

**Figure S4:** Testing for false discovery detection of eOTUs. Permutation of sample group assignments for the Welch-test. In 100% of 100 permutations, equal or less than 290 eOTUs were identified. In approximately 20% of all permutations 290 eOTUs were identified. These 20% are expected since the possibility of creating the initial grouping after permutation is 20%. Consequently, the possibility of finding 290 eOTUs is unlikely due to chance. Red = true value. Y-axis displays the number of taxa passing the Welch-test.

