SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplemental Table 1. Primers used for verification of selected OTUs found in 16S profiles from the present study.

Verified organism or OUT	Forward primer, reverse primer
Turicella otitidis ^(a)	GCGTCGTCTGTGAAAGTCTG
	ATCGGTGTTCCTCCTGATATCTG
Prevotella, OTU 11 ^(a)	GGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTT
	CGTCAGTAACGTTACGGTAAGCT
Prevotella, OTU 14 ^(a)	GGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTT
	TCAGTTGCGCTCCCGTCAGCT
Prevotella, OTU 98 ^(a)	GGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTT
	GTCAGTTGCAGCCCGGACAC
Prevotella, OTU 134 ^(a)	GGCGTTATCCGGATTTATTGGGTT
	GCGTCAGTTGTGCTCCCGTAA
Veillonella, all its OTUS(a)	AACCCCGTGATGGGAA
	GCGTCAGTTTTCGTCCAGAAAG
Veillonella dispar ^(a)	GCGCGCAGGCGATTGGTC
	GCGTCAGTTTTCGTCCAGAAAG
Veillonella other species(a)	GCGCGCAGGCGGCCTATCC
	GCGTCAGTTTTCGTCCAGAAAG
Staphylococcus auricularis ^(b)	GTTCTACAGTGAAAGGCGGCT
	GAAGACTCTATCTCTAGAGCG

Own design of primers. These primers were intended for verification and quantification of OTUs of interest within the repertoire of bacteria in the present study, plus the control Mock Community. The primers therefore lack absolute specificity within the kingdom of *Bacteria* and their use for general detection of the organisms is very strongly discouraged.

- (a) These reactions use a degenerate MGB probe that provides an approximation of the bacterial quantity of the sample. (16S_V4_IN_PROBE, FAM CATTYCACCGCTACAC dark quencher, MGB).
- (b) The primers are theoretically specific for *S. auricularis* but the specificity is maintained mainly by the forward primer. As only several mismatches prevent cross-reactivity with *S. warneri, pasteuri* or *pulmonis,* it may be expected at less stringent conditions, or high concentration of the agens.