581 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC16351 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2622 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC20510 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2845 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC23600 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K2854 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC33166 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K4396 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC64017 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5453 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC65918 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5448 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC69249 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5449 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC78925 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5460 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC79564 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5602 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC86329 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5467 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC93672 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5607 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZC99468 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5609 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZD03089 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K5852 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZD13398 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K6590 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZD75223 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. K7140 fimbrial protein       | 43.6 |
| EZD89123 | Escherichia coli O157:NM str. 08-4540 fimbrial protein     | 43.6 |
| EZE56112 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2009C-4258 fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| EZE82006 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2009EL1449 fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| EZF03468 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2011EL-2313 fimbrial protein | 43.6 |
| EZQ44480 | Escherichia coli O157: str. 2010EL-2045 fimbrial protein   | 43.6 |
| EZQ53020 | Escherichia coli O157: str. 2010EL-2044 fimbrial protein   | 43.6 |
| KIY27912 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein                          | 43.6 |
| KIZ10804 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein                          | 43.6 |
| KKF84503 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                  | 43.6 |
| KKK27660 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein                          | 43.6 |
| KKY48541 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                  | 43.6 |

|          |  |      |
|----------|--|------|
| KOZ06857 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ10810 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ16101 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ29806 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ48678 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ53952 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ57012 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ72847 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KOZ97762 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPH29271 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPH37240 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPH42145 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPP14588 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPP19808 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPP35187 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPP45378 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPP48065 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KPP51659 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| KRQ15005 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| KYT92957 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| ADD55863 | Escherichia coli O55:H7 str. CB9615 Putative outer membrane usher protein  | 43.6 |
| AEZ39843 | Escherichia coli O55:H7 str. RM12579 outer membrane usher protein          | 43.6 |
| AFJ28284 | Escherichia coli Xuzhou21 putative outer membrane usher protein            | 43.6 |
| AIG67653 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. EDL933 outer membrane fimbrial usher protein | 43.6 |
| ALH91049 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| AMW50839 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| ANE66650 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| ANG67852 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| ANG73402 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| ANG79029 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| ANW39262 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein                                  | 43.6 |
| AOD12137 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein  | 43.6 |
| BAB34701 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. Sakai putative outer membrane usher protein  | 43.6 |
| EDU87258 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. EC4501 fimbrial usher protein                | 43.6 |
| EDU89867 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. EC869 fimbrial usher protein                 | 43.6 |
| EDU96778 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. EC508 fimbrial usher protein                 | 43.6 |
| EEC27388 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. TW14588 fimbrial usher protein               | 43.6 |
| EFW67105 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. EC1212 putative outer membrane usher protein | 43.6 |
| EFX21873 | Escherichia coli O55:H7 str. 3256-97 putative outer membrane usher protein | 43.6 |
| EGD62345 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 1125 putative outer membrane usher protein   | 43.6 |
| EGD69322 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 1044 putative outer membrane usher protein   | 43.6 |
| EHU62991 | Escherichia coli DEC3A fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHU75376 | Escherichia coli DEC3C fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHU80135 | Escherichia coli DEC3D fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHU81960 | Escherichia coli DEC3E fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHU95993 | Escherichia coli DEC4A fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV00739 | Escherichia coli DEC4B fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV11958 | Escherichia coli DEC4C fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV12403 | Escherichia coli DEC4D fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV27572 | Escherichia coli DEC4F fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV28099 | Escherichia coli DEC5A fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV34607 | Escherichia coli DEC5B fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EHV41319 | Escherichia coli DEC5C fimbrial Usher family protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIN27548 | Escherichia coli FRIK1996 putative outer membrane usher protein            | 43.6 |
| EIN28653 | Escherichia coli FDA517 putative outer membrane usher protein              | 43.6 |

|          |   |      |
|----------|---|------|
| EIN44971 | Escherichia coli 93-001 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIN47324 | Escherichia coli FRIK1985 putative outer membrane usher protein                   | 43.6 |
| EIN80149 | Escherichia coli PA10 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIN81204 | Escherichia coli PA15 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIN91451 | Escherichia coli PA22 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO20073 | Escherichia coli PA31 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO20293 | Escherichia coli PA32 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO22332 | Escherichia coli PA33 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO30655 | Escherichia coli PA40 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO43631 | Escherichia coli PA42 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO44995 | Escherichia coli PA39 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIO61076 | Escherichia coli TW10246 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.6 |
| EIO67789 | Escherichia coli TW11039 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.6 |
| EIO71388 | Escherichia coli TW07945 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.6 |
| EIO84707 | Escherichia coli TW10119 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.6 |
| EIO85331 | Escherichia coli TW09098 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.6 |
| EIP16971 | Escherichia coli TW14301 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.6 |
| EIP18683 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. TW14313 putative outer membrane usher protein       | 43.6 |
| EIP19202 | Escherichia coli EC4421 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIP30962 | Escherichia coli EC4422 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIP49382 | Escherichia coli EC4436 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIP61961 | Escherichia coli EC1738 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIP64455 | Escherichia coli EC4437 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIP69570 | Escherichia coli EC1734 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIP81532 | Escherichia coli EC1863 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EKK33536 | Escherichia coli 3.4870 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein    | 43.6 |
| OAN04922 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 fimbrial protein   | 43.6 |
| AAG55651 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. EDL933 putative usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| CTR59674 | Escherichia coli usher protein  | 43.6 |
| CTS24352 | Escherichia coli usher protein  | 43.6 |
| CTV79962 | Escherichia coli usher protein  | 43.6 |
| CUA30582 | Escherichia coli usher protein  | 43.6 |
| EFX27205 | Escherichia coli O55:H7 str. USDA 5905 putative outer membrane usher protein      | 43.6 |
| EKH97331 | Escherichia coli 5905 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EFX31563 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. LSU-61 putative outer membrane usher protein        | 43.6 |
| EKW70091 | Escherichia coli 96.0107 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein   | 43.6 |
| ERC71947 | Escherichia coli Bd5610 99 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 43.5 |
| ERC88804 | Escherichia coli T924 01 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein   | 43.6 |
| KOZ32122 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.6 |
| EZB38362 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. H2498 fimbrial protein                              | 43.5 |
| KOZ19538 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.6 |
| KPO75320 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| KPP21245 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| EFX12225 | Escherichia coli O157:H- str. 493-89 putative outer membrane usher protein        | 43.5 |
| EFX17137 | Escherichia coli O157:H- str. H 2687 putative outer membrane usher protein        | 43.5 |
| EHU93417 | Escherichia coli DEC3F fimbrial Usher family protein                              | 43.5 |
| EIO52001 | Escherichia coli TW06591 putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.5 |
| EKI14407 | Escherichia coli 5412 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.5 |
| KJJ47841 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| KOZ57645 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| KOZ67216 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| KOZ82091 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| KOZ82732 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| KOZ92844 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| EFX07263 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. G5101 putative outer membrane usher protein         | 43.7 |



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|----------|---|------|
| EKI14888 | Escherichia coli EC96038 putative outer membrane usher protein                      | 43.7 |
| EKK75680 | Escherichia coli 10.0869 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.7 |
| ELW04498 | Escherichia coli PA48 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein        | 43.7 |
| EYY42224 | Escherichia coli O157:H7 str. 2010C-4979C1 fimbrial protein                         | 43.7 |
| EHU64177 | Escherichia coli DEC3B fimbrial Usher family protein                                | 43.6 |
| EHV42696 | Escherichia coli DEC5D fimbrial Usher family protein                                | 43.6 |
| EIN28899 | Escherichia coli FDA505 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EIN47052 | Escherichia coli FRIK1990 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EIN64062 | Escherichia coli PA5 putative outer membrane usher protein                          | 43.6 |
| EIN64660 | Escherichia coli PA9 putative outer membrane usher protein                          | 43.6 |
| EIN81979 | Escherichia coli PA14 putative outer membrane usher protein                         | 43.6 |
| EIO05906 | Escherichia coli PA28 putative outer membrane usher protein                         | 43.6 |
| EIO42576 | Escherichia coli PA41 putative outer membrane usher protein                         | 43.6 |
| EIP02169 | Escherichia coli TW09195 putative outer membrane usher protein                      | 43.6 |
| EKH46243 | Escherichia coli FRIK1997 putative outer membrane usher protein                     | 43.6 |
| EKI52599 | Escherichia coli PA38 putative outer membrane usher protein                         | 43.6 |
| EKI72347 | Escherichia coli EC1737 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKJ16694 | Escherichia coli EC1864 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKK61703 | Escherichia coli 8.2524 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| EKV82226 | Escherichia coli 88.1042 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKV83788 | Escherichia coli 88.1467 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW33566 | Escherichia coli 95.0943 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW52543 | Escherichia coli 96.0427 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKW66188 | Escherichia coli 97.0003 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| EKY43968 | Escherichia coli 97.0010 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV42265 | Escherichia coli 99.0816 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV59010 | Escherichia coli 99.1775 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ELV60235 | Escherichia coli 99.1793 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein     | 43.6 |
| ERB87602 | Escherichia coli B102 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein        | 43.6 |
| ERD95759 | Escherichia coli B86 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein         | 43.6 |
| ERE34518 | Escherichia coli B89 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein         | 43.6 |
| ERE38404 | Escherichia coli Tx1686 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein      | 43.6 |
| ERE19084 | Escherichia coli 09BKT024447 type VII secretion system (T7SS), usher family protein | 43.6 |
| EKI58398 | Escherichia coli EC1735 putative outer membrane usher protein                       | 43.6 |
| EKH58316 | Escherichia coli NE037 putative outer membrane usher protein                        | 43.8 |
| EHV49910 | Escherichia coli DEC5E fimbrial Usher family protein                                | 41.9 |
| CTT89937 | Escherichia coli usher protein  | 43.6 |
| EFF07341 | Escherichia coli B185 outer membrane usher protein                                  | 43.6 |
| KOA35398 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.6 |
| EGX10205 | Escherichia coli STEC_MHI813 fimbrial Usher family protein                          | 43.5 |
| KJW46289 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| ELG90062 | Escherichia coli KTE146 hypothetical protein  | 43.4 |
| ANO88318 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.3 |
| EHN88119 | Escherichia coli TA124 hypothetical protein   | 43.4 |
| CDP68350 | Escherichia coli D6-113.11 Putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.7 |
| CDU35541 | Escherichia coli D6-113.11 Putative outer membrane usher protein                    | 43.7 |
| KHI45262 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.8 |
| KUS76798 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.8 |
| ELC99050 | Escherichia coli KTE193 hypothetical protein  | 43.6 |
| ELI31921 | Escherichia coli KTE112 hypothetical protein  | 43.6 |
| EQZ68447 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3671-1 hypothetical protein                                   | 43.7 |
| EQW90693 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3124-1 hypothetical protein                                   | 43.9 |
| EGI22399 | Escherichia coli M718 putative fimbrial usher protein                               | 43.5 |
| KNZ99685 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein   | 43.5 |
| ESA67030 | Escherichia coli 113290 fimbrial usher protein                                      | 43.7 |

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|----------|---|------|
| KFD74598 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein                 | 43.7 |
| ESM39020 | Escherichia coli BWH 32 hypothetical protein      | 43.6 |
| KYT01105 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein                 | 43.8 |
| KYU52385 | Escherichia coli fimbrial protein                 | 43.8 |
| EHN96543 | Escherichia coli E101 hypothetical protein        | 43.8 |
| EQZ93543 | Escherichia coli UMEA 3718-1 hypothetical protein | 43.7 |

**Supplementary Table 2:** The carriage of F17-like pili in rUTI UPEC strains.

| Strain      | Pathotype     | Clade | BioProject  | F17-like Carriage | Sample Time Point** |
|-------------|---------------|-------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 536         | UPEC          | B2    | PRJNA16235  | Yes               |                     |
| 11128       | EHEC          | B1    | PRJDA32513  |                   |                     |
| 11368       | EHEC          | B1    | PRJDA32509  |                   |                     |
| 12009       | EHEC          | B1    | PRJDA32511  |                   |                     |
| 55989       | EAEC          | B1    | PRJNA33413  |                   |                     |
| 2009EL-2050 | EHEC          | B1    | PRJNA81097  |                   |                     |
| 2009EL-2071 | EHEC          | B1    | PRJNA81099  |                   |                     |
| 2011C-3493  | EHEC          | B1    | PRJNA81095  |                   |                     |
| ABU 83972   | ABU           | B2    | PRJNA38725  | Yes               |                     |
| APEC O1     | APEC          | B2    | PRJNA16718  |                   |                     |
| APEC O78    | APEC          | B1    | PRJNA184588 |                   |                     |
| ATCC 8739   | Commensal     | A     | PRJNA18083  |                   |                     |
| BL21(DE3)   | Lab Strain    | A     | PRJNA20713  |                   |                     |
| BW2952      | Lab Strain    | A     | PRJNA33775  |                   |                     |
| CB9615      | EPEC          | E     | PRJNA42729  |                   |                     |
| CE10        | NMEC          | F     | PRJNA63597  |                   |                     |
| CFT073      | UPEC          | B2    | PRJNA313    |                   |                     |
| clone D i14 | UPEC          | B2    | PRJNA52023  |                   |                     |
| clone D i2  | UPEC          | B2    | PRJNA52021  |                   |                     |
| DH1         | Lab Strain    | A     | PRJDA52077  |                   |                     |
| DH10B       | Lab Strain    | A     | PRJNA20079  |                   |                     |
| E2348/69    | EPEC          | B2    | PRJEA32571  |                   |                     |
| E24377A     | ETEC          | B1    | PRJNA13960  |                   |                     |
| EC4115      | EHEC          | E     | PRJNA27739  |                   |                     |
| ED1a        | Commensal     | B2    | PRJNA33409  |                   |                     |
| EDL933      | EHEC          | E     | PRJNA259    |                   |                     |
| H10407      | ETEC          | A     | PRJEA42749  |                   |                     |
| HS          | Commensal     | A     | PRJNA13959  |                   |                     |
| IAI39       | UPEC          | F     | PRJNA33411  |                   |                     |
| IHE3034     | NMEC          | B2    | PRJNA43693  |                   |                     |
| K12 MG1655  | Commensal     | A     | PRJNA40075  |                   |                     |
| LF82        | AIEC          | B2    | PRJNA33825  |                   |                     |
| NRG 857C    | AIEC          | B2    | PRJNA41221  |                   |                     |
| REL606      | Lab Strain    | A     | PRJNA18281  |                   |                     |
| RM12579     | EPEC          | E     | PRJNA68245  |                   |                     |
| S88         | Commensal     | B2    | PRJNA33375  |                   |                     |
| SE11        | Commensal     | B1    | PRJNA18057  |                   |                     |
| SE15        | Commensal     | B2    | PRJDA19053  |                   |                     |
| SMS-3-5     | Environmental | F     | PRJNA19469  |                   |                     |
| TW14359     | EHEC          | E     | PRJNA30045  |                   |                     |

|          |            |    |             |     |                       |
|----------|------------|----|-------------|-----|-----------------------|
| UM146    | AIEC       | B2 | PRJNA50883  | Yes |                       |
| UMNK88   | ETEC       | A  | PRJNA42137  |     |                       |
| UTI89    | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA16259  | Yes |                       |
| W        | Lab Strain | B1 | PRJNA48011  |     |                       |
| W3110    | Lab Strain | A  | PRJNA16351  |     |                       |
| Xuzhou21 | EHEC       | E  | PRJNA45823  |     |                       |
| 2.1a*    | UPEC       | A  | PRJNA269984 |     | Enrollment UTI        |
| 2.2r*    | UPEC       | D  | PRJNA269984 |     | Different-strain rUTI |
| 5.1a*    | UPEC       | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Enrollment UTI        |
| 5.2p*    | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 5.3r*    | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Different-strain rUTI |
| 9.1a*    | UPEC       | D  | PRJNA269984 |     | Enrollment UTI        |
| 9.2p*    | UPEC       | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 9.3r*    | UPEC       | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Different-strain rUTI |
| 11.1a*   | UPEC       | A  | PRJNA269984 |     | Enrollment UTI        |
| 11.2p*   | UPEC       | A  | PRJNA269984 |     | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 11.3r*   | UPEC       | A  | PRJNA269984 |     | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 12.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 12.2p*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 12.3r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 12.4r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 17.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 17.2p*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 17.3r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 20.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 20.2r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 20.3r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 21.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 21.2p*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 21.3r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 26.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 26.2p*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 26.3r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 31.1a*   | UPEC       | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Enrollment UTI        |
| 31.2p*   | UPEC       | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Prior to Recurrence   |
| 31.3r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 |     | Different-strain rUTI |
| 34.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 34.2r*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI      |
| 35.1a*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI        |
| 35.2p*   | UPEC       | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence   |

|        |      |    |             |     |                          |
|--------|------|----|-------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 35.3r* | UPEC | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI         |
| 41.1a* | UPEC | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Enrollment UTI           |
| 41.2p* | UPEC | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Prior to Recurrence      |
| 41.3r* | UPEC | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI         |
| 41.4p* | UPEC | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Prior to Recurrence      |
| 41.5r* | UPEC | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Different-strain<br>rUTI |
| 56.1a* | UPEC | B1 | PRJNA269984 |     | Enrollment UTI           |
| 56.2r* | UPEC | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Different-strain<br>rUTI |
| 56.3r* | UPEC | B2 | PRJNA269984 | Yes | Same-strain rUTI         |

\* Collected during a previous longitudinal study on recurrent UTI (ref. 18)

\*\* Sample time point as defined in [REF]

**Supplementary Table 3: UclD X-ray collection and refinement statistics**

|   | HRUcID <sup>LD</sup>     | UcID <sup>LD</sup>                            |
|---|--------------------------|---|
|   | (5NWP)                   | (5VQ5)  |
| <b>Data collection</b>                              |                          |   |
| Space group   | P2 <sub>1</sub>          | P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> |
| Cell dimensions                                     |                          |   |
| <i>a, b, c</i> (Å)                                  | 31.0, 91.9, 64.9         | 39.0, 58.6, 175.1                             |
| $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$ (°)                         | 90.0, 96.5, 90.0         | 90.0, 90.0, 90.0                              |
| Resolution (Å) <sup>a</sup>                         | 91.87 – 1.05 (1.11-1.05) | 55.60-1.6 (1.66-1.60)                         |
| <i>R</i> <sub>merge</sub> <sup>a</sup>              | 0.079 (0.336)            | 0.05 (0.43)                                   |
| <i>I</i> / $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ) <sup>a</sup>       | 11.9 (2.1)               | 17.68 (1.43)                                  |
| <i>CC</i> <sub>1/2</sub> <sup>a</sup>               | 99.6 (86.0)              | 0.998 (0.659)                                 |
| Completeness (%) <sup>a</sup>                       | 88.6 (43.8)              | 99.97 (99.98)                                 |
| Redundancy <sup>a</sup>                             | 5.0 (2.0)                | 2.0 (2.0)                                     |
| <b>Refinement</b>                                   |                          |   |
| Resolution (Å)                                      | 91.87 - 1.05             | 55.60 - 1.60                                  |
| No. reflections                                     | 144393                   | 108142  |
| <i>R</i> <sub>work</sub> / <i>R</i> <sub>free</sub> | 0.118 / 0.143            | 0.172 / 0.218                                 |
| No. atoms   | 6890                     | 3289  |
| Protein   | 6223                     | 2804  |
| Iodide  | /                        | 6   |
| Sulphate  | 1                        | /   |
| Water   | 662                      | 479   |
| <i>B</i> factors                                    |                          |   |
| Protein   | 10.7                     | 22.4  |
| Iodide  | /                        | 62.6  |

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|                   |       |       |
|-------------------|-------|-------|
| Sulphate          | 11.0  | /     |
| Water             | 23.9  | 36.2  |
| R.m.s. deviations |       |       |
| Bond lengths (Å)  | 0.028 | 0.002 |
| Bond angles (°)   | 2.281 | 0.58  |

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Number of crystals for each structure should be noted in footnote.

<sup>a</sup> Values in parentheses are for highest-resolution shell.