

1 **Table S1.** Oligonucleotides, plasmids and strains used in this work.

Primers	Sequence (5'to 3')	Purpose	Source
Fjgms	AGGACAGAAATGCCTCGAC	<i>aac(3)-I</i> amplification	[1]
Rjgms	ATCTCGGCTTGAACGAATT		
OmpA1	GGAGCAGTTAGTCCTGATAG	<i>ompA</i> upstream region	This work
OmpA2	<u>GAACTCAAATTATTGAGCTGCCTCCAGAGATAACAATTG</u>	amplification; additional sequence underlined	
OmpA3	CAGCTCAATAATTTGAGTTC	<i>ompA</i> downstream region	This work
OmpA4	<u>GTCGAGGCATTTCTGTCTCCTTCGTCAGTTTGAGGC</u>	amplification; additional sequence underlined	
OmpAP	GCGATTGCTTCTTTAATTGT	<i>ompA</i> gene deletion confirmation with OmpA4 primer	This work
OmkIF	CCTTAATATATGTATAAATAGAGC	<i>ompA</i> gene with upstream region	This work
OmkIR2	AGTCGGTACCAGATTATGAATCAGGAGATTTAC	amplification	
Aac3I_seqR	CGAAGTCGAGGCATTTCTGT	Confirmation of transformed bacteria	This work
AcORI_seqR	AGGCTGTTGATAACTTTTGGAA		
OAsp268F	CACACAGCTAACACTGGTCCACGTAAG	Asp268 substitution by Ala in	This work
OAsp268R	GACCAGTGTTAGCTGTGTGACCTTCG	<i>ompA</i> gene	
Plasmids	Relevant characteristics		Source
pUC19_sacB	pUC19 derivative with <i>sacB</i> gene from <i>Bacillus</i> sp.; for the generation of markerless gene deletion mutants		[1]
pUC19_gm_AcORI (p)	pUC19 derivative with <i>aac(3)-I</i> gentamicin aminoglycoside acetyltransferase cassette and ori site from clinical <i>A. baumannii</i> strain; for the complementation experiments		This work
pUC_sacB_UDompAGm	pUC19_sacB derivative with upstream and downstream regions of <i>A. baumannii ompA</i> gene and <i>aac(3)-I</i> gentamicin aminoglycoside acetyltransferase cassette from clinical <i>A. baumannii</i> strain; for the generation of markerless gene deletion mutant		This work
pompA	pUC19_gm_AcORI derivative with <i>ompA</i> gene along with upstream region (plausible promoter) from Ab ₁₆₉ strain; for the complementation experiments		This work

<i>pompA</i> ₁₇₁	pUC19_gm_AcORI derivative with <i>ompA</i> gene along with upstream region (plausible promoter) from Ab ₁₇₁ strain; for the complementation experiments	This work
<i>pompA</i> _{D268A}	pUC19_gm_AcORI derivative with <i>ompA</i> gene with D268A substitution along with upstream region (plausible promoter) from Ab ₁₆₉ strain; for the complementation experiments	This work

Strains	Relevant characteristics	Source
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> Ab ₁₆₉	Representative IC I clone strain ^a ; MDR strain, gentamicin sensitive	[2]
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> Ab ₁₇₁	Representative IC II clone strain ^a ; MDR strain, gentamicin sensitive	[2]
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> Ab _{V15}	Non-clonal strain ^a ; ampicillin sensitive	[2]
Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i>	<i>ompA</i> gene-negative mutant of <i>A. baumannii</i> strain Ab ₁₆₉ ; markerless	This work
Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> ::p	Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> strain with pUC19_gm_AcORI plasmid	This work
Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> :: <i>pompA</i>	Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> strain complemented with <i>pompA</i>	This work
Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> :: <i>pompA</i> ₁₇₁	Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> strain complemented with <i>pompA</i> ₁₇₁	This work
Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> :: <i>pompA</i> _{D268A}	Ab ₁₆₉ Δ <i>ompA</i> strain complemented with <i>pompA</i> _{D268A}	This work
Ab _{IC II} Δ <i>blpI</i> :: <i>pblpI</i> _{IC II}	Ab _{IC II} Δ <i>blpI</i> strain complemented with <i>pblpI</i> _{IC II}	This work
<i>Escherichia coli</i> OP50	Wild type, bacterial food source for <i>C. elegans</i>	[3]
<i>E. coli</i> JM107	endA1 glnV44 thi-1 relA1 gyrA96 Δ(lac-proAB) [F ₊ traD36 proAB+ lacIq lacZΔM15] hsdR17(RK- mK+) λ ⁻ ; selection of constructed vectors	[4]

^a Strains were assigned to IC I and IC II by trilocus sequence-based typing (3LST) as described previously (Povilonis et al., 2013); Strains were isolated from Lithuanian University of Health Sciences Kauno Klinikos Hospital or Vilnius University Emergency Hospital in 2010.

[1] Skerniškytė J, Krasauskas R, Péchoux C, Kulakauskas S, Armalytė J, Sužiedėlienė E. Surface-related features and virulence among *Acinetobacter baumannii* clinical isolates belonging to international clones I and II. Front. Microbiol. 2019;9:3116.

- 7 [2] Povilonis J, Seputiene V, Krasauskas R, Juskaite R, Miskinyte M, Suziedelis K, et al. Spread of carbapenem-resistant
8 *Acinetobacter baumannii* carrying a plasmid with two genes encoding OXA-72 carbapenemase in Lithuanian hospitals. J Antimicrob
9 Chemother. 2013;68(5):1000-6.
- 10 [3] Brenner S. The genetics of *Caenorhabditis elegans*. Genetic. 1974; 77: 71–94;
- 11 [4] Yanisch-Perron C, Vieira J, Messing J. Improved M13 phage cloning vectors and host strains: nucleotide sequences of the
12 M13mp18 and pUC19 vectors. Gene. 1985;33(1):103-19. Erratum in: Gene. 1992;114(1):81-3.