

Figure S1. Smal-PFGE profiles of the 8 selected *E. faecium* VVE-S strains. Lane 1: *E. faecium* 700907 (A pulsotype); Lane 2: *E. faecium* 741160 (A1 pulsotype); Lane 3: *E. faecium* 731980 (A2 pulsotype); Lane 4: *E. faecium* 755686 (C pulsotype); Lane 5: *E. faecium* 742783 (D pulsotype); Lane 6: *E. faecium* 735902 (E pulsotype); Lane 7: *E. faecium* 732558 (B pulsotype); Lane 8: *E. faecium* 733387 (B1 pulsotype). According to the criteria of Tenover [29] closely related strains (restriction patterns showing two to three different bands) were assigned to the same pulsotype (e.g. A, A1, A2) whereas unrelated strains, with profiles differing in 7 or more bands, were included in different pulsotypes.

