

**The contribution of AcrAB-TolC to biofilm formation in
Salmonella enterica serovar Typhimurium**

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Recently a role for multidrug efflux systems in biofilm formation by various bacteria has been suggested, we have demonstrated that the AcrAB-TolC system is required for efficient biofilm formation by *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium. The possible export of biofilm related factors via AcrAB-TolC and consequences to cellular hydrophobicity and hence aggregative ability have been investigated using a variety of assays. There does not appear to be a secreted factor exported via AcrAB-TolC required for biofilm formation and mutants lacking either a functional AcrB or TolC are not compromised in their ability to aggregate indicating this is not responsible for poor biofilm formation. These data indicate another mechanism is responsible for the biofilm defect in these mutants, possibly altered regulation of biofilm specific genes as a result of loss of AcrAB-TolC.