

Supplemental Table 2. Recommended list of equipment/software for fluorescent PCR ribotyping of *Clostridium difficile*

All equipment, software, and procedures for fluorescent PCR ribotyping can be found in the PCR ribotyping protocol at the following website address:

<http://walklab.rcg.montana.edu/ribo.html>

Equipment/software

- 1.) Thermocyclers – PCR ribotyping has been conducted in this study using a number of different thermocyclers and there does not appear to be a significant difference between data generated on different machines.
- 2.) Polymerase – We recommend the use of Promega master mix (PCR Master Mix, Promega, Inc., M7502) and have found this to be one of the cheapest polymerases for generating high-quality data.
- 3.) Capillary sequencer – All data in this study were generated using ABI3700-series Sanger-style sequencers and so this line of sequencers is recommended. Access to this type of sequencer is readily available at different sequencing centers around the US. Use of this type of sequencer is recommended. Instructions for utilizing the DNA Sequencing Core Facilities at the University of Michigan are provided in the online protocol (<http://walklab.rcg.montana.edu/ribo.html>). Contact the Walk Lab (<http://walklab.rcg.montana.edu/contacts.html>) for more details.
- 4.) PeakScanner – This free software is currently necessary for ribotyping analysis via the described online database. It is available for download at the following website:
<http://download.sharewarecentral.com/6/271833/peak-scanner-software.html>