

Table S3. Comparison of the base changes occurring in ‘templated’ vs. ‘template-independent’ single nucleotide changes in *vsE* variants. ^a

‘Templated’ single nucleotide changes (N = 33)					
		Nucleotide change (proportion)			
Initial nucleotide		A	T	G	C
	A		0 (0)	10 (0.30)	3 (0.09)
	T	0 (0)		2 (0.06)	0 (0)
	G	4 (0.12)	2 (0.06)		0 (0)
	C	11 (0.33)	0 (0)	1 (0.03)	
‘Template-independent’ single nucleotide changes (N = 76)					
		Nucleotide change (proportion)			
Initial nucleotide		A	T	G	C
	A		2 (0.03)	17 (0.22)	8 (0.11)
	T	3 (0.04)		7 (0.09)	3 (0.04)
	G	10 (0.13)	5 (0.07)		6 (0.08)
	C	0 (0)	12 (0.16)	3 (0.04)	
<p>a For the ‘templated’ group, well-defined single nucleotide changes that were clearly separate from other sequence variations were used. Shaded boxes indicate those changes that differed substantially between the two types.</p>					