

1 **Non-antibiotic drugs break colonization resistance against**
2 **pathogenic Gammaproteobacteria**

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21 **Summary**

22 Non-antibiotic drugs can alter the composition of the gut microbiome, with largely
23 undefined implications for human health. Here we compared the susceptibility of
24 commensal and pathogenic bacteria to non-antibiotic drugs and found that pathogens
25 show higher drug resistance, which could favor their expansion after treatment. We
26 then developed a model system to screen for drug-microbiome interactions that
27 increase the risk of enteropathogenic infections. Approximately 35% of the >50 drugs
28 we tested increased the abundance of *Salmonella* Typhimurium in synthetic and
29 human stool-derived microbial communities. This was due to direct effects of non-
30 antibiotics on individual commensals, altered microbial interactions within
31 communities and the potential of *Salmonella* to exploit different metabolic niches. Non-
32 antibiotic drugs that favored *Salmonella* expansion *in vitro* also promoted other enteric
33 pathogens and increased *Salmonella* loads in gnotobiotic and conventional mice.
34 These findings may inform future strategies to control pathogen proliferation and to
35 assess individual microbiota-drug-pathogen risks for infection.

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39 **Keywords**

40 Gut microbiome; non-antibiotic drugs; colonization resistance;
41 enteropathogens; *in vitro* communities; synthetic communities; niche overlap;
42 *Salmonella* Typhimurium

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45 Introduction

46 The human gastrointestinal tract is vulnerable to invasion by non-resident
47 bacteria, including pathogenic members of the class *Gammaproteobacteria* such as
48 non-typhoidal *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, *Vibrio cholerae*, and enteropathogenic or
49 enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli*¹. By preventing pathogen colonization and
50 overgrowth of indigenous pathobionts, the gut microbiome provides protection against
51 intestinal infections. This colonization resistance arises from competitive microbe-
52 microbe interactions and the induction of host immune responses^{2,3}. Disruption of the
53 microbiome, for instance, during oral antibiotic usage, increases the infection risk².
54 Consistently, post-antibiotic expansion of *Salmonella* Typhimurium (S. Tm) has been
55 demonstrated *in vitro*^{3,4}, in mouse models^{5,6}, and in clinical studies^{7,8}.

56 Non-antibiotic drugs can collaterally damage the human gut microbiome⁹. At
57 physiologically relevant concentrations, hundreds of non-antibiotic drugs can directly
58 inhibit the growth of commensal gut bacteria¹⁰. As a result, pharmaceuticals from
59 diverse therapeutic classes can alter the composition and function of this microbial
60 community. This includes commonly prescribed antidiabetic¹¹, antihypertensive¹², and
61 antipsychotic drugs^{13–16}. Moreover, drug-mediated changes to the microbiome are
62 often dose dependent¹⁷, can synergize in multi-medicated patients, and can add up
63 with repeated exposures^{18–22}. These side effects may cause gastrointestinal
64 symptoms such as diarrhea and gastrointestinal mucosal injury^{2,23}.

65 Population-based metagenomic analyses have shown that intake of several
66 non-antibiotic drugs is associated with higher loads of pathobionts that can cause
67 severe infections²⁰. However, it remains unclear whether pathobiont overgrowth
68 results from direct interactions of drugs with the gut microbiome, or from disrupted host
69 immune responses induced by drug use or associated with disease.

70 Here, we developed a high-throughput *in vitro* assay to test the hypothesis that
71 non-antibiotic medications disrupt the ability of the gut microbiome to resist invaders
72 by interfering with its composition and function. We focused on the growth of S. Tm in
73 synthetic microbial communities treated with antibiotics and non-antibiotic drugs, and
74 screened for compounds that alter S. Tm expansion after treatment. We identified 18
75 drugs that promote S. Tm growth and 3 drugs that restrict it. Using drug sensitivity
76 assays and synthetic communities of different composition, we showed that alterations
77 to the taxonomic profiles of the community, together with the metabolic characteristics

78 of *S. Tm*, help explain the successful post-drug expansion of the pathogen. We
79 observed similar effects for other pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* species, as well
80 as in complex microbial communities derived from multiple human donors. Selected
81 drugs that strongly enhanced the community invasion of the pathogen *in vitro* also
82 disrupted colonization resistance in gnotobiotic mice colonized with the synthetic
83 community and in conventional mice with a complex microbiome.

84 **Results**

85 **Gammaproteobacteria species are more resistant to non-antibiotic drugs than** 86 **gut commensal bacteria**

87 Using a previously established experimental setup for commensals¹⁰, we
88 investigated the direct inhibitory effects of approximately 1200 FDA-approved drugs
89 on five pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* species: *Salmonella enterica* serovar
90 Typhimurium (S. Tm), *Haemophilus parainfluenzae*, *Shigella flexneri*, *Vibrio cholerae*
91 and *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis*. Overall, these pathogens showed different
92 sensitivity profiles compared to a panel of commensal gut bacteria (Supplementary
93 Figure 1a). While pathogens and gut commensals were inhibited by a similar number
94 of antibiotics (median \pm IQR pathogens = 78 \pm 4; commensals = 80 \pm 16, two-sided t-
95 test $t(10.45) = -0.62$, adjusted P value = 0.55), pathogens were affected by fewer non-
96 antibiotics compared to commensals (median \pm IQR pathogens = 17 \pm 7; commensals
97 = 53 \pm 37, two-sided t-test $t(14.51) = 6.56$ adjusted P value < 0.01; Figure 1a,
98 Supplementary Table 1, 20 μ M).

99 We further assessed the effect of drugs on gut commensals and
100 *Gammaproteobacteria* pathogens across a wide range of concentrations. For this, we
101 established a panel of 20 bacterial species from the human gut microbiome²⁴ and 5
102 pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* species (*Salmonella enterica* serovar
103 Typhimurium, *Shigella flexneri*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis* and
104 *Yersinia enterocolitica*; Supplementary Table 2) and selected 67 antibacterial and non-
105 antibacterial drugs with wide-ranging inhibitory effects across these species in pure
106 culture (Methods, Supplementary Figure 1b). A species was considered to be inhibited
107 by a compound when drug treatment led to a reduction of at least 25% in *in vitro* growth
108 (inhibitory concentration 25; IC₂₅). Overall, gut commensals were inhibited at lower
109 concentrations than pathogens by both non-antibiotics and antibiotics: at 20 μ M, a
110 physiologically relevant concentration for drugs in the large intestine¹⁰, 30% of the
111 commensals were inhibited, while only 14% of the pathogens were affected across all
112 drugs (Figure 1b).

113 These results suggest that differences in susceptibility to pharmaceuticals, and
114 particularly to non-antibiotics, between commensals and pathogens might result in
115 alterations of the gut microbiome that allow pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* to
116 thrive, even at low concentrations.

117 **Microbial community exposure to non-antibiotic drugs modulates *S. Tm*
118 expansion**

119 Next, we assembled a synthetic community comprising the 20 gut commensals
120 tested above. This community, henceforth Com20, is phylogenetically and functionally
121 diverse, spanning 6 bacterial phyla, 11 families, and 17 genera; together, these 20
122 species encoded up to 61.3% of the metabolic pathways present in healthy human gut
123 microbiomes (Supplementary Figure 2a). Members of the community grew together
124 stably and reproducibly in the gut mimetic medium mGAM²⁴, and robustly colonized
125 the gastrointestinal tract of mice for up to 57 days after inoculation of germ-free mice
126 (Figure 2a).

127 To investigate the effect of drug exposure on the community and *S. Tm*
128 proliferation, we developed a high-throughput challenge assay that mimics the
129 predominance of gut commensal bacteria in the initial stage of community invasion by
130 the pathogen: Com20 was drug-treated for 24 h, after which it was challenged by
131 spiking in *S. Tm* at a small fraction of the biomass of the community (Pathogen to
132 Com20 ratio = 1:500, based on optical density (OD)) in fresh medium. Pathogen
133 growth in Com20 was quantified 4.5 h after challenge using a plasmid-based
134 constitutive luminescence reporter. In absence of any treatment *S. Tm* growth in the
135 synthetic community was lower than in pure culture (*S. Tm* in untreated community:
136 median colony forming units (CFU) 2×10^6 CFU/mL, median relative luminescence
137 units (RLU) 2777 RLU/s. *S. Tm* in pure culture: 2.1×10^8 CFU/mL, 14439 RLU/s)
138 (Supplementary Figure 2b-d). Before pathogen challenge, overall community biomass
139 was measured by OD (Figure 2b). This approach allowed us to differentiate between
140 drugs that altered pathogen growth by reducing overall community biomass from those
141 that altered community composition.

142 Using this assay, we tested 52 of the 67 drugs previously evaluated in
143 monoculture, at 5 concentrations in triplicate. Drugs inhibiting growth of *S. Tm* were
144 excluded from the challenge assay. Both *S. Tm* luminescence and Com20 OD values
145 were normalized to untreated controls. Measurements were reproducible across
146 replicates (linear regression $R^2 = 0.63-0.76$ and 0.86-0.92 for luminescence and OD,
147 respectively; Supplementary Figure 2e).

148 We observed a strong negative correlation between normalized community
149 biomass and normalized *S. Tm* growth: dilution of untreated communities resulted in

150 an increased pathogen growth (Spearman's rho = -0.98, P value < 0.01; Figure 2c,
151 red dots and line), suggesting that drugs that reduce overall community abundance
152 might open up niches for *S. Tm*. Indeed, antibiotics such as clindamycin favored *S.*
153 *Tm* growth by strongly decreasing Com20's biomass, even at the lowest concentration
154 tested.

155 In contrast, non-antibiotic drugs had a comparatively smaller effect on
156 community biomass, yet resulted in a wide range of different effects on pathogen
157 abundance (Figure 2c, Supplementary Table 3). For instance, certain non-antibiotics,
158 such as the selective estrogen receptor modulator clomiphene and the antihistamine
159 terfenadine, had a concentration-dependent effect on Com20 biomass, resulting in
160 increased *S. Tm* loads in Com20 at higher drug concentrations. Yet other drugs, such
161 as the antimetabolite floxuridine, increased *S. Tm* levels in Com20, despite having
162 only a minor effect on the overall community biomass (Figure 2c, Supplementary Table
163 3). This observation suggests a second mechanism for drug-mediated pathogen
164 invasion beyond the reduction of Com20 biomass, which is based on changes in its
165 composition. Importantly, changes in the composition of Com20 could not only
166 increase but also decrease *S. Tm* levels, as observed with the calcium channel blocker
167 felodipine and the osteoarthritis drug diacerein (Figure 2d). Similarly, the leukotriene
168 receptor antagonist zafirlukast also tended to reduce *S. Tm* levels in Com20 (Figure
169 2c, Supplementary Table 3).

170 To focus on drugs that alter the microbial composition rather than suppressing
171 the complete microbial community, we removed treatments that resulted in a
172 community OD relative to untreated controls < 0.2 from downstream analyses; this led
173 to the removal of 20 treatments corresponding to 10 drugs (Figure 2d). We classified
174 treatments into three groups based on the confidence interval of the mean *S. Tm*
175 growth in treated compared to untreated communities: 'S. *Tm*-favoring' (25
176 concentrations, 11 drugs), 'S. *Tm*-restricting' (3 concentrations, 3 drugs) or 'No effect'
177 (212 concentrations, 48 drugs) (Figure 2d, Supplementary Figure 2f-g, Supplementary
178 Table 3).

179 For a subset of treatments, we determined the relative abundance of the
180 commensal species by 16S rRNA gene sequencing post-treatment but before
181 challenge with *S. Tm* (Figure 2b, Supplementary Figure 2h). By normalizing OD to
182 species abundances, we obtained a measure of the contribution of each species to

183 community biomass. Drug treatment resulted in diverse final community compositions
184 depending on the drug used (Supplementary Figure 2i). Community composition post-
185 treatment largely behaved as expected from IC₂₅ data: we assessed the ratio of the
186 abundance of each member of the community after treatment to its abundance in a
187 control community and contrasted this to the ratio of growth in monoculture after drug
188 exposure to untreated growth. This allowed us to determine whether the growth of
189 each member in a given community followed the same pattern as in monoculture, be
190 it a reduction or unaffected growth, or whether the microbe was protected or sensitized
191 when part of a microbial community. Across all drugs and all members of Com20, more
192 than 3/4 of drug-microbe interactions followed the IC₂₅ results (expected reduced
193 growth = 44.3%; expected unchanged growth = 32.4%). Among the community
194 effects, cross-protection was more frequent than cross-sensitization (protection in
195 community = 19.1%, sensitization in community = 4.2%) (Supplementary Figure 2j),
196 consistent with our previous observations¹⁷. These results suggest that drug
197 sensitivities in monocultures are largely predictive of the effect of the drug on
198 community biomass, which in turn can be used as an indicator of *S. Tm* expansion in
199 the drug-treated community.

200 To disentangle the influence of community composition on the growth of *S. Tm*
201 from the effect of the drug on the members of the community, we manually generated
202 four communities whose composition resembled that of drug-treated communities
203 based on 16S rRNA gene sequencing (Supplementary Figure 2k). Specifically, we
204 selected floxuridine (20 μ M) and zafirlukast (80 μ M), two drugs that altered *S. Tm*
205 community abundance with minor effect on Com20 biomass, and erythromycin (20 μ M)
206 and sertindole (80 μ M) with influence on both Com20 biomass and community
207 composition. We then used these communities to perform a challenge assay. To mimic
208 the change in OD after drug treatment, we performed a serial dilution of the community
209 before spiking in the pathogen. For erythromycin and sertindole, the drug-mimicking
210 conditions did not fully phenocopy treatment. In the case of zafirlukast and floxuridine,
211 drugs that primarily affected *S. Tm* abundance by altering community composition,
212 changing the community composition in the absence of the drug was sufficient to
213 phenocopy the effect on *S. Tm* expansion (Supplementary Figure 2l). These results
214 indicate that changes in the community composition can influence the growth of *S. Tm*
215 in the absence of drug treatment.

216 Overall, we identified two possible mechanisms by which the effect of drugs on
217 a bacterial community can influence pathogen invasion: first, via a global change in
218 community biomass, and second, via modulation of community composition. For many
219 non-antibiotic drugs, both mechanisms seem to act simultaneously.

220

221 **Treatment with non-antibiotic drugs alters the taxonomic profile and metabolic**
222 **potential of the microbial community**

223 To further assess the association between community composition and *S. Tm*
224 expansion, we identified species whose abundance differed significantly in *S. Tm*-
225 favoring communities compared to untreated Com20 in the set of samples we had
226 amplicon sequencing data. We found that *S. Tm*-favoring communities were enriched
227 in *Collinsella aerofaciens*, *Enterocloster bolteae*, *Dorea formicigenerans*, and
228 *Agathobacter rectalis* (Figure 3a). Conversely, *Phocaeicola vulgatus*, *Bacteroides*
229 *fragilis*, *Bacteroides uniformis*, and *Streptococcus parasanguinis* were depleted.

230 We next assessed how interaction of the pathogen with each member of
231 Com20 affected *S. Tm* growth using two complementary approaches: first, a dropout
232 assay, in which we assembled 19-member communities, each missing one of the
233 bacterial species; second, a co-culture assay, in which we co-cultured *S. Tm* with each
234 species (Figure 3b). Community composition remained relatively stable across most
235 dropout assays, with the exception of the community missing *Clostridium perfringens*,
236 which resulted in an increase in *A. rectalis*, *S. parasanguinis* and members of
237 *Bacteroidales*. However, this shift did not translate into changes in *S. Tm* growth
238 (Figure 3b). Moreover, of the 4 species significantly enriched in the *S. Tm*-favoring
239 group, only the removal of *E. bolteae* led to significantly lower pathogen levels, and
240 removal of *C. aerofaciens* even resulted in increased growth. Thus, the growth of *S.*
241 *Tm* in the drop-out communities did not follow the enrichment patterns observed in the
242 drug-treated communities. The same was true for the pairwise co-culture assays.
243 Based on the enrichment analysis, we expected *E. bolteae* or *C. aerofaciens* to favor
244 *S. Tm* growth, however, both *E. bolteae* or *C. aerofaciens* significantly decreased *S.*
245 *Tm* growth in co-culture. Together, these observations suggest that *S. Tm* abundance
246 within Com20 is an emergent community property that cannot be fully predicted from
247 the mere presence or absence of single members of the community.

248 To determine whether differences in the functional potential of the microbial
249 communities correlated with the ability of *S. Tm* to proliferate, we carried out a
250 metagenome prediction of the communities using PICRUSt2. We compared the
251 overall predicted functional capacity of each of the three treatment groups ('*S. Tm*-
252 favoring', '*S. Tm*-restricting', 'No effect') to untreated Com20 and included community
253 OD as a covariate in the model to account for the effect of biomass on *S. Tm* growth.
254 In all cases, we observed significant differences in the overall metagenome potential,
255 indicating that drug treatment results in changes in the functional capacity of the
256 microbiome, independent of its ability to resist pathogens (Supplementary Figure 3a).
257 The largest shifts were observed in the *S. Tm*-favoring group (pairwise PERMANOVA
258 adjusted $R^2 = 0.08, 0.05$, and 0.02 for *S. Tm*-favoring, No effect, and *S. Tm*-restricting,
259 respectively; adjusted P value < 0.05 in all cases). In addition, compared to untreated
260 Com20 more pathways were significantly different in the *S. Tm*-favoring group than in
261 the *S. Tm*-restricting group (Supplementary Figure 3b, Supplementary Table 4).

262 In summary, these findings suggest that treatment with non-antibiotic drugs
263 leads to changes in the taxonomic composition and metabolic potential of microbial
264 communities, which are linked to their ability to control pathogen invasion.
265

266 **Presence of niche competitor *E. coli* hampers *S. Tm* expansion after drug 267 treatment**

268 Since differences in the metabolic potential of the microbial community were
269 associated with the ability of *S. Tm* to proliferate, we asked whether modifying the
270 niches available to the pathogen influenced its invasiveness. We assessed whether
271 *S. Tm* occupies a distinct metabolic niche from other members of Com20 using
272 predicted genome-scale metabolic models of all species from their genome sequences
273 using CarveMe²⁵. We used these models to calculate metabolic competition and
274 complementarity indices with PhyloMint²⁶: the metabolic competition index is
275 calculated based on the number of compounds required but not synthesized by both
276 species; the metabolic complementarity index is calculated based on the number of
277 compounds that one species produces that the second species requires but cannot
278 synthesize. We found that *S. Tm* tends to have a lower competition index than most
279 other members of Com20, while having a metabolic complementarity index
280 comparable to that of several members of the community (Figure 4a). Thus, the

281 pathogen can potentially exploit niches that don't overlap those of the members of the
282 community, while also benefiting from metabolites produced by other bacteria.

283 Based on the above, we reasoned that introducing a bacterium into Com20,
284 which hinders the growth of *S. Tm* by competing for nutrients, would enable us to
285 investigate the role of niche competition in drug-mediated community invasion. *E. coli*,
286 a member of the *Enterobacteriaceae* family with similar metabolic characteristics as
287 *S. Tm* (Figure 4a), is commonly found in the human gut microbiome. Certain *E. coli*
288 strains are known to restrict *Salmonella* species in the intestines of mice and chickens
289 by competing for limiting resources^{27,28}. To test whether the presence of *E. coli* in a
290 microbial community inhibits *S. Tm* growth, we added the commensal strain *E. coli*
291 ED1a to Com20, thus generating Com21. The presence of *E. coli* in the microbial
292 community increased the representation of pathways detected in the human
293 microbiome up to 68.6 % (Supplementary Figure 2a). *E. coli*-containing Com21
294 significantly reduced the growth of *S. Tm* (0.0144 relative *S. Tm* growth to the growth
295 of *S. Tm* alone) compared to Com20 (0.0363 relative *S. Tm* growth to the growth of *S.*
296 *Tm* alone) (Supplementary Figure 2d). We challenged Com21 with 48 out of 52 drugs
297 evaluated in Com20, at 5 concentrations (Figure 4b); we observed a positive
298 correlation between drug effects on *S. Tm* growth in Com20 and drug effects on *S. Tm*
299 growth in Com21 (Spearman's rho = 0.62, P value < 0.01; Figure 4c, Supplementary
300 Table 5). However, for some drugs, we observed a different pattern of *S. Tm* growth
301 in Com21 and Com20. In particular, drugs that decreased the abundance of *E. coli* in
302 the community, such as doxycycline, erythromycin, and streptozotocin, led to an
303 increase in *S. Tm* growth in Com21 compared to Com20. Conversely, drugs that
304 increased the abundance of *E. coli*, such as clindamycin, sertindole, and tiratricole,
305 hindered *S. Tm* post-treatment expansion (Figure 4d, Supplementary Figure 4).

306 These results indicate that drug-induced alterations to the abundance of a niche
307 competitor highly influence the ability of a pathogen to expand within a microbial
308 community. Differences in drug sensitivity of niche competitors will therefore have a
309 substantial impact on invasion outcomes.

310

311 **Certain non-antibiotics can also open niches for other *Gammaproteobacteria***
312 **pathogens**

313 Other pathogenic members of *Gammaproteobacteria* exhibited similar
314 metabolic requirements (Supplementary Figure 5a) and resistance profiles to non-
315 antibiotics (Figure 1a, Supplementary Figure 1b) as *S. Tm*. Therefore, we asked
316 whether the drugs that influenced post-treatment expansion of *S. Tm* would also affect
317 the growth of other enteropathogens in the absence of closely related competitors. We
318 applied our challenge assay in Com20 to test 12 out of 52 drugs tested before on *S.*
319 *Tm*, at 5 concentrations on 6 pathogens and pathobionts (Figure 5a, Supplementary
320 Figure 5b). The growth of the other pathogens in drug-treated Com20 was largely
321 consistent with our *S. Tm* results (Figure 5b, Supplementary Table 6). We identified 4
322 drugs from different classes, namely clindamycin, floxuridine, simvastatin and
323 sertindole, that favored growth across all pathogens tested, including *S. Tm*.
324 Conversely, the effect of certain drugs was pathogen-specific. For example,
325 clotrimazole favored the abundance of all pathogens in Com20 except for *S. Tm*.
326 Treatment with clomiphene led to an increase in pathogen growth except for
327 uropathogenic *E. coli* CFT073 and *V. cholerae* A1552, similar to terfenadine.
328 Chlorpromazine-treated Com20 promoted the levels of *E. coli* CFT073, *S. flexneri*
329 24570 and *K. pneumoniae* MKP103 but no other pathogens. On the other hand,
330 zafirlukast restricted the growth of *S. flexneri* 24570 *Y. pseudotuberculosis* YPIII, and
331 *Y. enterocolitica* WA-314 but favored the growth of *E. coli* CFT073.

332 These findings indicate that some community-disrupting effects can be
333 generalized to other pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* (Figure 5c). However, certain
334 drug-induced changes modulate the growth of specific pathogens, highlighting the
335 importance of considering pathogen-specific aspects of colonization resistance.
336

337 ***S. Tm* expansion in human-stool-derived communities after non-antibiotic**
338 **treatment recapitulates *in vitro* assays**

339 Our synthetic communities are simplified models. As such, they are
340 advantageous for studies *in vitro* and in gnotobiotic mice, however compared to the
341 human gut microbiome, they have reduced species diversity, lack intraspecies
342 variation and do not recapitulate individual differences. Thus, we sought to test
343 whether drug treatment of complex and microbially diverse communities resulted in

344 similar expansion of *S. Tm*. For this, we derived stable microbial communities^{3,29} from
345 fecal samples from 8 healthy adults, which we used for *in vitro* assays. We found that
346 the sensitivity of the stool-derived communities to diverse drugs varied across donors
347 (Supplementary Figure 6), suggesting inter-individual differences in how these
348 communities respond to drug exposure. Next, for 8 drugs at various concentrations,
349 we evaluated the ability of *S. Tm* to grow in these communities after treatment. *S. Tm*
350 growth in Com20 and Com21 was positively correlated with growth in the stool-derived
351 communities (Figure 6a, Supplementary Table S7). Notably, the mean correlation
352 across donors was higher for Com21 than Com20 (Spearman's rho = 0.57 and 0.74
353 for Com20 and Com21, respectively; Figure 6b), and the number of significant donor-
354 community correlations was higher with Com21 (8 and 5 for Com21 and Com20,
355 respectively; Figure 6b). The increased similarity between the response of Com21 and
356 stool-derived communities compared to that of Com20 might be explained by the
357 presence of the genus *Escherichia*, which strongly increased the representation of
358 metabolic pathways present in the human gut microbiome (Supplementary Figure 2a).
359 Similar to the differences in drug sensitivity between the different communities, *S. Tm*
360 levels after treatment with non-antibiotics varied between individuals (Figure 6). This
361 suggests that the effect of drugs on *S. Tm* invasion can be further modulated by
362 individual community properties.

363 Collectively, these findings support the notion that non-antibiotic drugs can
364 influence the levels of *S. Tm* and other pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* species in
365 the human gut microbiome, and that the extent of the shifts induced by treatment with
366 non-antibiotics might vary based on the individual microbiome composition. In
367 addition, these results further validate our synthetic communities as models for
368 studying the effects of these compounds on the human gut microbiome.

369

370 **Non-antibiotic drugs disrupt colonization resistance against *S. Tm* in mice**

371 Finally, we assessed whether the modulation of *S. Tm* growth by non-antibiotics
372 observed *in vitro* would translate into a disruption of colonization resistance *in vivo*
373 using two animal models (Figure 7a): first, gnotobiotic mice colonized with Com20 to
374 test the transferability of our *in vitro* work and second, conventional specific pathogen
375 free (SPF) mice to test a complex mouse microbiome (on average, 199 amplicon
376 sequence variants (ASV) before treatment).

377 We first validated these models by assessing *S. Tm* growth after a single dose
378 of 800 mg/kg streptomycin, which was expected to disrupt colonization resistance⁵.
379 Twenty-four hours post challenge, pathogen levels reached 10⁸-10⁹ colony forming
380 units (CFU) per gram of feces in both models (Supplementary Figure 7a), confirming
381 their suitability for investigating drug effects on *S. Tm* colonization.

382 Next, we selected 5 drugs with distinct effects *in vitro* (Figure 2c and 2d):
383 clotrimazole (No effect on *S. Tm* but on most other pathogens), chlorpromazine (No
384 effect on *S. Tm* expansion in Com20 but in Com21, pathogen-favoring on most other
385 pathogens), zafirlukast (No effect on *S. Tm* but restricting other pathogens), and
386 terfenadine and clomiphene (favoring most pathogens, including *S. Tm*). We
387 administered these drugs to mice at concentrations equivalent to the human dose for
388 chronic treatment (3-60 mg/kg, Figure 7a). In Com20-colonized mice, most tested
389 drugs resulted in significantly higher *S. Tm* levels compared to the DMSO control, with
390 the exception of zafirlukast, which was expected given our *in vitro* results (Figure 7b).
391 Interestingly, clotrimazole and chlorpromazine, which only showed a significant effect
392 in the *in vitro* assay for pathogens other than *S. Tm*, resulted in higher *S. Tm* levels *in*
393 *vivo*, suggesting that the contribution of non-antibiotics to the disruption of colonization
394 resistance may be underestimated in our *in vitro* data. In SPF mice, all drugs, including
395 zafirlukast, resulted in significantly higher *S. Tm* levels, indicating that the effect of
396 zafirlukast might be dictated by the community and/or host context (Figure 7b).

397 In either mice model, the composition of the microbiota after drug treatment
398 compared with untreated controls and adjusting for baseline taxa abundances did not
399 undergo extensive changes. In gnotobiotic mice, only treatment with clotrimazole and
400 zafirlukast resulted in significant changes in the abundance of 4 and 5 species,
401 respectively (Figure 7c, Supplementary Figure 7b, Supplementary Table S8).
402 Similarly, 31, 2 and 1 amplicon sequence variants (ASVs) were significantly different
403 in SPF mice treated with clomiphene, clotrimazole and zafirlukast, respectively (Figure
404 7d, Supplementary Table S9). This implies that communities are more protected from
405 drugs *in vivo*, possibly by emergent behaviors in the host context and reduced effective
406 drug concentrations in the colon. Regardless of statistical significance, the change in
407 abundance of certain taxonomic groups was consistent across treatments. In
408 gnotobiotic mice, drug treatment tended to increase the abundance of *E. lenta*, *C.*
409 *aerofaciens*, and *C. perfringens* (Supplementary Table S8). In SPF mice, the

410 proportion of ASVs from the orders *Lachnospirales* and *Oscillospirales* that showed
411 changes in abundance was comparable, however, more ASVs from the order
412 *Bacteroidales* tended to increase than decrease in abundance in treated mice
413 (Supplementary Table S9).

414 We did not observe any significant changes in *E. coli* counts in SPF mice after
415 drug treatment (Supplementary Figure 7c), suggesting that despite the presence of a
416 close competitor (Figure 4a), *S. Tm* has a growth advantage in drug-disturbed
417 microbial communities. In none of the mouse models did higher *S. Tm* loads lead to
418 host symptoms, signs of intestinal inflammation or systemic infection 24 h after *S. Tm*
419 challenge (Supplementary Figure 7d). This is consistent with previous reports
420 indicating that *S. Tm* loads in the range of 10^8 CFU/ g feces are required to trigger
421 inflammation⁵.

422 Overall, our results confirm our *in vitro* findings by showing that non-antibiotic
423 drugs from different therapeutic classes abrogate colonization resistance against *S.*
424 *Tm* in mice with defined and complex microbiotas. For certain drugs, the interference
425 with colonization resistance depended on the specific microbiome composition, as
426 shown for zafirlukast.

427

428 Discussion

429 In this study, we systematically investigated how drug-induced disruption of
430 microbial communities affected pathogen invasion *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Starting from a
431 set of more than 1200 compounds, our approach led to the identification of non-
432 antibiotic drugs that increased *S. Tm* pathogen load in gnotobiotic and conventional
433 mice. These drugs included compounds from a wide range of therapeutic classes,
434 including anti-asthmatic, antipsychotic, selective estrogen receptor modulators,
435 antifungal and antihistaminic drugs. However, we also discovered drugs, such as
436 zafirlukast, which hindered the expansion of multiple pathogenic
437 *Gammaproteobacteria* species *in vitro*. Overall, we found more compounds that
438 favored *S. Tm* expansion rather than restricted it, consistent with our observation that
439 *Gammaproteobacteria* were more resistant to drugs.

440 To the best of our knowledge, the present study is the first to demonstrate that
441 non-antibiotic drugs can disrupt colonization resistance, increasing the burden of
442 pathobionts and pathogens. This is consistent with a population-level metagenomic
443 cohort study in which an association between non-antibiotic drug consumption and
444 higher pathobiont load was reported²⁰. This implies a previously underestimated risk
445 of infection, with potentially severe consequences in vulnerable populations such as
446 immunocompromised individuals or those taking multiple or chronic non-antibiotic
447 medications.

448 Our approach is based on 20/21-member model communities, which are
449 ideally suited to dissect intricate species-species and drug-species interactions within
450 the human gut microbiome. The members of these communities are prevalent and
451 abundant gut bacterial species and have been thoroughly characterized for the direct
452 interaction across 1200 marketed drugs^{10,30}. While only encompassing a small
453 number of species, both communities encoded roughly two thirds of the metabolic
454 pathways detectable in the human gut microbiome by state-of-the-art metagenome
455 profilers^{31,32}. Several properties make these communities an attractive model to study
456 colonization resistance. First, in addition to its utility for *in vitro* analyses, this
457 community stably colonized the mouse gut. Second, the overall community
458 composition was similar both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, with the dominant members belonging
459 to the phyla *Bacteroidota* and *Bacillota*, the main phyla in the human gut microbiota.
460 Third, without drug treatment, Com20/21 hindered the growth of

461 *Gammaproteobacteria* pathogens, recapitulating key features of colonization
462 resistance. Fourth, the outcome of the *S. Tm* challenge assays using Com20/21
463 positively correlated with the response observed in human-stool-derived communities.
464 Therefore, although it is a reductionist model, it recapitulates many of the
465 characteristics of a natural microbiome. Our overall strategy makes it possible to
466 disentangle the contribution of individual microbes or microbial consortia from that of
467 the host in preventing pathogen expansion after drug treatment. All the above make
468 our approach a powerful tool for the study of mechanistic aspects of colonization
469 resistance and provide a complement to standard preclinical animal models and cohort
470 studies.

471 The present study represents a conservative estimate of the number of non-
472 antibiotics with the potential to increase the pathogen load. This is because the *in vitro*
473 assay is unable to measure host-mediated aspects of colonization resistance, such as
474 immunological (e.g., antimicrobial peptides) and physical barriers (e.g., mucus, spatial
475 variation along the intestine), a shortcoming of our approach. Consequently, we may
476 have overlooked non-antibiotic drugs that promote post-treatment pathogen growth
477 due to microbiome-independent factors. One such group are proton-pump inhibitors,
478 which strongly inhibit gastric acid production and are considered a risk factor for
479 antibiotic-induced diarrhea^{33,34}.

480 Using the model communities, we found that non-antibiotic drugs can affect
481 both the composition as well as the overall abundance of microbes, and that both
482 factors are linked to the ability of multiple *Gammaproteobacteria* pathogens to
483 proliferate. According to the nutrient-niche concept, the success of a pathogen in
484 colonizing the intestine depends on its ability to identify a suitable niche and
485 outcompete other members of the ecosystem by efficiently consuming limiting
486 substrates^{35,36}. After antibiotic treatment, large shifts in microbiome composition and
487 function lead to an increased release of monosaccharides, facilitating *S. Tm*
488 expansion^{23,37,38} and resulting in the induction of self-promoting host
489 inflammation^{23,37,38,39}. Our work expands upon this concept by incorporating
490 differences in drug sensitivities into the ecological considerations. While antibiotics
491 can affect a very wide range of species, non-antibiotics tend to target specific
492 commensal bacteria. This precise inhibition can have critical consequences for
493 community composition and/or function and might explain why pathogen load

494 increases even after non-antibiotic treatment, although the overall collateral damage
495 is smaller compared to antibiotics.

496 As a metabolic generalist, *Salmonella* can easily adjust to diverse post-drug
497 nutrient landscapes. However, this adaptability is also a property of direct niche
498 competitors such as commensal *E. coli*²⁸, which is similarly resistant to non-antibiotics.
499 Thus, minor differences in drug sensitivities between resident microbes and invading
500 pathogens, combined with their differential ability to utilize limited substrates, will likely
501 influence colonization and, ultimately, infection outcomes. Importantly, the variation in
502 sensitivity to non-antibiotics we observed in stool-derived communities *in vitro* and the
503 variation of these communities to hinder *S. Tm* proliferation suggests that, at a fine
504 scale, inter-individual differences in microbiome compositions influence colonization
505 outcomes.

506 While it is known that the gut microbiome confers colonization resistance
507 against enteric pathogens⁴⁰, the exact role played by specific commensals is not clear
508 and reports are contradictory. It has been reported that *B. thetaiotaomicron* can
509 exacerbate the colonization by enteric pathogens in mice⁴¹. Conversely, others have
510 shown that *Bacteroides* species can block *Salmonella* colonization via production of
511 the short-chain fatty acid (SCFA) propionate⁴². The latter finding is consistent with our
512 observations: *B. uniformis*, *B. fragilis*, and *P. vulgatus* were depleted in communities
513 that favored *S. Tm* growth *in vitro* after drug treatment and the abundance of these
514 species was lower on average in drug-treated gnotobiotic mice compared to untreated
515 controls. In contrast, our results with SPF mice showed that members of the order
516 *Bacteroidales* were enriched in drug-treated mice compared to untreated controls,
517 while the orders *Oscillospirales* and *Lachnospirales* exhibited lower abundances.
518 These latter two orders are diverse clades whose members are fiber degraders and
519 SCFA-producers, commonly found in the mammalian gut microbiome⁴³, and are
520 largely associated with positive health outcomes in humans⁴⁴. One plausible reason
521 for the apparent inconsistency in *Bacteroidales* outcomes in our *in vivo* and *in vitro*
522 models may be that control of pathogen growth is linked to the levels of short-chain
523 fatty acids, rather than the abundance of the specific taxa responsible for their
524 production.

525 In summary, the present work emphasizes the risks posed by non-antibiotic
526 drugs in disrupting the microbiome's ability to protect against pathogen colonization

527 and increasing the likelihood of infections. Our approach provides a basis for
528 understanding the mechanisms of non-antibiotic-mediated expansion of pathogenic
529 bacteria, which is critical for the development of strategies to reduce pathogen burden
530 in vulnerable populations. Future studies examining the effects of non-antibiotic drugs
531 across a wide range of microbiome compositions, drug dosages, and treatment
532 regimens will be pivotal in the development of strategies to predict, mitigate, and
533 minimize microbiome-mediated side effects of these medications.

534

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769

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785 **Authors contributions**

786 Conceptualization: L. M.; Methodology: A. G., T. Z., P. M., J.d.I.C.Z and L. M.;
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791

792 **Declaration of interests**

793 The authors declare no competing interests.

794

795

796 **Resource Availability**

797 **Lead contact**

798 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed
799 to the lead contact, Lisa Maier (l.maier@uni-tuebingen.de).

800

801 **Materials availability**

802 Plasmids generated in this study are available from the lead contact upon
803 request.

804

805 **Data availability**

806 The 16S rRNA gene amplicon sequencing data generated during this study
807 have been deposited in the European Nucleotide Archive with accession ID
808 PRJEB65315. Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in
809 this paper is available from the lead contact upon request.

810

811 **Code availability**

812 The R notebooks with the code used for data analysis are available at
813 https://github.com/Lisa-Maier-Lab/HTD_CR.

814

815 **Methods**

816 **Bacterial cultivation of monocultures, Com20/21, and stool-derived
817 communities**

818 The species used in this study are listed in the Supplementary Table S10. They
819 were purchased from DSMZ, BEI Resources, ATCC, or Dupont Health & Nutrition, or
820 were generously provided as gifts from the Denamur Laboratory (INSERM), the
821 Blokesch Laboratory (EPFL), the Andrews-Polymenis Laboratory (Texas A&M
822 University), the Darby Laboratory (UCSF), or the Wagner Laboratory (University of
823 Tübingen). All gut commensal species, whether grown individually or as a community,
824 were cultivated in mGAM medium (HyServe GmbH & Co.KG, Germany) at 37 °C, with
825 the exception of *Veillonella parvula* and *Bilophila wadsworthia* monocultures. *V.*
826 *parvula* was cultured in Todd-Hewitt Broth supplemented with 0.6% sodium lactate
827 and *B. wadsworthia* was cultured in mGAM supplemented with 60 mM sodium formate
828 and 10 mM taurine. The media were pre-reduced for a minimum of 24 h under anoxic

829 conditions (2% H₂, 12% CO₂, 86% N₂) in an anaerobic chamber (Coy Laboratory
830 Products Inc.). The species were inoculated from frozen stocks into liquid culture
831 media and passaged twice (1:100) overnight to ensure robust growth. The purity and
832 identity of the species was regularly verified via sequencing of the 16S rRNA gene
833 and/or MALDI TOF mass spectrometry (MS)⁴⁵.

834 A representative set of prevalent and abundant species from the human gut
835 microbiome was selected as previously described^{10,46}. From this set, 31
836 phylogenetically diverse species, differing >3 % in their 16S rRNA gene sequences in
837 the V4 region, were selected. When monocultures of all species were mixed in equal
838 ratios, 20 of these species were consistently detectable and their levels were stable
839 after several passages¹⁷.

840 For experiments involving human stool-derived material informed consent was
841 obtained from all 8 donors (approved by the Ethics Committee of the University
842 Hospital Tübingen, project ID 314/2022B02). Stool-derived communities were
843 generated from fresh human fecal samples as previously described^{29,30} by inoculating
844 from frozen glycerol stocks into 3 mL of BHI and serial dilution of 1:200 for 3 48-h
845 passages to ensure that composition reached a steady state before measurements.
846 Experiments were performed in clear, flat-bottomed 96-well plates (Greiner Bio-One).
847 Plates were sealed with breathable AeraSeals (Excel Scientific). Communities were
848 stored with glycerol as frozen stocks at -80 °C, inoculated from frozen stocks into fresh
849 mGAM and grown overnight.

850 Selective plating of pathogens was performed under aerobic conditions. For
851 animal experiments, *S. Tm* was cultured in LB broth supplemented with 0.3 M NaCl,
852 and *S. Tm* loads in intestinal contents and organs were determined on MacConkey
853 agar supplemented with 50 µg/mL streptomycin.

854

855 **Prestwick library screening for pathogens**

856 Prestwick library screening was performed as previously described¹⁰ on five
857 pathogenic bacterial species in mGAM medium under anaerobic conditions. In brief,
858 the library, which consists of approximately 1200 FDA-approved drugs, was diluted to
859 100-fold the working concentration in DMSO (2 mM) in V-bottom polypropylene plates
860 (Greiner Bio-One, cat. No. 651261). For the screening experiments, drug master
861 plates were diluted to 2-fold the working concentration in mGAM (40 µM) in U-bottom

862 plates (ThermoScientific, cat. No. 168136), aliquoted (50 μ L per plate) and stored at -
863 20 °C for a maximum of one month. The DMSO control wells within each 96-well plate
864 served as controls. For experiments with *H. parainfluenzae*, mGAM was
865 supplemented with 0.5 mg/L hemin and 2 mg/L NAD. Prior to inoculation, the drug
866 plates were pre-reduced overnight in an anaerobic chamber.

867 Before the screening experiments, bacterial strains were passaged twice
868 overnight (1:100) anaerobically and OD at 578 nm (OD₅₇₈) was adjusted to 0.02. After
869 inoculation, the starting OD₅₇₈ for all bacterial species was 0.01 and the drug
870 concentration in the plate was 20 μ M with 1% DMSO. All plates were sealed with
871 breathable membranes (Breathe-Easy, Sigma-Aldrich, cat. No. Z380059). Bacterial
872 growth was tracked by measuring the OD₅₇₈ every hour for 24 h using a microplate
873 spectrophotometer (EON, Biotek) coupled with a Biostack 4 microplate stacker
874 (Biotek), both housed inside an incubator (EMBL workshop). All screening
875 experiments were performed in three biological replicates. For analysis, growth curves
876 were truncated at the transition from exponential to stationary phase for analysis. The
877 area under the curve (AUC) was calculated using the trapezoidal rule and normalized
878 to the solvent/DMSO controls within the same plate. We identified hits from normalized
879 AUC measurements by fitting heavy-tailed distributions, specifically the scaled
880 Student's t-distribution⁴⁷, to the wells containing controls. P values for each drug and
881 strain were combined across replicates using Fisher's method, and the False
882 Discovery Rate (FDR) was calculated using the Benjamini-Hochberg method over the
883 entire matrix.

884

885 **Drug selection**

886 Drugs for the *in vitro* challenge assay were selected based on their direct
887 inhibitory effect on members of Com20¹⁰. We aimed to identify drugs with different
888 inhibition profiles across the 20 species so that we could generate communities with
889 sufficient compositional variation. We performed hierarchical clustering (Euclidean
890 distance metric and complete linkage method) using the normalized AUC values of
891 the 172 drugs that showed significant inhibition (adjusted P value < 0.01) against at
892 least 5 of the 20 species in Com20. From these clusters, we selected 30 drugs
893 representing diverse inhibition spectra across Com20 members. Additionally, we
894 incorporated 25 clinically relevant drugs, resulting in a final selection of 52 drugs. None

895 of the drugs interfered with the luminescence readout of the assay. Drugs directly
896 inhibited *S. Tm* growth were excluded. We further excluded beta-lactam antibiotics
897 due to the presence of ampicillin resistance on the pilux plasmid used in the *S. Tm*
898 invasion assay. Among this final set, there were 43 human-targeted drugs from distinct
899 therapeutic classes and 7 antibiotics (Supplementary Table S3). For each drug, we
900 tested five concentrations. Drugs with reported intestinal concentrations exceeding 20
901 μM^{10} were screened at concentrations from 10 to 160 μM , and the remaining drugs
902 were screened at concentrations from 2.5 to 40 μM .

903

904 **IC₂₅ determination**

905 All drugs were dissolved in DMSO, except for clomipramin, doxorubicin, and
906 tobramycin, which were dissolved in water. Drug master plates at a concentration 100
907 times the working concentration were prepared by serially diluting the stock solutions
908 two-fold in DMSO or water. The dilutions were carried out column-wise in V-bottom
909 96-well plates (Greiner Bio-One, cat. No. 651261), starting from 160 mM. Each column
910 in the plate contained 8 two-fold dilutions of a drug, except for column 7 containing
911 DMSO or water as a control. This strategy resulted in 11 drugs screened per plate.
912 The master plates were diluted to 2 times the assay concentration in 50 μL of mGAM
913 in U-bottom 96-well plates (Thermo Fisher Scientific, cat. No. Z168136) and stored at
914 -20 °C for a maximum of one month. Prior to the assay, the plates were thawed and
915 pre-reduced overnight in an anaerobic chamber.

916 Monocultures or stool-derived communities²⁴ were grown overnight in 5 mL of
917 mGAM. The next day, they were diluted to OD₅₇₈ of 0.02. Then, 50 μL of this
918 suspension were added to the drug plates to result in a starting OD₅₇₈ of 0.01 and a
919 DMSO concentration of 1% in all wells. Plates were sealed with a Breathe-Easy
920 breathable membrane (Sigma-Aldrich, cat. No. Z380059). Growth curves of OD₅₇₈
921 were monitored every hour after 1 min of linear shaking under anaerobic conditions
922 using an Epoch2 microplate reader coupled with a Biostack 4 microplate stacker (both
923 Agilent) housed in a custom-made incubator (EMBL workshop²⁴). At least three
924 biological replicates were analyzed for each species.

925 To calculate the AUC, the growth curves were analyzed as previously
926 described^{10,24} with the R package 'neckaR' (<https://github.com/Lisa-Maier-Lab/neckaR>), using control wells within the plate that did not contain any drugs to

928 define normal growth. The median AUC was calculated for each concentration across
929 the three replicates. To conservatively remove the effects of noise, monotonicity was
930 enforced. If the AUC decreased at lower concentrations, it was set to the highest AUC
931 measured at higher concentrations. The IC₂₅ was defined as the lowest concentration
932 at which a median AUC <0.75 was observed.

933

934 ***In vitro* invasion assay for *S. Tm***

935 *Preparation of drug master plates*

936 Drug master plates were prepared in V-bottom 96-well plates at 100-fold the
937 drug working concentration in DMSO as described above. Concentration gradients of
938 the drugs (16 mM–1 mM or 4 mM–0.25 mM) were represented by each column, with
939 row B and G having the highest and lowest concentration, respectively. In each deep-
940 well plate, Row E each served as solvent controls containing only DMSO or water. To
941 prepare the 96-deep-well plates (Thermo Fisher Scientific, cat. No. AB-0564) for the
942 *S. Tm* challenge assay, 5 μ L of the drug master plate were transferred to the deep-
943 well plate, which already contained 95 μ L of mGAM medium. Subsequently, the deep-
944 well plates (5 times the drug working concentration in 5% DMSO) were pre-reduced
945 overnight in an anaerobic chamber. Wells on the border contained only mGAM media
946 (sterile controls).

947

948 *Assembly of Com20/Com21*

949 For Com20/Com21 assembly, each member was inoculated from frozen stocks
950 and cultured anaerobically in 5 mL of mGAM over two overnight passages (1:100) as
951 monocultures. OD₅₇₈ was individually measured for each species. The cultures were
952 mixed together in the volume required to achieve a total OD₅₇₈ of 0.0125 (e.g., in
953 Com20, each species contributed an OD₅₇₈ of 0.000625) and 400 μ L of this
954 suspension were added to wells of 96-deep-well plates containing drugs as described
955 above to achieve a starting OD₅₇₈ of 0.01 (total volume of 500 μ L).

956 The deep-well plate with the drugs and communities was sealed with an
957 AeraSeal breathable membrane (Sigma-Aldrich, cat. No. A9224) and incubated
958 anaerobically at 37 °C for 24 h. The 24 h of incubation with drugs disrupted the
959 composition of the communities, which were used for the *in vitro* *S. Tm* challenge
960 assay. Pellets from 300 μ L of the cultures were frozen for 16S rRNA gene analysis.

961 In vitro *S. Tm* challenge assay

962 For the luminescence-based invasion assay, we used the human gut pathogen
963 *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhimurium strain SB300⁴⁸ with the plasmid pJ11282
964 ilux (pRS16591, *S. Tm* pilux; gift from Foster Lab, University of Oxford) for constitutive
965 expression of the ilux operon under the nptII promoter⁴⁹. *S. Tm* pilux was grown
966 anaerobically at 37 °C overnight in mGAM supplemented with 100 µg/mL ampicillin
967 and then sub-cultured by diluting 1:100 in the same medium. The next day, we
968 measured the OD₅₇₈ of 100 µL of all drug-perturbed communities in a 96-well clear,
969 flat-bottom plate. To assess the growth potential of *S. Tm* pilux in the drug-perturbed
970 communities, 50 µL from each well of the drug-perturbed communities were
971 transferred into new pre-reduced, deep-well plates. *S. Tm* pilux was diluted to an OD₅₇₈
972 of 0.0025 and 200 µL of this suspension were added to the assay deep-well plate.
973 Two hundred fifty microliters of mGAM were added so that the total volume was 500
974 µL, resulting in a starting OD₅₇₈ for *S. Tm* of 0.001 and for the untreated community of
975 0.5. The assay plate was sealed with an AeraSeal breathable membrane (Sigma-
976 Aldrich, cat. No. A9224) and incubated anaerobically at 37 °C for 4.5 h. Thereafter,
977 the plate was taken out of the anaerobic chamber. The contents of the wells were
978 thoroughly mixed and 25 µL of 2 mg/mL chloramphenicol were added to each well to
979 halt *S. Tm* growth and stabilize the luminescence signal. One hundred microliters of
980 the cell suspension were transferred to a white 96-well plate (Thermofisher 236105).
981 Approximately 10 min later, the plate was incubated for 10 min at 37°C in a Tecan
982 Infinite 200 PRO microplate reader and luminescence was measured.

983 The *in vitro* *S. Tm* challenge assay involved testing 260 conditions, consisting
984 of 52 drugs at 5 different concentrations, and was performed in triplicates. We obtained
985 two measurements: the OD₅₇₈ of communities after overnight incubation with the
986 drugs, and the luminescence emitted by *S. Tm* as a proxy for pathogen growth within
987 the drug-perturbed communities. For data analysis, OD₅₇₈ values were first corrected
988 by subtracting the baseline OD₅₇₈ from mGAM medium. Subsequently, the
989 luminescence and OD₅₇₈ values were normalized to the control column in row E, which
990 contained the unperturbed community (solvent controls). Both *S. Tm* luminescence
991 and Com20 OD₅₇₈ were highly correlated among the three replicates (R²=0.63-0.76
992 and R²=0.86-0.92, respectively; Supplementary Figure 2e).

993

994 *Variations of the in vitro S. Tm challenge assay: pairwise co-culture and single-species*
995 *dropout assays*

996 Pairwise co-culture assays were conducted to measure the contribution of each
997 member of Com20 to S. Tm growth alone. The commensal strain and S. Tm pilux were
998 grown anaerobically overnight in mGAM and subcultured once before the experiment.
999 On the following day, the commensal and S. Tm pilux were mixed in 96-deep-well
1000 plates with a total volume of 500 μ L of mGAM medium. The initial OD₅₇₈ of the
1001 commensals was set to 0.1, while S. Tm had an initial OD₅₇₈ of 0.0002 (commensal to
1002 pathogen ratio 500:1), as described above for the S. Tm challenge assay in Com20.
1003 Control wells contained only S. Tm in monoculture. After a growth period of 4.5 h at
1004 37 °C under anaerobic conditions, S. Tm levels were calculated as described for the
1005 *in vitro* S. Tm challenge assay.

1006 The single-species dropout assay was performed similar to the *in vitro* S. Tm
1007 challenge assays, but one strain at a time was omitted when assembling the synthetic
1008 community.

1009

1010 *Quantification of S. Tm in treatment-mimicking communities*

1011 To validate our screen, we selected four conditions (treatment with
1012 erythromycin, floxuridine, sertindole, and zafirlukast). Based on the composition of
1013 Com20 after treatment with these drugs, we assembled treatment-mimicking
1014 communities containing only the members with a mean relative abundance \geq 3% after
1015 24 h of drug exposure. Com20 and treatment-mimicking communities were grown in
1016 a deep-well plate at 37 °C anaerobically. After 24 h, dilution series of these
1017 communities were performed in a deep-well plate in a total volume of 400 μ L. We
1018 transferred 100 μ L from each dilution and Com20 to a flat-bottom plate and measured
1019 the OD₅₇₈. Fifty microliters were transferred to a new deep-well plate containing 250
1020 μ L mGAM per well. In addition, 200 μ L of S. Tm pilux (OD₅₇₈ 0.0025) were added to
1021 each well and the plate was incubated for 4.5 h at 37 °C. The remaining volume of the
1022 dilution series was kept for DNA isolation and 16S rRNA gene sequencing. After 4.5
1023 h, S. Tm levels were determined via luminescence measurements as described
1024 above. The experiment was performed in triplicate and luminescence values detected
1025 in treatment-mimicking communities were normalized to luminescence values
1026 detected in Com20. We compared the log2-fold change of S. Tm luminescence and

1027 OD578 between treatment-mimicking communities and drug-treated communities to
1028 identify the dilution step that best mimicked the drug-treated community.

1029

1030 *Analysis of community composition using 16S rRNA gene amplicon sequencing*

1031 DNA was extracted from pellets of 300 µL culture using a DNeasy UltraClean
1032 96 Microbial Kit (Qiagen 10196-4) or from whole fecal pellets using a DNeasy
1033 PowerSoil HTP 96 kit (Qiagen 12955-4). Library preparation and sequencing was
1034 performed at the NGS Competence Center NCCT (Tübingen, Germany). Genomic
1035 DNA was quantified with a Qubit dsDNA BR/HS Assay Kit (Thermo Fisher) and
1036 adjusted to 100 ng input for library preparation. The first step PCR was performed in
1037 25 µL reactions including KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (Roche), 515F⁵⁰ and 806R⁵¹
1038 primers (covering a ~350-bp fragment of the 16S V4 region) and template DNA (PCR
1039 program: 95 °C for 3 min, 28X (98 °C for 20 s, 55 °C for 15 s, 72 °C for 15 s), 72 °C
1040 for 5 min). Initial PCR products were purified using 28 µL of AMPure XP beads and
1041 eluted in 50 µL of 10 mM Tris-HCl. Indexing was performed in a second step PCR
1042 including KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMix (Roche), index primer mix (IDT for Illumina
1043 DNA/RNA UD Indexes, Tagmentation), purified initial PCR product as template (PCR
1044 program: 95 °C for 3 min, 8X (95 °C for 30 s, 55 °C for 30 s, 72 °C for 30 s), 72 °C for
1045 5 min). After another bead purification (20 µL of AMPure XP beads, eluted in 30 µL of
1046 10 mM Tris-HCl), the libraries were checked for correct fragment length on an E-Base
1047 device using E-Gel 96 Gels with 2% mSYBR Safe DNA Gel Stain (Fisher Scientific),
1048 quantified with a QuantiFluor dsDNA System (Promega), and pooled equimolarly. The
1049 pool was sequenced on an Illumina MiSeq device with a v2 sequencing kit (input
1050 molarity 10 pM, 20% PhiX spike-in, 2×250 bp read lengths).

1051

1052 **Computational processing of 16S rRNA amplicon sequences**

1053 We used the DADA2 v. 1.21.0⁵² package of R (R v. 4.2.0) following its standard
1054 operating procedure at <https://benjneb.github.io/dada2/bigdata.html>. Briefly, after
1055 inspecting the quality profiles of the raw sequences, we trimmed and filtered the
1056 paired-end reads using the following parameters: trimLeft: 23, 24; truncLen: 240, 200;
1057 maxEE: 2, 2; truncQ: 11. The filtered forward and reverse reads were dereplicated
1058 separately and used for inference of amplicon sequence variants (ASVs) using default
1059 parameters, after which the reads were merged on a per-sample basis. Next, we

1060 filtered the merged reads to retain only those with a length between 250 and 256 bp
1061 and carried out chimera removal.

1062 We performed the taxonomic assignment in two steps. First, the final set of
1063 ASVs was classified up to genus level using a curated DADA2-formatted database
1064 based on the genome taxonomy database (GTDB) release R06-RS202⁵² at
1065 https://scilifelab.figshare.com/articles/dataset/SBDI_Sativa_curated_16S_GTDB_dat
1066 abase/14869077. Next, ASVs belonging to genera expected to be in COM20 were
1067 further classified at the species level using a modified version of the aforementioned
1068 database that contained only full length 16S rRNA sequences of the 20 members of
1069 the synthetic community. The sequence of each ASV was aligned against this
1070 database using the R package DECIPHER v. 2.24.0⁵³; we classified an ASV as a given
1071 species if it had sequence similarity >98% to the closest member in the database. The
1072 abundance of each taxon of COM20 was obtained by aggregating reads at the species
1073 level. ASVs from *in vitro* communities and gnotobiotic mice were classified using the
1074 two-step processes; ASVs from SPF mice were classified using only the first step. We
1075 removed potential contaminant sequences from SPF mouse samples using the
1076 permutation filtering method implemented in the PERFect v. 1.14.0 R package⁵⁴; on
1077 average, we retained 92.3% of the original sequencing reads (range 77.2%-99.1%).
1078

1079 **Classification of drug treatments according to *S. Tm* growth**

1080 We grouped treatments according to their effect on COM20 *in vitro*. To do so,
1081 we calculated the mean normalized luminescence and the 95% confidence interval
1082 (CI) of each drug-concentration combination. A treatment was classified as '*S. Tm*-
1083 favoring' if its mean normalized luminescence was >2 and the 95% CI did not span 2,
1084 the treatment was classified as '*S. Tm* -restricting' if the mean normalized
1085 luminescence was <0.5 and the 95% CI did not span 0.5, and the treatment was
1086 classified as having 'No effect' if the mean normalized luminescence was between 0.5
1087 and 2. Communities with a normalized OD₅₇₈ <0.2 were also classified but marked for
1088 removal in downstream analyses to minimize the bias introduced by low-biomass
1089 samples.
1090

1091 **Assessment of drug treatment on the microbiome of synthetic communities *in*
1092 *vitro***

1093 We assessed differences in the composition of the microbial communities
1094 among colonization groups (i.e., 'S. Tm-favoring', 'S. Tm-restricting', and 'No effect').
1095 We transformed the ASV abundances using the centered-log-ratio (clr) to account for
1096 the compositional nature of the sequencing data. Positive clr values imply that an ASV
1097 is more abundant than average; conversely, negative values imply that the ASV is less
1098 abundant than average. Low biomass samples were removed. Next, we fitted linear
1099 regression models to determine which species were differentially abundant between
1100 each colonization group and controls using the MaAsLin2 v. 1.13.0 R package⁵⁵; we
1101 included normalized OD₅₇₈ as a covariate to account for the biomass of the community,
1102 with the OD₅₇₈ values of control samples set to 1. P values were adjusted using the
1103 Benjamini-Hochberg method and a significance threshold of 0.1 was used.

1104

1105 **Prediction of functional potential of synthetic communities and analysis of
1106 differentially abundant functions**

1107 We used the 16S rRNA gene amplicon data from control and drug-treated
1108 Com20 and Com21 *in vitro* communities and untreated gnotobiotic mice samples to
1109 predict the metabolic potential of the microbial communities using PICRUSt2³² v. 2.4.1.
1110 PICRUSt2 maps the nucleotide sequence of each ASV to a database of genomes,
1111 which is used to retrieve the functions encoded by each of the detected taxa in a
1112 microbial community. Since the composition of the synthetic communities is known,
1113 we retrieved the full-length sequences of the 16S rRNA gene for each of the member
1114 species and used them together with the species abundance data to predict
1115 metagenome functions. For our analyses, we used MetaCyc pathway abundances.

1116 We compared the number of metabolic pathways detected in the untreated *in*
1117 *vitro* and *in vivo* synthetic communities to actual human gut metagenomes. To do so,
1118 we retrieved publicly available tables of MetaCyc pathway abundances processed
1119 using HUMAnN2 from
1120 https://github.com/gavinmdouglas/picrust2_manuscript/tree/master/data/mgs_validation. These tables comprised 156 samples from the Human Microbiome Project⁵⁶ and
1121 57 from Cameroon⁵⁷. For each set of samples, we considered a pathway as present if
1122 it was detected in ≥20% of samples.

1124 For downstream analyses we used the predicted abundance of MetaCyc
1125 pathways, which we transformed using the clr to account for the compositional nature
1126 of the sequencing data. Positive clr values imply that the pathway is more abundant
1127 than average; conversely, negative values imply that the pathway is less abundant
1128 than average. Low biomass samples were removed.

1129 We calculated differences in functional beta diversity between colonization
1130 groups (i.e., ‘S. Tm-favoring’, ‘S. Tm-restricting’, and ‘No effect’) and untreated
1131 controls with a permutational multivariate analysis of variance (PERMANOVA) test on
1132 Aitchison's distance matrices (Euclidean distance using clr-transformed abundances)
1133 using the vegan v. 2.6-4 R package⁵⁸. We performed pairwise PERMANOVA tests
1134 contrasting each treatment group to untreated controls accounting for normalized
1135 OD₅₇₈ in the models; the OD₅₇₈ value of control samples was set to 1. P values were
1136 adjusted using the Benjamini-Hochberg method and a significance threshold of 0.1
1137 was used. We then fitted linear regression models to determine which predicted
1138 pathways were differentially abundant between treatment groups compared to controls
1139 using the MaAsLin2 v. 1.13.0 R package⁵⁵. We used clr-transformed abundances and
1140 included the normalized OD₅₇₈ as a covariate to account for community biomass, the
1141 OD₅₇₈ value of control samples was set to 1. P values were adjusted using the
1142 Benjamini-Hochberg method; since this analysis is based on a bioinformatics
1143 prediction and not an actual metagenome measurement, we used a more stringent
1144 significance threshold of 0.01.

1145

1146 **Evaluation of metabolic overlap between S. Tm and members of the synthetic 1147 community**

1148 We estimated potential niche overlap between S. Tm and each member of
1149 COM21 by calculating the competition and complementarity indices using PhyloMint²⁶
1150 v. 0.1.0. The metabolic competition index is a proxy of the metabolic overlap of two
1151 species; this index is a non-symmetric measure, and it is calculated based on the
1152 number of compounds required but not synthesized by both species⁵⁹. Conversely, the
1153 metabolic complementarity index is a proxy for potential syntrophy between species;
1154 this index is a non-symmetric measure calculated based on the number of compounds
1155 that one species produces that the second species requires but cannot synthesize⁵⁹.
1156 Briefly, PhyloMint takes as input the whole genome sequence of each strain, which it

1157 uses to obtain a genome-scale metabolic model with CarveMe²⁵ v. 1.1, extract the
1158 metabolite seed sets, and calculate the competition and complementarity indices.
1159

1160 ***in vitro* challenge assay for other pathogenic *Enterobacteriaceae***

1161 *Plasmid transformation*

1162 Bacterial strains were grown overnight in 6 mL of LB medium at 27 °C (WA-
1163 314, YpsIII) or 37 °C (Kp MKP103, Ec CFT073). Overnight cultures were centrifuged
1164 for 5 min at 4000g. Pellets were washed twice with 5 mL of 300 mM sucrose solution,
1165 transferred in 1 mL of 300 mM sucrose solution to an Eppendorf cap, and centrifuged
1166 for 1 min at 10,000g. The supernatant was removed, the bacteria were resuspended
1167 in 100 µL of 300 mM sucrose solution and transferred to a Gene Pulser Cuvette (0.2-
1168 cm electrode gap, Bio-Rad), and 100 ng of plasmid DNA (pEB1GM or pEB2GO) were
1169 added. Subsequently, electroporation was performed using a Gene Pulser (Bio-Rad)
1170 and 1 mL of LB was immediately added. The bacterial suspension was then shaken
1171 at the appropriate temperature for 1 h and plated on LB-gentamicin plates overnight.
1172 Successful electroporation was verified by measuring chemiluminescence of the lux
1173 reporter.

1174

1175 *Adaptations of the S. Tm challenge assay to other pathogens*

1176 Other *Gammaproteobacteria* species were screened similarly to *S. Tm* in the
1177 challenge assay described above. Drug master plates were prepared in the same
1178 manner, except that only 12 drugs were tested and the master plate concentration
1179 ranged from 10 mM to 1 mM. Moreover, only the outer rows were left empty to serve
1180 as medium controls. Post-drug expansion of other *Gammaproteobacteria* was only
1181 tested in COM20, which was assembled as described above. For the luminescence-
1182 based assay, we used the human gut pathogens *Escherichia coli* CFT073, *Klebsiella*
1183 *pneumoniae* MKP103, *Shigella flexneri* 24570, *Yersinia enterocolitica* WA-314,
1184 *Yersinia pseudotuberculosis* YPIII, and *Vibrio cholerae* A1552. Except for *V. cholerae*,
1185 all pathogens contained a variant of the pilux plasmid that enabled constitutive
1186 expression of the lux reporter. All pathogens were grown anaerobically at 37 °C
1187 overnight in mGAM supplemented with 100 µg/mL ampicillin (*S. flexneri*), 15 µg/mL
1188 gentamicin (*E. coli*, *Y. enterocolitica*, *Y. pseudotuberculosis*) or 75 µg/mL gentamicin
1189 (*K. pneumoniae*) and then sub-cultured by diluting 1:100 in the same medium. We

1190 continued as described in the above section on the *in vitro* *S. Tm* challenge assay but
1191 incubated the plates at 37 °C for a species-specific amount of time (4.5 h for *E. coli*, 5
1192 h for *S. flexneri* and *K. pneumoniae*, 5.5 h for *V. cholerae*, 7 h for *Y. enterocolitica* and
1193 *Y. pseudotuberculosis*).

1194 For *V. cholerae*, the plates were serially diluted (10¹-10⁸ fold) in PBS and
1195 selectively plated aerobically on LB agar with 100 µg/mL ampicillin for pathogen
1196 enumeration. For the other pathogens, their levels were determined as described for
1197 *S. Tm* pilux with a Tecan Infinite 200 PRO microplate reader.

1198 The *in vitro* pathogen challenge assay involved testing 60 conditions, consisting
1199 of 12 drugs at 5 concentrations, and was performed in triplicate. We obtained two
1200 measurements: the OD₅₇₈ of communities after overnight incubation with the drugs
1201 and the luminescence emitted by the pathogens (CFU in the case of *V. cholerae*) as
1202 a proxy for pathogen growth within the drug-perturbed communities. For data
1203 analyses, both the luminescence (CFU for *V. cholerae*) and OD₅₇₈ values were
1204 normalized to the median of the controls in row E, which contained the unperturbed
1205 community (solvent controls).

1206

1207 ***In vivo* colonization assays for *S. Tm***

1208 Animal experiments were approved by the local authorities in Tübingen
1209 (Regierungspräsidium Tübingen, H02/20G and H02/21G). Five to six week-old mice
1210 were used and randomly assigned to experimental groups.

1211

1212 *Defined colonized mice*

1213 Germfree C57BL/6J mice were bred in house (Gnotobiotic Mouse Facility,
1214 Tübingen), housed under germ-free conditions in flexible film isolators (Zoonlab), and
1215 transferred to the Isocage P system (Tecniplast) to perform experiments. We supplied
1216 mice with autoclaved drinking water and γ -irradiated maintenance chow (Altromin) ad
1217 libitum. Female (*n* = 25) and male (*n* = 14) mice were kept in groups of 3-4 animals
1218 and were scored daily for their health status.

1219 *Specific pathogen free mice*

1220 Male specific pathogen free (SPF) C57BL/6J mice (cat. no. 632C57BL/6J) were
1221 purchased from Charles River Laboratories (Sulzfeld, Germany, Room A004) at the
1222 age of 35-41 days. After delivery, mice were kept in groups of 3 in individually

1223 ventilated cages (IVC) and had a 2-week acclimatization period. Mice were supplied
1224 with autoclaved drinking water and maintenance diet for mice (Sniff) ad libitum. We
1225 performed the experiments in a laminar flow system (Tecniplast BS60) and scored
1226 animals daily.

1227

1228 *Preparation of the Com20 bacterial community and colonization of germ-free mice*

1229 We prepared Com20 under anaerobic conditions (2% H₂, 12% CO₂, rest N₂) in
1230 a chamber (Coy Laboratory Products Inc). Consumables, glassware, and media were
1231 pre-reduced at least 2 days before inoculation of bacteria. We grew each strain as a
1232 monoculture overnight at 37 °C in 5 mL of their respective growth medium. The next
1233 day, bacteria were subcultured 1:100 in 5 mL of fresh medium and incubated for 16 h
1234 at 37 °C, except *Eggerthella lenta*, which was grown for 2 days. We measured the
1235 OD₅₇₈ and mixed bacteria in equal ratios to a total OD₅₇₈ of 0.5 (OD₅₇₈ of 0.025 for
1236 each of the 20 strains) in a final volume of 10 mL. After adding 2.5 mL of 50% glycerol
1237 (with a few crystals of palladium black (Sigma-Aldrich)), 200 µL aliquots were prepared
1238 in 2-mL glass vials (Supelco, Ref. 29056-U) and frozen at -80 °C. Frozen vials were
1239 used within 3 months.

1240 To colonize germ-free mice, cages were transferred to an ISOcage Biosafety
1241 Station (IBS; Tecniplast) through a 2% Virkon S disinfectant solution (Lanxess) dipping
1242 bath. Glycerol stocks of the frozen Com20 community (one per mouse) were kept on
1243 dry ice before being thawed during transfer into the IBS. We used the mixtures directly
1244 after thawing with a maximal time of exposure to oxygen of 3 min. We colonized mice
1245 by oral gavage (50 µL), and gavaged again after 48 h using the same protocol. The
1246 IBS was sterilized with 3% perchloracetic acid (Wofasteril, Kesla Hygiene AG).

1247 To monitor *in vivo* stability of Com20 in gnotobiotic mice, we collected fresh
1248 fecal samples from every defined colonized mouse after 2, 6, 28, and 57 days after
1249 the second colonization. DNA was extracted using the DNeasy PowerSoil HTP 96 Kit
1250 and community composition was analyzed via 16S rRNA amplicon sequencing.

1251

1252 *In vivo S. Tm challenge*

1253 The day before infection, we inoculated an *S. Tm* culture in LB broth
1254 supplemented with 0.3 M NaCl using colonies from a plate and grew the culture for 12
1255 h on a rotator (Stuart, SB3, speed 9) at 37 °C. Fifty microliters of *S. Tm* were sub-

1256 cultured in 5 mL of LB broth supplemented with 0.3 M NaCl and incubated for 3 h in
1257 the same conditions. We washed 1 mL of the subculture twice with 1 mL of ice-cold
1258 PBS in a 2 mL Eppendorf tube via centrifugation at 4 °C and 14000g for 2 min. The
1259 pellet was resuspended in 1 mL of ice-cold PBS and kept on ice until oral
1260 administration. Mice were infected with a *S. Tm* load of 5×10^6 CFU in 50 μ L of PBS.

1261

1262 *S. Tm* growth inhibition in defined colonized mice

1263 To determine whether Com20 confers colonization resistance in mice, we
1264 colonized germ-free mice with Com20 for 28 days. We then treated them with either
1265 50 μ L of 25% DMSO (solvent control, full colonization resistance) or with 50 μ L of 25%
1266 DMSO supplemented with 20 mg streptomycin (no colonization resistance). For
1267 comparison, we treated conventional SPF mice with a complex microbiome in the
1268 same manner as the mice colonized with Com20. The next day we infected all groups
1269 with 50 μ L of 5×10^6 CFU of *S. Tm*. After 16-20 h, mice were euthanized via CO₂ and
1270 cervical dislocation, dissected, and intestinal contents were collected from the colon.
1271 We weighed the fecal samples, diluted them in a buffer (2.5 g of BSA, 2.5 mL of
1272 Tergitol, 497.5 mL of PBS) and plated the samples on MacConkey agar containing 50
1273 μ g/mL streptomycin. After incubation overnight at 37 °C, we counted colonies of *S.*
1274 *Tm*.

1275

1276 Treatment with non-antibiotic drugs and infection with *S. Tm*

1277 Five non-antibiotic drugs were chosen based on the *S. Tm* challenge assay.
1278 Clotrimazole (38 mg/kg), zafirlukast (20 mg/kg), chlorpromazine (3 mg/kg), terfenadine
1279 (25 mg/kg), and clomiphene (60 mg/kg) were dissolved in 25% DMSO (DMSO +
1280 autoclaved drinking water), aliquoted, and stored in 2-mL glass vials (Supelco, Ref.
1281 29056-U) at -80 °C. For every experiment, drugs were freshly prepared. Defined
1282 colonized (28 days post colonization) and SPF mice were orally gavaged daily for 6
1283 days with 50 μ L of non-antibiotic drug or 25% DMSO. We collected fresh fecal samples
1284 directly before the first treatment (day 0) and after 6 days of treatment (day 6), directly
1285 before the infection with *S. Tm*.

1286 Fifteen to twenty h later, mice were euthanized by CO₂ and cervical dislocation,
1287 dissected, and intestinal contents were taken from colon and cecum in pre-weighed 2-
1288 mL Eppendorf tubes. After weighing the samples, 500 μ L of buffer (2.5 g of BSA, 2.5

1289 mL of Tergitol, 497.5 mL of PBS) and one sterile steel ball (Agrolager, art. No RB-
1290 5/G20W) per tube were added. Half a spleen, mesenteric lymph nodes, and half a liver
1291 lobe were collected in 2-mL Eppendorf tubes containing 500 μ L of buffer and one steel
1292 ball. All samples were lysed with a TissueLyser II (Qiagen) for 1 min at 25 Hz. Intestinal
1293 contents and organs were plated on MacConkey plates supplemented with 50 μ g/mL
1294 streptomycin. We incubated the plates at 37 °C aerobically for one night and counted
1295 colonies the next day to determine CFU/organ.

1296

1297 **Assessment of drug treatment on the microbiome composition of gnotobiotic
1298 and SPF mice**

1299 We assessed the effect of drugs on the composition of the gut microbiome of
1300 gnotobiotic and SPF mice after 6 days of treatment and compared to untreated
1301 controls. For this comparison, we carried out an ANCOVA incorporating the
1302 abundance of each ASV at day 0 (pre-treatment), thus estimating the baseline
1303 adjusted difference between groups at day 6. ANCOVA models were fitted using a
1304 multiple linear regression; robust standard errors were calculated using the sandwich
1305 v. 3.0-2 R package⁶⁰, which were then evaluated by a coefficient test as implemented
1306 in the lmtest v. 0.9-40 R package⁶¹. To account for the compositional nature of the
1307 sequencing data, we transformed ASV abundances with the centered log-ratio. P
1308 values were adjusted using the Benjamini-Hochberg method and a significance
1309 threshold of 0.1 was used.

1310

1311

1312 **Supplementary Information**

1313

1314 **Supplementary Table Legends**

1315 Table S1: Prestwick library screen results of pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria*
1316 species, including *H. parainfluenzae*, *S. enterica* serovar Typhimurium,
1317 *S. flexneri*, *Y. pseudotuberculosis*, and *V. cholerae*.

1318 Table S2: IC₂₅ values for 67 drugs used to treat 5 pathogens and 19 gut
1319 commensal species.

1320 Table S3: Results of the *S. Tm* *in vitro* challenge assay in Com20.

1321 Table S4: Altered pathways in *S. Tm*-favoring conditions.

1322 Table S5: Results of the *S. Tm* *in vitro* challenge assay in Com21.

1323 Table S6: Results of the *in vitro* challenge assay for additional pathogenic
1324 *Gammaproteobacteria*.

1325 Table S7: Log2-fold change in the luminescence signal of *S. Tm* in Com20, Com21
1326 and stool-derived communities after drug treatment.

1327 Table S8: Differential abundance of bacterial taxa in Com20-colonized drug-
1328 treated mice compared to DMSO controls.

1329 Table S9: Differential abundance of bacterial taxa in drug-treated SPF mice
1330 compared to DMSO controls.

1331 Table S10: Key resources used in this study.

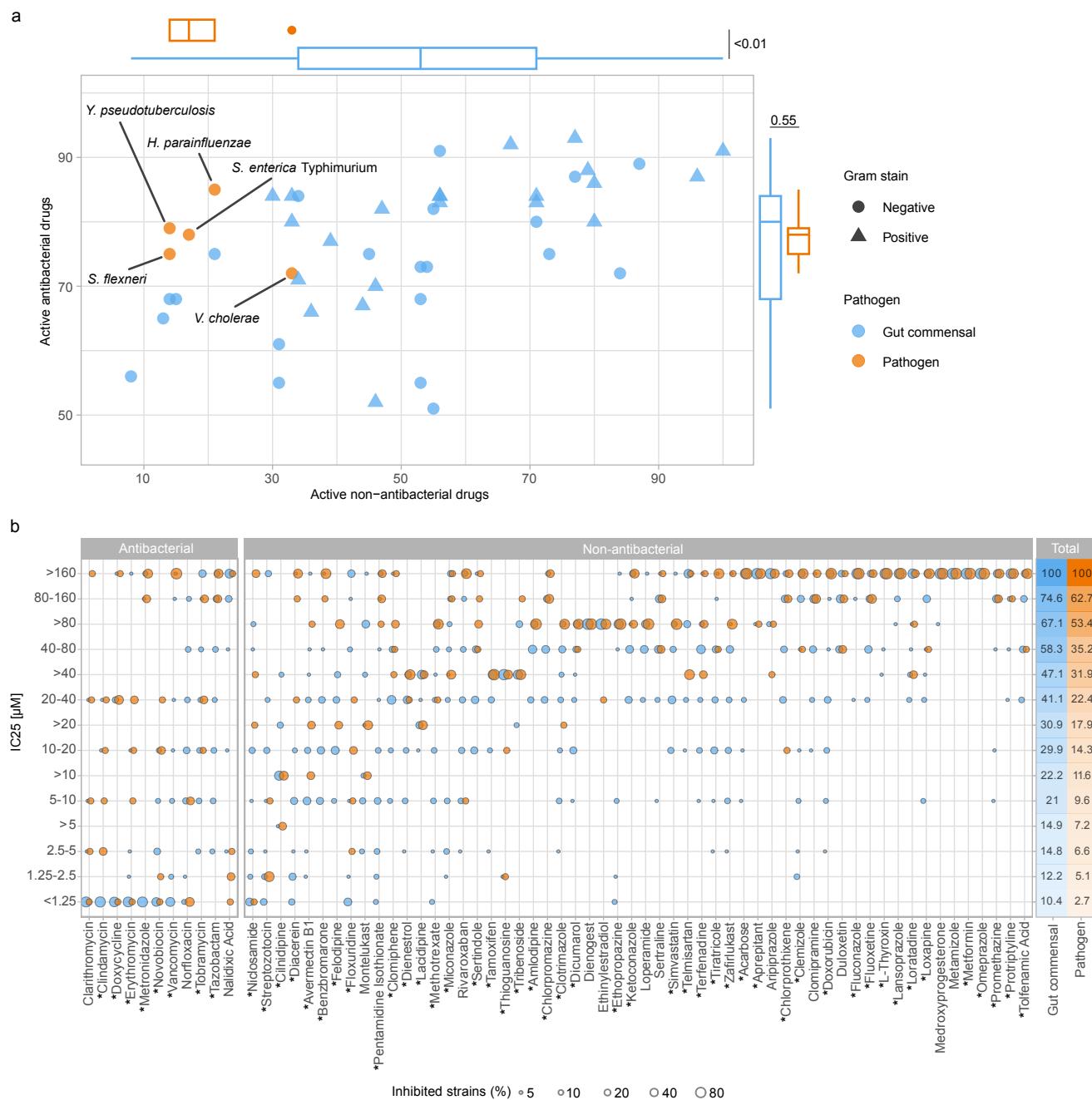


Figure 1: Pathogenic Gammaproteobacteria species are more resistant to non-antibiotic drugs than commensal gut bacteria.

a. Association between the number of active antibacterial and non-antibacterial drugs across 43 gut commensals (blue) and 5 pathogens (orange). Boxplots show the distribution of the number of active antibacterial and non-antibacterial drugs in gut commensals and pathogens. P values from t-tests. **b.** IC₂₅ values (25% growth inhibition, Supplementary Table S2) for a panel of 19 gut commensals and 5 pathogenic taxa (*S. enterica* serovar Typhimurium, *S. flexneri*, *V. cholerae*, *Y. pseudotuberculosis* and *Y. enterocolitica*) across 11 antibacterial and 56 non-antibacterial drugs. Concentrations labeled as greater than (e.g., >20 μM) indicate that the maximum tested did not show any inhibition. Heatmap shows the cumulative proportion of gut commensals and pathogens inhibited at a given concentration. Drugs highlighted with an asterisk (*) were further tested in the *S. Tm* challenge assay.

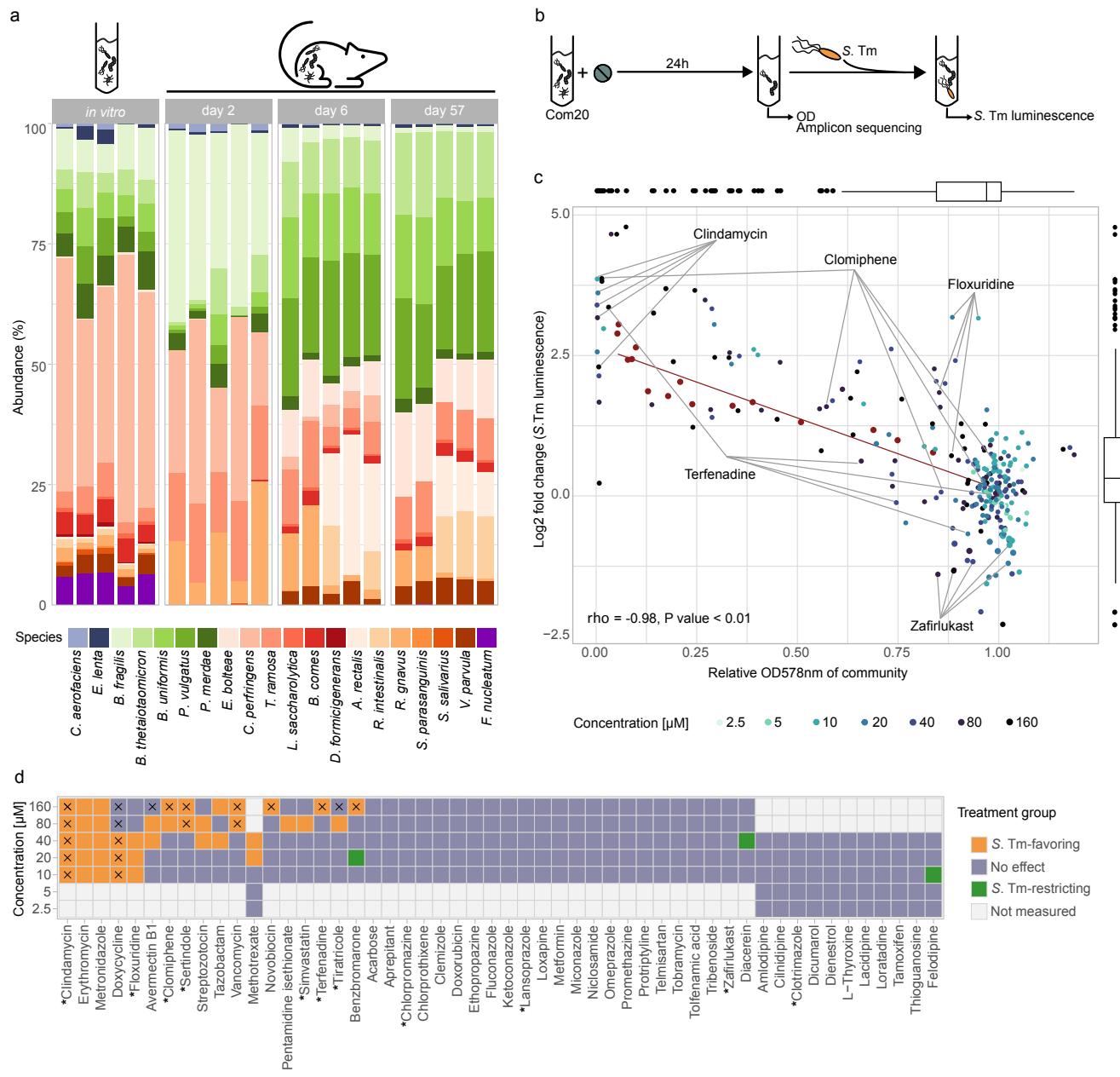


Figure 2: Community exposure to non-antibiotic drugs affects *S. Typhimurium* expansion post-treatment.

a. Relative abundance of each member of Com20 after 24 h of incubation *in vitro* (1st panel), and in gnotobiotic mice 2, 6, and 57 days after colonization (2nd- 4th panels). Abundances calculated from 16S rRNA gene sequencing. Each bar represents one biological replicate/fecal sample. **b.** Schematic of the *in vitro* *S. Typhimurium* challenge assay. Com20 was exposed to drugs across a range of concentrations. After 24 h, optical density at 578 nm (OD₅₇₈) was measured and the drug-treated community was challenged with *S. Typhimurium* in fresh medium. *S. Typhimurium* levels were quantified using *S. Typhimurium*-specific luminescence. **c.** Association between OD₅₇₈ of Com20 and the corresponding *S. Typhimurium* growth in the challenge assay after treatment with 52 drugs. Measurements were normalized to untreated controls. Each point corresponds to the mean of three biological replicates. Red points and regression lines represent the values of untreated, diluted communities. The highlighted drugs were selected for further experiments. **d.** Classification of drugs according to the growth of *S. Typhimurium* in drug-treated Com20 (see Supplementary Figure 2f). Samples marked with an X resulted in a community biomass < 0.2 relative to an untreated community and were excluded from downstream analyses. Drugs labeled with an asterisk (*) were selected for the challenge assay with other pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria*.

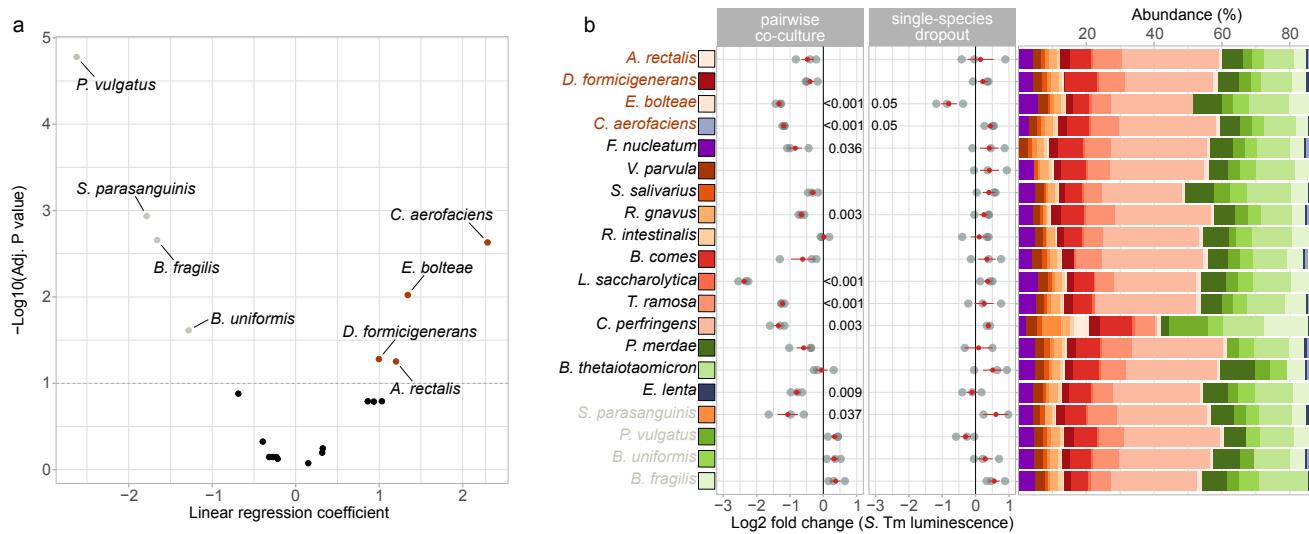


Figure 3: Changes in the community composition and direct commensal-pathogen interactions are connected to *S. Tm* expansion in Com20

a. Volcano plot displaying the effect size and adjusted P values of linear regression models of the abundance of members of Com20 in 'S. Tm-favoring' treatments ($n = 33$ treatments) compared to untreated controls ($n = 45$). Dashed line indicates the significance threshold of 0.1. Orange or gray points represent species that significantly increased or decreased, respectively, after 'S. Tm-favoring' treatments. **b.** *S. Tm* growth in two sets of challenge assays. Left: *S. Tm* luminescence in pairwise co-cultures of *S. Tm* with each member of Com20 (pathogen to commensal ratio = 1:500), compared to *S. Tm* in pure culture. Middle: *S. Tm* luminescence in a 19-member community missing one member of Com20, compared to *S. Tm* in an untreated, 20-member community. Right: the composition of each of the 19-member communities as determined by 16S rRNA amplicon sequencing. Taxa on the y-axis are ordered by the regression coefficient from (A). Red points and bars represent the mean \pm standard error (SE). Species marked orange were enriched after 'S. Tm-favoring' treatments, those marked gray were enriched in the controls. Each point corresponds to one of three biological replicates. Raw P values from two-sided t-test; only values ≤ 0.05 are shown.

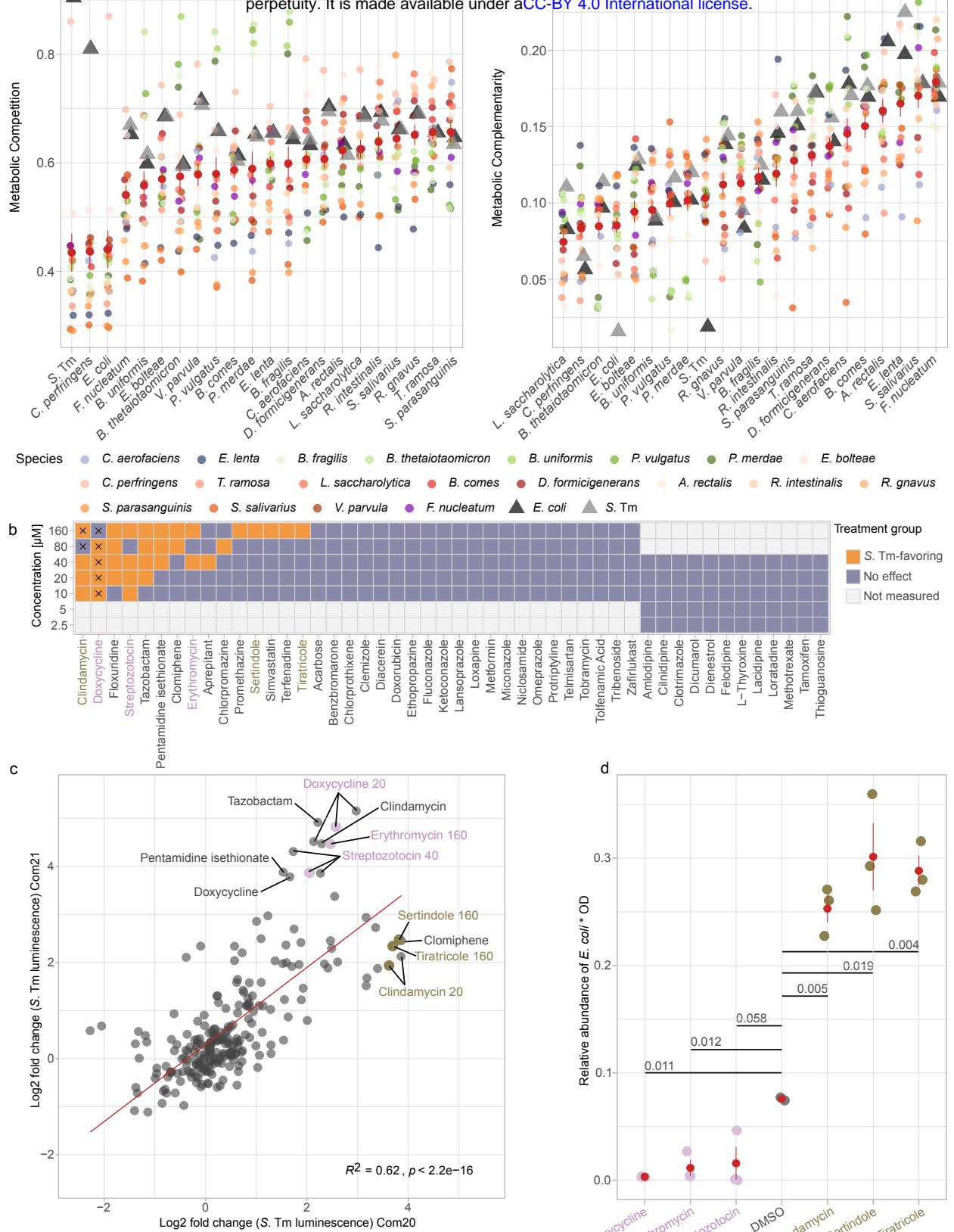
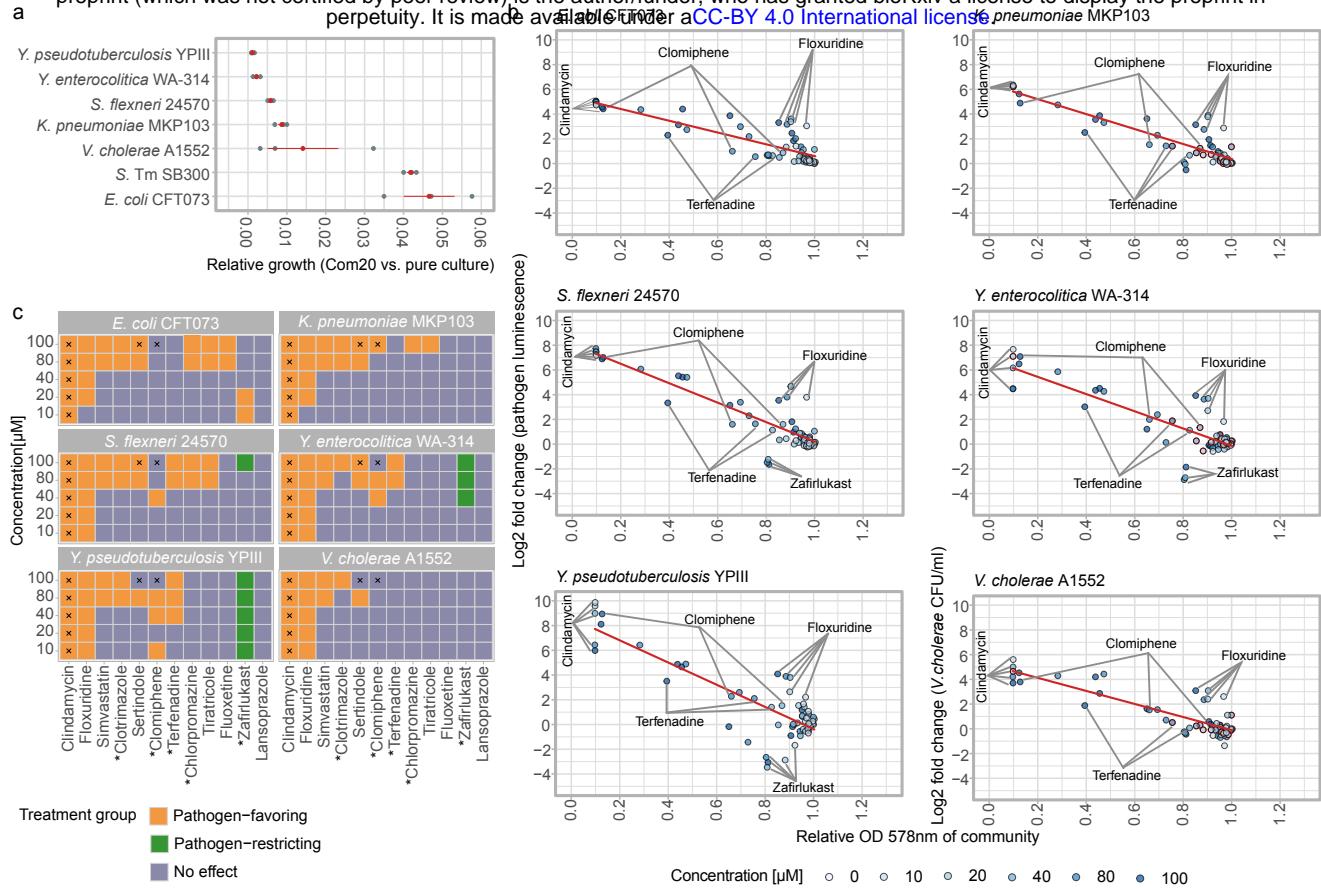


Figure 4: Treatment with drugs that target niche competitor *E. coli* promotes *S. Tm* expansion.

a. Metabolic competition and complementarity indices of each member of Com21 with each other and with *S. Tm*, calculated from genome-scale metabolic models. Red points and bars represent mean \pm SE. Note that the indices are not symmetric. **b.** Classification of drugs according to the growth of *S. Tm* in drug-treated Com21. Conditions that were sequenced are shown in gold and magenta. **c.** Comparison of the post-treatment expansion of *S. Tm* in Com21 versus Com20 across 240 conditions. The red line represents the regression line. Conditions with expansion that differed substantially between the two communities are highlighted (cutoff = 3.5 in $\log_2(\text{fold change})$), with conditions that were sequenced shown in gold and magenta. **d.** Biomass-scaled relative abundance of *E. coli* in drug-treated Com21. Point colors are based on the groups from (B). Red points and bars represent mean \pm SE. Raw P values from unpaired two-sided t-tests are shown.



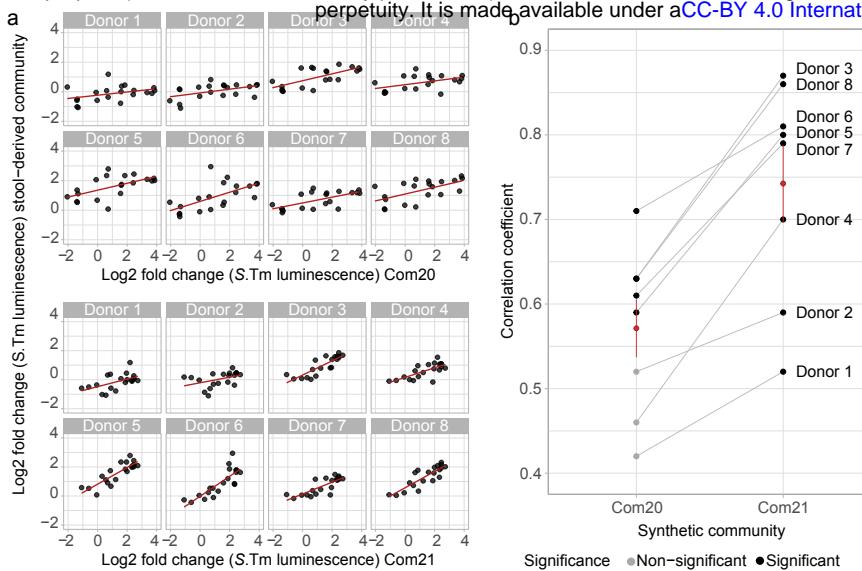


Figure 6: Drug-induced expansion of *S. Tm* is reproducible in complex communities derived from human feces.

a. Association between *S. Tm* luminescence in drug-treated Com20 (top) and Com21 (bottom) with pathogen growth in drug-treated stool-derived microbial communities, relative to untreated microbial communities. Regression lines shown in red. Each point corresponds to a drug/concentration combination (n = 20 from 8 drugs). **b.** Spearman's correlation coefficient of *S. Tm* growth between individual stool-derived communities and Com20 or Com21 across multiple drugs from (A). Black points represent associations with adjusted P value <0.1. Red points and bars represent mean ± SE across 8 human-derived communities.

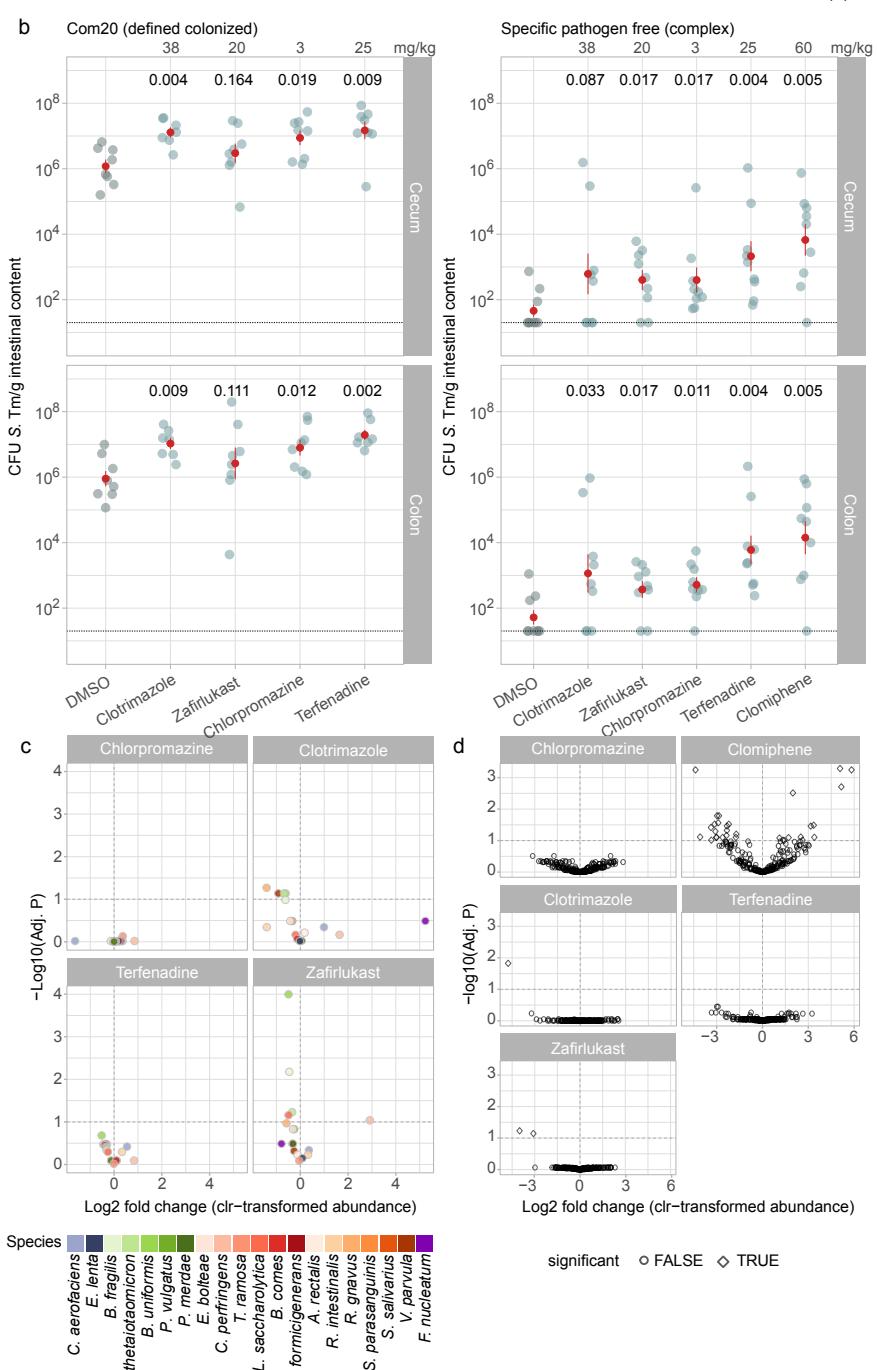
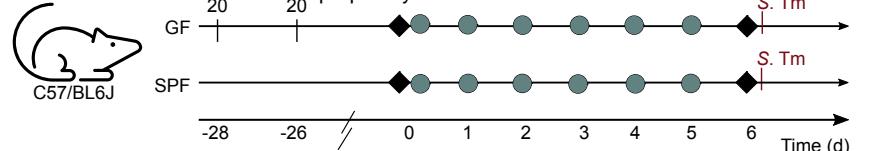


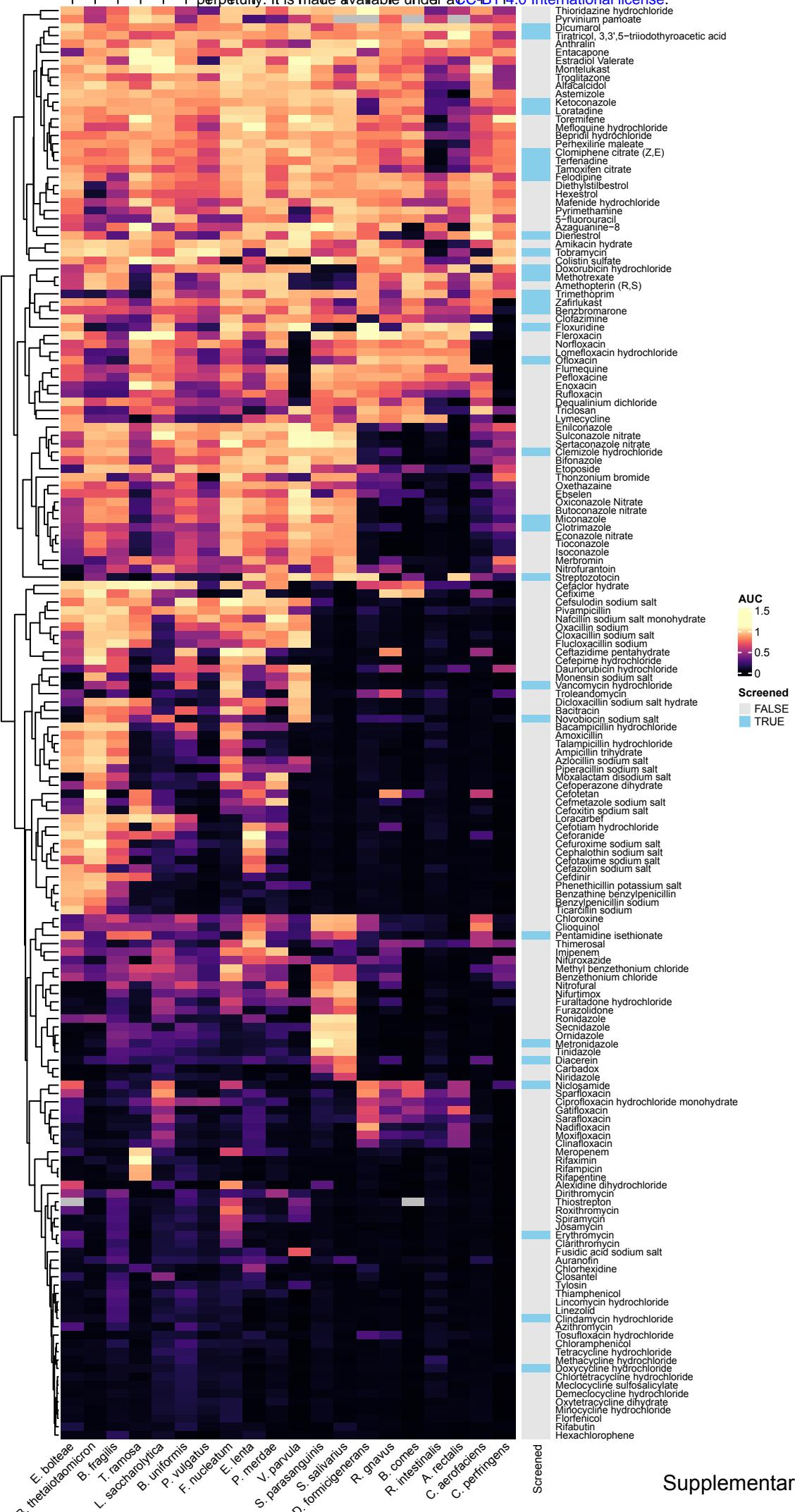
Figure 7: Non-antibiotics from diverse therapeutic classes disrupt colonization resistance in mice.

a. Schematic of mouse treatment and sampling. **b.** S. Tm load in cecum and colon on day 1 post challenge after treatment with four drugs for 7 days at the doses indicated (top). Red points show the mean values of 7-9 biological replicates, red lines represent mean \pm SE. Adjusted P values from one-tailed Wilcoxon-test with BH correction of the comparison of drug-to-vehicle (DMSO)-treated mice. **c.** Volcano plot of the effect size and adjusted P values of linear models of the abundance of Com20 members in gnotobiotic mice 6 days after drug treatment compared to untreated controls, adjusting for species abundance on day 0. Dashed line indicates an adjusted P value significance threshold of 0.1. **d.** Volcano plot of the effect size and adjusted P values of the abundance of amplicon sequence variants (ASVs) in SPF mice 6 days after drug treatment compared to untreated controls, adjusting for ASV abundance on day 0. Dashed line indicates an adjusted P value significance threshold of 0.1. **e.** Point shape indicates whether an ASV was significantly different (TRUE) from controls.



Supplementary Figure 1: *Gammaproteobacteria* species respond differently to drugs than other gut bacteria.

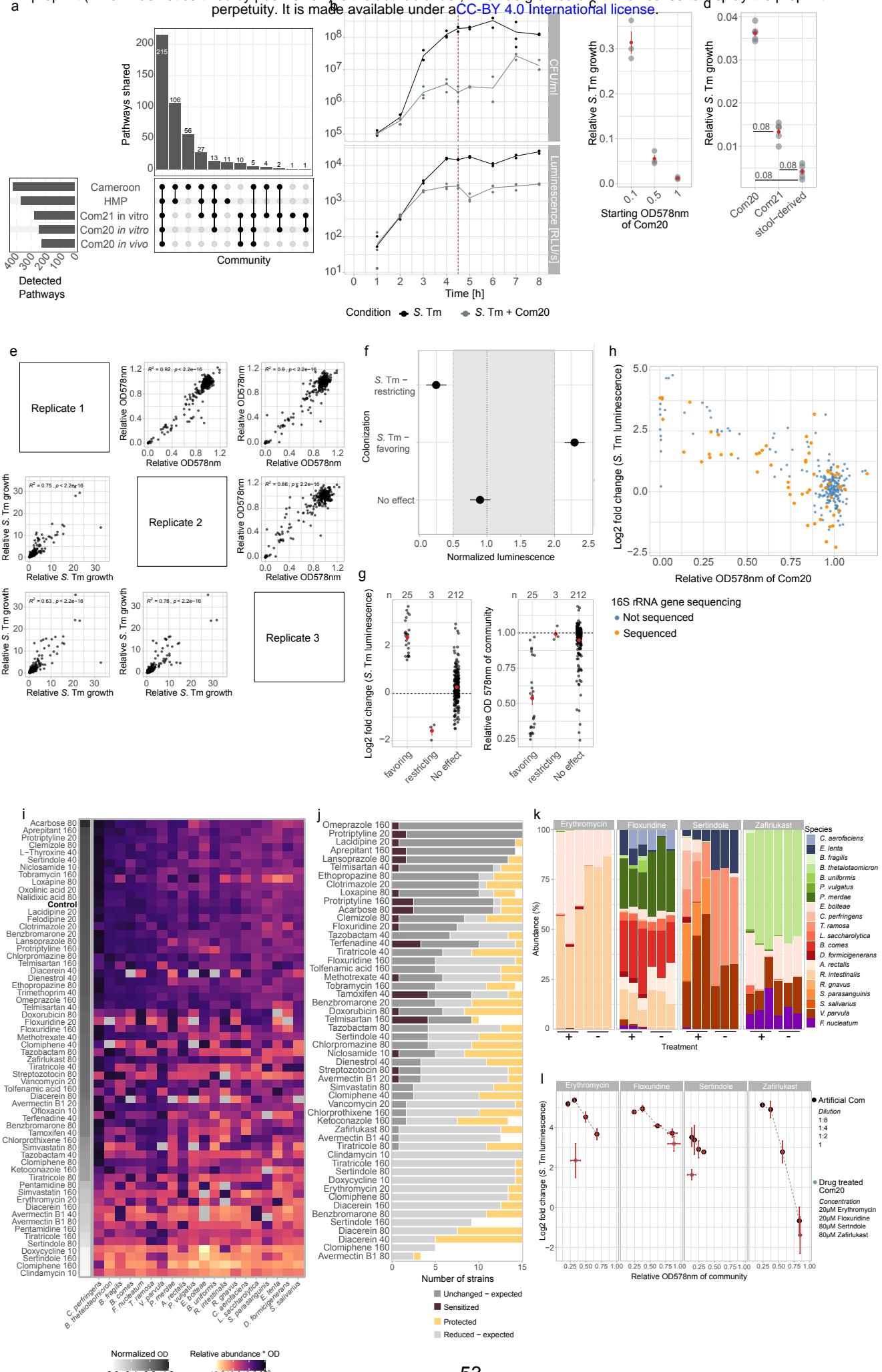
a. Euclidean distances between pairs of bacterial species calculated from the area under the growth curve (AUC) after treatment with 103 antibacterial (lower triangle) and 118 non-antibacterial drugs (upper triangle). On both scales, white corresponds to the median distance across all species, black indicates an overall different response, and orange/violet indicates a similar response across all treatments. Only drugs that inhibited the growth of ≥ 5 species were included in the analysis. Species were grouped according to Phylum classification. Note that members of *Gammaproteobacteria*, in the lower right corner, display an overall response similar to each other but distinct to other taxa.



Supplementary Figure 1b

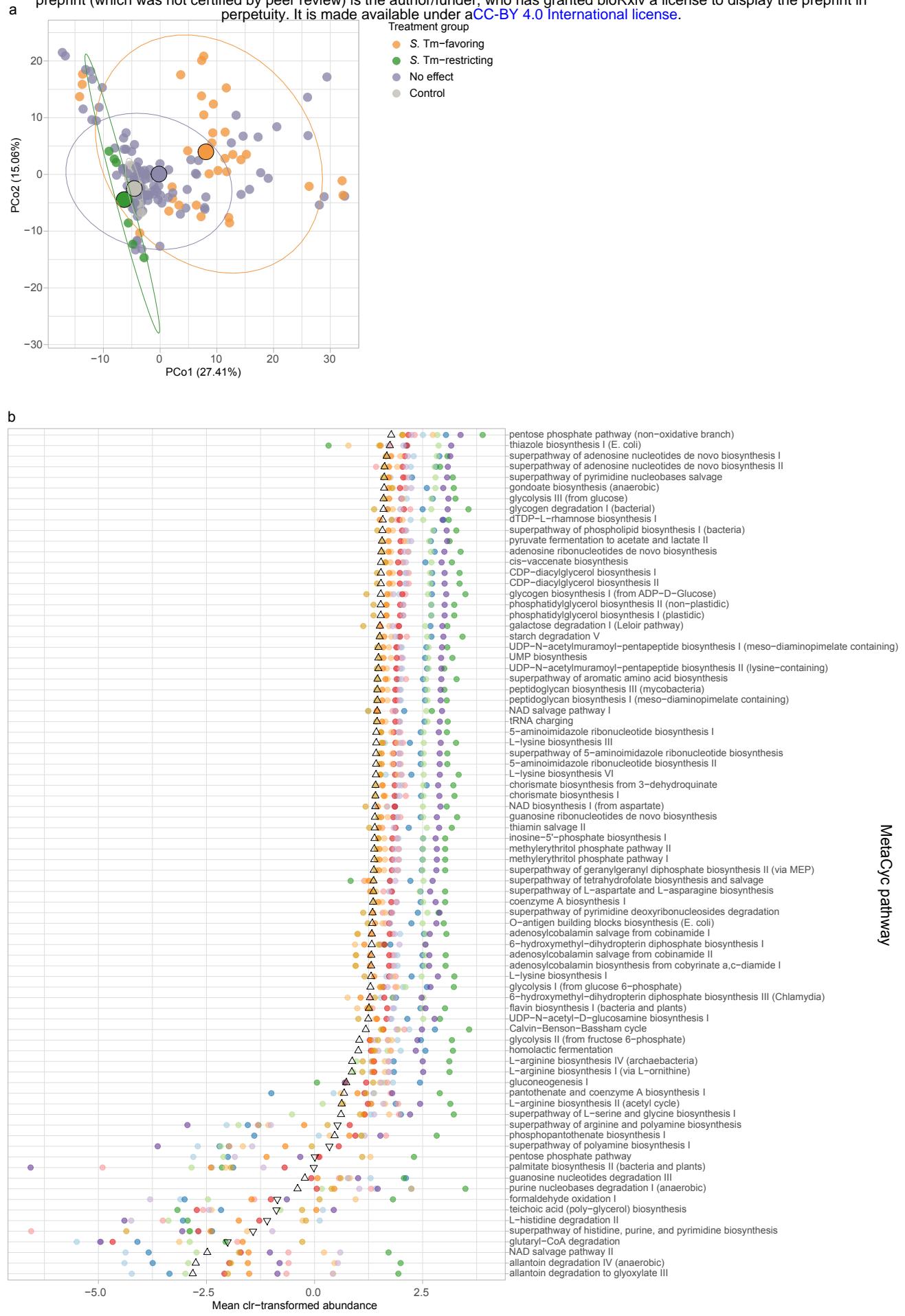
Supplementary Figure 1: *Gammaproteobacteria* species respond differently to drugs than other gut bacteria.

b. Heatmap of the AUC for each member of the Com20 community after treatment with 170 drugs, normalized to untreated controls. Color strip indicates whether a drug was included (TRUE, in blue) in our follow-up *S. Tm* challenge assay in Com20. Columns and rows were clustered hierarchically with complete linkage.



Supplementary Figure 2: Experimental setup and validation of the *in vitro* *S. Tm* challenge assay.

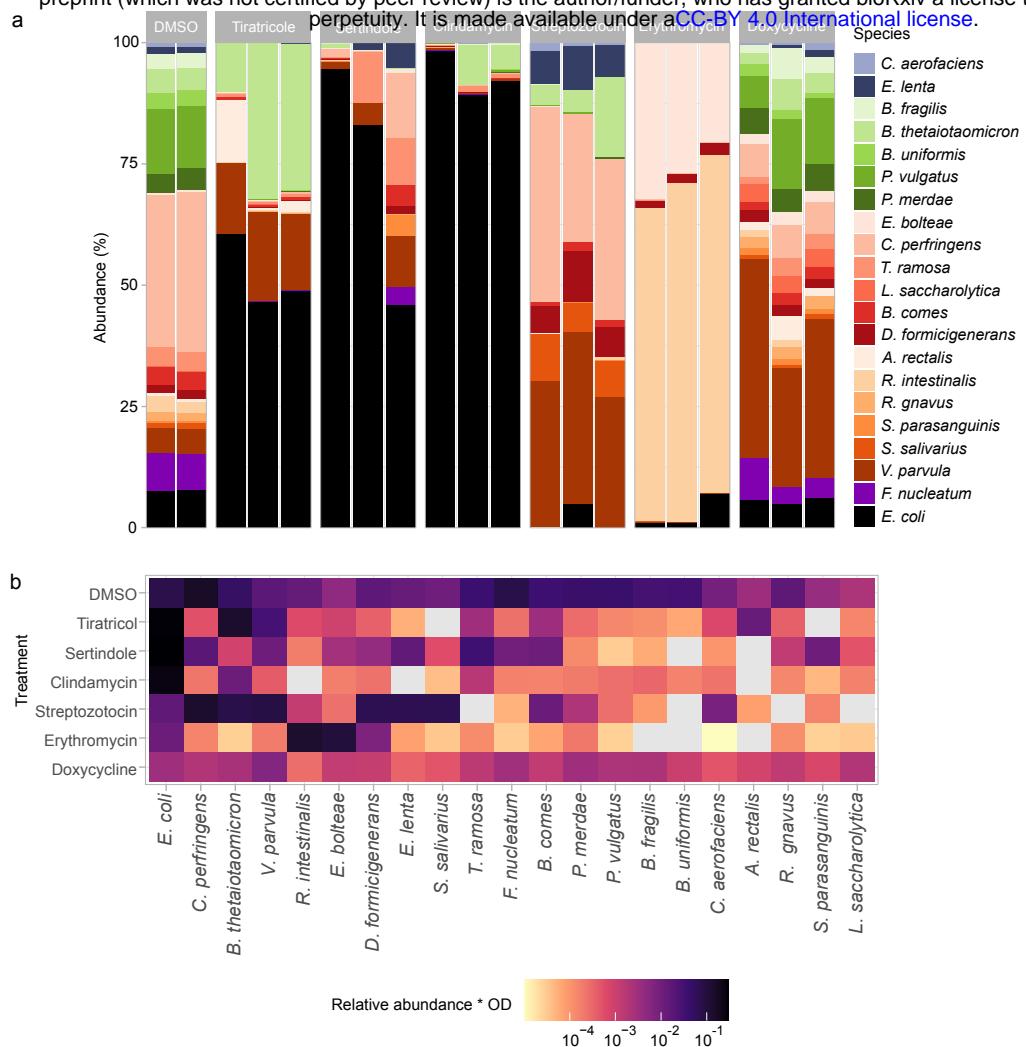
a. Upset plot showing the overlap in the number of MetaCyc metabolic pathways predicted to be present in Com20 (*in vivo* and *in vitro*), Com21 (*in vitro*), and human gut metagenomes from the Human Microbiome Project (HMP) and a Cameroonian cohort. **b.** *S. Tm* growth curves based on selective plating (top) or *S. Tm*-specific luminescence (bottom), either alone or within Com20; the line indicates the mean of three biological replicates. At 4.5 h (red vertical line), *S. Tm* growth curves transition to stationary phase. At this time point, luminescence can be used as a proxy of *S. Tm* levels. **c.** Relative growth of *S. Tm* in Com20 compared to pure culture, dependent on the starting OD₅₇₈ of Com20. *S. Tm* was quantified by luminescence. Red points and bars represent the mean of three biological replicates \pm SE. **d.** Relative growth of *S. Tm* in Com20, Com21 (consisting of Com20 + *E. coli* ED1a), and a community derived from a fecal sample of a healthy human donor, compared to pure culture. *S. Tm* was quantified by luminescence. Red points and bars represent the mean of three biological replicates \pm SE. Adjusted P values from two-sided Wilcoxon-test with correction are shown. **e.** Association of community OD₅₇₈ and *S. Tm* luminescence relative to an untreated community in each of three replicates. R^2 and P values from linear regression models are shown. **f.** Illustrative example of the classification of drug treatments based on relative *S. Tm* growth in the challenge assay; dashed line represents *S. Tm* growth on an untreated community. Points show the mean luminescence of 3 replicates, bars represent the 95 % confidence interval (95% CI). We considered a treatment as *S. Tm*-favoring if its mean normalized luminescence was > 2 and the 95% CI did not span 2; if the mean normalized luminescence was < 0.5 and the 95% CI did not span 0.5, the treatment was classified as *S. Tm*-restricting; if the mean normalized luminescence was between 0.5 and 2 (gray band), the treatment was classified as having 'No effect'. **g.** Dot plot of normalized *S. Tm* luminescence (left) and community OD₅₇₈ (right) in the challenge assay by treatment group. Black points represent the mean across three replicates. Sample sizes are shown in the top border. Red points and bars represent mean \pm SE. **h.** Scatter plot similar to Figure 2c, highlighting samples that were selected for 16S rRNA gene sequencing (57 out of 260) across the distribution of relative community OD₅₇₈ and *S. Tm* luminescence values. **i.** The biomass-scaled relative abundance of each member of a given drug-treated community, calculated by multiplying the normalized OD₅₇₈ of the community by the relative abundance of each taxon from 16S rRNA gene sequencing. The gray-scale column on the left shows the mean OD₅₇₈ of three replicates of the community normalized to an untreated control. **j.** The number of bacterial species displaying emergent (protection or sensitization in community) or expected responses to drug treatments across 52 drugs. An expected response in a community (gray shades) refers to a similar growth pattern (i.e., reduction in growth or similar growth) in monoculture as measured by AUC compared to the OD-scaled relative abundance (i.e., relative abundance \times OD) of the microbe as measured by 16S amplicon sequencing; in both cases, measures are normalized to the value of an untreated control. Community protection (yellow) means that the species is affected by drug treatment in monoculture but remains unaltered in the treated community; conversely, community sensitization (burgundy) means that species growth is not affected in monoculture but its abundance decreases in the treated community. Note that the total number of tested species differs between treatments; at the tested concentrations, the analysis of monoculture assays was hampered by erratic bacterial growth patterns, which led to the removal of several growth curves during quality control²⁴. **k.** The relative abundances of drug-treated (+) versus drug-mimicking (-) communities for four conditions as determined by 16S rRNA gene sequencing. Each bar represents one biological replicate. **l.** *S. Tm* challenge assay in communities mimicking the composition of Com20 after treatment with erythromycin, floxuridine, sertindole or zafirlukast. The communities were diluted to mimic both the composition and the density of the communities after treatment. Dots represent the mean of three replicates, and red lines represent \pm SE. Gray dots represent results of the *S. Tm* challenge assay in drug-treated Com20 (replotted from Supplementary Figure 2i) for comparison.



MetaCyc pathway

Supplementary Figure 3: Com20 and *S. Tm* metabolic responses post treatment.

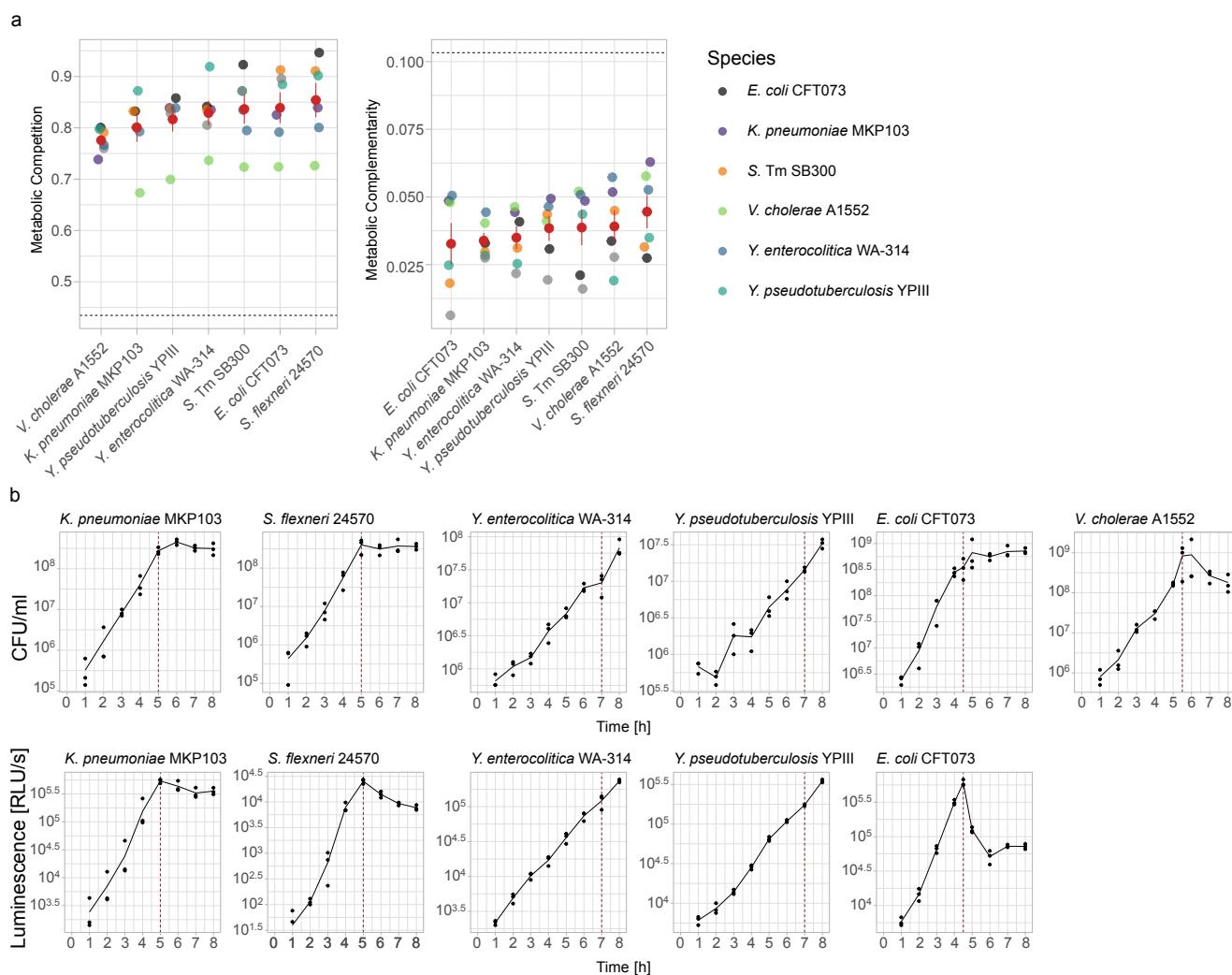
a. Principal coordinate analysis (PCoA) of drug-treated microbial communities based on Aitchison's distances calculated from predicted MetaCyc pathway abundances. Colors indicate the *S. Tm* treatment group. Large solid points represent the centroid of each group, ellipses represent 95% confidence intervals. **b.** Dot plot of the mean clr-transformed abundance of predicted MetaCyc pathways that differed significantly between *S. Tm*-favoring treatments compared to untreated controls. Point color indicates treatment, triangles represent the mean abundance in controls, and triangle orientation indicates whether a pathway had a higher abundance in treatments (upward) or in controls (downward).



Supplementary Figure 4: Drug-induced shifts in the composition of Com21.

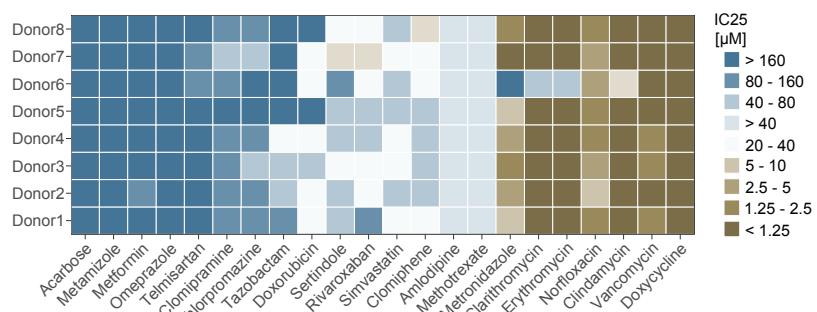
a. Relative abundances of taxa in drug-treated Com21 and the DMSO control as determined via 16S rRNA gene sequencing. Each bar represents one biological replicate.

b. Biomass-scaled relative abundance of each member of drug-treated Com21, calculated by multiplying the normalized OD₅₇₈ of the community with the relative abundance of each taxon obtained by 16S rRNA gene sequencing. Values indicate the mean of three biological replicates.



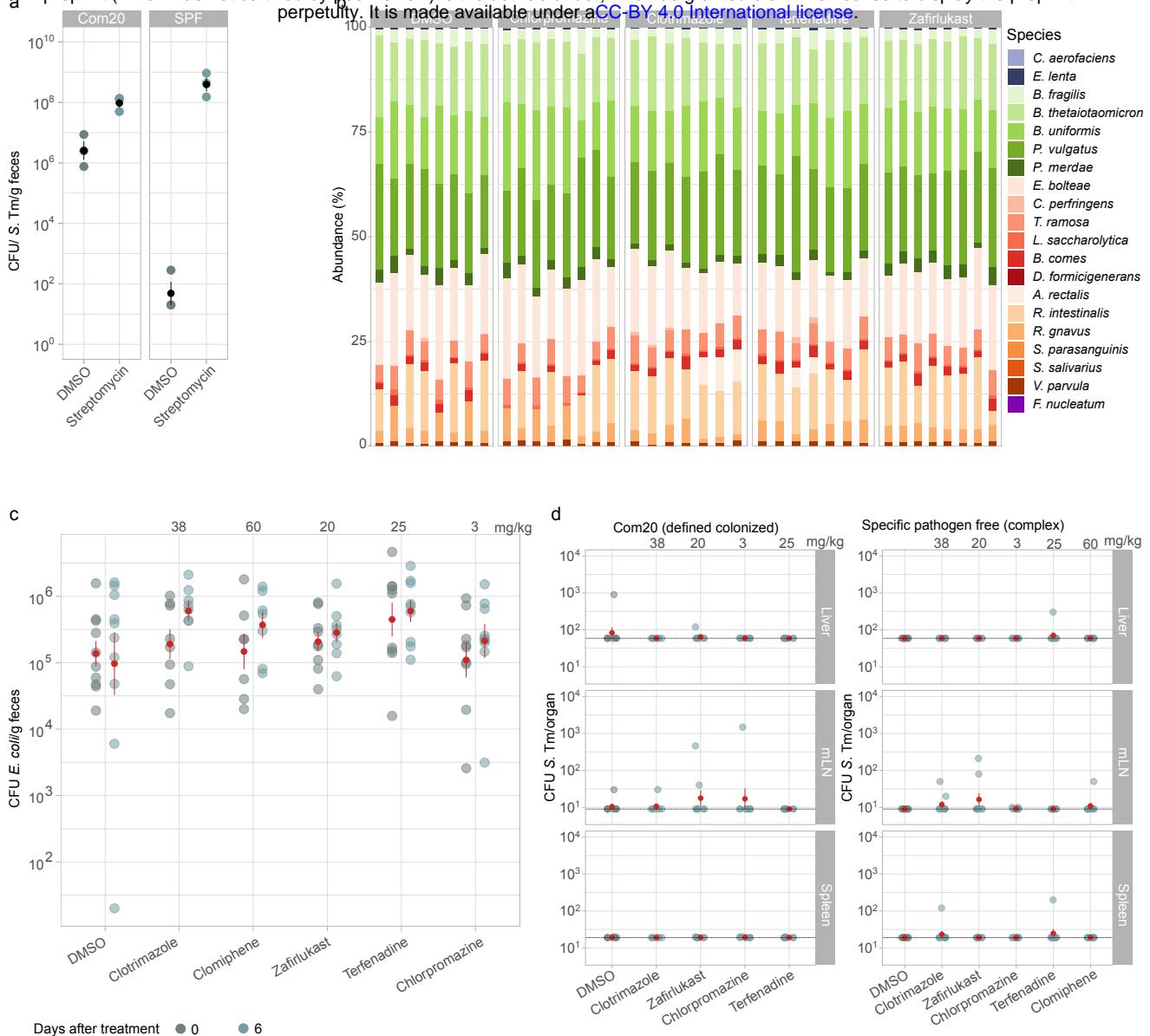
Supplementary Figure 5: *In vitro* challenge assays for pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* species other than *S. Tm*.

a. Metabolic competition and complementarity indices of pathogenic *Gammaproteobacteria* species, calculated from genome-scale metabolic models. Dashed horizontal lines indicate the mean levels of *S. Tm* with members of Com21, as shown in Figure 4a. Red points and bars represent mean \pm SE. Note that the indices are not symmetric. **b.** Growth curves for pathogenic members of *Gammaproteobacteria* based on plating (top) or pathogen-specific luminescence (bottom); the line indicates the mean of 3 biological replicates. Vertical red lines represent the end points selected for pathogen challenge assays. At all endpoints, luminescence can be used as indicators for pathogen levels. *V. cholerae* was enumerated by plating.



Supplementary Figure 6: Variation in drug sensitivity between donors

IC₂₅ values for 22 drugs used to treat *in vitro* communities derived from the stool of 8 healthy human donors. Tiles show the mean of 3 biological replicates.



Supplementary Figure 7: Disruption of colonization resistance by non-antibiotic drugs does not result in systematic spread of *S. Tm* at day 1 post infection.

a. Fecal *S. Tm* loads on day 1 post challenge with 5×10^6 CFU *S. Tm* in mice colonized with Com20 compared to conventional SPF mice. Animals were pre-treated either with the vehicle (DMSO) or a single dose of 800 mg/kg streptomycin. Red points and bars represent mean \pm SE. **b.** Relative abundances of taxa in feces from Com20-colonized mice after 6 days of treatment. Each column represents the composition of one fecal sample from one mouse. **c.** *E. coli* levels in feces of SPF mice before and 6 days after drug treatment as measured by selective plating on MacConkey agar. Drug dosing is indicated on top. Red points show the mean of 7-10 biological replicates and bars represent mean \pm SE. Adjusted P values from Two-sided Wilcoxon-test > 0.1 in all cases. **d.** *S. Tm* load on day 1 post challenge in the spleen, liver, and mesenteric lymph nodes (mLN). Black horizontal lines indicate detection limits. Red points show the mean of 7-9 biological replicates and bars represent mean \pm SE. One-tailed wilcoxon-test with BH correction was performed.