

TABLE S1. Numbers of *pvl*-negative sporadic MRSA isolates recovered from patients in Irish hospitals and identified by the NMRSARL each year between 2000 and 2012

Year	Total no. of <i>pvl</i> -negative sporadic MRSA isolates identified by the NMRSARL <sup>a</sup>	Total number of <i>pvl</i> -negative sporadic MRSA isolates investigated in the present study	Recovered from infection <sup>d</sup> or colonization [ <i>n</i> ]
2000	195	10	Infection [8], colonized [1], unknown [1]
2001	165	7	Infection [7]
2002	141	6	Infection [6]
2003	114	6	Infection [4], unknown [2]
2004	133	8	Infection [5], unknown [3]
2005	96	5	Infection [5],
2006	107	8	Infection [4], unknown [3], colonized [1]
2007	125	8 <sup>c</sup>	Infection [7], colonized [1]
2008	113	5	Infection [5]
2009	129	6	Infection [3], unknown [1], colonized [2]
2010	101	5	Infection [5]
2011	116	9	Infection [4], unknown [1], colonized [4]
2012	128	5	Infection [2], unknown [2], colonized [1]
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1663</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>88</b>

<sup>a</sup>The *pvl*-negative status of isolates was determined either by (i) PCR as described previously (1), (ii) an in-house real-time PCR assay designed to detect *mecA*, *nuc* and *pvl* or (iii) was inferred as they yielded AR and/or PFGE typing patterns indicative of strains not previously associated with *pvl*.

<sup>b</sup>Represents approximately 5% of *pvl*-negative sporadic MRSA isolates identified each year by the NMRSARL among patients in Irish hospitals.

<sup>c</sup>One additional isolate recovered from an elderly man in the community was also included as he had been hospitalized previously on several occasions.

<sup>d</sup>Information pertaining to whether the isolate was recovered from an infection or colonization was available for 74 isolates. Ten isolates were from colonized patients and 64 were from infections and this included bloodstream infections (65.9%, 58/88) and skin and soft tissue infections (7.9%, 7/88).

**(1). Monecke S, Coombs G, Shore AC, Coleman DC, Akpaka P, Borg M, Chow H, Ip M, Jatzwauk L, Jonas D, Kadlec K, Kearns A, Laurent F, O'Brien FG, Pearson J, Ruppelt A, Schwarz S, Scicluna E, Slickers P, Tan HL, Weber S, Ehricht R. 2011. A field guide to pandemic, epidemic and sporadic clones of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. PloS one 6:e17936.**