



FIG S3 Reproducibility of multimer patterns. The ladder band on Southern blotting with *bla*_{IMP-6} probe following S1-PFGE in isolate E044 changed into single band after conjugation into *recA*-negative *E. coli* isolate JW044. The plasmid in JW044 was further conjugated into TUM3456 *E. coli* isolate with wildtype *recA*, indicated as TUM-JW044 transconjugant. The ladder band was observed on Southern blotting hybridization with *bla*_{IMP-6} probe following S1-PFGE in TUM-JW044 transconjugant.