

Supplementary Materials, Methods, Tables and Figures

The allantoin transport protein, Pucl, from *Bacillus subtilis*: evolutionary relationships, amplified expression, activity and specificity

Pikyee Ma[†], Simon G. Patching[†], Ekaterina Ivanova, Jocelyn M. Baldwin, David J. Sharples, Stephen A. Baldwin and Peter J. F. Henderson*

General

Chemicals, reagents and media of the highest available quality were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich Co., Fisher Scientific UK Ltd, Melford Laboratories Ltd, BDH Chemical Supplies or Difco Laboratories, unless stated otherwise. All media, buffers and other solutions were prepared using either deionised water or MilliQTM water. All media were sterilised by autoclaving or for thermally-sensitive solutions by passage through 0.2 µm Minisart[®] high-flow sterile syringe-driven filters (Sartorius) or using vacuum-driven 0.2 µm filters (Stericup[®]) from Millipore. Cellulose nitrate 25 mm ø filters (0.45 µm pore size) for radiolabelled substrate assays and cellulose ester GSTF 25 mm ø filters (0.22 µm pore size) (Whatman[®]) for protein determinations were from Millipore (UK) Ltd. DNA purification kits were from QIAGEN Ltd. Restriction endonucleases and T4 DNA ligase were from New England Biolabs, Pfu TurboTM DNA polymerase was from Agilent Technologies UK, and 1 kb DNA ladder and SYBR SafeTM DNA gel stain was from Invitrogen. PCR amplification of DNA was performed using a Peltier Thermal cycler from MJ Research. Cell disruption was performed using a Constant Systems disruptor. Protein determinations used the method of Schaffner and Weissmann (1973) or a BCA assay using Pierce[®] BCA protein assay reagent A from Thermo Scientific. SDS-PAGE was performed by the method of Laemmli UK (1970), refined for membrane proteins as described by Henderson and Macpherson (1986) using 4% stacking gels and 15% resolving gels in a BioRad Mini PROTEAN 3 apparatus. Acrylamide (40%) and bisacrylamide (2%) solutions were from BioRad Laboratories and SDS-7 protein molecular weight markers were from Sigma-Aldrich Co. Western blotting was performed by semi-dry transfer using a BioRad TRANS-BLOT[®] SD apparatus; RGS-His antibody was from QIAGEN Ltd, SuperSignal[®]; West Pico luminal enhancer solution and stable peroxide solution were from Perbio Science UK; and FluorotransTM membrane was from Pall BioSupport, UK. High-range Rainbow molecular weight markers were from Amersham Biosciences UK Ltd.

Gene cloning and transformation of *E. coli*

Cloning was performed using the plasmid pTTQ18 (Stark, 1987), which is based on the pUC high expression series of plasmids with a polylinker/lacZ α region flanked by the strong hybrid trp-lac

(tac) promoter, which was later modified to introduce an RGS(His₆) tag at the C-terminal end of the protein (Ward et al., 1999; Ward et al., 2000). The strategy is outlined below. PCR primers (forward: 5'-CCGGAATTCGCATATGAAATTTAAAAGAGAGTCAGCAGCAATCCA-3' and reverse: 5'-AAAACCTGCAGCTTCAGCCTGGCGGACCTGCGCATGTT-3') were designed to extract and amplify the *pucl* gene from *B. subtilis* 168 genomic DNA with introduction of *EcoRI* and *PstI* restriction sites at the 5' and 3' ends, respectively, followed by digestion of the PCR product with these enzymes. The gene digests were ligated into the multi-cloning site of *EcoRI/PstI*-digested plasmid pTTQ18 downstream from the IPTG-inducible tac promoter and immediately upstream from a RGS(His₆)-coding sequence that we had already engineered into the plasmid (Liang, 1994, unpublished). The ligation product was transformed into *E. coli* XL-1-Blue cells (StratageneTM) in the presence of carbenicillin (100 µg/ml) followed by PCR screening of colonies, extraction of plasmid DNA from positive clones and restriction digestion analysis using *EcoRI* and *PstI* enzymes. Plasmid DNA from successful ligations was transformed into *E. coli* BL21(DE3) cells (NovagenTM) followed by a test for inducible expression of the His-tagged protein by SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis of membranes prepared by the water lysis method (Witholt et al., 1976; Ward et al., 2000) from small-scale (50 ml) cell cultures that were uninduced or induced with IPTG. Clones of cells that showed successful amplified expression of the proteins were transferred into a freezing mixture (12.6 g/L K₂HPO₄, 0.9 g/L sodium citrate, 0.18 g/L MgSO₄, 1.8 g/L (NH₄)₂SO₄, 3.6 g/L KH₂PO₄, 96 g/L glycerol), frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80 °C. Competent cells were prepared by the methods described by Inoue et al. (1990) or Chung et al. (1989) and transformations were performed based on the method described by Inoue et al. (1990). The optimum concentration of IPTG and length of time for induction were determined.

Cell growth and membrane preparation

Cells were grown in LB or 2TY liquid medium supplemented with glycerol (20 mM) and carbenicillin (100 µg/ml) in Falcon tubes (10 ml in 50 ml tubes) for starter cultures and in LB, 2TY or minimal medium in baffled flasks (50 ml in 250 ml flasks or 500 ml in 2 litre flasks for small-scale and large-scale cultures, respectively) at a temperature of 37 °C with shaking at 200 rpm. Cells were recovered from deep frozen stocks by streaking onto LB-agar plates with 100 µg/ml carbenicillin, using a single colony to inoculate LB medium in Falcon tubes, and then using a 2% (v/v) inoculum when transferring from one liquid culture to another. For expression tests and optimisation of induction conditions, small-scale cultures were grown to an A₆₈₀ of 0.4-0.6, then left uninduced or induced with the relevant concentration of IPTG and grown for the given further length of time before harvesting by centrifugation (3000 x g, 10 min, in Falcon tubes using a bench-top instrument), followed by preparation of membranes by the water lysis method (Witholt et al.,

1976; Ward et al., 2000). For large-scale membrane preparation, typically a total of 10 litres of cells were grown to an A_{680} of 0.4-0.6, then induced with IPTG (0.5 mM) and grown for a further 3 hours before harvesting by centrifugation (6000 x g, 15 min, 4 °C) and storage at -80 °C. At a later time the cells were thawed, suspended in Tris-EDTA buffer (20 mM Tris, pH 7.5 with 0.5 mM EDTA) and inner/outer membranes were separated by sucrose gradient ultracentrifugation and prepared as described in Ward et al. (2000), followed by washing and resuspension in Tris buffer (20 mM, pH 7.5), dispensing into aliquots, rapid freezing in liquid nitrogen and storage at -80 °C.

Protein purification

Inner membrane preparations were solubilised for up to 4 hours at 4 °C in a buffer containing 20 mM Tris (pH 8.0), 1% *n*-dodecyl- β -*D*-maltoside (DDM), 20% glycerol and 300 mM sodium chloride (Supplementary Table S1) at a protein concentration of 3 mg/ml followed by removal of insoluble material by ultracentrifugation (100,000 xg, 1 hour, 4 °C). Immobilised-metal affinity chromatography (IMAC) was performed by mixing the supernatant obtained above with Ni-NTA resin (QIAGEN) (1 ml per 30 mg of total protein) overnight at 4 °C, which was then packed into a column. Unbound material was collected followed by washing of the column with at least 40x column volumes of a buffer that contained imidazole at a concentration of 20 mM or 40 mM (Supplementary Table S1). The His-tagged protein was eluted from the column using ~ 7 ml (for a 1 ml column) of a buffer that contained 200 mM imidazole (Supplementary Table S1), which was then concentrated to a volume of ~ 300 μ l by centrifugation using a concentrator with a MW cut off of 100 kDa (Vivaspin 20, Sartorius). Using the same column, the protein was washed a minimum of five times with at least 5 ml of a buffer containing 20 mM Tris (pH 8.0) or 10 mM KH_2PO_4 , (pH 7.6) and 0.05% DDM, before concentrating to a volume of 200-500 μ l, dispensing into aliquots, rapid freezing in liquid nitrogen and storage at -80 °C.

Circular dichroism spectroscopy

Far-UV circular dichroism spectroscopy analysis of purified protein (0.05 mg/ml) in potassium phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6) with 0.05 % DDM was performed using a Jasco J-715 spectropolarimeter at a temperature of 18 °C with constant nitrogen flushing. The sample was introduced in a Hellma quartz-glass cell of 1 mm path length and spectra were recorded over a wavelength range of 260-190 nm in steps of 1 nm at a scan rate of 10 nm/min. The response time was set at 1 second with a sensitivity of 20 mdeg.

Supplementary Table S1. Composition of buffers used for protein purification.

	Solubilisation buffer	Wash buffer	Elution buffer	Storage buffer
Tris-HCl (pH 7.5)	20 mM	20 mM	20 mM	--
Imidazole	20 mM	20 or 40 mM	200 mM	--
Glycerol	20%	10%	10%	5%
NaCl	300 mM	150 mM	--	--
DDM	1%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%
KH ₂ PO ₄ (pH 7.5)*	--	--	--	10 mM

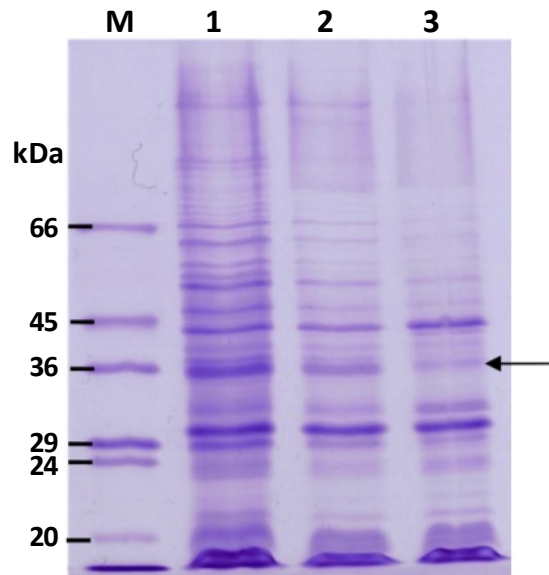
* when used instead of Tris in the storage buffer

Supplementary Table S2. Sequence homology between Pucl and NCS-1 family transporters.

This table gives values of sequence homology for Pucl from *B. subtilis* (P94575) with characterised bacterial, fungal (Fur-type and Fcy-type) and plant NCS-1 family transport proteins. The NCS-1 proteins are: Mhp1 from *M. liquefaciens* (D6R8X8), CodB from *E. coli* (P0AA82), FurA from *A. nidulans* (Q5BFM0), FurD from *A. nidulans* (A6N844), FurE from *A. nidulans* (Q5ATG4), Fur4 from *S. cerevisiae* (P05316), Dal4 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q04895), Fui1 from *S. cerevisiae* (P38196), FcyB from *A. nidulans* (C8V329), Fcy2 from *S. cerevisiae* (P17064), Thi7 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q05998), Tpn1 from *S. cerevisiae* (P53099), Nrt1 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q08485), AtNCS1 (PLUTO) from *A. thaliana* (Q9LZD0), CrNCS1 from *C. reinhardtii* (A8J166), ZmNCS1 from *Zea mays* (B4FJ20), SvNCS1 from *Setaria viridis* (V9SBV7). Values are given for the number of residues (left) and the percentage of residues (right) in Pucl that are identical, highly similar and a combined total of these from separate sequence alignments with Mhp1 or the given groups of proteins (Supplementary Figures S4, S5, S6, S7 and S8).

NCS1 proteins	Sequence homology with Pucl					
	Identical		Highly similar		Overall	
Mhp1	123	25.1%	132	26.9%	255	52.0%
Bacterial (Mhp1, CodB)	40	8.2%	73	14.9%	113	23.1%
Fungal (Fur-type: FurA, FurD, FurE, Fur4, Dal4, Fui1)	31	6.3%	68	13.9%	99	20.2%
Fungal (Fcy-type: FcyB, Fcy2, Thi7, Tpn1, Nrt1)	10	2.0%	53	10.8%	63	12.8%
Plant (AtNCS1, CrNCS1, ZmNCS1, SvNCS1)	108	22.0%	124	25.3%	232	47.3%

Supplementary Figure S1. Inner membrane preparation with amplified expression of the PucI(His₆) protein. SDS-PAGE analysis of inner (1), mixed (2) and outer (3) membranes prepared from a large-scale minimal medium culture of BL21(DE3) cells containing the construct pTTQ18-pucI(His₆). M = molecular weight markers, the arrow indicates the position of the amplified PucI(His₆) protein.



Supplementary Figure S2. Amino acid sequence and amino acid composition of the PucI protein from *Bacillus subtilis*. The amino acid sequence of the PucI protein (Bsu3645, P94575, ALLP_BACSU) from *Bacillus subtilis* (strain 168) in FASTA format (A) taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and the percentage content of each type of amino acid residue in the protein (B) determined using the ExPASy online tool ProtParam (<http://web.expasy.org/protparam/>, Gasteiger et al., 2005). Coloured single amino acids correspond with those in the topology diagram of PucI in Figure 4A of the main paper.

A >sp|P94575|ALLP_BACSU Probable allantoin permease OS=Bacillus subtilis (strain 168) GN=pucI PE=2 SV=1
MKLKESQQQSNRLSNEDLVPLGQEKRTWKAMNFASIWMGCIHNIPTYATVGGGLIAIGLSPWQVLAIITASLI
LFGALALNGHAGTKYGLPPFVIIRASYGIYGANIPALLRAFTAIMWLGIQTFAGSTALNILLNMPGWGEIG
GEWNILGIHLSGLLSFVFFWAIHLLVLHMGESIKRFEVWAGPLVYLVFGGMVWAVDIAGGLGPIYSQPGKF
HTFSETFWPFAAGVTGIIIGIWATLILNIPDFTRFAETQKEQIKGQFYGLPGTFALFAFASITVTSQVAFGE
PIWDVVDILARFDNPNYVIVLSVITLCIATISVNVAANIVSPAYDIANALPKYINFKRGSFITALLALFTVPWK
LMESATSVYAFGLIGMLGPVAGVMMADYFIIRKRELSVDDLYSETGRYVYWKGYNYRAFAATMLGALISLI
GMYVPVLKSLYDISWVFGVLISFLFYIVLMRVHPPASLAIEETVEHAQVRQAE

B	Ala (A)	49	10.0%	Leu (L)	55	11.2%
	Arg (R)	14	2.9%	Lys (K)	15	3.1%
	Asn (N)	16	3.3%	Met (M)	14	2.9%
	Asp (D)	11	2.2%	Phe (F)	31	6.3%
	Cys (C)	2	0.4%	Pro (P)	22	4.5%
	Gln (Q)	13	2.7%	Ser (S)	29	5.9%
	Glu (E)	17	3.5%	Thr (T)	25	5.1%
	Gly (G)	46	9.4%	Trp (W)	17	3.5%
	His (H)	9	1.8%	Tyr (Y)	20	4.1%
	Ile (I)	49	10.0%	Val (V)	36	7.3%

Supplementary Figure S3. Protein sequence alignment between putative allantoin permeases from 24 different species of bacteria. Amino acid sequences were taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). PucI from *Bacillus subtilis* is shown at the top. Residues coloured red are identical and those coloured blue are highly similar. Details about the proteins are listed at the end of the alignment.

PucI -----MKLKESQQQSNRLSNEDLLVPLGQEKRTWKAMNFAS IWM
AllPBcereus -----MKLKESQHQSNRLSNEDLLPLGQEKRTWKAINFAS IWM
AllPEfaeca -----MEKNVSRVTAQEETAMKARGYNEDLLPSSPKQRTMGARNFFTLWM
AllPLBact -----MDNAQLEKYRSRGYSDDLKPKTENKRTWGTFNFTLWM
AllPRaqua -----MNESECTQQERYRERGYSNDLLPKLKEKRNWKGFNFTLWM
AllPBagres -----MERQEQQQRELYRARGYSDDLKPKEKEKQTKWAFNYFTLWM
AllPEcoli -----MEHQRKLFQQRGYSEDLLPKTQSQRWKTFTNYFTLWM
AllPSdysen -----MEHQRKLFQQRGYSEDLLPKTQSQRWKTFTNYFTLWM
AllPCfreun -----MEHQRELYQQRGYSDLLPKTAEQRNWKFTNYFTLWM
AllPStyphi -----
AllPSerrat -----MESISSKQREKYQQRGYHEDLLPKETDKKTWKAINYFTLWM
AllPYinter -----MNDIEENKREYRSRGYPEDLLPKTKDKKNWRAFNYFTLWM
AllPARubri -----MDHAESGTMAADGGFAGDTGLFNADLAPVPPAGRDWSWVNMSTVWM
AllPAacido -----MNFTTVWM
AllPPdurus -----METNKLSPSLSNTDLLPVKPEERTWKAFNFAS IWM
AllPSafgha MTDTAPTAPPPTTQVTLADGRVEIAPGAPAPTGPYANEDLLPVPEKRTWTTYNFSAALWV
AllPKflavi -----MTSTEQTYHPDGRVELTDPEAVATSRYGNAELAPTRLAERRWTTYNYAALWM
AllPKutzn MTS-GAAMAHSPVPVPTPDGRVELADDAAIADSRFYNSELAPVPLEKRTWTTYNFFALWM
AllPAjapon -----MEPTARGETQHVPDGRVELGEVESLKDSRFYNEELAPVPEKRTWTTYTYFALWM
AllPKibdel -----MDGTHLTHPDGRVDLVDSSGIAASRFYNPELAPVPEGRRWSTYNYFALWM
AllPCkluyv -----MEQLVEKEIYELDKSDINVTESKLYNDNAPVPVKERTWNTYNFALWI
AllPSacido -----MTHPLSEPEVDIANRDLLPTTSSQRQWTLNYLTLWI
AllPRpicke -----MSQ---TTSSAFSADAVGAPDPTLWNEDLNPTPPAARTWTATNYAALWV
AllPCapicu -----MSLSNEDLAPTAEKRTWTMWHYAALWV
AllPSusita -----MKPRYDLSLYNEDLAPVPEKRTWGTYNYAALWI

PucI GCIHNIPTYATVGGLIAIGLSPWQVLAI IITASLIVFGALALNGHAGTKYGLPFVPIIRA
AllPBcereus GCIHNIPTYATVGGLIAIGLSPWQVLAI IITASLILFGALALNGHAGTKYGLPFVPIIRA
AllPEfaeca GSIHNIPTYAAVGGFIFLGLSPLQVMLAVLSSFIVATFMNLNGVAGSKYGIPFAMHLQS
AllPLBact GSVHNVPNYVAVGGFIFLGLSTVSIMAAIIVSAFIIAAVMVLNGAAGSKYGVPFAMILRA
AllPRaqua GSVHNVPNYIAVGGFIFLGLSTFSVMMAI IISALFIAAVMVLNGAAGSKYGVPFAMILRG
AllPBagres GSVHNVPNYVMVGGFFILGLSTLSIMLAI ILSAFVIAFVMVMNGAAGTKYGVPFAMILRA
AllPEcoli GSVHNVPNYVMVGGFFILGLSTFSIMLAI ILSAFVIAAVMVLNGAAGSKYGVPFAMILRA
AllPSdysen GSVHNVPNYVMVGGFFILGLSTFSIMLAI ILSAFVIAAVMVLNGAAGSKYGVPFAMILRA
AllPCfreun GSVHNVPNYVMVGGFFILGLSTFSIMLAI IISALFIALVMVMNGAAGSKYGVPFAMILRG
AllPStyphi -----MVGFFIFLGLSTFNIMLAI IISALFIAAAMVMNGAAGSKYGVPFAMILRG
AllPSerrat GSVHNVPNYVAVGGFIFLGLSTVSIMAAI ILSAFVIAFVMVMNGAAGSKYGIPFAMLLRA
AllPYinter GSVHNVPNYVAVGGFIFLGLSTVSIMAAI ILSALIIAFVMVMNGAAGSKYGIPFAMILRA
AllPARubri GMVHNVAAYEAAAGLMQLGLSALQSLAAVAVAYFVLFVAMWFNARPGTAYGIPFCVLIRS
AllPAacido GMVHNI VAYETAASLLSLGMSVWQALLTVIVANAVLIVAMCLNSVAGARYGLPFVVLVRA
AllPPdurus GCIHNIPTYATVGGLIAIGMSPWQVLAVILVASLILYAALSNGHAGAKYAIPFPVFIRS
AllPSafgha GMAHNTASYTLASGLIAGMDWKQAVFTIALANVIVLIPMLLTGHAGPKYGIPFPVFARA
AllPKflavi GMAHNIPSYLLASGLVTLGMNWLQAFLLTITLGNLIVLVPLLN SHAGTKYGIPFPVFARA
AllPKutzn GMAHNIPSYTLAASLIALGMDWVQAFLLTITLGNLIVLVPMMLN SHAGTKYGIPFPVFARS
AllPAjapon GMAHNIPSYALAASLIALGMDWVQALLTITIGNLIVLIPMLLN SHAGTKYGIPFPVFARA
AllPKibdel GMAHNIPSYTLAASLIALGMDWVQAFMTITLGNLIVLAPMLLN SHAGTKYGIPFPVFARA
AllPCkluyv GMAHCIPTYMLAGSLISLGMWQALFTITFGNLIVLIPILLNAHPGTKYGINFPVFSRA
AllPSacido GMAHNVSTYMMAGGFIALGLSWWEAILTIVLVGTLIVLVPIILN SHAGTQY GIPFPVYARA
AllPRpicke SMVVSVPAYMLASGLMSEGMNWWQAVLTVFLGNLIVLVPMVLVGHAGTKYGIPFPVLVRA
AllPCapicu GMSVCIPTYTMASGLIDQMSWKEAIACVALGNVIVLAPMILNAHPGTRYGVFPVPLARA
AllPSusita SMSVCVPTYMLASGLIAGGMNWWQAILTILLGNLIVLVPMVLNAHAGTKYGIPFPVLRV

PucI

AllPBcereus
AllPEfaeca
AllPLBact
AllPRaqua
AllPBagres
AllPEcoli
AllPSdysen
AllPCfreun
AllPStyphi
AllPSerrat
AllPYinter
AllPARubri
AllPAacido
AllPPdurus
AllPSafgha
AllPKflavi
AllPKutzn
AllPAjapon
AllPKibdel
AllPCkluyv
AllPSacido
AllPRpicke
AllPCapicu
AllPSusita

SQ-PGKFHT----FSETFWPFAAGVTGIIGIWATLILNIPDFTRFAETQKEQIKGQFYGL
SQ-PGRFHT----FSETFWPFAAGVTGIIGIWATLILNIPDFTRFAETQKEQIKGQFYGL
SYQVSGAIR----SVNPLVAYLIIFNSVVAVWSAPGASVADFTKNARSTRAQVVQTAGL
NYVPANVQT----GGNSIFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNAKSFKAQATGQTFGL
NYVPANAEQ----SGNPLFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNASSFKQAWGQTLGL
DYVPAGVQK----AENSGFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNAQSFRQQALGQTLGL
DYIPSGIQK----AENGGFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNAHSFREQALGQTLGL
DYIPSGIQK----AENSGFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPVVSASDFEQNAHSFREQALGQTLGL
DYIPGGVQK----AGNSGFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNAHSFREQALGQTLGL
DYLPSGVQK----AEHSGFLFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNAHSFRAQALGQTLGL
AYVPANTDI----TSNSGFMFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQYAKSFQQAVGQTLGL
SYVPANVVM----AEHSGFMFLVVINAVVAVWAAPAVSASDFEQNASSFRQQAFGQTAGL
DQ-PSRLTG-----TDAWLTFVCVGTGMIGIWSTFAVNIPDLRSFVRSERDQVIGQLIGL
TQ-PSKLG-----VAFWQAFGLSVTGLVGTWSTLVLNIPDLTRFSRSQKQIVGQAIIGL
AQ-ASKFQS----FGDLFWV FVASVTGIIGIWATLILNIPDFTRFAKSQKEQIKGQFWGL
DQ-PSKLGW----GPDFWKL FAPALMGMIGFWSTLSLNIPDFTRYGRSQKAQTWGQALGL
SQ-PSLGLW----DADFWKI FAPSLMGMIAFWATLSLNMPDFTRFGGQQRQVVLGQIIIGL
SE-PSKLGW----GSGFWAV FAPSLMAMIAFWSTLSLNMPDFTRFGGSQRKQFWGQILGL
SE-PGKLGW----GPDFWKV FAPSLMAMIAFWSTLSLNMPDFTRFGGSQKQVRGQILGL
SE-PSKLGW----GGDFWKV FAPALMGMIAFWSTLSLNMPDFTRFGGSQRKQVTGQILGL
SE-ESKLKT----MGDFMKV FPAALTS MVGFWATLSLNIPDFTRFAKQKEQMVGQSLGL
HQ-PAKVHG-----AALWAVEIPALTSVVGWATLSLNIPDFTRFAKSQKAQIWGQTLGL
SA-PSAFAAGGKRAGEFWGFFWPSLTAMVGYWATLALNIPDFTRFARSQRDQLVGQAVGL
AQ-PSKLE-----GRFWKV FGPGLTAMVGFWATLSLNIPDFTRYAKSQRDQALGQAIIGL
KT-PSKFHT----TAEFARF FIPSLTGMVGFWATVALNIPDFTRYAKSQKAQIWGQVGLGL

PucI

AllPBcereus
AllPEfaeca
AllPLBact
AllPRaqua
AllPBagres
AllPEcoli
AllPSdysen
AllPCfreun
AllPStyphi
AllPSerrat
AllPYinter
AllPARubri
AllPAacido
AllPPdurus
AllPSafgha
AllPKflavi
AllPKutzn
AllPAjapon
AllPKibdel
AllPCkluyv
AllPSacido
AllPRpicke
AllPCapicu
AllPSusita

PGTFALFAFASITVTS GSQVA FGEPIWDVVDILARFDNPYVIVLSVITL CIATISVNVAA
PGTFALFAFASITVTS GSQVA FGEPIWDVVDILARFDNPYVIVLSVITL CIATISVNVAA
VVGYGIFAFS SVVILLGGSLYFGIQEWNILNIIDRLDNVAVVVLAMS VFLLTTISTNATG
AVAYVLF AIA SV CILAGAS IHYGTETWNVLDIVQKWDSL FASIFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
IVAYVLF AVASV CILAGAS IHYGVDTWNVLDIVQKWDSL FASVFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
LVAYILF AVAGV CIIAGAS IHYGEDTWNVLDIVQKWDSL FASFFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
VVAYILF AVAGV CIIAGAS IHYGADTWNVLDIVQRWDSL FASFFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
VVAYILF AVAGV CIIAGAS IHYGADTWNVLDIVQRWDSL FASFFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
IVAYVLF AIA SV CIIAGAS IHYGVDTWNVLDIVQRWDSL FASFFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
IVAYVLF AVASV CIIAGAS IHYGMTWNVLDIVQRWDSL FASFFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
VVAYLLF AVASV CILAGAS IHYGVDTWNVLDIVQKWDSV FASVFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
VVAYILF AVASV CILAGAS IHYGVDTWNVLDIVQKWDSL FASVFAVLVILM TTISTNATG
PLTAIVFTAMSVVTTS ATILVFGHPIDWPVQILLALHEPWVLLGGVTIIVATLSVNVAA
PGTALF SVMSIVITS GTLIAFGTAVTDPVQILGKFNSIVLMFGAFALLIATLSVNVAA
PGTFILFAFASITVTS GSQVA FGTPIWDVVEILKYFNHPFI IAVSVITL CMASVSVNVAA
PTTMTLFAFLSVMVTS GSQAVYGEAIWDPVQLAAKTDNTVGLL FALVTVLVATLSVNVAA
PTTMSFIALVSI VTTSGTVVVYGS AIWDPVELTRRFENPLVVTIGLVMAILATMSCNVAA
PTTMSFIAIVAILTTS GAVALYGEAIWDPAQQLAARFDSPLVVLVVALIALVLATISANLAA
PTTMTFIAIVAILTTS GGSVLYGEIQIWDPAKLADRFDSPVVVVALVALVLATVSANLAA
PTTMSFIALVAILTTS GAMSLYGEAIWDPAQQLASRFDSPLLVVIALIALVLATVSANLAA
PITMTIFSAMGIIITS ATVVIY GKAMWDPVDII AKFTNPVALLIGFFGIVVASLSVNIAA
PTTMTVFS AIGVLVTS ATIVVFHQAIADPVTL LGHFHNVL LLLISLGAVVVATLSVNVAA
PLPMGLLALVAVLVTS STVVIY GQAIWDPVTLGKMTGPSV-IVALLALITATLMTNIAA
PGTMVLF SFIGVAVTS ATPII FGETIWDPVKLLGRIGGALILIVAMFGLGVATLSNLA
PTTMTFYSFIGVAVTS ASVVLFGRPIDVPELLGKFNQPLVAFIAMIALLLATLSNVA

PucI

AllPBcereus
AllPEfaeca
AllPLBact
AllPRaqua
AllPBagres
AllPEcoli
AllPSdysen
AllPCfreun
AllPStyphi
AllPSerrat
AllPYinter
AllPARubri
AllPAacido
AllPPdurus
AllPSafgha
AllPKflavi
AllPKutzn
AllPAjapon
AllPKibdel
AllPCkluyv
AllPSacido
AllPRpicke
AllPCapicu
AllPSusita

NIVSPAYDIANALPKYINFKRGSFITALLALFTVPWKLMESA-TSVYAFGLIGGMLGVP
NIVSPAYDIANALPKYINFKRGSFITALLALFTVPWKLMESA-TSVYAFGLIGGMLGVP
NIIIPAGYQLAALFPKKMTYKKGVMIASVISFLIMPWKLMENA-DSIFIFLNAIGAVLGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIFPKKLTYYKHGVMIASIISVLICPWKLMENQ-ASIYLFLLDIIGGILGPV
NIIIPAGFQIAAIAFPKKLTYYKKGVLIASLISVVICPWKLMENQ-ESIYLFLLDIIGGMLGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIAFPKLTYYKNGVLIASIISSLICPWKLMENQ-SSIYLFLLDIIGGMLGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIAFPKLTYYKNGVLIASIISSLICPWKLMENQ-DSIYLFLLDIIGGMLGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIAFPKLTYYKNGVLIASIISSLICPWKLMENQ-DSIYLFLLDIIGGMLGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIAFPKLTYYKKGVLIASIISSLICPWKLMENQ-SSIYLFLLDIIGGMLGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIAFPKLTYYKNGVVIASIISSLICPWKLMENQ-ESIYLFLLDVIGGILGPV
NIIIPAGYQIAAIAFPKLTYYKNGVIASLISLIIICPWKLMENQ-ESIYLFLLDVIGGILGPV
NIMPAAAYDLVNLMPRRLGFNASMLVLVIGLFFAPWLWFHNA-NSIFAVLGGIGGLGPV
NVVSPAYDLVNLFPKKNLNFVRAGVISVVIIGLCFAPWLWYDNG-GVIFSVLNAIGGGLGPV
NIVSPAYDLANLFPKWIIFKRGGYIAAILSLTVPWKMMEQS-TSIFAFGLTIGGALGPV
NLVSPAFDFSNIAPRKISFRAGALATCVLGVLIIFPWKLYSDPQGYIFTWLGVLGGLLGTV
NVVSPSYDFANALPRWLNFRTAGLLTGVIIGVLIQPWRLISDPDIYIFAWLSFYGGLLASV
NVVSPSYDFSNAVPKRITFATGGLITGVLGVLIQPWRLISDPHIYIFTWLGIFYGGVLAHV
NVVSPSYDFSNAFPKKITFVAVGGLITGIIIGVLIQPWRLYSDPNIYIFAWLGFYGGLLGAV
NVVSPSYDFSNAFPKKITFATGGLITGVVGIIGVLIQPWRLISDPSIYIFAWLGFYGGLLAAI
NIVSPANDFSNMAPKHISFKMGSITGIIIGLIMPWKLLSDPSGYIYAWLGTYSGLIGPV
NVVSPAYDFIQLFPKHLNFSRAGLLTGILGIVMVWLLISNPHIYIFSWLNVYGGFLGPI
NVVSPAYDFSNLAPHRISFRTGGYITAGIGLAMMPWKILETTKGYIFTWLVGYGALLGPI
NVVSPANDFSNLSPSRISYRMGGVITAVIGALIMPWKLI ESSQGYIFVWLVGY SALLGPI
NVVSPSNDFANLNPQRISFRTGGMITGVIIGVLMMPWKLLSDLSAYVFGWLVGY SGLLGPV

PucI

AllPBcereus
AllPEfaeca
AllPLBact
AllPRaqua
AllPBagres
AllPEcoli
AllPSdysen
AllPCfreun
AllPStyphi
AllPSerrat
AllPYinter
AllPARubri
AllPAacido
AllPPdurus
AllPSafgha
AllPKflavi
AllPKutzn
AllPAjapon
AllPKibdel
AllPCkluyv
AllPSacido
AllPRpicke
AllPCapicu
AllPSusita

AGVMMADYFIIIRKRELSVDDLYSE-TGRYVY---WKGYNYRAFAATMLGALISLIGM---
AGVMMADYFIIIRKRELSVDDLYSE-TGRYVY---CKGYNYRAFAATILGALISLIGM---
AGVMIANYFVQKQQINLNALYVD-KHKKEEANPFYGLNKPAYVATILALVLSLGSQ---
IGVMLAHYFIIIMRQINLDSLYTE-PGQFSY--YKNGFNSLAFVVTIVAVIISLGSK---
IGVMAHYFIVRSELDLDTLYTA-PGNYHY--YDRGFNTVAFVTTIAVVL SLGGK---
IGVMAHYFIVMRSQIDLDTLYTK-AGDYKF--YDNGFNVTAFSVTTLIAVVL SLGGK---
IGVMAHYFVVMRGQINLDELYTA-PGDYKY--YDNGFNLTAFSVTTLVAVIL SLGGK---
IGVMAHYFVVMRGKINLDELYTE-PSDYKY--YDNGFNLTAFSVTTLVAVIL SLGGK---
IGVMLAHYFIVMRGKINLDELYTA-SGDYQY--YDNGFNLTAFSVTTLVAVIL SLGGK---
IGVMAHYFVVMRGKINLDELYTA-SGDYKY--YDNGFNLTAFSVTTLVAVIL SLGGK---
IGVMAHYFIVIRSDINLDTLYTE-PGNYKY--YENGFNSVAFIVTTLVAVVL SLGGK---
IGVMAHYFVIMRRIDLDTLYTE-DGNYKY--YDNGFNTTAFVVTTLISVIL SLGGK---
TGIMLTDYYLIRQRLSVPELYRY-EGRYAG---RGGWNPAAGVWAFLLIGGT CALIGA---
AGIMLADFFMIKRKYDVL SFYRS-DSEYRY---TNGWNLRAIGALVIGLIAF IGL---
AGVMEADYFIIIRKRTLEVDELYKL-NGKYTY---YKGYNYRAFVATAIGAFVSLIGQ---
AGILIADYWILRRSRLLADLYRT-GGRYWY---EGGWNWRAVAVFVAVGGVLA VGGASF-
AGVLIAGYWFVDRTNLFLADLYLV-NGRYWY---SAGWNWRAVAVATLVGSLVAVGGAYG-
AGVLVAGYWLDRTQLSLPDLYQE-NGKYWF---TGGWNWRAVAVATVVGAVI AVGGAYSA
AGVLVAGYWVNRTKLRLRDLYTE-RGIYWF---NGGWNWRAVAVATLAGAVLAVGGAYG-
AGVVFAGYWTLAKTRNLADLYKDGE GAYWF---HGGWNWRAVAVATLLAGVLA VGGAYG-
AAIICDYWIIKKNLVLKDLYLT-KGKYTY---NKGFNLRVAVISLAVGIFAALIGK---
AGILIADYWVFRKTTLAVELYAK-GGRYYY---ANGYNWRAIAALAGGVVIALIGK---
AGIMVDYFLVRRTVLKTGELEFRV-DGPYGY---GNGWNGRAIAALVIGVLPNLP GFFFKQ
GGIMVDYFLVRRKRLVDLDDLYRR-GGIY EY---SNGVNWKAIIAMAI AVAVNLP GFLAE
AGVMIADYFLVRHAHLIDDDLYRR-NGIY EY---DNGINRRAVVALAAGIGVAL IGL---

PucI

AllPBcereus -----YVPVLKSLYDISWFVGVLSIFLFYIVLMRVHPPASLAIETVEHAQVRQAE
AllPEfaeca -----YVPALKSLYDISWFVGVLSIFLFYIVLMRVHPPASSAIEPFESRQVRQAE
AllPLBact -----FIPQVKIADISWFVGFATGFVLYLVLLKKWTWDSKKVKETAY----QEGK
AllPRaqua -----FIPVLEPVSRLSWFVGVIVAFGAYALFASLHRKKNPSFYDEN----TEVQ
AllPBagres -----FIPLFEP LSRVSWFVGVITAFVLYVLLKKRDAPGISTEHKAA-----
AllPEcoli -----FIHFMEPLSRVSWFVGVIVAFAYALLKKRTTAEKTGEQKTI----G---
AllPSdysen -----FIPFMEPLSRVSWFVGVIVAFAYALLKKRTTAEKTGEQKTI----G---
AllPCfreun -----FIPFLEPLSRVSWFVGVIVAFVAYALLKKRTGAQSAGVQKVT----GQM-
AllPStyphi -----FIPFMEPLSRVSWFVGVIVAFVAYALLKKRTGFENTGEKKLA----G---
AllPSerrat -----FISILEPLSRVSWFVGVISAFCLYALIKSKVAASGKNIPDVD----IITK
AllPYinter -----FIPLLEPLSRISWFVGVITAFVLYVLIKRRTIANKTEYA-----
AllPARubri -----VVPALHTIYAFAWFVIGIAVGAAYVGLATRRRAVEGLSPARA-----
AllPAacido -----VVPVLSIYTYSWFVIGVIVGVAYVLLMRSSMSVEAIEPVAVGMFEEN--
AllPPdurus -----FVPSLKYLYDISWFVGVLFVFTYIALMRLHPPAAIAINESKESLIEKTV
AllPSafgha ---KPLIDGRPIPALADLADYGWAVGLGTSMLLYLVLLMAARGGNRATV-----
AllPKflavi ---GFPTEGLIPFLQPLYDYSWVVGLLAGFLGYVGLTVAFPHRD KAVHAAPT-----
AllPKutzn PGTGFPADGLIPFLKPLYDYSWVAGLIAAFLLYLVLLTPRTSATS AVTVATN-----
AllPAjapon ---GFPADGLIPFLKPLYDYNWVVGLAGAFVYVLLSLPERKRRTDIEEDASERRGPSR
AllPKibdel ---GFPADGLIPLLKPLYDYSWVGVAVGYVYLVLSVSTKH----TEEEASAADRSR
AllPCkluyv -----IIPSLNGLANYAWFVGFVAVSFVIYVLLSASSKEPESAAELANESS-NS--
AllPSacido -----VVPALAWLFNYSWFVGFIVAFIVYLGLMQTAESP DVRLAGSR-----
AllPRpicke A----GFVASVPGVF EALYTYAWFVGLAISAVVYVILMRGRR-----
AllPCapicu A--IPSLKDAVPPLLKTLTYAWFVGVLVAGSIYVLLMVR SVREPSEPGAAPASP-G---
AllPSusita -----IVPPLKFLYDYAWFVGFVAVAGVYVCLMRGTGV-PARAIR-----

PucI

AllPBcereus -----
AllPEfaeca -----
AllPLBact IKKIGVEGNEL
AllPRaqua -----
AllPBagres -----
AllPEcoli -----
AllPSdysen -----
AllPCfreun -----
AllPStyphi -----
AllPSerrat -----
AllPYinter -----
AllPARubri -----
AllPAacido -----
AllPPdurus -----
AllPSafgha -----
AllPKflavi -----
AllPKutzn -----
AllPAjapon IDPAAVDG---
AllPKibdel IDPAAVDG---
AllPCkluyv -----
AllPSacido -----
AllPRpicke -----
AllPCapicu -----
AllPSusita -----

Current details about the bacterial putative allantoin permeases from the UniProt KnowledgeBase are listed below in alphabetical order of the bacterial species. PucI from *Bacillus subtilis* is highlighted in blue.

AllPArubri

>tr|A0A0D6P5P0|A0A0D6P5P0_9PROT
Cytosine/purines uracil thiamine allantoin permease OS=Acidisphaera rubrifaciens
HS-AP3 GN=Asru_0108_06 PE=4 SV=1

AllPAacido

>tr|T0BNV5|T0BNV5_9BACL
Uncharacterized protein OS=Alicyclobacillus acidoterrestris ATCC 49025
GN=N007_08025 PE=4 SV=1

AllPAjapon

>tr|A0A075UWS0|A0A075UWS0_9PSEU
Cytosine/purines/uracil/thiamine/allantoin permease family protein
OS=Amycolatopsis japonica GN=AJAP_29195 PE=4 SV=1

AllPBcereus

>tr|A0A0K6K4C4|A0A0K6K4C4_BACCE Putative allantoin permease OS=Bacillus cereus
GN=pucI_2 PE=4 SV=1

PucI

>sp|P94575|ALLP_BACSU
Probable allantoin permease OS=Bacillus subtilis (strain 168) GN=pucI PE=2 SV=1

AllPBagres

>tr|A0A085GIB7|A0A085GIB7_9ENTR
Allantoin permease OS=Buttiauxella agrestis ATCC 33320 GN=ybbW PE=4 SV=1

AllPCapicu

>tr|A0A017SX37|A0A017SX37_9DELT
Cytosine/purine/uracil/thiamine/allantoin permease family protein
OS=Chondromyces apiculatus DSM 436 GN=CAP_8588 PE=4 SV=1

AllPCfreun

>tr|A0A064EDD5|A0A064EDD5_CITFR
Uncharacterized protein OS=Citrobacter freundii MGH 56 GN=AF42_00326 PE=4 SV=1

AllPCkluvy

>tr|B9E3U4|B9E3U4_CLOK1
Uncharacterized protein OS=Clostridium kluveri (strain NBRC 12016) GN=CKR_2118
PE=4 SV=1

AllPEfaeca

>tr|A0A0E1RIK8|A0A0E1RIK8_ENTFL
Allantoin permease OS=Enterococcus faecalis str. Symbioflor 1 GN=allP PE=4 SV=1

AllPEcoli

>sp|P75712|ALLP_ECOLI
Putative allantoin permease OS=Escherichia coli (strain K12) GN=ybbW PE=1 SV=2

AllPKibdel

>tr|A0A0B7CDN7|A0A0B7CDN7_9PSEU
Cytosine/purine/uracil/thiamine/allantoin permease family protein
OS=Kibdelosporangium sp. MJ126-NF4 PE=4 SV=1

AllPKflavi

>tr|D2PV18|D2PV18_KRIFD
NCS1 nucleoside transporter family OS=Kribbella flavida (strain DSM 17836 / JCM 10339 / NBRC 14399) GN=Kfla_2410 PE=4 SV=1

AllPKutz

>tr|W7SE62|W7SE62_9PSEU
NCS1 family nucleobase:cation symporter-1 OS=Kutzneria sp. 744 GN=KUTG_02746
PE=4 SV=1

AllPLBact

>tr|A0A099W9I6|A0A099W9I6_9LIST
Allantoin permease OS=Listeriaceae bacterium FSL A5-0209 GN=EP56_09325 PE=4 SV=1

AllPPdurus

>tr|A0A0F7F7F2|A0A0F7F7F2_PAEDU
Allantoin permease OS=Paenibacillus durus ATCC 35681 GN=VK70_04590 PE=4 SV=1

AllPRaqua

>tr|H8NQW0|H8NQW0_RAHAQ
Allantoin permease OS=Rahnella aquatilis HX2 GN=Q7S_01470 PE=4 SV=1

AllPRpicke

>tr|R0E5V8|R0E5V8_RALPI
NCS1 nucleoside transporter-like protein OS=Ralstonia pickettii OR214
GN=OR214_02516 PE=4 SV=1

AllPStyphi

>tr|A0A0F6AY07|A0A0F6AY07_SALT1
Allantoin permease OS=Salmonella typhimurium (strain 14028s / SGSC 2262) GN=allP
PE=4 SV=1

AllPSerrat

>tr|A0A087L1Z7|A0A087L1Z7_9ENTR
Allantoin permease OS=Serratia sp. Ag1 GN=IV04_10740 PE=4 SV=1

AllPSdysen

>tr|F3V2W9|F3V2W9_SHIDY
NCS1 nucleoside transporter family protein OS=Shigella dysenteriae 155-74
GN=ncs1 PE=4 SV=1

AllPSusita

>tr|Q01P63|Q01P63_SOLUE
NCS1 nucleoside transporter family OS=Solibacter usitatus (strain Ellin6076)
GN=Acid_7658 PE=4 SV=1

AllPSafgha

>tr|S4ME44|S4ME44_9ACTN
Putative allantoin permease OS=Streptomyces afghaniensis 772 GN=STAFG_8236 PE=4
SV=1

AllPSacido

>tr|G8TUQ4|G8TUQ4_SULAD
Uncharacterized protein OS=Sulfobacillus acidophilus (strain ATCC 700253 / DSM
10332 / NAL) GN=Sulac_2310 PE=4 SV=1

AllPYinter

>tr|C4SZI6|C4SZI6_YERIN
Allantoin permease OS=Yersinia intermedia ATCC 29909 GN=yinte0001_12410 PE=4
SV=1

Supplementary Figure S4. Protein sequence alignment between PucI from *Bacillus subtilis* and Mhp1 from *Microbacterium liquefaciens*. The amino acid sequences of the PucI protein from *Bacillus subtilis* strain 168 (Bsu3645, P94575, ALLP_BACSU) and the Mhp1 protein from *Microbacterium liquefaciens* (D6R8X8, D6R8X8_9MICO) taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) were aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). Residues are coloured to indicate those that are identical (red) and highly similar (blue). Coloured highlighting is used to show helical regions in Mhp1 based on the crystal structure of Mhp1 with bound benzylhydantoin (PDB 4D1B, Simmons et al., 2014) as follows: transmembrane helix (grey), break in transmembrane helix (yellow), internal helix (cyan), external helix (green). Helical regions correspond with those shown in the topology diagram of PucI in Figure 4C of the main paper.

PucI	M KLKES Q Q S N R L S NEDL V PLG Q E K R T W K A M N F A S I W M G C I H N I P T Y A T V G L I A I G L S P	60
Mhp1	M N S - T P I E E A R S L L N P S N A P T R Y A E R S V G P F S L A A I W F A M A I Q V A I F I A A - Q M T S S F Q V	58
PucI	W Q V L A I I T A S L I L F G A L A L N H A G T K Y G L P F P V I I R A S Y G I Y G A N I P A L L R A F T A I M W L	120
Mhp1	W Q V I V A I A A G C T I A V I L L F F T Q S A A I R W G I N F T V A A R M P F G I R G S L I P I T L K A L S L S L F W F	118
PucI	G I Q T F A G S T A L N I L L L N M W P G W E I G G E W N I L G I H L S G L L S F V F F W A I H L L V L H G M E S I	180
Mhp1	G F Q T W L G A L A L D E I T R - L L T G F T N L P - ----- L W I V I F G A I Q V V T T F Y G I T F I	164
PucI	K R F E V W A G P L V Y L V F G G M V W A V D I - A G G L G P I S Q P G K F H T F S E T F W P F A A G V T G I I G I	239
Mhp1	R W M N V F A S P V L L A M G V Y M V Y L M L D G A D V S L G E V M S M G E - ----- N P G M P F S T A I M I F V G G	219
PucI	W A T L I L N I P D F T R F A E T Q K E Q -----I K G Q F Y G L P G T F A L E F A F A S I T V T S G S Q	287
Mhp1	W I A V V S I H D I V K E C K V D P N A S R E G Q T K A D A R Y A T A Q W L G M V P A S I I F G F I G A -- A S M V L	277
PucI	V A F G E P I W D V D I L A R F D N P Y V I V L S V I T L C I A T I S V N V A A N I V S P A Y D I A N A L P K Y I N F	347
Mhp1	V G E W N F V I A I T E V V G G V S I P M A I L F Q V - F V L L A T W S T N P A A N L L S P A Y T L C S T F P R V F T F	336
PucI	K R G S F I T A L L A L F T V P W K L M E S A T S V Y A F L G L I G G M L G P V A G V M M A D Y F I R K R E L S V D D	407
Mhp1	K T G V I V S A V V G L L M P W Q F A G V --- L N T F L N L L A S A L G P L A G I M I S D Y F L V R R R R I S L H D	393
PucI	L Y S E T G R Y V Y W K G Y N R A F A A T M L G A L I S L I - ----- G M Y V P V L K S L Y D I S W F V G V L I	459
Mhp1	L Y R T K G I Y T Y W R G V N W V A L A V A V A L A V S F L T P D L M F V T G L I A A L L L H I P A M R W V A K T F P	453
PucI	S F L F Y I - --- V L M R V H P P A S L A I E T V E H A Q V R Q A E -----	490
Mhp1	L F S E A E S R N E D Y L R P I G P V A P A D E S A T A N T K E Q N Q P A G G R G S H H H H H H	501

Colour key:

- Red** Identical
- Blue** Highly similar
- Grey** Transmembrane helix
- Yellow** Break in transmembrane helix
- Cyan** Internal helix
- Green** External helix

Supplementary Figure S5. Protein sequence alignment between PucI and bacterial NCS-1 family transporters. The amino acid sequence of PucI from *B. subtilis* strain 168 (P94575) was aligned with those of Mhp1 from *M. liquefaciens* (D6R8X8) and CodB from *E. coli* (P0AA82). Sequences were taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). Residues are coloured to indicate those that are identical (red) and highly similar (blue). Coloured highlighting (cyan) is used to show residues in the putative substrate (allantoin) binding site of PucI (Figure 7).

```

PucI  MKLKESQQQSNRLSNEDLVPLGQEKR-TWKAMNFASIWGCIHNIPFYATVGGGLIAIGLS 59
Mhp1  MNS-TPIEEARSLLNPSNAPTRYAER-SVGPFLAAIWFAMAIQVAIFIAA-GQMTSSFQ
CodB  -----MSQDNNF---SQGPVPQSARKGVLAALTF--VMLGLTF-FSASMWTGTLGTGLS

PucI  PWQVLAIITASLILFGALALNGHAGTKYGLPFPVIIRASYGIYGANIPALLRAFTAIMW 119
Mhp1  VWQVIVAIAGCTIAVILLFQTQSAAIRWGINFTVAARMPFGIRGSLIPITLKALLSLFW
CodB  YHDFFLAVLIGNLLLGIYTSFLGYIGAKTGLTTHLLARFSGVKGSLPSSLLLGGTQVGW

PucI  LGIQTFAGSTALNILLNMWPGWGEIGGEWNILGIHLSGLLSFVFFWAIHLLVLHHGMES 179
Mhp1  FGFQTWLGAALDEITR-LLTGFTNLP-----LWIVIFGAIQVVTTFYGITF
CodB  FGVGVAMFAIPVGKAT-----GL-----DINLLIAVSGLLMTVTVFFGISA

PucI  IKRFEVWAGPLVYLVFGGMVWVAVDI-AGGLGPIYSQPGKFHTFSETFWPFAAGVTGIIG 238
Mhp1  IRWMNVFASPVLAMGVYMLMLDGADVSLGEVMSMGGE-----NPGMPFSTAIMIFVG
CodB  LTVLSVIAVPAIACLGYSVWLAVNGMG-GLDALKAV-----VPAQPLDFNVALALVVG

PucI  IWA TLILNIPDFTRFAETQKEQ-----IKGQFYGLPGTFALFAFASITVTSGS 286
Mhp1  GWIAVVVSIHDIIVKECKVDPNASREGQTKADARYATAQWLGMPASIIFGFIGA--ASMV
CodB  SFISAGTLTADFVRFGRNAKLAVLVA-----MVAFFLGN-SLMFIFGAAGAAALGMA

PucI  QVAFGEPIWDVVDILARFDNRYVIVLSVITLCIATISVNVAAANIVSPAYDIANALPKYIN 346
Mhp1  LVGEWNPVIAITEVVGVSIPMAILFQV-FVLLATWSTNPAANLLSPAYTLCSTFPRVFT
CodB  -----DISDVMIAQGLLLPA-----IVVGLGLNIWTNDNALYASG-LGFAN--ITGMS

PucI  FKRGSFITALLALFTVPWKLMEATS SVYAFLGLIGMGLGPVAGVMMADYFIIRKRELSVD 406
Mhp1  FKTGVI VSAVVGLLMPWQFAGV---LNTFLNLLASALGPLAGIMISDYFLVRRRRLSLH
CodB  SKTLSVINGIIGTVCALWLYNN---FVGWLTFLSAAIPVGGVVIADYLMNRRRYEHFA

PucI  DLYSETGRYVYWKGYNYRAFAATMLGALISLI-----GMYVPVLKSLYDISWVGVVL 458
Mhp1  DLYRTKGIYTYWRGVNWVALAVYVALAVSFLTPDLMFVTGLIAALLLHIPAMRWVAKTF
CodB  T-----TRMMSVNWVAI LAVALGIAAGHWLPGI VPVNAVLGGA-----

PucI  ISFLFYI----VLMRVHPPASLA IETVEHAQVRQAE----- 490
Mhp1  PLFSEAESRNEDYL RPIGPVAPADESATANTKEQNQPAGGRGSHHHHHH
CodB  ---LSYLILNPILNRKT---TAMTHVEANSVE-----

```

Supplementary Figure S6. Protein sequence alignment between PucI and fungal (Fur-type) NCS-1 family transporters. The amino acid sequence of PucI from *B. subtilis* strain 168 (P94575) was aligned with those of FurA from *A. nidulans* (Q5BFM0), FurD from *A. nidulans* (A6N844), FurE from *A. nidulans* (Q5ATG4), Fur4 from *S. cerevisiae* (P05316), Dal4 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q04895) and Fui1 from *S. cerevisiae* (P38196). Sequences were taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). Residues are coloured to indicate those that are identical (red) and highly similar (blue). Coloured highlighting (cyan) is used to show residues in the putative substrate (allantoin) binding site of PucI (Figure 7).

```

PucI -----
FurA -----
FurD -----
FurE -----
Fur4 -MPDNLLSLHLSGSSKRL-NS-RQLMESSNETFAPNNVDLEKEYKSSQSNITTEVY-E-AS
Dal4 MANDALSAIFSNPSRKGVQPSTSIVSY--TNNEDDIIDVENGKFNKNKNINTNVYVD-NS
Fui1 -MPVS-DSGFDNSSSKTMKDDTIPTEDYEEITKESEMGDATK----ITSKIDANVIEKKDT

PucI -----MLKLKESQ----QQSNRLSN 15
FurA -----MSAIKRWIK----K-----LEVESDPGLTNTQLMLTN
FurD -----MRFGRFRHLRVEQSRSAFASGNARWTN
FurE -----MGL-RERLQVKQGDASLA-TEAVASN
Fur4 SFEEKVSSEKPQYSSFWKKIYYEYV-----VDKSILGVSILDSFMYN
Dal4 SIEESEVVPLPETKSIWSKIYYDFIV-----LDKTTLNVSLKESFLYN
Fui1 DSENNITIAQDDEKVSWLQRVVEFFEVKNDSTDLADHKPENPIRTFKDLQESLRSTYLYN

PucI EDLV--PLGQEKRTKAMNFASIWMGCIHNIPTYATVGGLIAIGLSPWQVLAIITASLI 73
FurA HDLRP--VEPDRRQWRWYNFIFFWIADSLNIG-----
FurD LDLDP--VPRAGRVWGPLSFISYWISDAFNAATWQFASSIIAVGLSWRESLGIVALSFFI
FurE KDLDPIPLDSPKRTWRWPSLLGFWVAEAFSISMYQVTSTSVSKGLSAPMAIAAVVVGHIL
Fur4 QDLKP--VEKERRVWSWYNYCYFWLAECFNINTWQIAATGLQLGLNWWQCWITIWIGYGF
Dal4 RDLKP--VEEERRCWSWFNLYFWLADCFNINTWQIAGTGLQLGLNWWQCWLTWVIGYTF
Fui1 TDLRP--VEAKRRTWTKQYIFFWISGSFNVNTWQISATGLQLGLNWWQTWICIWVGYTF

PucI LFGALALNGHAGTKYGLPPFVIIRASYGIYGANIPALLRAFTAIMWLGIQTFAGSTALNI 133
FurA -----YIGGQCITL
FurD ISFVIAANGAVGSIYHIPFPVIARASWGFWGSYIAIISRVILAIFWFFAIQNVNGANAVKA
FurE VCIPAMLDGYVGAIFGINFPVYTRASFGMKGSYFAVFVRGIVAIIWFGTQTYQAGQCVST
Fur4 VGAFVVLASRVGSAYHLSFPISSRASFGIFFSLWPVINRVVMAIVWYSVQAYIAATPVSL
Dal4 AGIFVVLNSRFGSAYHLSFPITVRASFGIFFSMWPIINRVVMAIVWYAVQAWLGATPVAL
Fui1 VAFFLILGSKVGNNYHISFPISSRVSFGIYFSIWIVINRVVMACVWNSTLAYIGSQCVL

PucI LLLNMWPGWGEIGGEWNI----LGIHLSGLLSFVFFWAIHLLVLHHGMESIKRFEVWAGP 189
FurA MIRAIWPSYESLPNGIPE---SSGVDTKNFLSFFLFWLLSLPALWFPVHQIRHLFTVKSI
FurD MISAIWPSFLSMKNTIPQ---DQGIETNTMIAYMIFWIVQMPFLCIHPNKVRWLFFATKSV
FurE MLSAIWPSFNHFPNHLPS---SGPITSAELLLCFLAIILQAPLLWLKVSKLRYLFIVKTC
Fur4 MLKSIFGKD--LQDKIPDHFGSPNATTYEFMCFFFIFWAASLPFLLVPPHKIRHLFTVKAV
Dal4 MLKSIFGKN--LEDRIPNHFGSPNSTTTEFMCFFIFVVVSIPFVLVAPHKIRHLFTVKAA
Fui1 MLKAIFGTN--LNTRIKDTIKNPNLTNFEFMCFFMVFWVACLPFLWFPPDKLRHIFALKSA

```


PucI LVYLVFGGMVWVAVDIAGG---LGP IYSQPGKFHTFSETFWPFAAGVTGIIGI**WATLILN** 246
FurA YSPIAAIA**FFAWA**ISRANG---LGP IYVHQSH-VHGS**TLAWAVVKALMSCLGNFAALIMN**
FurD LVPAAWIA**ILIWAF**VVA-EG---K**GAL**FEQRAT-VSG**SQYSWVWLASMTSVLGN**YATLSVN
FurE IMPIFGIV**LFWAV**VKAANG---F**GPV**FSKPSKITDGT**PVAVVFLQCV**TSAIGPKATLALN
Fur4 LVPFASFG**FLIWA**IRRAH**GRIALGSL**TDVQPH---G**SAF**SWAFLRS**LMGCMANFSTMVIN**
Dal4 LIPFAAFG**FLIWA**LKKSH**GKIELGTL**NDYSPH---G**SEF**SWIFVRS**LMACVANFAALIIN**
Fui1 ITPFAAFG**FLIWT**LCKAK**GHLALGSL**NDNGGA-ISK**T**VLAWSVIRAI**MSALDNFSTLILN**

PucI IP**DFTR**FAETQKEQIKGQFY**GLPGTFAL**FAFASITVT**SGSQVAF**--GEP**IWDVVDILARF** 304
FurA DP**DFSR**FARKPKDALWAQLLT**IPIGFGITS**FIGIIASS**SSSAVIFG**-GDAI**WNPLDLLGRF**
FurD QS**DFSR**YRSVSAKWQLLYIPL**LPVIFTFIS**FIGIAASS**SAGWTRYNTPSIPWDPIELISHW**
FurE MP**DFTR**YAKTPREVFWTQAV**GLVVLVSLCGV**LGATV**SASEVIY**--GVQ**TWNPLEVAVLW**
Fur4 AP**DFSR**FSKNPNSALWSQLVC**IPLFISIT**CLIGILVT**AAGYEIYG**--IN**YWSPLDVLEKF**
Dal4 AP**DFGR**FAKNPQASLWPQLVA**IPLFFAIT**CLIGIIVT**AAGYHLYG**--VNY**WSPLDVLGQF**
Fui1 AP**DFTR**FGKTYKSSVYSQ**LIALPVCYAI**ISLIGILSV**SAAYTLYG**--VNY**WSPLDILNRY**

PucI D-----NPYVIVLSV**ITLCIATISVNVAAN**IVSPAY**DIANALPKYINFKRGSF**ITALL 357
FurA LE-GASSAERFGV**FIIALGFALAQ**LGT**NISANS**SVSAGT**DMTALLPRYITIRRSYICAAI**
FurD D-----SRAAR**FGA**FSFALAS**LVNISANS**ISAAND**LMALFPTYVDLRRGQICGVI**
FurE N-----NRAAQ**F**AFCWCLAA**IGTNISANS**VSFSND**LALWFPKYVDTRRGAYICALL**
Fur4 LQTTYNGKTRAGV**FLISFVFAVAQ**LGT**NISANS**LS**CGTDM**SAI**FPKFINIKRGS**LFCAAM
Dal4 LETTYTRGTRAGV**FLISFVFAVAQ**LGT**NISANS**LACG**ADMTALFPRYINIRRGS**LF**CVAM**
Fui1 LD-NYTSGNRAGV**FLISFIFAFDQ**L**GANLSGNSI**PAGT**DLTALLPKFINIIRGSYICALI**

PucI ALFTV**PWKLMES**ATSVYA**FLGLIGM**LGPV**AGVMMADYFI**IRKRELSVDDLYSETGR-YV 416
FurA GLAMC**PWN**LVSD**SNQFTTYLS**SAYS**IFLSA**IAG**VMICDYYVVR**KGYLIVKDLYSGEKDSAY
FurD SWALV**PWKILES**ASN**FLNFM**SAYAI**FLGPIA**AIML**WDFWLIK**NRKYDTVALYQPDTP-IY
FurE SILSM**PWYIQNS**AA**SFSSFL**GGYSL**FLGAIAG**VI**VVDYWVCR**RRRLRLRSLYEAHGT-HY
Fur4 ALCIC**PWN**LMAT**SSKFTMAL**SAYAI**FLSSA**IAG**VVCS**DY**FVVR**RGYIKLTHI**YSHQKGSFY**
Dal4 ALCIC**PWN**LMAS**SSKFTSAL**GAYAI**FLSSA**IAG**VICADYFVVR**RGYVKLTHL**FLAQKGSFY**
Fui1 SLAIC**PWDL**LSS**SSKFTTAL**AAYAV**FLSAIAG**VI**SADYFI**VRKGYVNI**FHCYTDKPGSSY**

PucI YW---KGYNY**RAFAATMLG**ALIS**LIGMYV**-----PVLKSL**YDISW**FVGV**LISFLF** 463
FurA RF--NYGFSW**QAYAS**YLS**GLLINIV**GFAGAVGR--DVPVGAQYI**YNVNYLSGFIVS**FVM
FurD RF-NAWLNV**RAVVAFLVGV**IP**SLPGL**SNSVNSR--IQVGVGIHPY**QFGWLLGFVGTSLV**
FurE FT---KGVNI**RAMISFVCG**IAP**NLPGL**AAVTGQD--GVPKGANY**LYSCSWLVSIVVSGMV**
Fur4 MYGNRFGIN**WRALAA**Y**LCGVAPCLPG**FAIEV**GAPAIK**VSDGAMK**LYL**SY**WVGYGLSFSS**
Dal4 MFGNKFGAN**WRAFVAYIC**GIAP**NLPGF**IGDV**GAPKITV**SEGAMR**LYLGY**PV**GFFISAVI**
Fui1 MY-NKYGTN**WRAVVAYIFG**IAP**NFAG**FLGSVGV---SVPIGAMKV**Y**YLN**YFVGYLLAALS**

PucI **YIVLMRVHPPAS**LAIETVEHA-----**QVR**-----QA-E----- 490
FurA **YFIITRLCP**IAATSD-----TWNEVNT**DL**E-LDTEGHD-IDAEDIHTGKPIGFETSEP
FurD **YIALSYGF**PVREALIERAVLSDEVYEGR-**EVE**---GEGVEEG-REELGE-----S
FurE **YLLFFVWP**FDVE--EKVIVLEGMEEGD-**RVV**-----RV-EE-AVV-----Q
Fur4 **YTALCYFFP**VPGCPVNNI**IKDKGW**FQRWAN**VDDFEE**EWKDTIERDDL**VDDNI**SVYEHEHE
Dal4 **YLILCYFFP**VPGTPVTN**FLTEK**GW**FQRWAYVED**FEQDWK**NELRRDDL**CDDTVSIYDGTEE
Fui1 **YCILVYFYP**IKGI**PGDAKIT**DRKWLEEW**VEVEE**FGT**EREA**FEEYGGVST-----G-YE

PucI -----
FurA REDYKGAKAGSASV
FurD KREGVGKEKGFVAVY
FurE KKEAVSA-----
Fur4 KTFI-----
Dal4 KIVY-----
Fui1 KIRYI-----

Supplementary Figure S7. Protein sequence alignment between PucI and fungal (Fcy-type) NCS-1 family transporters. The amino acid sequence of PucI from *B. subtilis* strain 168 (P94575) was aligned with those of FcyB from *A. nidulans* (C8V329), Fcy2 from *S. cerevisiae* (P17064), Thi7 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q05998), Tpn1 from *S. cerevisiae* (P53099) and Nrt1 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q08485). Sequences were taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). Residues are coloured to indicate those that are identical (red) and highly similar (blue). Coloured highlighting (cyan) is used to show residues in the putative substrate (allantoin) binding site of PucI (Figure 7).

```

PucI -----
FcyB --MAGA---FDFDLEKNPPVQSTADNSSDGAVPGETFTY-----G---DSTYAK
Fcy2 MLEEGNNVYEIQDLEKRSPVIGSSLENEKKVA-ASETFTATSEDDQQYIVESSEATKLSW
Thi7 -----
Tpn1 --MNRDNMDTTKRKEDHTKHTTDVIEFYEEGTAASSLNIAATEKANSSPSILRRIINRAAW
Nrt1 -----MSFSSIVSK

PucI ----MK-LKESQQQSNRLSNEDLVPLGQEK---RTWKAMNFASIWGCIHNIPTTYAT-VG 51
FcyB IQRLAAELN-----IEQRGIERVPAAEQ--TDTSVFNIGSMWLAANMVVSSFAIGVL
Fcy2 FHKFFASLN-----AETKGVPEPVTEDK--TDDSilNAASMWFSANMVIASyALGAL
Thi7 ALRFLEIPVKDRASVSFLKNPDLQPIKSAN---QTWGFWSNFAYWGVMSFSVGTWMS-AS
Tpn1 LSKKVDAMG-----VESTGIQRISPYERGTSSKKQFLHVAGLWLSATGGLSSMSSFL
Nrt1 FLRYLEIPAKNRTAVNFLRNPDLQPIKSAN---QTWGFWSNLAYWGAVSFTAGTWMS-GS

PucI GLIAIGLSPWQVLAIITASLILFGALALNGHAGTKYGLPFPVIIRASYGIYGANIPALL 111
FcyB GKSvYSLGFVDAILTvlFFNLlGIMTVCFfSCfGP-FGLRQMvFSRLWfGWYvTKGFAVL
Fcy2 GPMVfGLNfGQSVLVIIFfNIMGLIFVAFfSVfGAELGLRQMILSRyLVGNVTARIFSLI
Thi7 SALGVGLSYPEtIGTFIVGDVLTIIIFTLANSCPGYDWKVGFTLAQRfVfGIYGSAFGI
Tpn1 GPLLFGLSfRESVASSLISVtIGCLIAAYCSIMGPQSGCRQMvTARyLFGWwFVKLVAlA
Nrt1 AALSvGLSYPEtIVSfLLGNVLTIIIFTMANSYPGYDWKIGFTLAQRfVfGIYGSAFGI

PucI RAFTAImWlGIQtFAGStALNILLlNMWPG-WGEIGGEW-NILGIHLSGLLSfVfFWAIH 169
FcyB NILACLGWSAANAIVGAQMLHAVNSD-----VPGFAAILIISICT
Fcy2 NVIACVgWgIVNTSVSAQLLNmVNEGS-----GHV-----CPIWAGCLIIIGGT
Thi7 RILMSIVNYGSNAwVgGLCINmILD-SWSHhYLHLpNTLSSKVAMTTKELIGfIIFHvLT
Tpn1 SIIGVMGWSVvNSVVGgEMLAAlSND-----K-----VPLWVGIVIVTVCS
Nrt1 RILMSIVNYGSNAwLGGLSINmILD-SWSHhYLHLpNTLSPSVAMTTKQLVGFIIFHvLT

PucI LLVLHhGMESIKRFEVWAGPLVYLVFGGMVWwAVDIAGGLGPIYSQPGKFHTfSETfWPF 229
FcyB LLVTFAGYKvVhLYEYWSWIPTfIVfMIILGTfAHSGDFQNIpM-----GvGTSEMGSV
Fcy2 VLVTfFGYSVvIHAYEKWSwVPNFVfVfLVIIAQLSRSGKfKGGEW-----VGGATTAGSV
Thi7 AfCYLMKPYHmNYILIWScVATfFSMLGMVIYLAkQAHGvGELFTSTKSTATGStKAWAW
Tpn1 FLVAIFGIKQvIKVETyLSVPVLTAFLLLYISSSDKYSFVNAYVS--KGNLDSSTRKGNW
Nrt1 ALCYfMKPYHmNYLLIWScVATCFAMLGIViYLTkNAHvGELFTSTKSTVtGSKRAWAW

PucI AAGVTGIIGIwATLILNIpDfTRFAE---TQKEQIKGQfYGLPGTFALFAFASITVtSGS 286
FcyB LSFgSAVYGFATGwTSYAADyTVYQpANRSKRKIflSTWLGlivPLLfVEMlGVAVMTAT
Fcy2 LSFgSSIFGFAGwTtYAADyTVYMPKSTNKYKIffSLVAGLAFPLfFTMILGAASAM-A
Thi7 vYMIStYwFGSVSPGStNQSDySRFGS---SNWAIWAGTICALLIPtTLIPVfGVIGASTC
Tpn1 MSFFSLCYsITATWGSITADyYILfPEDTPYIQIFCLTffGTfLPTCFVgILGLLLAS-V
Nrt1 vYMIStYwFGSISPGStNQSDySRFGS---SNLAIWtGsvCALLIPATLVPIfGvISASTC

```

PucI QVAFGEPI**W**DVVD-----**I**LARFDNPYVI-----**V**LSV**I**T**L**C**I**A**T**I**S**VNVAAN**I**V 331
FcyB DIK--GSK**Y**DVGYATSGNGGL**I**AAV-LQ--PL---GGFGD**F**CL**V**I**L**A**L**S**I**VANNC**P**N**F**Y-
Fcy2 ALN--DPT**W**KAYYDKNAMGGV**I**YAI-LVPNSL---NGFGQ**F**CC**V**L**L**A**L**S**T**IANNIP**N**MY-
Thi7 DKLYGEQ**Y****W**MPMD-----**I**FNH**W**L**T**T**N**Y**S**A**G**A**R**A**G**A**F****F**CG**L**S**F**V**L**S**Q**M**S**Y**T**I**S**NC**G**F
Tpn1 AMS--YKP**W**SVEYDSHG**M**GGL**L**WAG-FQ--RW---NGFGK**F**CV**V**L**V****F**S**L**V**S**NNI**I**NT**Y**-
Nrt1 DKLYGKQ**F****W**MPMD-----**I**FD**Y**W**L**T**N**Y**S**A**G**A**R**A**G**A**F****F**CG**L**C**F**T**M**S**Q**M**S**T**I**S**N**C**G**F

PucI **S**PAYDI-----ANAL**L**P**K**Y**I**N**F**K**R**G**S****F**I**T**A**L**L**A**L**F**T**V**P**W**K**L**M**E**S**A**T**S**V**Y**A**F**L**G**L**I**G**G**M**L**G 385
FcyB **S**V**A**L**T**V**Q**V**L**S**R**Y**A**Q**R**V**P**R**F**I**W**T---**L**F**G**T**G**V**S**I**A**I**A**I**P**G**Y**S**H**F**E**T**V**L**E**N**F**M**N**F**I**A**Y****W**L**A**
Fcy2 **T**V**A**L**S**A**Q**A**L**W**A**P**L**A**K**I**P**R**V**V**W**T---**M**A**G**N**A**A**T**L**G**I**S**I**P**A**T**Y**Y**F**D**G**F**M**E**N**F**M**D**S**I**G**Y****Y**L**A**
Thi7 **A**S**G**M**D**L-----**A**G**L**L**P**K**Y**V**D**I**K**R**G**A**L**F**A**A**C**V**S**W**A**C**L**P**W**N**F**Y**N**S**S**T**F**L**T**V**M**S**S****F**G**V**V**M**T
Tpn1 **S**A**A**F**S**I**Q**L**S**S**V**F**C**A**K**I**P**R**W**F**S**---**I**V**C**T**I**I**C**L**V**C**A**L**I**R**N**H**F**S**T**I**L**G**N**F**L**P**M**I**G**Y**W**I**S**
Nrt1 **A**T**G**M**D**M-----**A**G**L**L**P**K**Y**V**D**I**K**R**G**A**L**F**C**A**C**I**S**W**A**C**L**P**W**N**F**Y**N**S**S**T**F**L**T**V**M**S**S****F**G**V**V**M**T

PucI **P**V**A**G**V**M**M**A**D****Y****F**I**I**R**K**R**E**L**S**-----**V**D**D**L**Y**S**E**T**G**-**R**Y 415
FcyB **I**Y**S**A**I**A**I**M**D**H**F**V**F**K**R**G**F**S-----
Fcy2 **I**Y**I**A**I**S**C**S**E**H**F****F**Y**R**R**S**F**S**-----
Thi7 **P**I**I**S**V**M**I**C**D**N**F**L**I**R**K**R**Q**Y**S**-----**I**T**N**A**F**I**L**K**G**-**E**Y
Tpn1 **M**Y**F**I**L**L**F**E**E**N**L**V**F**R**R**F**L**H**L**Y**T**K**E**F**T**V**T**G**E**I**N**G**P**E**L**V**G**S**S**K**E**V**E**K**D**A**V**T**N**I**H**L**L**K**R**K**H**K
Nrt1 **P**I**I**A**V**M**I**C**D**N**F**L**I**R**K**R**Q**Y**S**-----**I**T**N**A**F**I**L**K**G**-**E**Y

PucI **V**Y**W**K**G**Y**N**Y**R**A**F**A-----**A**T---**M**L**G**A**L**I**S**L**I**G**M**Y**V**P--**V**L**K**S**L**Y**D**I----- 451
FcyB ---**G**Y**V**V**E**N**F**D**K**R**E**K**L**P**V**G**I**A**A**T**I****A**F**G**F**G**V**A**G**M**I**T**G**M**S**Q**P**W**Y**V**G**P**I**A**R**H**--**A**A**G**G**D**V**G**F
Fcy2 ---**A**Y**N**I**D**D**W**D**N**W**E**H**L**P**I**G**I**A**G**T**A**A**L**I**V**G**A**F**G**V**A**L**G**M**C**Q**T**Y**W**V**G**E**I**G**R**L**I**G**K**Y**G**G**D**I**G**F
Thi7 **Y**F**T**K**G**V**N**W**R**A**I**V-----**A**W---**V**C**G**M**T**P**G**L**P**G**I**A**W**E--**V**N**N**D**Y**F**H**N**T**G**I**V**N**F
Tpn1 **V**T**K**H**R**Y**N**W**D**K**W**E**D**Y**E**V**L**T**H**G**Y**A**A**T**F****A**F**I**V**G**V**A**G**V**V**V**G**M**A**Q**A**Y**W**I**G**P**I**A**A**K**F**G**E**Y**G**G**D**V**A**M**
Nrt1 **Y**F**T**K**G**V**N**W**R**A**I**V-----**A**W---**V**C**G**M**A**P**G**L**P**G**I**A**W**E--**V**N**N**N**Y**F**H**D**S**G**I**V**K**F

PucI ---**S**W**F**V**G**V**L**I**S**F**L**F**Y**I**V**L**M**R**V**H**P**P**A**S**L**A**I**E**T**V**E**-----**H**A**Q**V**R**Q**A**E----- 490
FcyB **E**L**G**F**A****F**A-----**A**F**S****Y**L**C**-**L**R-----**P**F**E**I**K**F**F**G**R**-----
Fcy2 **E**L**G**A**S****W**A-----**F**I**I****Y****N**I-**L**R-----**P**L**E**L**K**Y**F**G**R**-----
Thi7 **F**Y**G**D**S****F**F**S**F**L**I**S**F**F**V**Y**W**G**L**C**L**L**F**P**F**K**-**I**T**V**K**H**D**D**K**D**Y**Y**G**A**F**T**D**E**E**A**R**K**K**G**M**V**P**Y**S**E**I**S**E**E**
Tpn1 **W**L**S**M**A****F**S-----**G**V**V****Y**P**P**-**C**R-----**Y**L**E**L**R**K**F**G**R**-----
Nrt1 **F**Y**G**D**S****F**F**S**F**L**I**S**F**F**V**Y**W**G**L**C**V**F**F**P**F**K**-**I**T**V**R**H**D**D**K**D**Y**Y**G**A**F**T**D**E**E**A**R**K**K**G**M**I**P**Y**S**E**I**S**E**E**

PucI -----
FcyB -----
Fcy2 -----
Thi7 **E**I**R**A**Y**T**L**G**E**G**Y**T**T**G**H**E**Y**R**P**E**G**S**D**D**E**I**P**E**L**V**K**T**S**S**E**N**T**N**E**F**E**I**V**H**H**K**N**E**K**Q**S**S**T**A**S**E**K**A**A**
Tpn1 -----
Nrt1 **E**I**R**A**Y**T**L**G**E**C**Y**T**T**G**H**E**Y**K**P**E**S**S**D**N**E**S**P**E**L**I**K**T**S**S**E**N**T**N**V**F**E**I**V**H**Q**K**D**D**E**K**H**S**F**S**T**Q**Q**V**V**

Supplementary Figure S8. Protein sequence alignment between PucI and plant NCS1 family transporters. The amino acid sequence of PucI from *B. subtilis* strain 168 (P94575) was aligned with those of AtNCS1 (PLUTO) from *A. thaliana* (Q9LZD0), CrNCS1 from *C. reinhardtii* (A8J166), ZmNCS1 from *Zea mays* (B4FJ20) and SvNCS1 from *Setaria viridis* (V9SBV7). Sequences were taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). Residues are coloured to indicate those that are identical (red) and highly similar (blue). Coloured highlighting (cyan) is used to show residues in the putative substrate (allantoin) binding site of PucI (Figure 7).

```

PucI -----
AtNCS1 MVSNCLSLSLHLNLHPHKHNRHSLSSLSRSTKAKLYQHVSFTDSSHKSSYTSCVSTFDIQ
CrNCS1 -----
ZMNCS1 -----MAMS--MAM-----S-----KVFTSR
SvNCS1 -----MAMS--MAM-----S-----KAITAR

PucI -----MKLKESQQQS 10
AtNCS1 RKSSKHYEL-----GKHSFSPILPGDNLVLSRSGVIRPRLSAMTGSEINDHGYDESQFD
CrNCS1 -----MGMFSD-----PITARPPPTNPD
ZMNCS1 HSEHLHHRLLVAASSQAAAPRLPLLPRSPGLAAVTVAYRPRLRP-----ASPR
SvNCS1 HATHLQHRLVASSSQ-AAPRLPLLPRRPSLALTVASPPRLLP-----ASPR

PucI NRLSNEDLVLPGQEKRTWKAMNFASIWMGCIHNIPTTYATVGGLIAIGLSPWQVLAI IITA 70
AtNCS1 PSLTNDLKP TTPS QRTFSWLDMSSSLWIGLVVGVPTTYLAGSLVDLGMWWQGIATVVTA
CrNCS1 PSLINEDFSPTTQDKRTFDTTDYATFWITLVISITTYLAASLVDLGMSSWWQGILTVFFG
ZMNCS1 STSSESDLSP TTPSERTMTAWDLASLWVGLVGVPSYLAGSLVDLGMSSALQGVATVAF
SvNCS1 SSSSESDLAP TTPSERTMTAWDLASLWVGLVGVPSYLAGSLVDLGMSSALQGVATVAF

PucI SLILFGALALNGHAGTKYGLFPVIRASYGIYGANIPALLRAFTAIMWLGITFAGSTA 130
AtNCS1 NLILLVPLVLT AQPGTLYGISFPVLARSSFGIRGAHIPTLLRALVGCWYGIETWIGGEA
CrNCS1 NLI TLLPMVLNAHPGTYGVFPVLRASFGIQGANLPSLSRAIVACGWFGIQTWIGSSS
ZMNCS1 NLIVLVTLVLTAAPAVTHGLFPVLRARAFGVRGAHVPAVIRALVGCWFGIESWIGGRA
SvNCS1 NLIVLVTLVLTAAPAVTHGLFPVLRARAFGVRGAHVPAVIRALVGCWFGIESWIGGRA

PucI LNILLNMPGWGEIGGEWNI LGIHL SGLLSFVFWAIHLLVLHGMESIKRFEVWAGPL 190
AtNCS1 IFLLLPGHIKKS-ALSHTLPWLGTSPLFSCFIVFWLAQLCIVWRGMDGIRKLEKYSAPI
CrNCS1 IFQMLMAVTGG-AVAAPIAWLGISLPEL LCFLFWAAQVWIVVRGMESIRILEKYSAPI
ZMNCS1 IFLLLPSRLKSYQPLLAPVPG LGVAPLEFACFLAFAWAAQLGVIMHGMESIRKLEKLSAPV
SvNCS1 IFLLLPSRLKSYQPLLAPVPG LGAAPLEFACFLAFAWAAQLGVIMRGMESIRKLEKFAAPV

PucI VYLVFGGMVWVAVDIAGGLGPIYSQPQK FHT---FSETFWP-FAAGVTGIIGI WATLILN 246
AtNCS1 LISLTSCLLAWSYLKAGGFHMLSLSSKL-----TSAQFWTLFFPSLTANISFWATLALN
CrNCS1 LIGLSLALMGWAVTTAGGF GPM LSTPSQF GVGMPKEGQFWSVFWPAVTANVGYWATLSLN
ZMNCS1 LIVLTSALLAWAYTSAGGFGRILSLPPRL-----TGAEFWKVF FPSLTANISFWATVAIN
SvNCS1 LFVLTSALLAWAYTSAGGFGRILSLPPRL-----TGAEFRKVF FPSLTANISFWATVAIN

PucI IPDFTRFAETQKEQIKGFYGLPGTFALEFASITVTS GSQVAFGEPIWDVVDILARFDN 306
AtNCS1 IPDFS RFAKSQTDQII GQ-VGLPVFMGLFTFVGVAVTSSTSIIFGRVINSPIELLGQIGG
CrNCS1 IPDFTRYAKSQKDQVMGQAI GLPLFMALETF LGLAVTSATVVIYGEAII DPVQLLGRMEG
ZMNCS1 IPDFARYARSQADQVLGQ-AGLPVFMGMFTFAGLAITSATEAIFGHVSDPIELLGRIGG
SvNCS1 IPDFARYARSQADQVLGQ-AGLPVFMGMFTFAGLAITSATEAIFGHVSDPIELLGRIGG

```

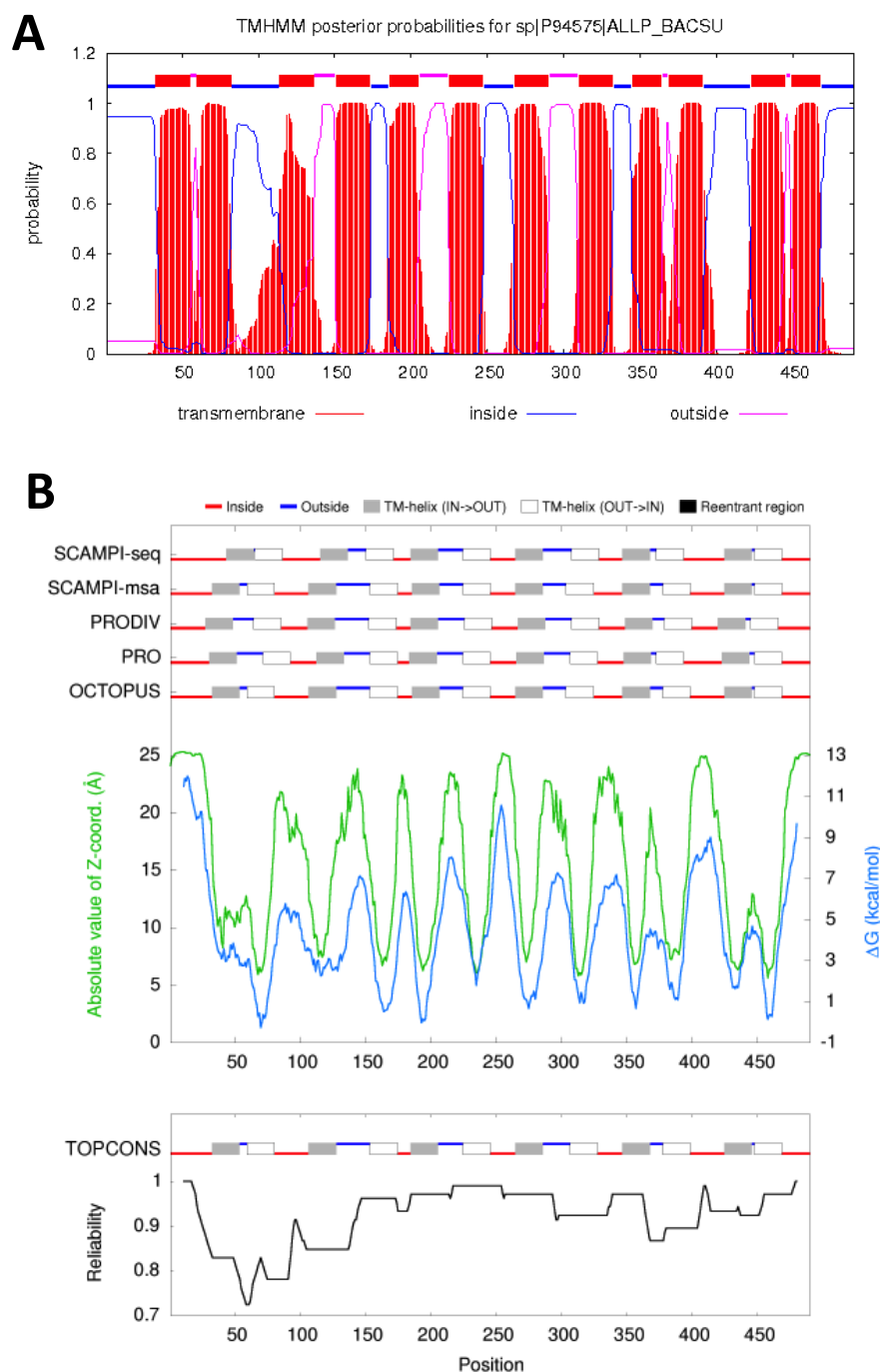
PucI PYVIVLSVITL**CIATISVNVAANIV**SPAYDIANALPKYINFKRGSFITALLALFTV**PWKL** 366
 AtNCS1 LATTLLAI**VGISLATLTTNIAANVVAPANA**LVNLNPK**FFTFGRGAFITAVL**GIVFQ**PWRL**
 CrNCS1 LVPICISL**FGLMWATLTTNIAANVVAPANA**FVNCA**PKWISFEAGGILTAVL**GLLMC**PWNL**
 ZMNCS1 PATTF**LAI**FG**I**GL**ATITTTNIAANVVAPANA**LVSMS**PRRFTFAKGAFVTALL**GIAFQ**PWRL**
 SvNCS1 PVTT**F**LAI**F**GI**L**GL**ATITTTNIAANVVAPANA**LVSMS**PRRFTFAKGALVTALL**GIAFQ**PWRL**

PucI **MESATS-VYAFLGLIGMLGPVAGVMMADYFIIRKRELSVDDLYSETGRYVYW--KGYNY** 423
 AtNCS1 **LKSSSESFVYTWLIGYSALLGPIGGIILVDYLIKKMKLNIGDLYSLSPSGEYYFSKGYNV**
 CrNCS1 **VSSTHGFVNTWLIGYSALLGPVIGIVMSDYFIVRQRQLDIDSLYSKGDKSIYWYKGGWNP**
 ZMNCS1 **LSSSESFVYTWLLGYSALMGPIGGVVLADHYIVRRTALDVDALYSEDSGSPYYFQGGFNV**
 SvNCS1 **LSSSESFVYTWLLGYSALMGPIGGVILADHYIVRRTALDVDALYSEDSGSPYYFQNGFNV**

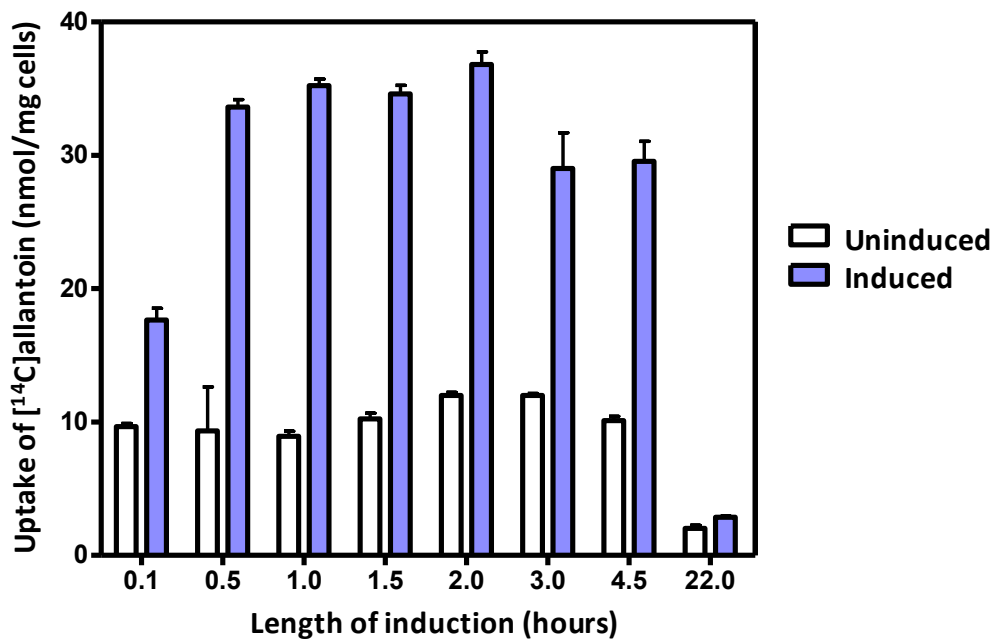
PucI **RAFAATMLGALISLIG-----MYVPVLSLSYDISWFVGVLSIFLFYIVLMRVHPPA** 474
 AtNCS1 **AAVVALVAGIIPVVPGFHLHKISALSISNGFVVVYDNALFFSFI**I**AGFVYWIIMSRLGRK**
 CrNCS1 **AA**L**WA**I**LI**G**VLP**T**LP**G**F**L**STIGVLSGLPPI**F**G**Q**L**Y**D**L**A**F**V**G**V**A**V**S**V**V****Y**C**L**L**M**R**G**A**P**G**A****
 ZMNCS1 **AS**M**V**A**MA**A**G**V**AP**I**V**P**G**F**L**H**K**V**G**V**L**P**SV**P**SA**F**V**T**S**Y**N**N**A**W**F**V**S**F**F**V**A**G**A**V****Y**C**L**L**C**N**R**R**G**K**Q****
 SvNCS1 **AA**M**A**A**MA**A**G**V**AP**I**V**P**G**F**L**Q**K**V**G**V**L**P**SV**S**KA**F**A**T**A**Y**N**N**A**W**F**V**S**F**F**V**A**G**A**V****Y**C**L**L**C**G**R**G**G**V**Q****

PucI SLAIETVEHAQVRQAE----- 490
 AtNCS1 QSSLSSSSHPLL-----
 CrNCS1 YKS---GGDPSFNGVGGGLDTEPPGDMTIDTILVF
 ZMNCS1 EREHYS-----
 SvNCS1 AKQHSN-----

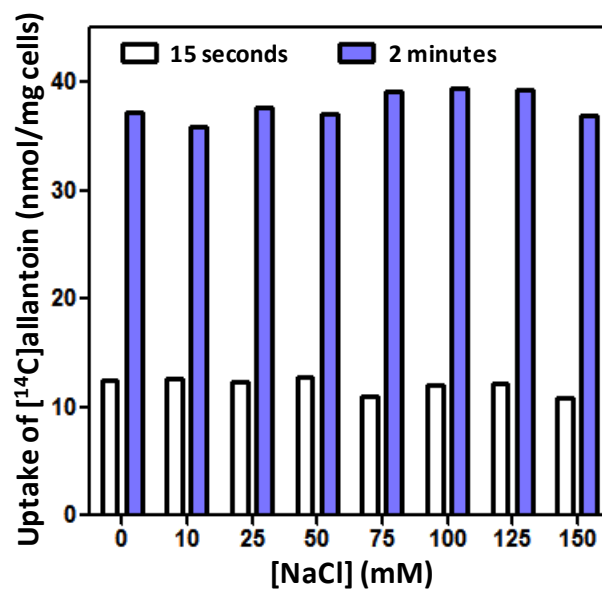
Supplementary Figure S9. Membrane topology analyses of the PucI protein from *Bacillus subtilis*. The amino acid sequence of the PucI protein (Bsu3645, P94575, ALLP_BACSU) from *Bacillus subtilis* (strain 168) was analysed using the online topology prediction tools TMHMM Server v. 2.0 (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/TMHMM/>), which uses a hidden Markov model (Krogh et al., 2001), (A) and TOPCONS consensus prediction server (<http://topcons.cbr.su.se/>, Bernsel et al., 2009) (B). These predictions were in agreement of PucI having twelve putative transmembrane-spanning α -helices with both the N- and C-terminal ends of the protein at the cytoplasmic side of the membrane.



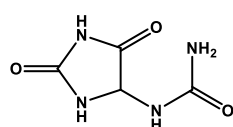
Supplementary Figure S10. Effect of induction time on Pucl-mediated ^{14}C -allantoin uptake into whole cells. Uptake of ^{14}C -allantoin ($50\ \mu\text{M}$) after 2 minutes into energised BL21(DE3) cells containing the construct pTTQ18-pucI(His₆) that were uninduced or induced with IPTG for a range of different lengths of time from 0.1 to 22 hours. Cells were cultured in minimal medium with 20 mM glycerol and induced at an A_{680} of 0.4-0.6 with 0.5 mM IPTG for the given length of time. Uninduced cells were grown in the same way as induced cells except that no IPTG was added. Harvested cells were washed three-times with assay buffer (150 mM KCl, 5 mM MES, pH 6.6) and resuspended to an A_{680} of 2.0. Cells were energised with 20 mM glycerol and bubbled air for 3 minutes followed by incubation with ^{14}C -allantoin ($50\ \mu\text{M}$) and removal of aliquots for analysis after 2 minutes. The data points represent the mean of triplicate measurements and the error bars represent the standard errors of the means.



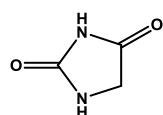
Supplementary Figure S11. Effect of sodium ions on PucI-mediated ^{14}C -allantoin uptake into energised whole cells. Uptake of ^{14}C -allantoin ($50\ \mu\text{M}$) after 15 seconds and 2 minutes into energised BL21(DE3) cells containing the construct pTTQ18-pucI(His₆) that were induced with IPTG. Cells were cultured in minimal medium with 20 mM glycerol and induced at an A_{680} of 0.4-0.6 with 0.5 mM IPTG for 1 hour. Harvested cells were washed three-times with assay buffer (150 mM KCl, 5 mM MES, pH 6.6) and resuspended to an A_{680} of 2.0. Cells were energised with 20 mM glycerol, NaCl at a range of concentrations from 0-150 mM and bubbled air for 3 minutes followed by incubation with ^{14}C -allantoin ($50\ \mu\text{M}$) and removal of aliquots for analysis after 15 seconds and 2 minutes. The data points represent the average of duplicate measurements.



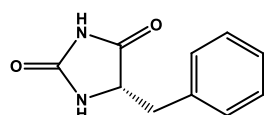
Supplementary Figure S12. Structures of compounds used as potential competitors of Pucl-mediated ^{14}C -allantoin uptake into whole cells. The structures 1-20 are arranged in order of decreasing competitive effect on Pucl-mediated ^{14}C allantoin uptake into whole cells as shown in Figure 6 of the main paper.



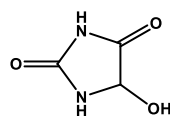
1. Allantoin



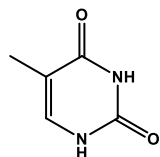
2. Hydantoin



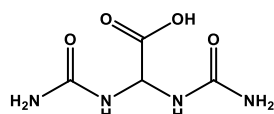
3. L-5-Benzylhydantoin



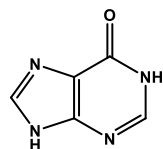
4. 5-Hydroxyhydantoin



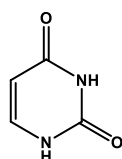
5. Thymine



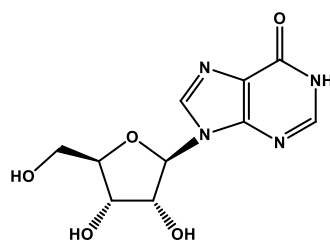
6. Allantoic acid



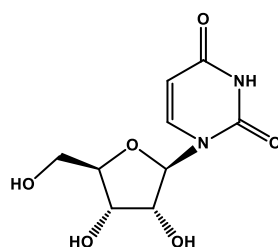
7. Hypoxanthine



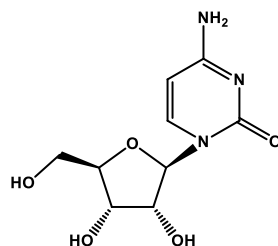
8. Uracil



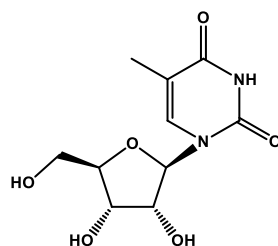
9. Inosine



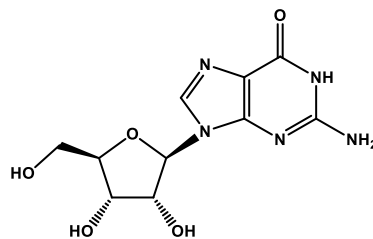
10. Uridine



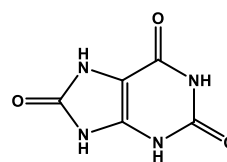
11. Cytidine



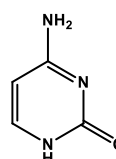
12. Thymidine



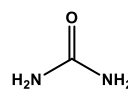
13. Guanosine



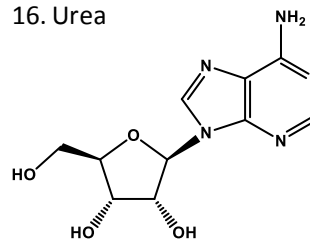
14. Xanthine



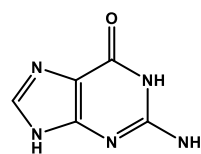
15. Cytosine



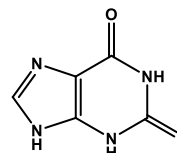
16. Urea



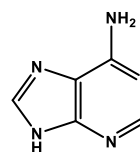
17. Adenosine



18. Guanine

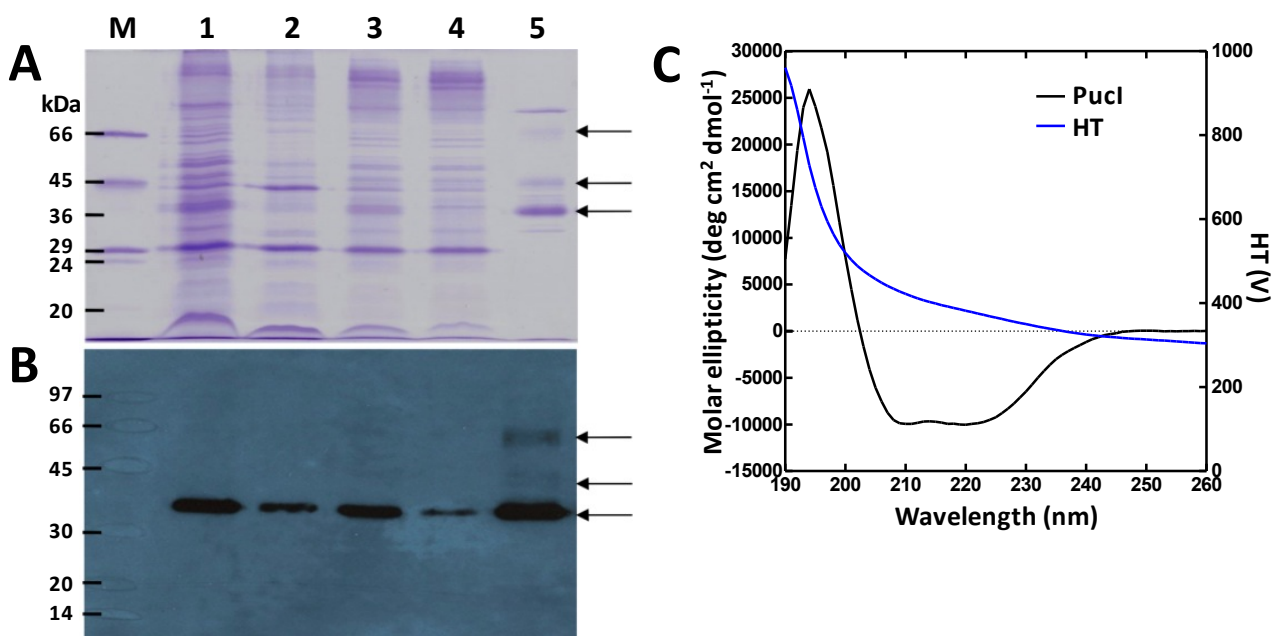


19. Uric acid

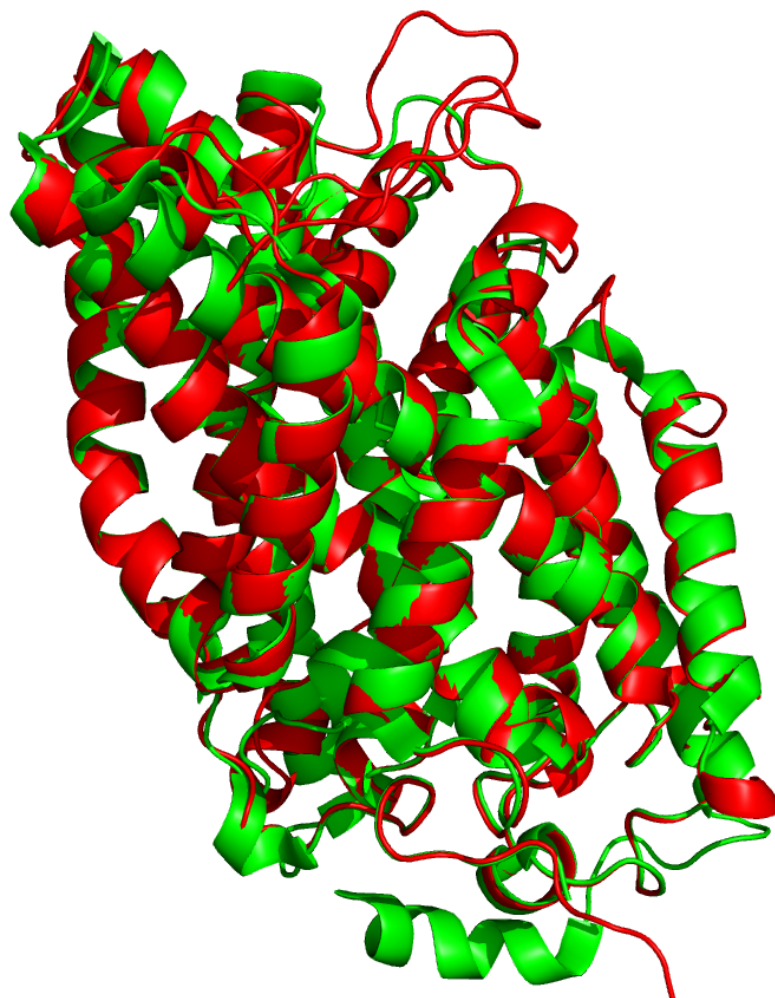


20. Adenine

Supplementary Figure S13. Detergent solubilisation and purification of the Pucl(His₆) protein and integrity of its alpha-helical secondary structure. Protein solubilisation and purification were performed as described above in Materials and Methods, and analysed by SDS-PAGE (A) and Western blotting (B). Samples: 1. Inner membranes; 2. Insoluble fraction from solubilisation (pellet); 3. Soluble fraction from solubilisation (supernatant); 4. Unbound fraction from column; 5. Eluted proteins. M = molecular weight markers. The arrows indicate the positions of the Pucl(His₆) protein. A far-UV circular dichroism spectrum (C) of the purified Pucl(His₆) protein (0.05 mg/ml) in potassium phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.6) with 0.05% DDM was obtained as described in Materials and Methods. The spectrum represents an accumulation of ten scans from which a buffer control was subtracted. The blue line represents the voltage applied to the photomultiplier.



Supplementary Figure S14. Overlaid crystal structure of the Mhp1-benzylhydantoin complex (4DB1, red) with the predicted model of Pucl (green). See Materials and methods for derivation.



Supplementary Figure S15. Putative helix X outward-facing gate for substrate specificity of NCS-1 family transporters. Part of a complete sequence alignment between PucI and NCS-1 family transport proteins in the region of transmembrane helix X in Mhp1. The proteins are PucI from *B. subtilis* strain 168 (P94575), Mhp1 from *M. liquefaciens* (D6R8X8), CodB from *E. coli* (P0AA82), FurA from *A. nidulans* (Q5BFM0), FurD from *A. nidulans* (A6N844), FurE from *A. nidulans* (Q5ATG4), Fur4 from *S. cerevisiae* (P05316), Dal4 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q04895), Fui1 from *S. cerevisiae* (P38196), FcyB from *A. nidulans* (C8V329), Fcy2 from *S. cerevisiae* (P17064), Thi7 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q05998), Tpn1 from *S. cerevisiae* (P53099), Nrt1 from *S. cerevisiae* (Q08485), AtNCS1 (PLUTO) from *A. thaliana* (Q9LZD0), CrNCS1 from *C. reinhardtii* (A8J166), ZmNCS1 from *Zea mays* (B4FJ20) and SvNCS1 from *Setaria viridis* (V9SBV7). Sequences were taken from the UniProt KnowledgeBase (<http://www.uniprot.org/>) and aligned using the online multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>, Sievers et al., 2011). Coloured highlighting is used to show transmembrane helix X in Mhp1 (grey) based on the crystal structure of Mhp1 with bound benzylhydantoin (PDB 4D1B, Simmons et al., 2014) and the position of a residue involved in substrate specificity (cyan). Coloured residues (red) are those that have been mutated in Mhp1 (Leu363; Simmons et al., 2014) and in FurD (Leu386, Asn387, Phe388, Met389; Kryptou et al., 2015) resulting in changed substrate specificity.

PucI	PWKLMESATS-VYAF	LGLIGGMLGPVAGVMMADYFIIRKR	401
Mhp1	PWQFAGVLNTF----	LNLLASALGPLAGIMISDYFLVRRR	387
CodB	LWLY-----NNF-VGWL	TFLSAAIPVGGVIIADYLMNRRR	
FurA	PWNLVSDSNQF-TTYL	LSAYSIFLSAIAGVMICDYVVRKG	
FurD	PWKILESASNF-LNFM	SAYAIFLGPIAAIMLWDFWLIKNR	413
FurE	PWYIQNSAASF-SSFL	GGYSLFLGAIAGVIIVDYWVCRGR	
Fur4	PWNLMATSSKF-TMAL	SAYAIFLSSIAGVVCSDYFVVRG	
Dal4	PWNLMASSSKF-TSAL	GAYAIFLSSIAGVICADYFVVRG	
Fui1	PWDLSSSSSKF-TTALA	AAYAVFLSAIAGVISADYFIVRKG	
FcyB	-----SHFETVLENFM	NFIAYWLAIYSAIAIMDHFVFKRG	
Fcy2	-----YFDGFMENFM	DSIGYLLAIYIAISCSEHFFYRRS	
Thi7	PWNFYNSSSTF-LTVM	SSFGVMTPIISVMICDNFLIRKR	
Tpn1	-----NHFSTILGNFL	PMIGYWISMYFILLFEENLVFRRF	
Nrt1	PWNFYNSSSTF-LTVM	SSFGVMTPIIAVMICDNFLIRKR	
AtNCS1	PWRLKSSSESFVYTWL	IGYSALLGPIGGIILVDYYLIKKM	
CrNCS1	PWNLVSSTHGFVNTWL	IGYSALLGPVIGIVMSDYFIVRQR	
ZmNCS1	PWRLSSSESFVYTWL	LGYSALMGPIGGVVLADHYIVRRT	
SvNCS1	PWRLSSSESFVYTWL	LGYSALMGPIGGVILADHYIVRRT	

References

- Bernsel A, Viklund H, Hennerdal A, Elofsson A. 2009. TOPCONS: consensus prediction of membrane protein topology. *Nucleic Acids Res* 37:W465-W468.
- Chung CT, Niemela SL, Miller RH. 1989. One-step preparation of competent *Escherichia coli*: transformation and storage of bacterial cells in the same solution. *Proc Natl Acad Sci* 86:2172-2175.
- Gasteiger E, Hoogland C, Gattiker A, Duvaud S, Wilkins MR, Appel RD, Bairoch A. 2005. Protein Identification and Analysis Tools on the ExPASy Server. In John M. Walker (ed): *The Proteomics Protocols Handbook*, Humana Press, pp. 571-607.
- Henderson PJF, Macpherson AJ. 1986. Assay, genetics, proteins and reconstitution of proton-linked galactose, arabinose and xylose transport systems of *Escherichia coli*. *Methods Enzymol* 125:387-429.
- Inoue H, Nojimab H, Okayama H. 1990. High efficiency transformation of *Escherichia coli* with plasmids. *Gene* 96:23-28.
- Krogh A, Larsson B, von Heijne G, Sonnhammer EL. 2001. Predicting transmembrane protein topology with a hidden Markov model: application to complete genomes. *J Mol Biol* 305:567-580.
- Kryptou E, Evangelidis T, Bobonis J, Pittis AA, Gabaldón T, Scazzocchio C, Mikros E, Diallinas G. 2015. Origin, diversification and substrate specificity in the family of NCS1/FUR transporters. *Mol Microbiol* 96:927-950.
- Laemmli UK. 1970. Cleavage of structural proteins during the assembly of the head of bacteriophage T4. *Nature* 227:680-685.
- Schaffner W, Weissmann C. 1973. A rapid, sensitive, and specific method for the determination of protein in dilute solution. *Anal Biochem* 56:502-514.
- Sievers F, Wilm A, Dineen D, Gibson TJ, Karplus K, Li W, Lopez R, McWilliam H, Remmert M, Söding J, Thompson JD, Higgins DG. 2011. Fast, scalable generation of high-quality protein multiple sequence alignments using Clustal Omega. *Mol Syst Biol* 7:539.

Simmons KJ, Jackson SM, Brueckner F, Patching SG, Beckstein O, Ivanova E, Geng T, Weyand S, Drew D, Lanigan J, Sharples DJ, Sansom MS, Iwata S, Fishwick CW, Johnson AP, Cameron AD, Henderson PJ. 2014. Molecular mechanism of ligand recognition by membrane transport protein, Mhp1. *EMBO J* 33:1831-1844.

Stark MJR. 1987. Multicopy expression vectors carrying the lac repressor gene for regulated high-level expression of genes in *Escherichia coli*. *Gene* 51:255-267.

Ward A, O'Reilly J, Rutherford NG, Ferguson SM, Hoyle CK, Palmer SL, Clough JL, Venter H, Xie H, Litherland GJ, Martin GE, Wood JM, Roberts PE, Groves MA, Liang WJ, Steel A, McKeown BJ, Henderson PJ. 1999. Expression of prokaryotic membrane transport proteins in *Escherichia coli*. *Biochem Soc Trans* 27:893-899.

Ward A, Sanderson NM, O'Reilly J, Rutherford NG, Poolman B, Henderson PJF. 2000. The amplified expression, identification, purification, assay and properties of hexahistidine-tagged bacterial membrane transport proteins. In Baldwin SA (ed), *Membrane transport - a practical approach*. Oxford: Blackwell. pp. 141-166.

Witholt B, Boekhout M, Brock M, Kingma J, van Heerikhuizen H, de Leij L. 1976. An efficient and reproducible procedure for the formation of spheroplasts from variously grown *Escherichia coli*. *Anal Biochem* 74:160-170.