

Supporting Information

New Detection Platform for Screening Bacteria in Liquid Samples

Rita La Spina ^{1,†}, Diana C. António ^{1,†,‡}, Radoslaw Bombera ^{1,§}, Teresa Lettieri ¹, Anne-Sophie Lequarré ², Pascal Colpo ¹ and Andrea Valsesia ^{1,*}

¹ European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Ispra, Italy; Rita.LA-SPINA@ec.europa.eu (R.L.S.); diana_conduto@hotmail.com (D.C.A.); radoslaw.bombera@gmail.com (R.B.); Teresa.LETTIERI@ec.europa.eu (T.L.); pascal.colpo@ec.europa.eu (P.C.)

² European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC), Brussels, Belgium; Anne-Sophie.LEQUARRE@ec.europa.eu

* Correspondence: andrea.valsesia@ec.europa.eu; Tel.: +39-0332789704

† These authors contributed equally.

‡ Current address: ECHA (European Chemicals Agency), Telakkakatu 6, 00150 Helsinki, Finland.

§ Current address: BioNavis LTD, Hermiankatu 6 8 H, 33720 Tampere, Finland.

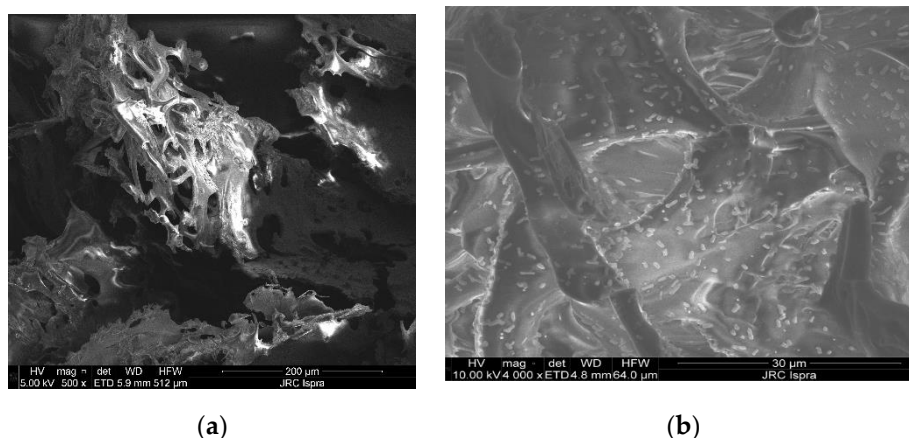


Figure S1. Scanning electron microscopy image of (a) microporous cryogel (b) of *E. coli* bacteria adsorbed on the P(HEMA-AEM) cryogel.

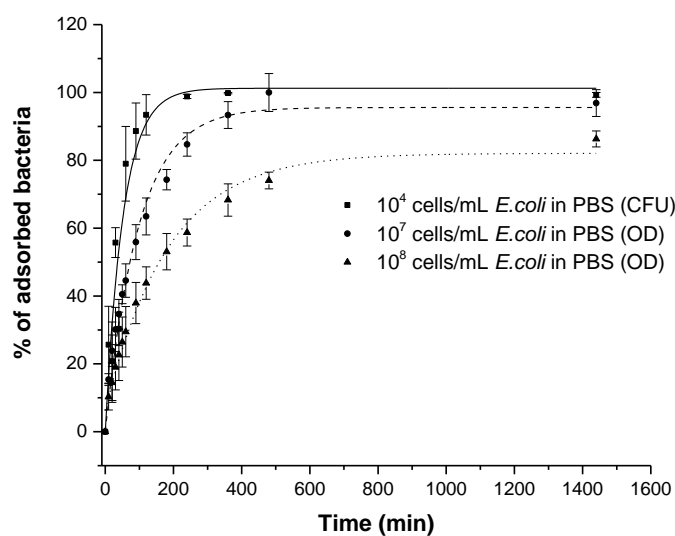


Figure S2. Adsorption kinetics of *E. coli* bacteria (initial concentration = 10^4 , 10^7 and 10^8 cells mL^{-1}) onto P(HEMA-AEM) cryogel in PBS. The amount of adsorbed bacteria was determined by subtracting the concentration remaining in supernatant solution measured by turbidimetry ($\text{OD}_{600\text{nm}}$) and/or CFU quantification of the initial concentration. The ratio between the cryogel and the bacteria suspension was 45 mg of dried cryogel in 4 mL of PBS bacteria suspension.

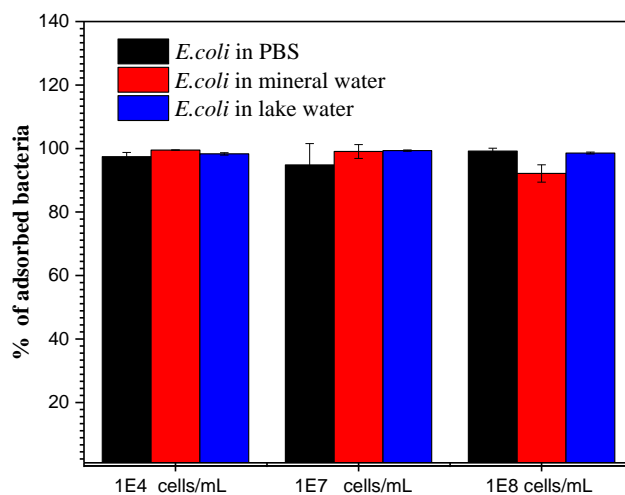


Figure S3. Comparative adsorption of *E. coli* bacteria at the concentration of 10^4 , 10^6 and 10^8 cells mL^{-1} in PBS, in lake water and in commercial mineral water. 45 mg of dried cryogel were suspended in 4 mL of bacteria suspension.

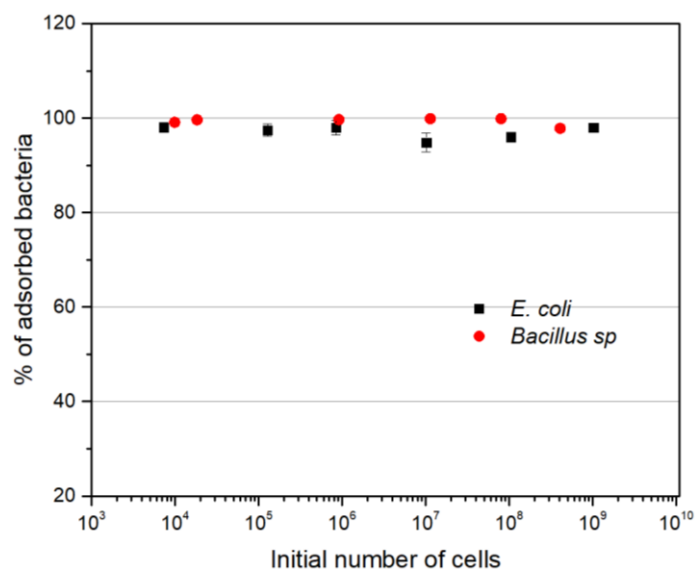


Figure S4. Adsorption of bacteria ranging from 10^3 to 10^8 cells mL^{-1} *E. coli* and *Bacillus sp.* bacteria keeping constant the ratio of cryogel and volume of bacteria to 45 mg per 4 mL.

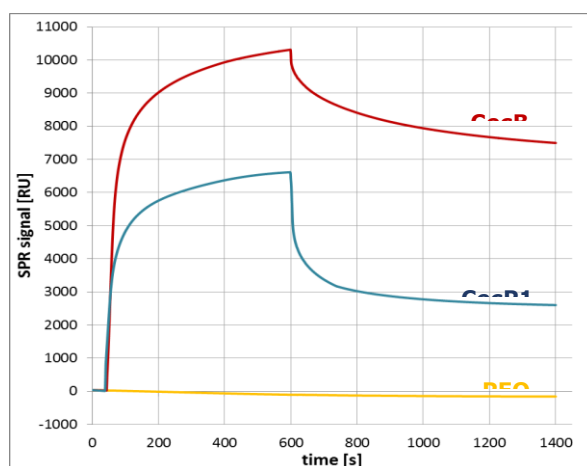


Figure S5. PEO Surface functionalization with Cecropin P1 (CecP1) and Cecropin B (CecB) monitored by SPR.

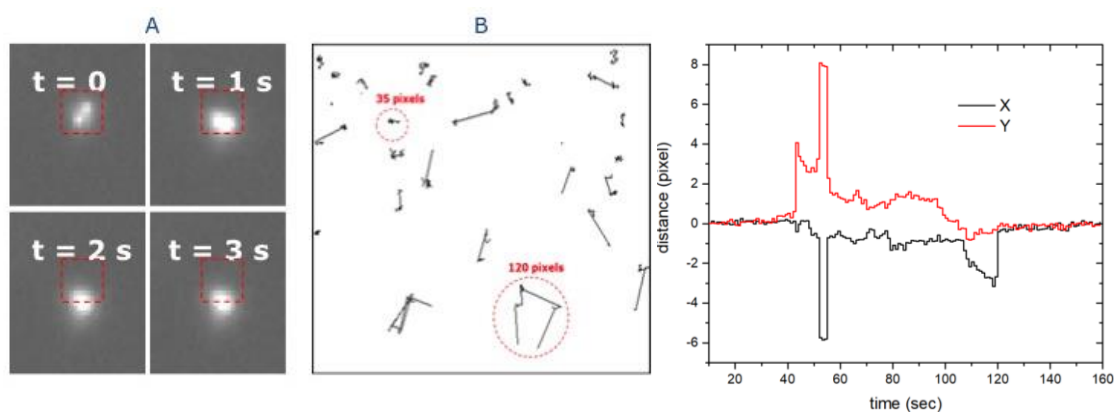


Figure S6. Cell motility is presented as (a) shifting of cell position regarding the geometrical centre at time zero, (b) vectorial travelled distance of the cell along the 160 frames and (c) variation of the X and Y position regarding the time zero (starting position).

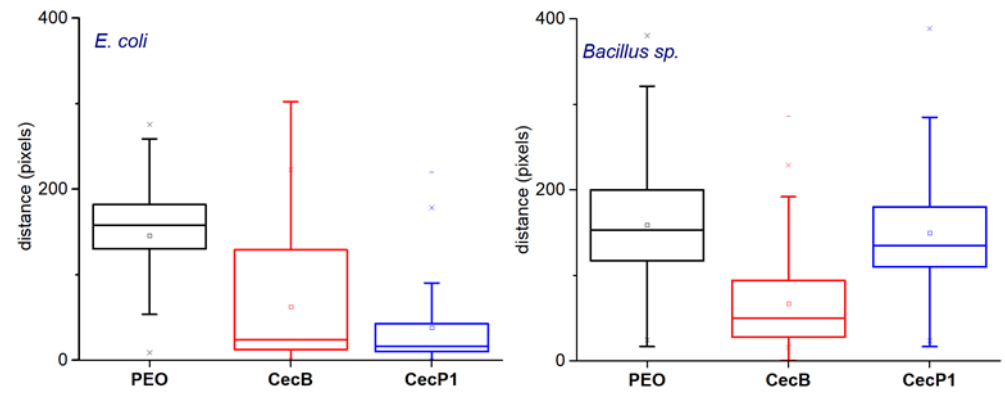


Figure S7. Motility analysis of (a) *E. coli* and (b) *Bacillus sp.* desorbed from the cryogel on PEO, Cecropin B (CecB) and Cecropin P1 (CecP1).