

### **Additional file 3.**

Functional categories of the cecal microbiota of the flying squirrel, according to the COG database.

<b>Code and description of functional categories</b>	<b>No. hits (%)</b>
Information storage and processing	760 (17.86)
L: Replication, recombination and repair	268 (6.29)
J: Translation, ribosomal structure and biogenesis	253 (5.94)
K: Transcription	230 (5.41)
A: RNA processing and modification	6 (0.13)
B: Chromatin structure and dynamics	4 (0.09)
Cellular processes and signaling	959 (22.54)
M: Cell wall	289 (6.79)
T: Signal transduction mechanisms	168 (3.95)
O: Posttranslational modification, protein turnover, chaperones	154 (3.63)
V: Defense mechanisms	142 (3.34)
U: Intracellular trafficking, secretion, and vesicular transport	115 (2.71)
D: Cell cycle control, cell division, chromosome partitioning	55 (1.29)
N: Cell motility	20 (0.47)
W: Extracellular structures	9 (0.20)
Z: Cytoskeleton	7 (0.16)
Y: Nuclear structure	0 (0.00)
Metabolism	1,375 (32.32)
E: Amino acid transport and metabolism	299 (7.02)
C: Energy production and conversion	287 (6.75)
P: Inorganic ion transport and metabolism	219 (5.14)
G: Carbohydrate transport and metabolism	177 (4.15)
H: Coenzyme transport and metabolism	154 (3.61)
F: Nucleotide transport and metabolism	123 (2.88)
I: Lipid transport and metabolism	81 (1.91)
Q: Secondary metabolites biosynthesis, transport and catabolism	37 (0.87)
Poorly characterized	1,161 (27.29)
S: Function unknown	656 (15.42)
R: General function prediction only	505 (11.86)