Imaging of porphyrin-specific fluorescence in pathogenic bacteria *in vitro* using a wearable, hands-free system

Junhong Sun[1,#], Sangeevan Vellappan[1,2,#], Johnathan Akdemir[2], Liviu Steier[3], Richard E. Feinbloom[4,5], Srujana S. Yadavalli[1,2]*

[1]Waksman Institute of Microbiology, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ USA

[2]Department of Genetics, School of Arts and Sciences, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ USA

[3]Department of Preventive and Restorative Sciences, Robert Schattner Center, School of Dental Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA USA

[4]Designs for Vision, Inc., Bohemia, NY USA

[#]These two authors contributed equally to this work

*Corresponding author

Waksman Institute of Microbiology

Rutgers University

190 Frelinghuysen Rd

Piscataway NJ 08854

Phone: 848-445-0251

Email: sam.yadavalli@rutgers.edu

Short title: Porphyrin-specific fluorescence in pathogenic bacteria

Keywords: Bacteria, porphyrins, fluorescence, fluorescence imaging, wearable technology

Abstract

Fluorescence imaging is an effective method for detecting porphyrin production in bacteria, leveraging the natural fluorescence properties of porphyrins. Here we use a simple, lightweight, hands-free device for rapid, non-invasive assessments in clinical settings, microbial research, and diagnostic applications. Specifically in this study, we examined 15 bacterial and 2 fungal strains commonly associated with skin, oral, and/or multi-site infections at wound sites for their ability to autofluoresce based on their porphyrin production. We utilized Remel Porphyrin Test Agar and blood agar plates to monitor red fluorescence over several days of growth under aerobic or anaerobic conditions using the wearable REVEAL FC imaging system with a 405 nm violet excitation headlight paired with eyewear carrying 430 nm emission lenses. Fourteen of the fifteen bacteria produced red fluorescence when grown on Porphyrin Test Agar and nine of the fifteen bacteria also displayed red fluorescence on blood agar plates, consistent with their ability to synthesize porphyrins. Taken together, our results elucidate the sensitivity, effectiveness, and convenience of using wearable technology to detect pathogens that produce porphyrin-specific fluorescence. Consequently, the REVEAL system has immense potential to help diagnose wound infections, direct clinical procedures, and guide treatment options in real-time using fluorescence imaging all while minimizing the risk of contamination.

Importance Statement

Fluorescence imaging is a simple technique used to detect a substance called porphyrin, which some microbes produce, and which naturally glows under specific light. In this study, we used a hands-free, wearable device to check for porphyrin in various bacteria and fungi that often infect wounds. This device shines a violet light on bacteria grown in the lab on solid media containing heme precursors, and if they produce porphyrin, they glow red. This method, tested on 15 bacterial and 2 fungal strains, proved to be effective and convenient. This technology has the

51 potential to help clinicians diagnose infections and decide on treatments more efficiently and

52 safely.

Introduction

Microbial infections pose significant threats, especially in wound healing (1, 2). If ignored or not

treated promptly, the infection may advance from initial contamination to colonization, local

infection, and even systemic infection, potentially leading to severe conditions like sepsis and

multiple organ dysfunction syndrome (2). In cases such as the infection in diabetic foot ulcers,

timely detection is crucial to prevent potential complications like amputation (3). Similarly,

disregarding the initial stages of dental plaque accumulation in the oral cavity can trigger oral

health complications, such as gingivitis, periodontitis, dental caries, and even tooth loss (4).

Notably, approximately 47.2% of individuals aged 30 years and older are affected by some form

of periodontal disease (4).

Considering the rapid spread of infections, when possible, timely detection and effective

management are crucial to prevent infections from progressing to severe stages and reduce the

risk of complications, such as tissue necrosis and the need for amputation (5, 6). Traditional

methods of detecting and confirming bacterial infections, such as culturing and susceptibility

testing, are laborious and time-consuming, taking days to yield results (7). In recent years, there

has been a development of fluorescence-based approaches for real-time visualization of

intrinsic fluorescence from porphyrins produced in bacteria in wound sites and oral plaques,

enabling earlier detection (8–11). Fluorescence-based detection of bacteria relies on the

production of porphyrins, a crucial metabolic intermediate essential for heme biosynthesis and

various biological processes (12). Heme, synthesized by pathogens or obtained from host

sources during infection, plays a pivotal role in energy generation through the electron transport

chain (12). In laboratory settings, heme can be provided to microorganisms through specialized

media like porphyrin test agar, containing hemoglobin as a heme source, or blood agar enriched

with 5% sheep's blood (13, 14). As pathogens synthesize porphyrins, exposure to violet light

from specific devices leads to their excitation, emitting light at distinct wavelengths within the red

fluorescence (8). Like porphyrin, pyoverdines are siderophores uniquely produced by

Pseudomonas spp. for iron acquisition, which can be visualized in cyan spectral bands (16).

This fluorescence emission facilitates identifying and visualizing pathogens, thereby enhancing

diagnostic procedures.

Currently, the real-time fluorescence-guided detection of pathogens uses a handheld device (8).

Serena and colleagues suggest that the use of fluorescence imaging has resulted in changes to

69% of the treatment plans and most importantly, there has been a significant improvement in

patient care in 90% of study wounds (18). This comes as a great benefit to the patient and the

clinician. However, as this technology requires a clinician to use both hands, it hampers the

clinician's ability to provide treatment during real-time fluorescence visualization. The adoption

cost of this technology requires capital expenditure and incurs ongoing operational costs that

limit adoption.

In this study, we report on a new, wearable/ hands-free fluorescence visualization technology

(REVEAL FC wearable imaging system, Design for Vision Inc., Fig 1a) that will enable clinicians

to evaluate the infection at the wound site based on real-time visualization of pathogens and

simultaneously make active treatment decisions. Specifically, we sought to test and characterize

porphyrin detection *via* autofluorescence *in vitro* for some of the common pathogens involved in

skin, oral, and other (respiratory, intestinal, urinary tracts, or blood) infections over a period of

multiple days. We included 15 bacteria and 2 fungi in our analysis. Our results indicate the

ability of REVEAL FC to visualize porphyrin-specific red-orange or pink fluorescence in 14 of the

17 strains tested on porphyrin test agar (Fig 1b). Moreover, we also observed a fluorescence

signal for 9 of the 17 strains grown on blood agar plates, suggesting a strong potential for the

detection of microbial infections in wound sites in a clinical setting using the REVEAL FC

wearable technology.

Materials and Methods

Strains.

E. coli K-12 MG1655 strain is from the Yadavalli lab collection. The following strains,

Pseudomonas aeruginosa PAO1, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* ATCC 13883, *Staphylococcus aureus*

USA300_LAC, a community-acquired MRSA strain, and *S. Typhimurium* 14028, were gifts from

Drs. Bryce Nickels (Rutgers), Huizhou Fan (Rutgers), Jeffrey Boyd (Rutgers), and Dieter

Schifferli (University of Pennsylvania). All other bacterial and fungal strains used in the study

were purchased from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC). See Table S1 for additional

details on the bacterial and fungal strains used in this study.

Media and growth conditions.

For routine growth, bacterial and fungal strains were cultured in liquid or solid agar medium,

either aerobically or anaerobically depending on the organism as specified in Table S1. Agar

plates and culture tubes were then incubated at 37°C with aeration (for aerobic growth) or an

anaerobic growth chamber (for anaerobic growth), depending on a given strain's specific growth

requirement.

To assess porphyrin production and monitor the associated fluorescence, the strains were

streaked out and grown on Remel Porphyrin Test Agar (PTA, Thermo Fisher Scientific), and/or

blood agar (BA, tryptic soy agar with 5% sheep blood, Thermo Fisher Scientific). Note that both

PTA and BA plates contain heme precursors. For strains grown aerobically, PTA and BA plates

were incubated for 5 days at 37°C. Plates were pulled out for imaging daily and returned to

incubation until day 5. For anaerobic strains, PTA and BA plates were incubated for 10 days in

the anaerobic growth chamber, including one plate per strain for each time point (days 2, 4, 7,

and 10) to be pulled out for imaging. At the indicated time points, plates were imaged using the

REVEAL FC technology as described below.

Fluorescence imaging.

For strains grown aerobically, imaging was performed daily from day 1 to 5. For strains grown in

the anaerobic chamber, one plate corresponding to each strain was removed from the chamber

on days 2, 4, 7, and 10, and imaged. Fluorescence visualization and imaging were performed

using the REVEAL FC, a wearable system equipped with the following: a 405 nm headlight for

excitation, an observational eyewear with an emission filter at 430 nm, a rechargeable power

pack (2 included) with 9 hours of runtime per pack, a smart device attachment for simple and

easy documentation. For this study, a smartphone adapter with a 430 nm emission filter was

attached to an Apple iPhone 12 to capture the images. The images were taken in a dark room.

Images were analyzed and processed using ImageJ (19).

Results

REVEAL FC imaging system for *in vitro* visualization and imaging of microbial

fluorescence.

Fluorescence visualization requires an excitation source and an emission filter to eliminate the

excitation illumination to maximize the observation of the fluorescent response. The REVEAL

FC developed by Designs for Vision Inc. is a wearable system that is composed of a headlight

that provides excitation and observational eyewear that includes the emission filter (Fig 1). It is

well documented that porphyrins fluoresce when exposed to light in the 400-409nm range (20).

Porphyrins are produced as by-products by several microorganisms, including pathogens of

interest. The REVEAL FC headlight utilizes an LED at 405 nm wavelength. Even though the

peak of this LED is at 405nm, well within the excitation range of porphyrins, LEDs are relatively

unfocused. The LED has a wide spectral bandwidth with a transmission range (~380 – 450 nm)

that is too broad for specific excitation of porphyrins (Fig S1) and the spot is too wide to respond

to lensing. The REVEAL FC system uses proprietary and patented technology involving short

wave pass edge filters (shortpass filters) to narrow the spectral bandwidth. Focusing the energy

of the LED to a fixed spot provides uniform illumination within the wavelengths that strongly

excite porphyrins (400 – 425 nm) while eliminating unnecessary wavelengths that could inhibit

the visualization of the fluorescence response. The emission filter is incorporated into a pair of

glasses, which removes all wavelengths less than 430 nm providing a clear image of the field

with no tinting. All the excitation light is removed by the emission filter observational glasses

allowing maximum visualization of the fluorescence response. For documentation, a

smartphone adapter is provided that contains the same emission filter (Fig 1). This is intended

to be attached to any smart device to document and capture the fluorescent images.

Porphyrin-specific fluorescence in bacteria and fungi causing skin infection.

We explored the fluorescent characteristics of seven prevalent bacterial species and two fungal

species known for causing skin infections or thriving on open skin wounds using the REVEAL

FC system. Among the bacteria tested, three are Gram-positive (*S. aureus*, *C. minutissimum*, *C.*

acnes) while the remaining four, *A. hydrophila*, *S. marcescens*, *V. vulnificus* and *P.aeruginosa*

are Gram-negative (Table 1). These bacterial strains were grown aerobically except for *C.*

acnes, which is an obligate anaerobe. All of them demonstrate red fluorescence to different

extents as monitored over several days and described below (Table 1, Fig 2).

In aerobic growth, all bacterial species exhibited fluorescence, while the fungi did not (Table 1,

Fig 2a). *Staphylococcus aureus* displayed intense red fluorescence on porphyrin test agar

(PTA) from day 1, maintaining its intensity through day 5. No fluorescence was observed on

blood agar (BA), whose base is tryptic soy medium (Table S1) that is known to exhibit

background fluorescence that can mask the porphyrin-specific signal (8). Through the Boyd lab

at Rutgers, we had access to *S. aureus hemB* mutant strain, which is deficient in heme

acquisition and porphyrin production (22). Consistently, *S. aureus hemB* mutant showed no

fluorescence throughout the five days, serving as a negative control (8). *Serratia marcescens*

also showed fluorescence on both PTA where the red fluorescence was visible from day 1,

intensifying with each passing day until day 5. On BA, *S. marcescens* seemed to show a faint

pink fluorescence on day 1, though there was no signal on days 2 and 5. *Corynebacterium*

minutissimum exhibited red fluorescence on PTA starting from day 1, with increased intensity on

days 2 and 3, persisting at least until day 5 when all colonies exhibited red fluorescence.

Interestingly, we detected red fluorescence for *C. minutissimum* on BA from day 1, reaching

maximum intensity by days 2-3, which indicates a signal higher than the background for BA and

the fluorescence diminished by day 5. Similarly, for *Vibrio vulnificus*, bright red fluorescence was

visible on days 1 and 2, gradually diminishing by days 3 and 5. On BA, *V. vulnificus* showed red

fluorescence as observed on days 1 and 2, with the intensity decreasing and nearly

disappearing by day 5. *Aeromonas hydrophila* displayed red fluorescence on PTA from day 1,

intensifying remarkably by day 2 and the bright red signal stayed steady until day 5. Similar to

C. minutissimum and *V. vunificus*, we observed red fluorescence for *A. hydrophila* on BA but

with a delayed appearance on day 2, progressively intensifying by day 5. *Pseudomonas*

aeruginosa exhibited red fluorescence on PTA, with a weak signal on day 1, transitioning to a

brighter red signal by day 2 and continuing into day 5 (Fig 2a). On BA, *P. aeruginosa* exhibited

cyan fluorescence on day 1, persisting until day 5. *Pseudomonas spp.* are known to synthesize

a variety of phenazine pigments including pyoverdines (24), which contribute to the observed

cyan fluorescence in our *P. aeruginosa* PAO1 strain.

The fluorescence changes in anaerobes were observed over a longer period, extending up to

10 days, due to their slower growth rate. *Cutibacterium acnes*, an aerotolerant anaerobe (25),

exhibited fluorescence on both PTA and BA (Fig 2b). It displayed red fluorescence from day 2,

intensifying by day 4 and reaching peak intensity around day 7, but the fluorescence intensity

reduced on day 10. On BA, very faint red fluorescence was observed on day 2, which is more

evident on day 4, intensifying by day 7, and diminished by day 10. Fungal strains *Candida*

albicans and *Malassezia furfur* did not show red fluorescence, which is consistent with previous

studies (8) (Fig 2c).

Porphyrin-specific fluorescence in bacteria causing oral infection.

We examined two bacterial pathogens known for causing oral infections: *Streptococcus mutans*,

a Gram-positive bacterium typically inhabiting dental plaque (6), and *Porphyromonas gingivalis*,

a Gram-negative obligate anaerobe associated with pulpal infections, oral abscesses, and

periodontitis (7). *S. mutans* showed no fluorescence under aerobic growth but appeared to

show a faint orange signal under anaerobic conditions (Table 1, Fig 3). The second oral

pathogen, *P. gingivalis* formed red colonies on PTA, beginning as early as day 2 and 4, but

diminishing by day 7 and becoming less visible by day 10 (Fig 3b). On BA, it exhibited no

fluorescence on day 2 but developed red fluorescence by day 4. By day 7 on BA, there is a

reduction in the red fluorescence and *P. gingivalis* starts to show black pigmentation, which is

more prominent by day 10 (Fig 3b). The black-pigmented colonies on blood agar are associated

with the accumulation of heme complexes as noted previously (8).

Porphyrin-specific fluorescence in bacteria causing multi-site/other infections.

In this section, we tested six bacterial strains that exhibit a diverse range of pathogenic

behaviors across distinct anatomical sites and not being exclusively confined to cutaneous or

oral infection (Table 1). Two of the six bacterial strains are Gram-positive, while the remaining

four are Gram-negative. Five of these species (*Listeria monocytogenes*, *Escherichia coli*,

Klebsiella pneumoniae, *Salmonella typhimurium,* and *Proteus mirabilis*) demonstrate

fluorescence under aerobic conditions, whereas one (*Streptococcus pyogenes*) exhibits

fluorescence exclusively under anaerobic conditions (Fig 4).

Under aerobic growth conditions, *S. pyogenes*, a facultative anaerobe (9), did not exhibit any

fluorescence on PTA (Fig 4a). However, when *S. pyogenes* was grown under anaerobic growth

conditions, red fluorescence was readily visible from day 2 and persisted through days 4, 7, and

10 on both PTA and BA (Fig 4b). *L. monocytogenes* exhibited fluorescence on PTA from day 1,

intensifying by day 2 with a slight reduction in intensity by day 5 (Fig 4a). Three strains, *E. coli*,

K. pneumoniae and *S. typhimurium* displayed red fluorescence from day 1 with an increased

intensity on day 2, which remained strong and stable through day 5. Intriguingly, *P. mirabilis*

exhibited bright pink fluorescence on PTA on day 1, intensifying on days 2 and 3, but reducing

in intensity by day 5. On BA, *P. mirabilis* showed cyan fluorescence, which was visible on day 1,

gradually intensifying by day 3 and remaining consistent thereafter. Secondary metabolites such

as phenazines are thought to be produced by a variety of bacteria (26) and the cyan

fluorescence observed here for *P. mirabilis* grown on BA may be due to the accumulation of a

pyoverdine-like pigment.

Discussion

Wearable technology in clinical practice and diagnostics encompasses devices such as

smartwatches, fitness trackers, smart clothing, and implantable sensors, which collect data on

various physiological parameters such as heart rate, activity levels, sleep patterns, blood

glucose levels, and more (27, 28). These devices have a broad scope of applications in

monitoring chronic conditions, fitness, wellness, rehabilitation, clinical trials, and mental health

as well as early diagnosis and prevention. Additionally, there has been progress in developing

wearable devices for clinicians and healthcare professionals ranging from smartwatches and

augmented reality glasses to biometric sensors to enhance diagnosis, surgical planning,

precision, and hands-free communication (29, 30).

In this study, we use the REVEAL FC imaging system developed by Designs for Vision Inc., a

lightweight and comfortable hands-free device that can be customized to the operator's ocular

specifications (Fig 1, S1). It minimizes cross-contamination risks and enhances objective

assessment capabilities, overcoming limitations posed by bulky and tedious traditional tools.

Here we systematically analyzed 15 bacterial and 2 fungal pathogens (Table 1, S1) for red

fluorescence associated with porphyrin production *in vitro* under aerobic (days 1 through 5) or

anaerobic (days 2 through 10) growth conditions. By plating strains on porphyrin test agar

(PTA), we detected a strong red fluorescent signal in all but one (*S. mutans*) of the bacterial

strains tested. Two other *Streptococcus* strains do not display red fluorescence as documented

previously (8), and bacteria from this genus are known to be deficient in heme biosynthesis (12,

31). Remarkably, red fluorescence has been reported for *S. mutans* in a dentin caries model

pointing to a potential context-dependent mechanism for porphyrin production in this bacterium

(32).

For a majority of the bacterial strains, the signal was evident by day 1 and in a few cases,

depending on the individual bacterial strain, there was a delayed onset of fluorescence. We also

plated the blood agar and found that 9 of the 15 bacteria displayed red fluorescence. It is worth

noting that the trypic soy blood agar medium has background fluorescence that typically masks

any signal from the bacteria, however, REVEAL was able to detect the red signal above the

threshold of the background, suggesting that this system is highly sensitive. Unsurprisingly, the

two fungal strains included in this study, *C. albicans* and *M. furfur* did not show porphyrin-

dependent red fluorescence, suggesting that they may not produce heme and instead acquire

heme from their environments (33).

Overall, wearable technology for healthcare professionals and clinicians would enhance medical

practice by improving patient care, increasing efficiency, and supporting better clinical decision-

making. For instance, the detection of bacteria in the oral cavity plays a crucial role in the

diagnosis and treatment of infections, as they serve as indicators for infected tissue, and dental

plaque (14). Previous work has shown that fluorescence imaging using the REVEAL system can

help with diagnosis and treatment guidance in cariology, oral hygiene, and peri-implantitis (32,

34).

More broadly, the smart wearable fluorescence imaging system described here has immense

potential for diagnosis, treatment, and many other applications across pharmaceutical,

healthcare, food, and agricultural industries.

Data Availability Statement

The authors declare that all data supporting the findings of this study are available within the

main article and its supplementary information files.

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Tables, figures, and legends

Table 1. List of bacterial and fungal strains plated on Porphyrin Test Agar (PTA) or blood agar (BA) and tested for fluorescence production.

Strain	Category	Growth	Incubation time in days	Fluorescence PTA	BA
Gram-positive bacteria					
Corynebacterium minutissimum	skin	aerobic	5	Red/orange	Pink
Cutibacterium acnes (previously *Propionibacterium acnes*)	skin	anaerobic	10	Red	Red
Staphylococcus aureus	skin	aerobic	5	Red	–
Staphylococcus aureus (ΔhemB)		aerobic	5	–	–
Streptococcus mutans	oral	aerobic	5	–	–
		anaerobic	10	–	–
Listeria monocytogenes	other (blood)	aerobic	5	Red	–
Streptococcus pyogenes	other (respiratory tract)	anaerobic	10	Red	Red
		aerobic	5	–	–
Gram-negative bacteria					

Aeromonas hydrophila	skin	aerobic	5	Red	Pink
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	skin, multi-site	aerobic	5	Red	Cyan
Serratia marcescens	skin, urinary tract	aerobic	5	Red	Pink
Vibrio vulnificus	skin	aerobic	5	Red	Pink
Porphyromonas gingivalis	oral	anaerobic	10	Red	Red/black
Escherichia coli	other (intestinal, urinary tract)	aerobic	5	Red	–
Klebsiella pneumoniae	other (multi-site)	aerobic	5	Red	–
Proteus mirabilis	other (urinary tract)	aerobic	5	Pink	Cyan
Salmonella typhimurium	other (intestinal tract)	aerobic	5	Red	–
Fungi					
Candida albicans	skin	aerobic	10	–	–
Malassezia furfur	skin	aerobic	10	–	–

Figure 1. Overview of porphyrin-specific fluorescence detection in pathogenic microbes

using the REVEAL FC imaging system. a) The REVEAL FC is a wearable imaging system

composed of a headlight that provides excitation at 405 nm and observational eyewear, which

includes the emission filter at 430 nm. This system includes a rechargeable power pack and

smart device attachment for simple and effective visualization and imaging of microbial

samples. b) 17 microbial species (15 bacteria and 2 fungi) commonly associated with skin, oral,

and other infections were tested for autofluorescence of porphyrins. 14 of them exhibited

fluorescence in shades ranging from red/orange to pink on porphyrin test agar, while 9 of them

displayed fluorescence on blood agar.

Figure 2. Porphyrin-specific fluorescence detection in microbes associated with skin infection. a) Fluorescence-based imaging of bacteria on porphyrin test agar (PTA) and/or blood agar under aerobic conditions after 1, 2, 3, and 5 days of growth. Bacterial strains *Staphylococcus aureus* and its mutant *ΔhemB*, *Corynebacterium minutissimum*, *Aeromonas hydrophila*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Vibrio vulnificus*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* are labeled as *S. aureus*, *S. aureus ΔhemB*, *C. minutissimum*, *A. hydrophila*, *S. marcescens*, *V. vulnificus*, and

P. aeruginosa, respectively. b) Fluorescence-based imaging of bacteria grown on porphyrin test

agar (PTA) and/or blood agar under anaerobic conditions after 2, 4, 7, and 10 days of growth.

The bacterial strain *Cutibacterium acnes* is labeled as *C. acnes*. c) Fluorescence-based imaging

of fungi on porphyrin test agar (PTA) and/or blood agar under aerobic conditions after 1, 2, 3,

and 5 days of growth. Fungal strains *Candida albicans* and *Malassezia furfur* are labeled as *C.*

albicans and *M. furfur*, respectively. Images are representative of four biological replicates.

Figure 3. Porphyrin-specific fluorescence detection in bacteria associated with oral infection. a) Fluorescence-based imaging of bacteria on porphyrin test agar (PTA) and/or blood agar under aerobic conditions after 1, 2, 3, and 5 days of growth. The bacterial strain *Streptococcus mutans* is labeled as *S. mutans*. b) Fluorescence-based imaging of bacteria grown on porphyrin test agar (PTA) and/or blood agar under aerobic conditions after 2, 4, 7, and 10 days of growth. Bacterial strains *Streptococcus mutans* and *Porphyromonas gingivalis* are labeled as *S. mutans* and *P. gingivalis*, respectively. Images are representative of four biological replicates.

Figure 4. Porphyrin-specific fluorescence detection in bacteria associated with other

infections. a) Fluorescence-based imaging of bacteria on porphyrin test agar (PTA) and/or

blood agar under aerobic conditions after 1, 2, 3, and 5 days of growth. Bacterial strains

Streptococcus pyogenes, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*,

Salmonella typhimurium, and *Proteus mirabilis* are labeled as *S. pyogenes*, *L. monocytogenes*,

E. coli, *K. pneumoniae*, *S. typhimurium*, and *P. mirabilis*, respectively. b) Fluorescence-based

imaging of bacteria grown on porphyrin test agar (PTA) and/or blood agar under aerobic

conditions after 2, 4, 7, and 10 days of growth. The bacterial strain *Streptococcus pyogenes* is

labeled as *S. pyogenes*. Images are representative of four biological replicates.

 Supporting Information

 Table S1. List of strains, growth conditions, and liquid culture media used in the study.

Strain	Growth condition and media	Source
Bacteria		
Aeromonas hydrophila	aerobic, 37ºC, Tryptic Soy Broth (Avantor)	ATCC 35654
Corynebacterium minutissimum	aerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD)	ATCC 23348
Cutibacterium acnes (previously *Propionibacterium acnes*)	anaerobic, 37ºC, Tryptic Soy Broth (Avantor)	ATCC 6919
Escherichia coli MG1655	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	Yadavalli lab
Klebsiella pneumoniae 13883	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	Fan lab
Listeria monocytogenes	aerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD)	ATCC 19115
Porphyromonas gingivalis	anaerobic, 37ºC, Tryptic Soy Broth (Avantor), supplemented with Vitamin K and hemin (BD)	ATCC 33277
Proteus mirabilis	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	ATCC 25933
Pseudomonas aeruginosa PAO1	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	Nickels lab
Salmonella typhimurium 14028	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	Schifferli lab
Serratia marcescens	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	ATCC 13880

Staphylococcus aureus USA300_LAC (community acquired MRSA strain)	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	Boyd lab
Staphylococcus aureus (ΔhemB)	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	Boyd lab
Streptococcus mutans	aerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD)	ATCC 35668
	anaerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD)	
Streptococcus pyogenes	aerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD)	ATCC 19615
	anaerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD)	
Vibrio vulnificus	aerobic, 37ºC, LB Miller (IBI Scientific)	ATCC 27562
Fungi		
Candida albicans	aerobic, 37ºC, Yeast Peptone Dextrose Broth (BD)	ATCC 18804
Malassezia furfur	aerobic, 37ºC, Brain Heart Infusion (BD) supplemented with Ox bile (Hardy Diagnostic)	ATCC 14521

a   Transmission curve of a 405 nm LED

b   Transmission curve of REVEAL FC

c

d   Emission curve of REVEAL FC

Figure S1. Fluorescence emission spectra for the 405 nm LED. a) Representative

transmission curve of a typical 405 nm LED showing light transmission across a range of

wavelengths (380 – 450 nm). b) Transmission curve of REVEAL FC using a 420 nm shortpass

filter focusing fluorescence excitation at 400 – 425 nm. c) Diagram of the REVEAL FC lens with

a cross-sectional depiction of the 405 nm LED and the 420 nm shortpass cut-off filter. d)

Emission curve of REVEAL FC lens showing emission at wavelengths ≥ 430 nm.