

TABLE S1. Reference strains tested in the present study (n=48)

	Bacterial species	Strain number	Esculin hydrolysis
1	<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	ATCC 19606	No
2	<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	ATCC 17959	No
3	<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>	ATCC 25285	Yes
4	<i>Bacteroides ovatus</i>	ATCC BAA 1296	Yes
5	<i>Brevundimonas diminuta</i>	ATCC 11568	No
6	<i>Citrobacter freundii</i>	ATCC 8090	No
7	<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	ATCC 13124	No
8	<i>Clostridium septicum</i>	ATCC 12464	Yes
9	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	ATCC 13047	Yes
10	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	ATCC 23355	Yes
11	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	ATCC 700323	Yes
12	<i>Enterococcus casseliflavus</i>	ATCC 700327	Yes
13	<i>Enterococcus durans</i>	ATCC 6056	Yes
14	<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	ATCC 29212	Yes
15	<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	ATCC 51299	Yes
16	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	ATCC 25922	No
17	<i>Escherichia coli</i>	ATCC 35218	No
18	<i>Fusobacterium nucleatum</i>	ATCC 25586	No
19	<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	ATCC 700324	Yes
20	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	ATCC 13883	Yes
21	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	ATCC 700603	Yes
22	<i>Kocuria rosea</i>	ATCC 186	No
23	<i>Lactobacillus rhamnosus</i>	ATCC 7469	Yes
24	<i>Peptostreptococcus anaerobius</i>	ATCC27337	No
25	<i>Peptostreptococcus assacharolyticus</i>	UKQC5267	No
26	<i>Prevotella melaninogenica</i>	UKQC5575	No
27	<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>	ATCC 7002	No
28	<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	ATCC 6380	Yes
29	<i>Providencia stuartii</i>	ATCC 25826	No
30	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	ATCC 27853	No
31	<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	ATCC 14028	No
32	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	ATCC BAA 1708	No
33	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	ATCC 25923	No
34	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	ATCC 29213	No
35	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	ATCC 43300	No

	Bacterial species	Strain number	Esculin hydrolysis
36	<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	ATCC 14990	No
37	<i>Staphylococcus hominis</i>	ATCC 27844	No
38	<i>Staphylococcus lugdunensis</i>	ATCC 700328	No
39	<i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>	ATCC BAA-750	No
40	<i>Staphylococcus sciuri</i>	ATCC 29061	Yes
41	<i>Staphylococcus simulans</i>	ATCC 27848	No
42	<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>	ATCC 17666	Yes
43	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	ATCC 13813	No
44	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	ATCC 49619	No
45	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	ATCC 6305	No
46	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	ATCC 19615	No
47	<i>Streptococcus thermophilus</i>	ATCC 19258	No
48	<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	ATCC 43996	No

TABLE S2. Clinical isolates tested in the present study (n=255)

Isolate type and organism	No. of isolates	No. esculin positive
Anaerobic bacteria (207)		
<i>Bacteroides caccae</i>	4	4
<i>Bacteroides dorei</i>	4	4
<i>Bacteroides eggerthii</i>	1	1
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> (division I)	51	51
<i>Bacteroides fragilis</i> (division II)	52	52
<i>Bacteroides intestinalis</i>	2	2
<i>Bacteroides massiliensis</i>	1	0
<i>Bacteroides nordii</i>	4	4
<i>Bacteroides ovatus</i>	10	10
<i>Bacteroides pyogenes</i>	2	0
<i>Bacteroides salyersiae</i>	2	2
<i>Bacteroides stercoris</i>	2	2
<i>Bacteroides thetaiotaomicron</i>	10	10
<i>Bacteroides uniformis</i>	10	10
<i>Bacteroides vulgatus</i>	10	4
<i>Bifidobacterium bifidum</i>	1	0
<i>Clostridium hathewayi</i>	1	1
<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	10	0
<i>Clostridium sordellii</i>	1	0
<i>Clostridium tertium</i>	1	1
<i>Finegoldia magna</i>	1	0
<i>Fusobacterium mortiferum</i>	1	0
<i>Fusobacterium varium</i>	1	0
<i>Parabacteroides distasonis</i>	2	2
<i>Parabacteroides faecis</i>	2	0
<i>Parabacteroides goldsteinii</i>	2	0
<i>Parvimonas micra</i>	1	0
<i>Peptostreptococcus anaerobius</i>	1	0
<i>Prevotella amnii</i>	1	0
<i>Prevotella bivia</i>	4	0
<i>Prevotella buccae</i>	1	1
<i>Prevotella disiens</i>	1	0
<i>Prevotella intermedia</i>	3	0
<i>Prevotella melaninogenica</i>	4	0
<i>Prevotella nigrescens</i>	1	0
<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	1	0
<i>Veillonella parvula</i>	1	0
Aerobic and facultative anaerobic bacteria (48)		
<i>Aeromonas hydrophilia</i>	1	1
<i>Enterococcus faecium</i>	1	1
<i>Enterococcus gallinarum</i>	1	1
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1	0

<i>Flavobacterium meningosepticum</i>	1	1
<i>Lactobacillus gasseri</i>	1	1
<i>Lactobacillus paracasei</i>	1	1
<i>Lactobacillus rhamnosus</i>	2	2
<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	1	1
<i>Plesiomonas shigelloides</i>	1	0
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	1	0
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	1	1
<i>Staphylococcus artlettae</i>	1	0
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	2	0
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	2	0
<i>Staphylococcus equorum</i>	1	0
<i>Staphylococcus haemolyticus</i>	1	0
<i>Staphylococcus kloosii</i>	1	0
<i>Staphylococcus lugdunensis</i>	1	0
<i>Staphylococcus saprophyticus</i>	1	0
<i>Staphylococcus sciuri</i>	2	2
<i>Staphylococcus xylosum</i>	1	0
<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	2	0
<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	1	0
<i>Streptococcus bovis</i>	3	3
<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	1	0
<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	3	0
<i>Streptococcus milleri group</i>	1	0
<i>Streptococcus mitis</i>	2	0
<i>Streptococcus mutans</i>	1	1
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	3	0
<i>Vibrio alginolyticus</i>	1	1
<i>Vibrio fluvialis</i>	1	0
<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	1	0
<i>Vibrio vulnificus</i>	1	1
<i>Vibrio xuii</i>	1	0
Total	255	179