Call for Proposals – Innovative S. aureus and E. coli preventatives

It is well established that antibiotic-resistance is prevalent among clinically relevant resistant S. aureus strains and attempts to develop vaccines against invasive disease caused by this pathogen have showed a lack of safety, efficacy, or both. Similarly, scientific barriers have prevented the successful development of a vaccine for E. coli, whether of enteric or urinary etiology. Therefore, this funding call allows for truly innovative approaches, other than vaccines or mAb described elsewhere.

Minimal Entry Criteria for this innovative preventative-focused funding solicitation are as follows:

a. Proof of concept data:
   i. Demonstration of the postulated mechanism of protection in vitro, including an assessment of potential resistance mechanisms.
   ii. Plan to obtain proof-of-concept data, i.e., a demonstration of protection against a clinically relevant manifestation of S. aureus or E. coli infection in a preclinical animal model.
   iii. Implemented test cascade that will allow for rapid iteration to optimize the agent, plus an assessment as to how many iterations will be needed.

b. Proposed work plan should include
   i. TPP, listing key performance characteristics and appropriate disease indication, similar to those of vaccines and mAb
   ii. Activities to assess and improve the current characteristics to that of a clinical lead.
   iii. High-level vision for how this novel approach would be clinically and commercially developed, and in which target population(s), as well as a high-level regulatory strategy.