

Table S1: Organisms and relevant strain information of bacterial isolates used during the developmental phase of the study.

<b>Organism</b>	<b>Strain</b>	<b>Organism reference</b>
<i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i>	n.a.	Culture isolate <sup>A, B</sup>
<i>Ehrlichia chaffeensis</i>	n.a.	Culture isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	n.a.	ESBL33590 <sup>B</sup>
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	CDC 298/53	NCTC 9633
<i>Leptospira interrogans</i>	n.a.	Culture isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Neorickettsia sennetsu</i>	Miyayama	ATCC VR-367
<i>Orientia tsutsugamushi</i>	Karp	Culture isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Orientia tsutsugamushi</i> (n=12)	n.a.	Lao human isolates <sup>A</sup>
<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>	3D7	Culture isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Plasmodium vivax</i>	n.a.	Lao human isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	Boston 41501	ATCC 27853
<i>Rickettsia conorii</i>	Malish	ATCC VR-613
<i>Rickettsia felis</i>	B377 (Australia)	Flea isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Rickettsia honei</i>	RB	Human isolate <sup>A</sup>
<i>Rickettsia prowazekii</i>	Breinl	ATCC VR-142
<i>Salomonella enterica</i> serotype Enteritidis	CDC K-1891	ATCC 13076
<i>Salmonella enterica</i> serotype Typhi	Ty 2	NCTC 8385
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	F-182	ATCC 43300

<sup>A</sup>Clinical isolate; identity was confirmed in our or collaborating laboratories using published PCR assays (1-6).

<sup>B</sup>Clinical isolate; identity was confirmed by API NE (bioMérieux; France) and colony morphology.

## Supplementary material: References

1. **Henry KM, Jiang J, Rozmajzl PJ, Azad AF, Macaluso KR, Richards AL.** 2007. Development of quantitative real-time PCR assays to detect *Rickettsia typhi* and *Rickettsia felis*, the causative agents of murine typhus and flea-borne spotted fever. *Mol Cell Probes* **21**:17-23.
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4. **Parola P, Roux V, Camicas JL, Baradji I, Brouqui P, Raoult D.** 2000. Detection of ehrlichiae in African ticks by polymerase chain reaction. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg* **94**:707-708.
5. **Snounou G, Singh B.** 2002. Nested PCR analysis of Plasmodium parasites. *Methods Mol Med* **72**:189-203.
6. **Thaipadungpanit J, Chierakul W, Wuthiekanun V, Limmathurotsakul D, Amornchai P, Boonslip S, Smythe LD, Limpai boon R, Hoffmaster AR, Day NP, Peacock SJ.** 2011. Diagnostic accuracy of real-time PCR assays targeting 16S rRNA and *lipL32* genes for human leptospirosis in Thailand: a case-control study. *PLoS One* **6**:e16236.