The Late-Stage Steps of *Burkholderia cenocepacia* Protein *O*-Linked Glycan Biosynthesis

Are Conditionally Essential.

Leila Jebeli[1], Taylor A. McDaniels[1], Duncan T. T. Ho[1], Hamza Tahir[1], Nicholas L. Kai-Ming[1],

Molli Mcgaw[1], Kristian I. Karlic[1], Jessica M. Lewis[2] and Nichollas E. Scott[1]

[1]Department of Microbiology and Immunology, University of Melbourne at the Peter

Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, Melbourne 3000, Australia

Current addresses:

[2]School of Life Sciences, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL, UK.

[#]To whom correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed N.E.S

(Nichollas.scott@unimelb.edu.au)

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Abstract:

Periplasmic *O*-linked protein glycosylation is a highly conserved process observed across the

Burkholderia genus. Within Burkholderia, protein glycosylation requires the five gene cluster

known as the <u>O</u>-glycosylation <u>c</u>luster (OGC, *ogcXABEI*) which facilitates the construction of

the *O*-linked trisaccharide attached to periplasmic proteins. Previous studies have reported

conflicting results regarding the essentiality of *ogcA*, predicted to be responsible for the

addition of the final carbohydrate of the *O*-linked trisaccharide and *ogcX,* the putative *O*-

linked glycan flippase. Within this work, we aimed to dissect the impact of the loss of *ogcA*

and *ogcX* on *Burkholderia cenocepacia* viability. We demonstrate that the loss of either

ogcA or *ogcX* are detrimental if glycosylation is initiated leading to marked phenotypic

effects. Proteomic analysis supports that the loss of *ogcA/ogcX* both blocks glycosylation

and drives pleotropic effects in the membrane proteome, resulting in the loss of membrane

integrity. Consistent with this, strains lacking *ogcA* and *ogcX* exhibit increased sensitivity to

membrane stressors including antibiotics and demonstrate marked changes in membrane

permeability. These effects are consistent with fouling of the undecaprenyl pool due to

dead-end *O*-linked glycan intermediates, and consistent with this, we show that modulation

of the undecaprenyl pool through the overexpression of undecaprenyl pyrophosphate

synthase (UppS) or the OGC flippase (OgcX) restores viability while expression of early-stage

OGC biosynthesis genes (*ogcI* and *ogcB*) reduce *B. cenocepacia* viability. These findings

demonstrate disrupting *O*-linked glycan biosynthesis or transport appears to dramatically

impact *B. cenocepacia* viability, supporting the assignment of *ogcA* and *ogcX* as conditionally

essential.

Importance:

Protein glycosylation, a conserved process in *Burkholderia* species, utilizes glycans

generated by the *O*-glycosylation cluster (OGC), which is composed of five genes (*ogcX,*

ogcA, *ogcB*, *ogcE*, and *ogcI*). In this study, we demonstrate that the loss of *ogcA* or *ogcX*

significantly affects the physiology of *Burkholderia cenocepacia*. Using complementary

genetic approaches and proteomic techniques, we show that the loss of *ogcA* or *ogcX* blocks

glycosylation, alters the cell membrane, and sensitizes cells to stressors such as antibiotics.

This increased sensitivity to membrane stress is consistent with the accumulation of dead-

end *O*-linked glycan intermediates, which sequester the limited and essential undecaprenyl

pool within *B. cenocepacia*. These findings highlight that *ogcA* and *ogcX* are conditionally

essential for *B. cenocepacia* survival and provides mechanistic insight into how protein

glycosylation fidelity—the use of specific glycans for protein glycosylation—is controlled in

Burkholderia species.

Introduction:

Across bacterial species many surface polysaccharides are synthesized utilising the essential polyisoprenoid lipid undecaprenyl phosphate (Und-P) [1,2]. Functioning as a chemical carrier, Und-P provides an assembly point for the stepwise construction of diverse lipid-linked oligosaccharide units at the inner face of the cytoplasmic membrane within Gram-negative and Gram-positive species [1,2]. By providing a tethering point to enable glycan elongation, Und.P allows the construction of a range of glycans, which upon translocation across the cytoplasmic membrane can be integrated into glycoconjugates including peptidoglycan, cell wall teichoic acids, O-antigens, capsules, and exopolysaccharides [3,4]. While Und-P and its phosphorylated form undecaprenyl pyrophosphate (Und-PP) are important for the construction of surface carbohydrates, these molecules account for less than 1% of the total lipid pool [5], resulting in competition for available Und-P and the need for rapid flux of oligosaccharide units through the Und-P/Und-PP cycle [6,7]. Under normal physiological conditions, *de novo* synthesis and recycling of Und-P/Und-PP are able to meet physiological demands [6,7], yet it is increasingly recognised that genetic manipulations that result in Und-PP-glycan intermediates that sequester the Und-P/Und-PP pool can dramatically impact cellular viability, morphology and growth [6-11]. Understanding Und-PP-glycan intermediates with the capacity to foul the Und-P/Und-PP pool has the potential to not only aid antimicrobial development [12,13] but also explain the mechanisms underpinning the homogeneity observed within the glycan structures of glycoconjugates [14-16].

Ensuring only glycans possessing specific structural configurations, herein referred to as glycan fidelity, are translocated across the cytoplasmic membrane ensures homogeneity within oligosaccharide units constructed utilising the Und-P/Und-PP pool [3,4]. For many glycoconjugates generated using Und-PP linked oligosaccharides, the addition of specific glycan components is a pre-requisite for effective translocation across the cytoplasmic membrane by the actions of dedicated translocases known as flippases [17-19]. Of the known flippases the Wzx enzymes represent a highly diverse family of enzymes [19,20] responsible for the translocation of a range of carbohydrates including O-antigens [21], capsules [22,23], exopolysaccharides [24], and the enterobacterial common antigen (ECA) [10]. While Wzx flippases were initially thought to possess limited capacity for the recognition of glycan structures [25,26], it has become clear multiple features of their cognate glycans, such as

specific branching or terminal sugars in addition to the initiating sugar influence
translocation efficiency when Wzx enzymes are expressed under native-like conditions
[3,15,27,28]. This specificity results in discrete Wzx flippases being observed genetically linked to
their cognate glycan clusters [15,22,23,27] with Wzx enzymes suggested to function as quality
control mechanisms [16], ensuring only "complete" glycans are effectively translocated across
the cytoplasmic membrane. The specificity for complete glycans by Wzx flippases in concert
with the extension of glycans beyond key points commit Und-PP-linked oligosaccharides to
the generation of specific glycans [11,25,29-32]. In cases where Und-PP-linked intermediates are
unable to be completed this drives detrimental phenotypes due to the sequestration of the
Und-P/Und-PP pool including growth defects, enhanced sensitivity to membrane stresses
and alterations in cellular morphology [6,7,11]. Importantly the profound effects of Und-P/Und-
PP sequestration is known to rapidly lead to the emergence of suppressor mutations, which
complicates the analysis of Und-P/Und-PP glycan biosynthesis pathways by obfuscating the
role of specific glycan biosynthesis genes [9,33,34]. While these potential confounding effects
are now well appreciated for the O-antigens [6,11], capsule [35] and ECA [7], this phenomenon has
not been explored within glycans used for other glycoconjugates such as protein
glycosylation.

Protein glycosylation is widespread across bacterial species [36,37] including members of the
Campylobacter [38,39], *Neisseria* [40-44], and *Burkholderia* [45-47] genera. To date, several Und-
P/Und-PP dependent glycosylation systems have been described in Gram-negative species,
which utilise the Und-P lipid pool to enable periplasmic glycosylation leading to
glycosylation of tens to hundreds of proteins [37,48-50]. While similarities within the
biosynthetic clusters used for protein glycosylation systems and lipooligosaccharide
biosynthetic clusters have been previously highlighted [36,37], a notable difference within well-
characterised glycosylation systems is the use of ABC transporter-based flippases [36,37] as
opposed to Wzx flippases. ABC transporter-based flippases, such as PglK (also known as
WlaB[51]) within *Campylobacter* sp. [52,53] and PglF within *Neisseria* sp. [54-56] are dispensable for
glycosylation [53,56] as well as possess relaxed glycan specificities as demonstrated using
heterogenous expression studies for PglK [53] and the observation of glycan
microheterogeneity within *Neisseria* [57,58]. The tolerance of these glycosylation pathways to
both glycan alterations, as well as the loss of their flippases, is in stark contrast to the strict

specificity and essentiality seen within other Und-P/Und-PP dependent systems, yet not all

Und-P/Und-PP dependent protein glycosylation systems possess ABC transporter flippases.

Within *Burkholderia* species, periplasmic glycosylation is highly conserved [45-47], leading to

nearly exclusive modification of serine residues [45] with a trisaccharide corresponding to β-

Gal-(1,3)–α-GalNAc-(1,3)–β-GalNAc [47]. *Burkholderia* O-linked glycan assembly is mediated by

a single gene cluster known as the <u>O</u>-linked <u>G</u>lycosylation <u>C</u>luster (*OGC*) consisting of five

genes (*ogcX*, *A*, *B*, *E* and *I* corresponding to BCAL3114 to BCAL3118 within *Burkholderia*

cenocepacia respectively) [47]. Our current model of glycan assembly (**Figure 1A**) supports

OgcE (BCAL3117) as a UDP-Glc / UDP-GlcNAc epimerase, OgcI (BCAL3118) as the initiating

glycotransferase for the *O*-linked glycan, OgcB (BCAL3116) and OgcA (BCAL3115) work as

extending glycosyltransferases responsible for the addition of the second GalNAc and final

Gal residues respectively, and the putative Wzx flippase OgcX (BCAL3114), responsible for

the translocation of the glycan across the cytoplasmic membrane [47] where it can then be

transferred to glycoproteins by the oligosaccharyltransferase PglL (BCAL0960) [47,59]. Previous

studies have provided experimental evidence for the function of OgcB, OgcE and OgcI [47] yet

contradictory results have been obtained for the enzymes OgcA and OgcX. While it has been

noted that despite multiple attempts an *ogcA* knockout has been unable to be generated [47],

the loss of *ogcX* has been previously reported to be tolerated within *B. cenocepacia* [47].

Similarly, saturation transposon studies from several *Burkholderia* species [60-62] have

revealed variability in the ability to disrupt *ogcA* and *ogcX,* with some studies concluding

these enzymes are essential [62] while others suggest that at least for *ogcA* disruptions within

this gene may be tolerated [61]. These observations support that unlike the glycosylation

systems of the *Campylobacter* and *Neisseria* genera, disruptions in glycan biosynthesis steps

may not be tolerated within *Burkholderia*. These contradictory results support further

assessments are required to dissect the impact of loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* on viability and

protein glycosylation.

Within this work, we sought to assess the requirement of *ogcA* and *ogcX* for protein

glycosylation and the impact of the loss of these *ogc* components on *B. cenocepacia.*

Utilising complementary genetic approaches, including *ogc* complementation within strains

lacking the *ogc* cluster [47,63] as well as glycosylation inducible strains containing the initiating

transferase, *ogcI,* under rhamnose control [64], we assess the proteomic and physiological

impacts of the loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX*. We demonstrate that in the absence of glycosylation

initiation, *ogcA* and *ogcX* are dispensable, yet upon glycosylation initiation, loss of these

genes leads to growth defects, widespread proteomic impacts, changes in the membrane

integrity and the absence of observable glycosylation. While these changes can be

complemented and compensated by the modulation of enzymes associated with *de novo*

synthesis of Und-P as well as the overexpression of the flippase OgcX, we observe that the

modulation of early steps in the *O*-linked glycan biosynthesis pathways can also drive

changes in viability. This data supports that the construction of the *O*-linked glycan in *B.*

cenocepacia is finely tuned with *ogcA* and *ogcX* conditionally detrimental if glycosylation is

initiated.

Methods:

Bacterial strains and growth conditions: Bacterial strains used in this study are listed in
Supplementary Table 1. Strains were cultured in Lysogeny Broth (LB) or on LB agar (1.5–2%
w/v), prepared in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions containing 0.5% NaCl
(BD™, New Jersey, USA). Liquid cultures were incubated overnight at 37°C with shaking,
while agar plates were incubated at 37°C overnight for *Escherichia coli* and 24–72 hours for
B. cenocepacia. When required, LB was supplemented with 200 µg/mL diaminopimelic acid
(DAP; Sigma) to support growth of *E. coli* RHO3 [65]. Antibiotics were added to cultures to
select or maintain plasmids/ transconjugants at a final concentration of 50 µg/mL
trimethoprim for *E. coli* and 100 µg/mL for *B. cenocepacia*, 20 µg/mL tetracycline for *E. coli*
and 150 µg/mL for *B. cenocepacia* and 50 µg/mL kanamycin for *E. coli*. To counter-select
helper and donor *E. coli* strains during triparental and quadparental mating, ampicillin at
100 µg/mL and polymyxin B at 25 µg/mL were added [66]. Culturing of strains containing the
temperature-sensitive plasmid pFlptet (see **Supplementary Table 2**) was undertaken at 30°C
with cultures shifted to 37°C to enable plasmid curing [67]. Curing of pDAI-SceI-SacB was
achieved by sucrose counterselection as previously described with 5% sucrose in LB lacking
NaCl [66]. Induction of *B. cenocepacia* strains was performed by either adding 20% filter-
sterilised L-rhamnose monohydrate (Sigma) or 1 mM 4-Isopropylbenzoic acid (cumate,
Sigma) to LB broth or LB agar at a concentration of 0.05%-1% for rhamnose and 100 µM for
cumate. For non-induced controls, an equivalent volume of solvent (sterile water for
rhamnose and ethanol for cumate) was added to the culture media.

Recombinant DNA methods: Oligonucleotides used in this study are listed in
Supplementary Table 3, with all PCR amplifications for cloning carried out using Q5 DNA
polymerase (New England Biolabs) with the addition of 2% DMSO for the amplification of
B. cenocepacia DNA, due to its high GC content. Genomic DNA isolations were performed
using an EZ-10 Spin Column Bacterial Genomic DNA Mini-Preps Kit (Bio Basic), while PCR
clean up and restriction digest purifications were performed with a Zymoclean Gel DNA
Recovery Kit (ZymoResearch). pGPI-SceI [68] mutagenesis plasmids were constructed using
Gibson assembly [69] with DNA fragments flanking genes of interest amplified by Q5-based

PCR. *Sma*I-linearized pGPI-SceI and Q5-amplified fragments were assembled using the

NEBuilder® HiFi DNA master mix according to the manufacturer's instructions (New England

Biolabs). pSCrhaB2 [64] and pMLBAD [70] based expression vectors containing genes of interest

were generated using Gibson Assembly or restriction endonuclease-based cloning. For

Gibson Assembly, PCR-amplified fragments were introduced into *Nde*I/*Xba*I-linearized

pSCrhaB2 or PCR-derived pMLBAD vector backbones using the NEBuilder® HiFi DNA master

mix. For restriction endonuclease-based cloning, PCR-amplified fragments were digested

with *Nde*I/*Xba*I and then ligated into *Nde*I/*Xba*I-linearized pSCrhaB2 overnight at 16°C using

T4 Ligase (New England Biolabs). Mutagenesis of pSCrhaB2-ogc to remove *ogc*A, *ogc*B, *ogc*I

and *ogc*X was achieved by assembling PCR-amplified fragments into *Nde*I/*Hind*III-linearized

pSCrhaB2 using the NEBuilder® HiFi DNA master mix.

Prior to Gibson Assembly and restriction cloning all DNA fragments were assessed for

correctness based on size using agarose gel electrophoresis. Ligated/assembled plasmid

mixtures were introduced into chemically competent *E. coli* PIR2 cells via heat shock

transformation [71], plated on selective media and screened using colony PCR with GoTaq®

Green Master Mix (Promega). All plasmids used in this study have been confirmed by either

Sanger sequencing using the Australian Genome Research Facility (Melbourne, Australia) or

nanopore plasmid sequencing using Plasmidsaurus (SNPsaurus LLC, Eugene, OR). Donor

plasmids for biparental and quadparental mating were further isolated and introduced into

E. coli RHO3 [65] via electroporation [71] to improve conjugation efficiency into

B. cenocepacia. A complete list of the plasmids used in this study, along with a summary of

their construction, is provided in **Supplementary Table 2**.

Conjugation of plasmids into *B. cenocepacia*: Plasmids were introduced into *B. cenocepacia*

K56-2 via one of three approaches: I) biparental mating using the conjugative

diaminopimelic acid auxotroph *E. coli* RHO3 [65] for the introduction of pFLPtet or pDAI-SceI-

SacB; II) triparental mating [66] using *E. coli* PIR2 containing pRK2013 (helper plasmid) [72] and

E. coli PIR2 carrying pGPI-SceI-derived vectors or pSCrhaB2/pMLBAD expression vectors

(donor plasmid); or III) quadparental mating using *E. coli* PIR2 containing pRK2013 [72], *E. coli*

PIR2 containing pTNS3 (Tn7 transposase plasmid) [73] and *E. coli* RHO3 carrying pUC18T-mini-

Tn7T-Tp-rha-ogcI (donor plasmid) for the chromosomal integration of miniTn7-rha-ogcI.

Conjugations were allowed to proceed for 24 hours, then successful transconjugants were

selected with trimethoprim, and the introduction of plasmids of interest confirmed using

PCR-based screening. For the generation of unmarked, non-polar deletions using pGPI-SceI

and the removal of the trimethoprim resistance marker within the integrated miniTn7,

additional rounds of conjugation were undertaken to introduce pDAI-SceI-SacB [68,74] or

pFLPtet[67] respectively using tetracycline based selection. pGPI-SceI/pDAI-SceI-SacB-based

mutagenesis as well as FLP-based removal of the trimethoprim resistance marker within Tn7

were confirmed using screening oligonucleotides (**Supplementary Table 3**) by colony PCR

using GoTaq® Green Master Mix. Numeration of transconjugants derived from the

introduction of pSCrhaB2-*ogc* and its derivatives into *B. cenocepacia* wildtype (WT) or

B. cenocepacia Δ*ogc* were assessed across three independent conjugations.

Spot plate assays: Colony size morphology and membrane stress tolerance assessments

were performed as previously described [75-77] using spot plate assays. For spot plate assays,

strains of interest were grown overnight in LB broth without induction, normalised to an

OD_{600} of 1.0 and then serially diluted from 10^{-1} to 10^{-6}. 10 μL of diluted cultures were

manually spotted onto LB plates with and without inducers (1% Rhamnose /100 μM

cumate). 0.01% SDS or 2% NaCl were added to plates to assess membrane integrity and the

impact of osmotic stress on viability with and without inducers. For assays of *B. cenocepacia*

strains containing pSCrhaB2- or pMLBAD-based expression vectors, trimethoprim was

added to plates to ensure the maintenance of plasmids. For antimicrobial resistance, spot

assays concentrations corresponding to at or below the broth dilution defined MIC assays

(**Supplementary Figure 10**) were used for trimethoprim (8 μg/mL), tetracycline (16 μg/mL),

chlorhexidine (4 μg/mL), ceftazidime (4 μg/mL), and rifampicin (32 μg/mL) on cation-

adjusted Mueller–Hinton agar. Spots were allowed to dry, and plates were incubated for 48

hours at 37°C before being imaged. All spot assays were assessed using at least three

independent replicates. Colony area measurements were undertaken using Fiji [78], assessing

the size of 20 colonies per spot assay with three independent assays conducted with t-tests

used to determine significant changes in colony size as well as viable counts between

induced and non-induced conditions.

Microtiter plate-based viability and growth kinetics assays. To assess viability and growth kinetics, Microtiter 96-well-based growth assays were undertaken as previously described [63]. Bacterial strains were grown overnight in LB, normalised to an OD_{600} of 1.0 and diluted 1 in 100 with LB supplemented with or without combinations of inducers and/or membrane stressors (0.01% SDS or 2% NaCl). 200 μL of diluted cultures were added to 96-well flat-bottom plates and incubated at 37°C with shaking at 200 rpm in a CLARIOstar plate reader (BMG LABTECH, Inc.), measuring the optical density at 600 nm every 10 minutes over 24 hours. Growth assays were assessed in at least technical triplicate across three independent biological replicates.

Fluorescence Detection of the permeability of inner and outer membranes: Permeability of the inner membrane was assessed using Hoechst 33342 (Abcam) as previously described [79-81]. Briefly, bacterial strains were grown overnight in LB (with and without 1% Rhamnose), normalised to an OD_{600} of 2.0, washed three times with PBS and dispensed at 100 μL aliquots into 96-well black clear-bottomed plates. 100 μL of PBS and heat-killed bacteria were added to the plates as controls. 100 μL of 2.5 μM Hoechst 33342 in PBS was added to wells to generate bacterial suspensions with an OD_{600} of 1.0 and a final concentration of 1.25 μM Hoechst 33342. Fluorescence was measured in a CLARIOstar plate reader using an excitation of 361nm and emission detection at 486nm. The fluorescence intensity was first normalised by assigning the value of 100 to the heat-killed and 0 to the non-induced parental strain. To assess outer membrane permeability, 1-*N*-phenylnaphthylamine (NPN, Thermo Fisher Scientific) as previously described [82-84]. Cultures were normalised as above, washed three times with 5 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 10 mM sodium azide and dispensed at 100 μL aliquots into 96-well black clear-bottomed plates. 100 μL of 5 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 10 mM sodium azide was added to the plates as a blank. 100 μL of 20 μM NPN in 5 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 10 mM sodium azide was added to wells to generate bacterial suspensions with an OD_{600} of 1.0 and a final concentration of 100 μM NPN. Fluorescence was measured in a CLARIOstar plate reader using an excitation of 350nm and emission detection at 420nm. Hoechst 33342 and NPN assays were assessed in technical triplicate across five independent

biological replicates comparing changes in fluorescence intensity to the non-induced

parental strain. To assess viability and ensure comparable cell numbers, the OD-adjusted

bacterial suspensions were serially diluted and plated on LB and viable cells numerated

(**Supplementary Figure 11**). The fluorescence intensity from both assays was normalised

against the determined cell number.

Preparation of proteomic samples: *B. cenocepacia* cultures for proteomic analysis were

grown overnight with or without induction with rhamnose and cumate as outlined above

with shaking at 180 rpm. Overnight cultures were normalised to an OD_{600} of 1.0 and then

collected by centrifugation at 10,000 x g at 4°C for 10 minutes, washed 3 times with ice-cold

PBS and then snap frozen at -80°C until processing. Frozen whole cell samples were

prepared for analysis using sodium deoxycholate (SDC) based lysis and the in-StageTip

preparation approach as previously described [85]. OgcX complementation assays were

undertaken using SDS-based lysis and S-trap sample preparation to improve the detection of

OgcX. For in-StageTip preparation, cells were resuspended in 4% SDC, 100 mM Tris pH 8.0

and boiled at 95°C with shaking (2000 rpm) for 10 minutes to solubilise the proteome.

Samples were allowed to cool for 10 minutes and then boiled for a further 10 minutes (95°C,

2000 rpm) before the protein concentrations were determined by bicinchoninic acid assays

(Thermo Fisher Scientific). Samples were reduced/alkylated with the addition of Tris-2-

carboxyethyl phosphine and chloroacetamide (final concentration 10 mM and 40 mM,

respectively), and samples were incubated in the dark for 0.5-1 hour at 45°C. Following

reduction/alkylation, samples were digested overnight with Trypsin (1/50 w/w Solu-trypsin,

Sigma) at 37°C with shaking at 1000rpm. Digests were then quenched with the addition of

1.25 volumes of isopropanol before being cleaned up using SDB-RPS (Sigma) StageTips.

For S-trap-based preparation, cells were resuspended in 4% sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS),

100 mM Tris pH 8.0, and boiled at 95°C with shaking (2000 rpm) for 10 minutes; the protein

concentrations were then determined by bicinchoninic acid assays, and samples were

reduced/alkylated as above. Samples were acidified to 1.2% phosphoric acid and diluted

with seven volumes of S-trap wash buffer (90% methanol, 100mM tetraethylammonium

bromide pH 7.1) before being loaded onto S-trap mini spin columns (Protifi) and washed 3

times with 400 µL of S-trap wash buffer. Samples were then digested with 2 µg of Trypsin (a

1:50 protease/protein ratio) in 100 mM tetraethylammonium bromide overnight at 37 °C

before being collected by centrifugation with washes of 100 mM tetraethylammonium

bromide, followed by 0.2% formic acid followed by 0.2% formic acid / 50% acetonitrile

before being dried by vacuum centrifugation at room temperature and stored at -20˚C.

SDB-RPS StageTip-based clean-up of digests was undertaken by adjusting or resuspending

samples in 50% isopropanol, 1% trifluoroacetic acid and then loading them on in-house

created SDB-RPS StageTips, which were prepared according to previously described

protocols [85-87]. Briefly, five frits of SDB-RPS were excised using a blunt 16-gauge Hamilton

needle and loaded into 200 µL tips. SDB-RPS StageTips were placed in a Spin96 tip holder [86]

to enable batch-based spinning of samples and tips conditioned with 100% acetonitrile,

followed by 30% methanol, 1% trifluoroacetic acid, followed by 90% isopropanol, 1%

trifluoroacetic acid with each wash spun through the column at 1000 x g for 3 minutes.

Acidified isopropanol/peptide mixtures were loaded onto the SDB-RPS columns and spun

through tips before being washed with 90% isopropanol, 1% trifluoroacetic acid, followed by

90% ethyl acetate, 1% trifluoroacetic acid, followed by 1% trifluoroacetic acid in Milli-Q

water. Peptide samples were eluted with 80% acetonitrile, 5% ammonium hydroxide and

dried by vacuum centrifugation at room temperature and stored at -20˚C.

LC-MS analysis of DDA samples. Cleaned-up peptide samples were re-suspended in Buffer

A* (2% acetonitrile, 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid in Milli-Q water) and separated using a two-

column chromatography set-up on a Dionex Ultimate 3000 UPLC composed of a PepMap100

C18 20 mm x 75 µm trap and a PepMap C18 500 mm x 75 µm analytical column (Thermo

Fisher Scientific) coupled to a Orbitrap Fusion™ Lumos™ Tribrid™ Mass Spectrometer

(Thermo Fisher Scientific) with datasets collected with and without the use of the FAIMS Pro

interface (Thermo Fisher Scientific). 145-minute gradients were run for each sample, with

samples loaded onto the trap column with 98% Buffer A (2% acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid in

Milli-Q water) and 2% Buffer B (80% acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid) with peptides separated

by altering the buffer composition from 2% Buffer B to 28% B over 126 minutes, then from

28% B to 40% B over 9 minutes, then from 40% B to 80% B over 3 minutes, the composition

was held at 80% B for 2 minutes, and then dropped to 2% B over 2 minutes and held at 2% B

for another 3 minutes. For datasets collected without the use of the FAIMS Pro interface,

the Lumos™ Mass Spectrometer was operated in a data-dependent mode, switching

between the collection of a single Orbitrap MS scan (450-2000 m/z, maximal injection time

of 50 ms, an Automatic Gain Control (AGC) of maximum of $4*10^5$ ions and a resolution of

60k) acquired every 3 seconds followed by Orbitrap MS/MS HCD scans of precursors (NCE

30%, maximal injection time of 80 ms, an AGC set to a maximum of $1.25*10^5$ ions and a

resolution of 30k). For datasets collected with the FAIMS Pro interface, a data-dependent

stepped FAIMS approach was utilised with three different FAIMS CVs -25, -45 and -65, as

previously described [88]. For each FAIMS CV a single Orbitrap MS scan (450-2000 m/z,

maximal injection time of 50 ms, an AGC of maximum of $4*10^5$ ions and a resolution of 60k)

was acquired every 1.2 seconds followed by Orbitrap MS/MS HCD scans of precursors (NCE

30%, maximal injection time of 80 ms, an AGC set to a maximum of $1.25*10^5$ ions and a

resolution of 30k). HCD scans containing HexNAc-associated oxonium ions (204.0867,

138.0545 and 366.1396 m/z) triggered two additional product-dependent MS/MS scans [89]

of potential glycopeptides; an Orbitrap EThcD scan (NCE 15%, maximal injection time of 150

ms, AGC set to a maximum of $2*10^5$ ions with a resolution of 30k using the extended mass

range setting to improve the detection of high mass glycopeptide fragment ions [90]) and a

stepped collision energy HCD scan (using NCE 35% with 5% Stepping, maximal injection time

of 150 ms, an AGC set to a maximum of $2*10^5$ ions and a resolution of 30k).

LC-MS analysis of DIA samples: Cleaned-up peptide samples were resuspended in Buffer A*

and separated using a two-column chromatography set-up on a Dionex Ultimate 3000 UPLC

composed of a PepMap100 C18 20 mm x 75 µm trap and a PepMap C18 500 mm x 75 µm

analytical column. Samples were concentrated onto the trap column at 5 µL/min for 5

minutes with 98% Buffer A and 2% Buffer B, then infused into an Orbitrap Fusion™ Lumos™

Tribrid™ Mass Spectrometer at 300 nL/minute via the analytical column. 125-minute

analytical runs were undertaken by altering the buffer composition from 3% Buffer B to 25%

B over 112 minutes, then from 25% B to 40% B over 4 minutes, then from 40% B to 80% B

over 1 minute. The composition was held at 80% B for 3 minutes and then dropped to 3% B

over 1 minute before being held at 3% B for another 4 minutes. Data was collected in a

Data-independent manner with a single MS1 event (120k resolution, AGC $1*10^6$, 350-1400

m/z) and 50 MS2 scans (NCE 30%, 30k resolution, AGC $1*10^6$, 200-2000 m/z and a maximal

injection time of 55 ms) of a width of 13.7 m/z collected over the mass range of 360 to

1033.5 m/z.

DDA-based proteomic analysis: DDA datasets were analysed using MSFragger (versions

18.0, 19.0, 20.0 or 22.0) [91-93]. Samples were searched with a Tryptic specificity, allowing a

maximum of two missed cleavage events and Carbamidomethyl set as a fixed modification

of Cysteine while oxidation of Methionine allowed as a variable modification. For searches

to identify canonical Bukrholderia glycosylation the *Burkholderia* glycans $HexHexNAc_2$

(elemental composition: $C_{22}O_{15}H_{36}N_2$, mass: 568.2115 Da) and $Suc-HexHexNAc_2$ (elemental

composition: $C_{26}O_{18}H_{40}N_2$, mass: 668.2276 Da) were included as variable modifications at

Serine in line with the strong preference for PglL glycosylation at Serine residues [45]. To

allow the assessment of glycoforms within strains lacking *ogc* genes the *Burkholderia*

glycans $HexHexNAc_2$, $Suc-HexHexNAc_2$, $HexNAc_2$ (elemental composition: $C_{16}O_{10}H_{26}N_2$,

mass: 406.1488 Da) and HexNAc (elemental composition: $C_8O_5H_{13}N$, mass: 203.0794 Da)

were included as variable modifications at Serine. For all glycopeptide searches the glycan

fragment ions were defined as 204.0866, 186.0760 168.0655, 366.1395, 144.0656,

138.0550, 466.1555 and 407.1594. A maximum mass precursor tolerance of 20 ppm was

allowed at both the MS1 and MS2 levels. Samples were searched against the *B. cenocepacia*

reference proteome J2315 (Uniprot accession: UP000001035, 6,993 proteins, downloaded

July 24th 2020) [94] supplemented with the proteins RhaS (HTH-type transcriptional activator

RhaS, P09377), RhaR (HTH-type transcriptional activator RhaR, P09378), TmpR

(Dihydrofolate reductase resistance marker, P00384) and CymR (HTH-type transcriptional

regulator CymR, O33453). Assessments of changes in glycosylation were undertaken based

on spectral counting of glycopeptide identification events with data visualization

undertaken using ggplot2 [95] in R. To confirm the identity of glycoforms representative HCD

and EThcD spectra were annotated with the aid of the Interactive Peptide Spectral

Annotator   tool

(http://www.interactivepeptidespectralannotator.com/PeptideAnnotator.html) [96].

DIA-based proteomic analysis: DIA Datasets were searched using DIA-library free analysis within Spectronaut (version 17.6). Data files were searched against the *B. cenocepacia* K56-2 proteome (Uniprot accession: UP000011196, 7467 proteins, downloaded October 13th 2020) [97] and *B. cenocepacia* strain J2315 (Uniprot accession: UP000001035) [94], merging these proteomes enabling the matching of proteins to both J2315 and K56-2 accessions. Oxidation of Methionine was allowed as a variable modification, Carbamidomethyl was set as a fixed modification of Cysteine, and protease specificity was set to Trypsin. Protein quantitation was undertaken using MaxLFQ [98] based analysis. The precursor PEP was altered to 0.01 from the default 0.2 to improve quantitative accuracy, with all single peptide protein matches excluded. Statistical analysis was undertaken using Perseus [99] with missing values imputed based on the total observed protein intensities with a range of 0.3 σ and a downshift of 2.5 σ. Biological replicates were grouped together, and student t-tests were used to compare individual groups with a minimum fold change of +/- 1 considered for further analysis. Multiple hypothesis correction was undertaken using a permutation-based FDR approach allowing an FDR of 5%. Enrichment analysis using Fisher exact tests was undertaken in Perseus using Gene Ontology (GO) terms obtained from Uniprot (*B. cenocepacia* strain J2315 proteome: UP000001035) as well as against proteins previously reported as altered within K56-2 Δ*pglL,* K56-2 Δ*ogc or* K56-2 Δ*pglL*Δ*ogc* compared to K56-2 WT by Oppy *et al.* [63]. Data visualization was undertaken using ggplot2 [95] in R.

Data availability: All mass spectrometry data (RAW files, FragPipe outputs, Spectronaut outputs / experiment files, Rmarkdown scripts, and output tables) have been deposited into the PRIDE ProteomeXchange repository [100,101]. All PRIDE accession numbers, descriptions of the associated experiments and experiment types (DIA or DDA) are provided in **Supplementary Table 4**.

Results:

Loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* impacts viability of *B. cenocepacia*

To dissect the impact of individual *ogc* genes on viability, we established a rhamnose-inducible vector pSCrhaB2 [64] containing the *ogc* cluster (pSCrhaB2-*ogc*) herein referred to as p*ogc* (**Figure 1B**), and assessed its ability to restore glycosylation within *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogc* [47]. Using mass spectrometry-based proteomics, we confirmed the restoration of glycosylation regardless of rhamnose induction and the absence of glycosylation within Δ*ogc* containing pSCrhaB2 empty vector alone (**Figure 1C, Supplementary Table 6**). Notably, we observed that the introduction of p*ogc* did not impact glycosylation levels within *B. cenocepacia* WT regardless of induction state (**Figure 1C**). While glycosylation was observed at comparable levels within strain/plasmid combinations containing endogenous or plasmid complemented *ogc*, proteomic analysis demonstrates OgcX and OgcA were below the limit of detection in the absence of rhamnose induction yet detectible upon induction (**Figure 1D, Supplementary table 7**). With the identification that p*ogc* restored glycosylation, we then sought to remove *ogcX* and *ogcA* within p*ogc* to assess the impact on viability with *ogcI* / *ogcB* removed as additional controls (**Figure 1E**). To assess the impact of *ogc* deletions on viability, we introduced plasmids into *B. cenocepacia* WT and Δ*ogc* by conjugation assessing the recovery of viable colonies. Conjugation efficiency was not impacted by the removal of *ogcA, B, I* or *X* within *B. cenocepacia* WT with comparable cfu/mL observed; however, within Δ*ogc* conjugations of p*ogc*Δ*ogcX* and p*ogc*Δ*ogcA* demonstrated dramatic reductions in recoverable cfu/mL (**Figure 1F**). These observations support that the loss of either *ogcX* and *ogcA* within p*ogc* impacts viability in the absence of chromosomally encoded *ogcX* and *ogcA*.

Deleterious effects due to the loss of *ogcX* or *ogcA* are dependent on glycosylation initiation

The absence of effects on viability in response to the loss of the *ogc* [47,63], yet the requirement of *ogcA* / *ogcX* alone supports that if *O*-linked glycan biosynthesis is allowed to proceed, it is deleterious after the addition of the second GalNAc, mediated by the OgcB [47]. If true, we reasoned that controlling the initiation of glycosylation via placing OgcI under

inducible control should render Δ*ogcA and* Δ*ogcX* viable. To assess this, we removed *ogcI*

and chromosomally re-introduced *ogcI* under rhamnose-inducible control within a miniTn7

integrative system (**Figure 2A, Supplementary Figure 1A and 1B**), generating Δ*ogcI* Tn7-

ogcI. Proteomic and glycoproteomic analysis confirmed the inducible control of *ogcI* as well

as the appearance of glycosylation upon the addition of rhamnose in this background

(**Supplementary Figure 2B and 2C**). Following verification of Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI,* we generated

viable mutations in *ogcX and ogcA* (Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI*) as well

as *ogcB and ogcAB (*Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcAB* Tn7-*ogcI*, **Supplementary Figure**

3). Consistent with the requirement of glycosylation initiation to drive deleterious effects,

spot plate assays in the presence of rhamnose revealed reduced growth within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA*

Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* yet did not impact Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcAB* Tn7-ogcI*, * Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB*

Tn7-ogcI or Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* growth (**Figure 2B**). Quantification of colony size within strains

lacking *ogcX* or *ogcA* revealed a reduction in size to 10% of Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-

ogcI and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcAB* Tn7-*ogcI* strains in response to induction (**Figure 2C**). Consistent with

these results, microtiter plate-based growth assays also revealed marked delays in the

growth kinetics of strains lacking *ogcX* or *ogcA* upon induction compared to Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*

(**Supplementary Figure 4**). Importantly, across strains, quantification of glycosylation using

glycoproteomics supports that while rhamnose induction led to the restoration of

glycosylation within Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI,* no glycosylation was observable within strains lacking

ogcA, B, X or AB upon rhamnose induction (**Figure 2D, Supplementary Table 8**).

To support that the observed growth defects were *ogc*X and *ogc*A dependent, plasmid-

based complementation was undertaken. For OgcA complementation, two rhamnose

inducible vectors denoted as pSCrhaB2-*ogcA*-Met1 and pSCrhaB2-*ogcA*-Met2 corresponding

to variants differing in the two potential start codons of *ogcA* (**Supplementary Figure 5**),

herein referred to as p*ogcA*$_{Met1}$ and p*ogcA*$_{Met2}$ respectively, were generated. Upon induction

both p*ogcA*$_{Met1}$ and p*ogcA*$_{Met2}$ within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* restored colony size to

comparable levels observed within Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* (**Figure 3A**). Interestingly, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA*

Tn7-*ogcI* carrying the empty vector pSCrhaB2 was unable to grow in the presence of plasmid

antibiotic selection conditions upon induction even with reduced rhamnose induction levels

(**Supplementary Figure 6A**). Proteomic and glycoproteomic analysis confirms the induction

of OgcA and restoration of glycosylation within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* containing either

p*ogcA*$_{Met1}$ or p*ogcA*$_{Met2}$ in a rhamnose dependent manner (**Figure 3B-C, Supplementary**

Table 9 and 10). Consistent with spot plate assays proteomic and glycoproteomic analysis of

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* containing pSCrhaB2 was unable to be assessed under rhamnose

induction due to loss of viability. To complement *ogcX,* we generated a modified pMLBAD

vector [70] placing *ogcX* expression under cumate inducible control generating pCumate-*ogcX-*

his, herein referred to as p*ogcX* as well as a control plasmid containing GFP, pCumate-sfGFP

here in referred to as p*sfGFP*. Akin to *ogcA* complementation, the introduction of p*ogcX* into

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* restored colony size compared to p*sfGFP* following rhamnose

induction with the presence of p*ogcX,* regardless of cumate induction, sufficient to relieve

the deleterious effects of glycosylation initiation (**Figure 3D**). As with Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI*

carrying pSCrhaB2, loss of viability of Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* carrying p*sfGFP* was observed in

the presence of plasmid antibiotic selection conditions and rhamnose induction

(**Supplementary Figure 6B**). Glycoproteomic analysis confirmed the restoration of

glycosylation of Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* containing p*ogcX* in a rhamnose-dependent manner

(**Figure 3E, Supplementary Table 11**) with proteomic analysis supporting the production of

OgcX in the absence of cumate (**Figure 3F, Supplementary Table 12**) consistent with low

level constitutive expression of OgcX from p*ogcX*. As observed within *ogcA*

complementation, proteomic/glycoproteomic analysis of Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* containing

p*sfGFP* was unable to be assessed under rhamnose induction due to loss of viability (**Figure**

3E/F). Combined, these complementation assays support that the loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX*

drive the deleterious effects on the viability of *B. cenocepacia* upon glycosylation initiation.

Proteomic analysis reveals loss of *ogcX* or *ogcA* drives alterations within the membrane

proteome

Our initial proteomic characterisations (**Figure 1D, 3A, 3F**) revealed variability in tracking

proteins of the OGC; thus, to improve the depth and reproducibility of protein

quantification of these proteins, we turned to the use of Data-Independent Acquisition (DIA)

based proteomics [102,103]. To understand the proteomic changes uniquely driven by loss of

ogcX and *ogcA* we compared the proteome of four strains Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-

ogcI, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI and* Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* under both rhamnose induced and

non-induced conditions. Using DIA proteomic analysis, all five proteins of the OGC were

observed allowing the confirmation of the expected loss of OGC proteins (**Supplementary**
Figure 7, Supplementary Table 13). Across strains, a total of 3748 proteins were identified,
with ~90% identified with >2 unique peptides in each biological replicate (**Supplementary**
Figure 8A). Principal component analysis revealed distinct clustering for each biological
group, with the Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* strains separating along PC1
upon induction supporting the loss of these genes leading to similar overall proteomic
effects when glycosylation is initiated (**Figure 4A**). Examination of the protein alterations
between non-induced and induced conditions revealed that induction resulted in significant
changes (defined as >2-fold difference and -log10(p-value) > 2) within strains lacking *ogcX*
and *ogcA* while relatively few alterations were observed within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcl* and
Δ*ogcl* Tn7-*ogcl* (**Figure 4B**). Across the alterations observed in Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* and
Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl*, 722 proteins were differentially impacted in both, with Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX*
Tn7-*ogcl* exhibiting the highest number of overall protein alterations (**Figure 4C**). Notably,
the protein alterations upon induction within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-
ogcl were highly similar, demonstrating significant co-enrichment (Fisher exact test
Benjamini-Hochberg corrected *p*-value = $8.20*10^{-204}$, **Supplementary Table 14 and**
Supplementary Figure 8B) with these alterations also being highly correlative (Pearson
correlation: 0.81, **Figure 4E**). To assess the overall patterns within the observed protein
alterations, Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment was undertaken on the proteome alterations
observed within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl,* revealing an over-representation of membrane-
associated protein classes (**Figure 4D, Supplementary Table 14**). This over-representation
corresponds to the increased abundance of the observable membrane proteome in both
Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*X Tn7-ogcl and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*A Tn7-ogcl upon induction (**Figure 4E**). Examination of
the increased membrane proteins (**Figure 4F**) confirms the induction of Ogcl (BCAL3118), as
well as increases in functionally diverse membrane proteins, including BCAM1996 (a
homolog of the cell envelope integrity protein CreD), transporters such as
BCAL1079/BCAL1081 and BCAL1511/BCAL1512, outer membrane efflux proteins such as
BCAL3514, BCAS0014, and BCAL1456, as well as membrane proteins of unknown functions,
including BCAL2191 and BCAM1247. It should be noted that the proteomic alterations
observed during induction within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*X Tn7-ogcl and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*A Tn7-ogcl
demonstrate a partial overlap within proteins previously reported to be impacted by the
loss of glycosylation (**Supplementary Figure 9**) [63]. Combined, DIA proteomic analysis

supports disruptions within *ogc*X and *ogc*A leads to widespread proteomic alterations,
characterized by a dramatic increase in the membrane proteome when glycosylation is
initiated.

Loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* impacts membrane integrity and permeability of *B. cenocepacia*

Given the dramatic membrane proteomic alterations in response to the loss of *ogcX* and
ogcA upon induction, we hypothesised that these alterations suggests the loss of membrane
integrity as noted during the inhibition of several Wzx-dependent glycan pathways [4,6,7,34,104].
To assess membrane integrity, we assayed the impact of membrane stress (0.01% SDS)
using spot plate assays revealing increased sensitivity of Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl* and
Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* upon glycosylation initiation compared to Δ*ogcl* Tn7-*ogcl,* Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcB*
Tn7-*ogcl* or Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcAB* Tn7-*ogcl* strains (**Figure 5A**). In contrast, osmotic stress (2% NaCl)
spot plate assays revealed adverse impacts on all strains in the absence of induction, yet
only *ogcX* and *ogcA* deletion strains failed to show improved viability following glycosylation
initiation (**Figure 5A**). Microtiter plate-based growth assays recapitulated these observations
with the strains lacking *ogcX* and *ogcA* demonstrating alterations in growth kinetics in the
presence of 0.01% SDS or 2% NaCl (**Supplementary Figure 10**). Consistent with the loss of
viability being driven by the absence of *ogcX* and *ogcA* complementation ameliorated the
growth defects in the presence of 0.01% SDS or 2% NaCl (**Figure 5B & C**). These observations
support the loss of membrane integrity within Δ*ogcX* and Δ*ogcA* backgrounds yet to directly
assess membrane permeability in response to glycosylation initiation, we undertook
Hoechst 33342 and N-phenyl-1-naphthylamine (NPN) fluorescent-based permeability
assays. Utilising Hoechst 33342, a fluorescent DNA binding dye, we evaluated DNA binding
revealing enhanced fluorescence within Δ*ogcX* and Δ*ogcA* backgrounds upon glycosylation
initiation, yet minimal alterations in Δ*ogcl* Tn7-*ogcl,* Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcl* or Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcAB*
Tn7-*ogcl* (**Figure 5D**). Similarly, NPN uptake assays, which monitor dye partitioning into
membranes [83], revealed increased fluorescence in Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA*
Tn7-*ogcl* upon induction, supporting increased membrane permeability (**Figure 5E**,
Supplementary Figure 11) with complementation of Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA*
Tn7-*ogcl* reversing membrane permeability (**Supplementary Figure 12**). Combined, these
findings support the absence of *ogcX* and *ogcA* upon glycosylation initiation compromises

the *B. cenocepacia* envelope, leading to sensitisation to stressors and membrane
permeability.

Loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* enhances sensitivity of *B. cenocepacia* to antimicrobials

The observations that the loss of *ogcX* and *ogcA* leads to widespread impacts on the
B. cenocepacia membrane highlight the potential for these effects to be exploited to
potentiate antimicrobial agents. In line with this, recent transposon studies have suggested
that mutations within the *ogc* alter susceptibility to β-lactam antibiotics; however,
validation of these effects using CRISPRi resulted in only modest recapitulation of
sensitization [61]. Given the growth defects observed in response to induction under plasmid
selection conditions (**Figure 3A, 3D and Supplementary Figure 6**), this suggests the
enhanced sensitivity of strains lacking *ogcX* and *ogcA* to trimethoprim. Thus, we assessed
the impact of antimicrobial agents including trimethoprim, tetracycline, ceftazidime,
chlorhexidine and rifampicin on glycosylation inducible strains. Utilising broth dilution
assays, changes in antimicrobial sensitivity were observed in strains lacking *ogcX* and *ogcA*
upon induction yet were modest in magnitude corresponding to a 1- to 2-fold decrease in
the minimal inhibitory concentrations (MIC) of trimethoprim and ceftazidime
(**Supplementary Figure 13 and Supplementary Table 5**). To improve the detection of
alterations in antimicrobial sensitivity, we assessed the impact of antimicrobial agents at or
below the broth dilution-defined MICs using spot assays. Utilising this approach, upon
induction, strains lacking *ogcX* and *ogcA* were observed to show enhanced sensitivity to
tetracycline, rifampicin, trimethoprim and ceftazidime compared to Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI*
and Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* (**Figure 6**). Interestingly, for both trimethoprim and ceftazidime, all
strains showed reduced growth without induction, yet the growth of Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI*
and Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* was improved upon induction (**Figure 6**). Combined, these findings
support the loss of OGC genes sensitise *B. cenocepacia* to several antimicrobial agents with
these impacts most pronounced for strains lacking *ogcX* or *ogcA* upon initiation of
glycosylation.

Expression of UppS and OgcX improves the viability of *B. cenocepacia* in response to *ogc*

biosynthesis blockages.

As the deletion of *ogcA* and *ogcX* leads to deleterious effects upon glycosylation initiation,

we sought to further support the role of Und-P/Und-PP sequestration in driving these

effects. We reasoned that modulating Und-P precursor levels or enhancing glycan

intermediate translocation would counteract Und-P/Und-PP sequestration. To probe this,

we overexpressed undecaprenyl pyrophosphate synthase (UppS), the *de novo* synthase

responsible for generating Und-P, which has been previously shown to relieve Und-P

sequestration (**Figure 7A**) [7,105]. Utilising cumate-inducible vectors containing the two

putative annotated UppS enzymes of *B. cenocepacia* K56-2, BCAL2087 and BCAM2067

within the vectors p*BCAL2087* and p*BCAM2067* respectively, we assessed the impact of

UppS overexpression in the absence of *ogcA* and *ogcX* with glycosylation initiation. Within

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI*, the induction of p*BCAL2087* partially

alleviated reductions observed within Δ*ogcA* and Δ*ogcX*, while p*BCAM2067* only restored

viability within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* (**Figure 7B**). These observations support the partial

repression of growth defects upon induction of UppS. To assess if enhancing glycan

translocation restores growth, we introduced *pogcX* into Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* which

improved growth upon the initiation of glycosylation (**Figure 7C**). To probe the impact of

OgcX overexpression on membrane integrity spot assays were undertaken revealing the

amelioration of growth defects within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* compared to the control vector

p*sfGFP* (**Figure 7D/E**). Surprisingly, while *pogcX* improved resistance to membrane stresses

in Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* in response to 0.01% SDS (**Figure 7D**) we noted reduced viability

within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI* in response to salt and SDS stress compared to the control

vector p*sfGFP* (**Figure 7D/E**). To confirm the overexpression of OgcX allowed the

translocation of incomplete *O*-linked glycans we undertook glycoproteomic analysis

confirming both enhanced glycosylation within inducible strains and the appearance of

truncated glycans within Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI* (**Figure 7F,**

Supplementary Table 15 and 16). Manual inspection of glycopeptide assignments within

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* confirms the identity of these glycosylation events as corresponding to

the modification of peptides with $HexNAc_2$ glycans (**Figure 7G**). Of note, while glycopeptide

analysis suggested the presence of both $HexNAc_2$ and HexNAc modified peptides within

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI* (**Figure 7F**) manual inspection of glycopeptide spectra demonstrate

the miss assignment of glycopeptides possessing multiple individual glycosylation events as

HexNAc$_2$ events (**Supplementary Figure 14**). Combined, these data demonstrate that both

modulating UppS activity and enhancing glycan translocation of HexNAc$_2$, but not HexNAc,

alleviates the growth defects associated with initiating glycosylation in strains defective in

completing the Burkholderia O-linked glycan.

Modulation of early steps in *ogc* biosynthesis are also detrimental to *B. cenocepacia*

viability

Finally, as changes driven by *ogc* perturbations were detrimental we questioned if shifting

the equilibrium of the Und-P/Und-PP pool associated with the *ogc* alone would also impact

viability. To probe this, we overexpressed components of the *ogc* within the parental

B. cenocepacia K56-2 background and assess viability utilising spot assays. Introduction of

rhamnose inducible vectors containing *ogcI* (p*ogcI*), *ogcB* (p*ogcB*), *ogcA* (p*ogcA*$_{Met1}$) as well

as the vector p*ogcAB*$_{Met1}$, *which* allows the expression of both *ogcA* and *ogcB*, revealed

induction of p*ogcI* and p*ogcB* resulted in reduced viability, while the overexpression of

ogcA(p*ogcA*), *ogcAB* (p*ogcAB*), and the complete *ogc* (p*ogc*) showed no impact on viability

(**Figure 8**). Critically, complementation of *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcAB*, Δ*ogcB* and Δ*ogcI* with

p*ogcAB*$_{Met1}$, p*ogcB* and p*ogcI* induced with 0.05% rhamnose restored glycosylation,

confirming the functionality of these constructs (**Supplementary Figure 15 to 17,**

Supplementary Table 17 to 22). These observations support that the overexpression of

early steps in *O*-linked glycan biosynthesis, OgcI and OgcB, appear to impact viability, yet

these effects can be alleviated in the case of *ogcB* by co-expression of *ogcA*. Combined,

these observations support alterations in early steps in *O*-linked glycan biosynthesis

modulate *ogc*-associated viability supporting the sensitivity of the Und-P/Und-PP pool to

sequestration from non-physiological expression levels of *ogc* proteins.

Discussion:

Burkholderia O-linked glycosylation, mediated by the *ogc* and *pglL* [47,59], are highly conserved

at the pathway and glycan composition levels [45-47]. While previous work demonstrated the

requirement of the *ogc* for the generation of the trisaccharide used for glycosylation [47], a

deeper understanding of how glycan fidelity is controlled, as well as the impact of *ogcA* and

ogcX on *B. cenocepacia* has not been assessed. In line with the growing recognition of the

impact of Und-P/ Und-PP sequestration by dead-end intermediates of O-antigens [6,11],

capsule [35], cell wall teichoic acids [106,107] and the ECA [7,10] glycans, we demostrate that

blocking *ogc* also lead to sequestration of the Und-P/ Und-PP pool. Critically, this work

highlights that in line with previous studies on Wzx-dependent glycan pathways [3,4,10,27], the

B. cenocepacia O-linked glycosylation pathway appears highly selective for its complete

cognate glycan. This observation sheds light on the near-exclusive presence of the observed

Gal–GalNAc$_2$ structure decorating glycoproteins within all *Burkholderia* glycoproteomic

studies to date [46,47,59,88,108,109] and the mechanism responsible for glycan selectivity.

The conservation of the *Burkholderia* O-linked glycan makes this glycosylation system

unique among characterised bacterial protein glycosylation systems to date, including the

O-linked glycosylation systems of *Acinetobacter* [110-112] and *Neisseria* [40,58,113], as well as the *N*-

linked glycosylation systems of *Campylobacter* [38,39] where extensive glycan diversity has

been observed. While the conservation of glycans in the context of protein glycosylation

systems appears atypical, the conservation of glycan biosynthesis across species, or even

genera, has previously been noted, as in the case of the ECA [114,115]. For the ECA, it has been

suggested that the invariance of this oligosaccharide underpins its importance to

Enterobacterales physiology [115]. While the function of *Burkholderia* O-linked glycosylation is

still unknown, this work raises a critical question on the importance of the cognate glycan in

glycosylation. Despite the identification of *B. cenocepacia* protein glycosylation over a

decade ago, we have yet to identify a specific function for glycosylation, nor have individual

glycosylation events been identified that require glycosylation for functionality [59,63,109]. As

demonstrated for other Wzx, non-native substrates can be translocated under heightened

levels of flippase expression [14-16] and consistent with this we demonstrate that

overexpression of OgcX enhances the translocation of non-cognate *ogc* structures (**Figure**

7F/G). These overexpression studies support the role of OgcX as a flippase and confirms the

function of OgcA as the glycosyltransferase responsible for adding the final Gal residue of
the O-linked trisaccharide. Importantly this ability to enhance translocation within
ΔogcIΔogcA Tn7-ogcI allows us to demonstrate that poor translocation efficiency appears to
underpin the detrimental effects observed from the loss of OgcA (**Figure 7B-E**). However, we
observe that translocation of a single HexNAc, as seen in the case of ΔogcIΔogcB Tn7-ogcI
appears to be detrimental to B. cenocepacia in response to salt and SDS stressors (**Figure
7D/E**) suggesting that glycosylation with HexNAc alone may be insufficient for optimal B.
cenocepacia physiology in response to membrane stressors. Thus, this work provides
experimental confirmation of the roles of OgcX as well as OgcA, highlights how O-linked
glycan fidelity is controlled and supports the importance of glycosylation with specific glycan
structures within B. cenocepacia for membrane stress resistance.

Our observations of deleterious effects in response to the loss of ogcX (**Figure 1, 2 & 3**)
suggest the previously reported ΔogcX isolate within B. cenocepacia [47] likely possessed an
uncharacterised suppressor mutation. As noted previously, suppressor mutations can
rapidly emerge upon Und-P/Und-PP sequestration [9,33,34] with the emergence of a potential
suppressor mutation highlighted as the potential source of confounding results associated
with defining the function of the WzxE flippase within E. coli K-12 [10]. While we were unable
to obtain the previously reported ΔogcX isolate the observation that low-level glycosylation
of a truncated glycan of a single HexNAc residue was observed within this strain [47], suggests
a potential disruption within the O-linked glycosylation system. In contrast to previous
results, our observation of the requirement of OgcX for O-glycosylation supports that this
flippase is indispensable within B. cenocepacia for translocation of the O-linked glycan into
the periplasmic space. Interestingly, not all flippases are indispensable as has been noted
within E. coli K-12, where some redundancy exists in the ability of ECA to be mobilised to
the periplasm by the O-antigen (Wzx_{O16}) or colanic acid (WzxC) flippases [116]. Our analysis of
glycosylation in the absence of ogcX (**Figure 2D**) is consistent with a lack of functional
redundancy for the cognate O-linked glycan by the remaining Wzx flippases of
B. cenocepacia. Within B. cenocepacia K56-2, previous analysis has highlighted the presence
of at least five putative Wzx flippases with similar functional indispensability observed for
the peptidoglycan flippase $murJ_{Bc}$ (BCAL2764) [117]. Thus, these findings support that OgcX is

the sole flippase required for translocation of the *O*-linked glycan, and alternative flippases

are not functionally redundant for this glycan in *B. cenocepacia.*

We have previously reported the inability to generate Δ*ogcA* within *B. cenocepacia* [47], yet

disruptions of *ogcA* were recently suggested to be tolerated [61]. Our data assessing the loss

of *ogcA* using plasmid-based complementation (**Figure 1**) as well as strains with inducible

control of glycosylation (**Figure 2 to 7**) supports that, akin to *ogcX*, the loss of *ogcA* is

deleterious within *B. cenocepacia*. Previously, putative Δ*ogcA* candidates were observed

within high-density transposon libraries yet *ogcA* CRISPRi silencing failed to recapitulate the

resulting phenotypes associated with Δ*ogcA* [61]. As such, we suggest that the Δ*ogcA* reported

within prior work may contain unexpected secondary mutations or that the presence of

transposons within *ogcA* may have adversely affected the expression of neighbouring genes

of the *ogc*. While transposon libraries coupled with sequencing provide a robust means to

assess gene function at a genomic scale [118], it is recognised that this approach can lead to

inactivation or polar effects in neighbouring genes [119,120]. Furthermore, the enrichment of

transposon junctions prior to sequencing [118] does not allow the assessment of unlinked

potential suppressor or inactivation events, which may restore variability even in the

presence of insertions into conditionally essential genes. Of note within our work, the

utilisation of proteomics allowed the assessment of *ogcA*, ogc*X,* and ogc*B* mutagenesis,

revealing neighbouring *ogc* proteins are unaffected by the removal of these genes

(**Supplementary Figure 7**). Considering our findings, in addition to prior transposons studies

of *B. cenocepacia* and *Burkholderia pseudomallei* that assign *ogcA* as essential [60,62], this

supports the assignment of *ogcA* as conditionally essential.

The observation that both *ogcA* and *ogcX* appear conditionally essential is consistent with a

growing body of work highlighting the detrimental impacts of blocking Und-P/PP

biosynthetic pathways [6,7,11]. As with previous studies on the deleterious impacts of Und-

P/PP sequestration, the use of inducible systems [10,11,14] provided a tractable way to explore

the roles of *ogcA*/*ogcX* while limiting potential confounding effects from the emergence of

suppressors. The inducible deleterious effects from the loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* (**Figure 2**)

support fouling of the Und-P/PP pool with complementation confirming the restoration of

glycosylation as well as suppression of growth defects by the re-introduction of *ogcX* / *ogcA*

(**Figure 3 and 5**). Interestingly, within this work, we noted that while the introduction of

plasmid variants lacking *ogcA/X* were unable to be recovered from *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogc*

rhamnose inducible strains lacking *ogcA/X* were viable although exhibited reduced growth

rates (**Figure 2, Supplementary Figure 4**). While the viability of inducible Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*A Tn7-

ogcl *and* Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*X Tn7-ogcl strains was essential for allowing proteomic (**Figure 4**) and

phenotypic assessments (**Figure 5, 6 and 7**), this does suggest the overall restoration of

glycosylation mediated by Tn7-rha-*ogcl* may be reduced compared to wild type

B. cenocepacia, reducing the magnitude of the effect of sequestration on the Und-P/PP

pool. In line with this, we noted higher overall glycosylation levels, as determined by

identified glycopeptides, within wildtype *B. cenocepacia* (**Figure 1C**) compared to the

observed levels within glycosylation inducible strains (**Figure 2D, 3C, 3F and 7D**) consistent

with an overall reduced glycosylation capacity. Regardless, the ability to demonstrate

changes in membrane permeability and stress sensitivity (**Figures 5 and 6**) highlights the

importance of *O*-linked glycan completion for *B. cenocepacia* physiology as well as allowed

the assessment of antibiotic sensitisation previously suggested for Δ*ogcA* [61]. Our work

demonstrates that upon initiation of glycosylation both Δ*ogcA and* Δ*ogcX* become sensitised

to clinically important antibiotics including tetracycline, rifampicin, trimethoprim as well as

ceftazidime (**Figure 6**). This enhanced sensitivity also reconciles the differences we observe

between experiments undertaken using plasmids (**Figure 1F, 3A, 3D, 5B, 5C, 7B, 7D and**

Supplementary Figure 6) compared to inducible strains alone (**Figure 2B and 5A**) supporting

that the antibiotic selection required to maintain plasmids exacerbates the observed

viability defect within Δ*ogcA and* Δ*ogcX strains*. It should be noted that the observation that

inhibiting *ogcA* or *ogcX* can modulate antibiotic sensitisation suggests targeting the *ogc* may

be a potent way to sensitise *Burkholderia* to antibiotics. The concept of modulating the Und-

P/PP pool to sensitise *B. cenocepacia* has been previously explored by the depletion of *dxr*

(BCAL2085) [121], which directly contributes to the precursors required for UppS-mediated *de*

novo synthesis of Und-P [1,122]. Thus, fouling of the Und-P/PP pool through inhibition of OgcX

or OgcA may be an attractive approach for drug re-sensitisation.

Previous studies have noted that the inhibition of peptidoglycan biosynthesis is likely the

key defect responsible for the deleterious effects of Und-P/PP fouling [6,7,105]. Consistent with

this our DIA proteomic analysis reveals an increase in several proteins associated with

peptidoglycan upon initiation of glycosylation within Δ*ogcA/X* strains including BCAL0310

(*murA*), BCAL3412 (*mtgA*), BCAL3463 (*fts*W) and BCAL2777 *a* putative N-acetylmuramoyl-L-

alanine amidase (**Supplementary Table 13, Supplementary Figure 18**). Interestingly, among

the altered membrane proteins, one of the most significant changes observed within Δ*ogcA*

and Δ*ogcX* corresponds to a >30-fold increase in BCAM1996 (CreD, **Figure 4F**). Within

Pseudomonas aeruginosa CreD is known to be associated with sensing changes in

peptidoglycan synthesis being potently transcribed in response to perturbations in

peptidoglycan binding proteins [123] and suggested to be important for peptidoglycan Und-

P/Und-PP recycling [124]. Similarly, within *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* CreD has also been

shown to be critical for envelope integrity and maintaining cell morphology [125]. The

increased abundance of CreD in response to glycosylation initiation within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-

ogcl *and* Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-ogcl may suggest a more general role for CreD in Und-P/Und-PP

recycling. Of the proteomic alterations observed it is notable that the proteome changes

observed within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-ogcl and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-ogcl are similar yet more

extensive than the proteomic changes observed from the loss of glycosylation alone

(**Supplementary Figure 9**) [63]. These observations support that blocking *ogc* biosynthesis

induces extensive and pleiotropic effects, beyond the changes seen from the loss of protein

glycosylation alone, including evidence of changes in peptidoglycan biosynthesis which are

consistent with Und-P/PP fouling.

In this study, it is noteworthy that for the overexpression of the putative UppS enzymes only

BCAL2087 was able to alleviate the growth defects associated with glycosylation initiation in

both the Δ*ogcA* and Δ*ogcX* backgrounds yet BCAM2067 only partially restored the viability

of Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl* (**Figure 7B**). While the exact cause of this difference is unclear, it is

important to note that the Und-P/PP pool is not a homogeneous pool of polyisoprenyl lipids

[126]. It is possible that the assigned UppS enzymes contribute different polyisoprenyl lipids,

which influence the Und-P/PP pool and lead to changes in tolerance to Und-PP

intermediates, however, this is speculative, and the exact cause of this difference is

unknown. Consistent with changes in the Und-P/PP pool impacting viability our analysis of

individual *ogc* components reveals Ogcl and OgcB alone as sufficient to inhibit growth when

overexpressed within *B. cenocepacia* (**Figure 8**). These proteins do not themselves impact

growth within *E. coli* (**Supplementary Figure 19**) and when induced with 0.05% rhamnose

restore glycosylation within *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcB* and Δ*ogcl* (**Supplementary Figure 16 and**

17). Thus, this reduced viability observed upon induction of OgcI and OgcB supports that

increasing the proportion of early-stage intermediates in *ogc* biosynthesis leads to the

sequestration of the Und-PP/P pool. In line with this model, the overexpression of OgcA

with OgcB was found to relieve toxicity, supporting the importance of adequate enzyme

capacities in meeting the demands during *ogc* biosynthesis. It should be noted a caveat of

our model is the assumption that the products of the *ogc* solely supply glycan units used for

protein glycosylation, yet whether this is the case is unknown. As noted within other glycan

biosynthesis pathways both glycan intermediates as well as complete glycan units may be

incorporated into different glycoconjugates [114,115]. Previous studies of *O*-linked glycosylation

systems have demonstrated that glycans used for glycosylation may be derived from several

Und-P-dependent biosynthesis pathways, such as the O-antigen in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

[127,128] and capsule pathways within the *Moraxellaceae* [129,130]. In light of this, while the *ogc* is

sufficient and required for protein glycosylation [47] and we show the modulation of *ogc*

intermediates impact viability, it is currently unclear if this pathway contributes solely to

protein glycosylation, which impacts the interpretation of these findings.

In conclusion, this work demonstrates that the loss of *ogcA/X* within *B. cenocepacia* results

in detrimental impacts on viability, membrane permeability and the proteome, which

appears to sensitise strains to membrane stresses including clinically useful antibiotics. This

work highlights that akin to the impacts of glycan biosynthesis blockages observed in O-

antigens [6,9] and the ECA [7,10], modulating or blocking the generation of *ogc* intermediates

appears to lead to sequestration of the Und-P/PP pool within *B. cenocepacia.* These findings

not only advance our mechanistic understanding of how glycan fidelity is maintained for

Burkholderia *O*-linked protein glycosylation but the therapeutic potential of targeting steps

in this pathway.

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Leila Jebeli: Investigation, Validation, Visualization, Writing - Original Draft, Formal

analysis; **Taylor A. McDaniels:** Investigation, Visualization, Formal analysis, Supervision;

Duncan T. T. Ho: Investigation, Visualization, Formal analysis; **Hamza Tahir:** Investigation,

Resources; **Nicholas L. Kai-Ming:** Investigation, Visualization; **Molli Mcgaw:** Investigation,

Resources; **Kristian I. Karlic:** Software, Formal analysis, Visualization; **Jessica M. Lewis:**

Supervision, Investigation, Visualization; **Nichollas E. Scott:** Conceptualization,

Visualization, Investigation, Formal analysis, Supervision, Writing - Review & Editing,

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Figure 1. Loss of *ogc*X and *ogc*A impacts viability of *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogc*. A) Diagram of the *O*-glycosylation biosynthesis pathway in *Burkholderia* species [47]. *O*-glycosylation biosynthesis involves the stepwise construction of a conserved trisaccharide composed of Gal-GalNAc$_2$ by the glycosyltransferases, OgcI, OgcB and OgcA, with the nucleotide-sugar donors UDP-GalNAc and UDP-Gal generated by the epimerase OgcE. The resulting trisaccharide is then thought to be translocated across the inner membrane by the putative flippase, OgcX. Once in the periplasm, the glycans can be transferred to proteins by the oligosaccharyltransferase, PglL. **B)** Graphic representation of the genetic organization of the *ogc* cluster (*ogc*X, A, B, E and I assigned as BCAL3114–BCAL3118 within *B. cenocepacia* J2315) and its integration into the rhamnose-inducible vector pSCrhaB2, resulting in the

generation of the pSCrhaB2-*ogc* (p*ogc*). **C-D)** Quantification of glycopeptide and protein

levels encoded by the *ogc* cluster identified from whole cell proteomic analysis of

B. cenocepacia WT and Δ*ogc* containing either pSCrhaB2 or p*ogc* with and without induction

with 1% rhamnose (n=4). **E)** Graphic representation of p*ogc* mutagenesis removing *ogc*X,

*ogc*A, *ogc*B and *ogc*I. **F)** Conjugation of p*ogc* derivatives into *B. cenocepacia* K56-2 WT and

Δ*ogc* reveals differences in recovery rates of p*ogc*Δ*ogc*X and p*ogc*Δ*ogc*A within

B. cenocepacia Δ*ogc* (n=4).

Figure 2. Loss of *ogcX* or *ogcA* leads to reduced growth when glycosylation is initiated. A) Graphic representation of strains Δ*ogcX*, Δ*ogcA*, Δ*ogcB* and Δ*ogcAB* generated within the chromosomal inducible background *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*. **B-C)** Spot plate assays and half-violin box plots assessing growth of strains with and without 1% rhamnose induction. Induction results in reduced colony size of Δ*ogcX* and Δ*ogcA* strains to 10% of the size observed in *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* and strains without induction (n=4). **D)** Quantification of glycopeptides identified from whole-cell proteomic analysis of strains. Glycopeptides were assessed in the absence (light green) or presence (dark green) of rhamnose induction (n=4). Induction of *ogcI* expression by 1% rhamnose led to the restoration of glycosylation only in *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* in contrast, no glycosylation was observed in the Δ*ogcX*, Δ*ogcB*, and Δ*ogcAB* strains.

Figure 3. Complementation of ∆*ogcA* and ∆*ogcX* restores growth and glycosylation. A)

Spot plate assays of *B. cenocepacia* ∆*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* and *B. cenocepacia* ∆*ogcI*∆*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI*

containing pSCrhaB2 (EV), pSCrhaB2-*ogcA*-Met1 (*ogcA*-Met1), or pSCrhaB2-*ogcA*-Met2

(*ogcA*-Met2) with and without 1% rhamnose induction revealing complementation of Δ*ogcA*

with *ogcA* variants restores viability and colony size. **B-C)** Quantification of glycopeptides

and OgcA levels from whole-cell proteomic analysis of *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* and

B. cenocepacia Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* strains carrying EV, *ogcA*$_{Met1}$, or *ogcA*$_{Met2}$. Induction

with 1% rhamnose results in the detection of OgcA within *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-

ogcI and the restoration of glycosylation (n=4, Δ*ogcI* Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* *ogcA*-Met1 induced

group n=3). **D)** Spot plate assays of *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* and *B. cenocepacia*

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* carrying pcumate-sfGFP (sfGFP) and pcumate-*ogcX-his* (p*ogc*X) with

and without 1% rhamnose induction revealing complemented Δ*ogcX* restores viability and

colony size. **E-F)** Quantification of glycopeptides and OgcX levels from whole-cell proteomic

analysis of *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* and *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* strains

carrying sfGFP or *ogcX* plasmids. Induction results in the detection of OgcX within

B. cenocepacia Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* and the restoration of glycosylation (n=4).

Figure 4. Proteomic analysis of strains in response to glycosylation initiation. DIA

proteomic analysis of Δ*ogcI* Tn7-ogcI, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI*, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI*, and

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* strains with and without rhamnose induction (n=4). **A)** Principal

component analysis (PCA) of Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI* strains under induced and non-induced

conditions. Biological groups are observed to form distinct clusters, with Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-

ogcI and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* strains separating along PC1 upon induction. **B-C)** Upset plot

and Venn diagram of proteomic alterations, defined as >2-fold-change and -log₁₀(p-value) >

2 observed across strains, reveal that induction results in hundreds of protein alterations

within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* strains compared to Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-

ogcl or Δ*ogcl* Tn7-ogcl. **D)** Enrichment analysis of GO terms associated with the altered

proteins in Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* strain reveals an over-representation of proteomic changes

in membrane-associated protein classes. **E)** 2D scatter plots comparing proteome

changes observed within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* in response to

glycosylation initiation. Proteins associated with membrane GO-terms are color-coded

dark blue with the opacity corresponding to the average p-values observed across

both comparisons. **F)** Zoomed in 2D scatter plots of proteins observed to increase

upon induction within Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcl* and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcl* with membrane

proteins of note highlighted.

Figure 5. Loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* impacts the membrane integrity of *B. cenocepacia*. A) Spot plate assays of strains in response to membrane (0.01% SDS) and osmotic (2% NaCl) stress with and without 1% rhamnose induction (n=4). The deletion of ogcX and *ogcA* increases sensitivity to 0.01% SDS when glycosylation is initiated, while both mutants appear sensitive

to osmotic stress (2% NaCl) regardless of induction. **B-C)** Spot plate assays of

complemented Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*A Tn7-*ogc*l and Δ*ogcl*Δ*ogc*X Tn7-*ogc*l strains in response to

membrane (0.01% SDS) and osmotic (2% NaCl) stress with and without 1% rhamnose

induction demonstrating the restoration of growth within complemented strains (n=4). **D-E)**

Hoechst 33342 and NPN uptake assays of strains reveal loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* leads to

increased fluorescence upon induction, supporting enhanced membrane permeability (n=6

for Hoechst 33342, n=5 for NPN). The fluorescence intensities have been normalised against

bacterial viability counts (**Supplementary Figure 11**).

Figure 6. Loss of *ogcA* and *ogcX* sensitises *B. cenocepacia* to antimicrobials. Spot plate assays of *B. cenocepacia* strains, including Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI*, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI*, and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI* on CAMHA containing various antibiotics, with or without induction with 1% rhamnose. Rhamnose-induced glycosylation resulted in increased susceptibility to tetracycline, rifampicin, trimethoprim and ceftazidime in strains lacking *ogcA* and *ogcX*. Data representative of four biological replicates per strain per antimicrobial.

Figure 7. Overexpression of UppS or OgcX modulates *ogc* **associated defects in**

B. cenocepacia. **A)** Proposed enzymes responsible for the *de novo* synthesis of the

undecaprenyl pool and steps inferred within *ogc* biosynthesis. Within *B. cenocepacia*, two

putative undecaprenyl pyrophosphate synthases (UppS) are assigned corresponding to

BCAL2087 and BCAM2067, while OgcI is responsible for *OGC* initiation and OgcB the

addition of the second GalNAc[47]. The functions of OgcA, as the glycotransferase responsible

for the addition of the final Gal and OgcX, as the flippase responsible for glycan

translocation have only been inferred to date. **B)** Spot plate assays of the *B. cenocepacia*

Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* containing pcumate-sfGFP,

pcumate-BCAL2087 or pcumate-BCAM2067 reveal the initiation of glycosylation reduces

viability while induction of putative UppS partially restores the defect observed within

Δ*ogcA* and Δ*ogcX* strains (n=4). **C)** Spot plate assays of the *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-*ogcI*,

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcX* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* containing pcumate-sfGFP (*psfGFP*) and

pcumate-*ogcX* (*pogcX*) demonstrating the complementation of Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* with

pogcX restores growth (n=4). **D and E)** Spot plate assays of the *B. cenocepacia* Δ*ogcI* Tn7-

ogcI, Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* and Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI* containing pcumate-sfGFP (*psfGFP*)

and pcumate-*ogcX* (*pogcX*) in response to membrane (0.01% SDS) and osmotic (2% NaCl)

stresses with glycosylation initiation demonstrating that p*ogcX* restores resistant to stress in

Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcA* Tn7-*ogcI* yet does not suppress the defect observed in Δ*ogcI*Δ*ogcB* Tn7-*ogcI*

(n=4). **F)** Quantification of glycopeptides from whole-cell proteomic analysis of

B. cenocepacia Tn7-*ogcI* strains carrying p*ogcX*. Induction results in the detection of

glycosylation within strains with varying glycoforms observed across strains (n=4). **G)** EThcD

fragmentation of the HexNAc2 modified peptide [397]AAPPAAASQAAAR[409] (BCAL1674 Uniprot:

B4E8U6) confirming the localization of the $HexNAc_2$ glycosylation event residue S[404].

Figure 8. Modulation of early steps in *ogc* biosynthesis impacts *B. cenocepacia* viability.

Spot plate assays of *B. cenocepacia* K56-2 (WT) containing the expression vectors pSCrhaB2,

pSCrhaB2-*ogc* (p*ogc*), pSCrhaB2-*ogcI* (p*ogcI*), pSCrhaB2-*ogcA-Met1* (p*ogcA*$_{Met1}$), pSCrhaB2-

ogcB (p*ogcB*), pSCrhaB2-*ogcAB-Met1* (p*ogcAB*$_{Met1}$). Induction of *ogc*I and *ogc*B results in

reduced viability, while the expression of *ogc*A and *ogc*AB demonstrated no reduction in

viability (n=4).

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Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7

Figure 8