

Supplemental Figure S1. Related to Figure 1. (**A**) The evolved (Evo) cells of the ppGpp⁰ strain, after 72 hrs growth in the presence of ampicillin (both 6.25 and 3.125 μ g/ml), grew up earlier than the original (Ori) ppGpp⁰ strain. (**B**, **C**, **D**) Growth curves of the wt, $\Delta relA$ and ppGpp⁰ cells in the presence of gentamycin (0.5, 0.25, 0.125 μ g/ml). (**E**, **F**, **G**) Growth curves of the wt, $\Delta relA$ and ppGpp⁰ cells in the presence of gentamycin (0.5, 0.3125 μ g/ml). Two biological replicates were performed, and the average and range were presented. (**H**) The evolved (Evo) cells of the ppGpp⁰ strain, after 72 hrs growth in the presence of gentamycin and ofloxacin (0.125 and 0.03125 μ g/ml, respectively), did not grow up earlier than the original (Ori) ppGpp⁰ strain.



Supplemental Figure S2. (A) The gentamycin (2.5 μ g/ml) and (B) ofloxacin (0.625 μ g/ml) killing curves of the exponentially growing wt, $\Delta relA$ and ppGpp⁰ strains in MOPSr-Lp. Two (gentamycin) and six (ofloxacin) biological replicates were performed, and the averages and SDs are shown. Representative plates of the surviving cells after killing are shown to the right side of each panel.



Supplemental Figure S3. Growth curves of the wt, $\Delta relA$ and ppGpp⁰ cells in the MOPSr-Lp medium from initial OD_{600nm} of 0.05 (A) and 0.1 (B). Two biological replicates were performed, and the averages and SDs are shown.

Supplemental TABLE S1. Bacterial strains used in this study.

| Strain | Relevant features | Reference |
|--------|--|-----------|
| YZ142 | MG1655, wild type <i>E. coli</i> Laboratory stock | |
| YZ38 | MG1655 ΔrelA [21] | |
| YZ62 | MG1655 Δ <i>relA spoT207 ::cat</i> ; CamR [21] | |
| YZ313 | MG1655 Δ <i>relA</i> , pWRG99 This study | |
| YZ580 | MG1655 ΔrelA, spoT(T78-E319)::Iscel-Cam; pWRG99 This study | |
| YZ584 | MG1655 ΔrelA spoT203(R140C) This study | |
| YZ585 | MG1655 ΔrelA spoT202(T78I) This study | |
| YZ840 | MG1655 ΔrelA ΔspoT (colony-1) This study | |
| YZ841 | MG1655 ΔrelA ΔspoT (colony-2) This study | |
| YZ1094 | MG1655 Δ <i>relA</i> ΔspoT rpoBD675A (colony-1) This study | |
| YZ1097 | MG1655 ΔrelA ΔspoT rpoBD675A (colony-2) This study | |

Supplemental TABLE S2. Primers used in this study.

| Number | Name | Sequence |
|--------|----------------------|---|
| pYZ69 | DspoT-conf-F | gtcgtcgttaatcacaaagc |
| pYZ71 | spoT-seq6-R | gcactgcataagcgaagtcg |
| pYZ351 | 80mer-ls(Spot)ifdel | ACAAAGCGGGTCGCCCttgtatctgtttgaaagcctgaatAAAGTCACCCGAAACCG |
| | | AAATTAATGTTTTATGAACCCAA |
| pYZ395 | 60mer-spoTNt-IScel-F | AACGCTGATGGCGGCGCTGCTGCATGACGTGATTGAAGATCTAGACTATATT |
| | | ACCCTGTTATCCC |
| pYZ396 | 60mer-spoTNt-IScel-R | TCTCCGCCATCTGGTCCATATCTTCGGTACGGATCTGGACATTTAAATGGCGC |
| | | GCCTTAC |
| pYZ397 | spoT-T78I-F2 | GAAGATAtTCCCGCCACCTACCAG |
| pYZ398 | spoT-T78I-R1 | GGCGGGAaTATCTTCAATCACGTCATGCAG |
| pYZ399 | spoT-R140C-R1 | TGGGTACaGTCGGCAAGTTTGATGAGG |
| pYZ400 | spoT-R140C-F2 | TGCCGACtGTACCCACAACATGCGCA |