



**S6 Fig. *lepA* gene NJ tree.:** Neighbor Joining (NJ) phylogeny of *Providencia* bacteria as reconstructed from *lepA* gene sequences. Terminal branches are labelled by genus, species and strain designations as well as GenBank accession numbers. Numbers on branches indicate bootstrap support values. The size bar corresponds to 1 % sequence divergence. An orthologous sequence from the closely related bacterium *Proteus mirabilis* has been used as outgroup.