

Table S1. Percentage of genetic variability (*up*) based on *gidA*-nucleotide and amino acids sequences within and among different *Rickettsiella* populations infecting *Ixodes ricinus*.

		<i>up</i> (%) [min. – max.]							
		Nucleotides				Amino acids			
Clades		I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
I		0.4 [0-1.7]	13.2 [12.5–13.7]	13.7 [11.3–14.8]	14.3 [13.9–15.0]	0.5 [0–2.8]	7.4 [6.0–9.1]	7.5 [6.5–9.1]	7.3 [6.6–9.1]
II			0.07 [0–0.3]	11.7 [11.3–12.6]	13.0 [12.2–13.5]		0.2 [0–0.8]	7.5 [6.6–8.3]	7.8 [7.1–8.7]
III				0.58 [0–3.9]	15.5 [14.5–16.0]			0.5 [0–3.3]	8.2 [6.8–9.5]
IV					2.0 [0–4.8]				1.5 [0-3.3]

Table S2. Protein sequence motifs of a fragment of *gidA* gene of *Rickettsiella* spp. obtained from questing *Ixodes ricinus* populations collected from different European regions.

	12	13	26	33	35	38	41	49	52	72	80	82	84	94	111	114	115	116	122	124	135	136	140	148	152	174	236	239
<b>Clade I</b>	N	A	S	Q	N	V	M	Y	T	A	P	S	S	F	T	C	E	I	S	N	V	V	A	Y	K	V	A	T
	N	A	S	Q	N	V	M	Y	T	A	P	S	S	F	T	C	E	I	S	N	V	V	T	Y	K	V	A	T
<b>Clade II</b>	Y	A	S	Q	N	A	I	Y	A	A	P	A	S	L	T	Y	S	V	S	Y	R	D	A	Y	K	I	T	L
	Y	A	S	Q	N	A	I	Y	T	A	P	A	S	L	T	Y	S	V	S	Y	R	D	A	Y	K	I	T	L
<b>Clade III</b>	Y	A	S	E	D	V	V	C	T	A	P	A	S	L	T	Y	S	I	S	K	I	E	K	Y	K	V	A	I
	Y	T	S	E	D	V	V	C	T	A	S	A	S	L	T	Y	S	I	S	D	I	E	K	H	K	V	A	I
	Y	A	S	E	D	V	V	C	T	A	S	A	S	L	T	Y	S	I	S	E	I	E	K	H	K	V	A	I
<b>Clade IV</b>	K	T	G	Q	N	V	V	Y	A	A	P	A	F	L	S	F	E	V	S	N	I	E	T	Y	K	I	A	T
	K	T	G	Q	N	V	V	Y	A	A	P	A	F	L	S	F	K	V	S	N	I	E	T	Y	R	I	A	T
	K	T	G	Q	N	V	V	Y	A	S	P	A	F	L	S	F	K	V	S	N	I	E	T	Y	R	I	A	T

**NOTE:**

A = Alanine

I = Isoleucine

R = Arginine

C = Cysteine

K = Lysine

S = Serine

D = Aspartic acid

L = Leucine

T = Threonine

E = Glutamic acid

M = Methionine

V = Valine

F = Phenylalanine

N = Asparagine

Y = Tyrosine

G = Glycine

P = Proline

H = Histidine

Q = Glutamine