

Supplementary Material:

Table S1. Characteristics of *Microbulbifer elongatus* PORT2 among other *Microbulbifer* species

Characteristics	<i>M. elongatus</i> PORT2	<i>M. elongatus</i> DSM 6810 ^T	<i>M. elongatus</i> CMC5	<i>M. hydrolyticus</i> DSM11525 ^T	<i>M.salipaludis</i> SM-1 ^T
Cell shape	Rods, coccoid	Rods or cocci,	short rods	Rods	Rods
Gram Staining	negative	negative	negative	negative	negative
Motility	Non-motile, non-spore forming	Motile, non-spore forming, encapsulated	Non-motile, non-spore forming	Non-motile, non-spore forming	Non-motile, non-spore forming
catalase activity	+	+	+	NA	+
oxidase activity	+	NA	+	NA	+
use of nitrate as a sole nitrogen source	NA	+	NA	NA	NA
Na ⁺ requirement	2-10 % (w/v)	2-3% (w/v)	2-8% (w/v)	0.1 to 1 M	2–3 % (w/v)
agar hydrolysis	+	+	+	NA	weakly
amylase activity	+	+		+	+
Gelatine hydrolysis	-	+	+	+	-
utilization of :					
lactose,	-	+	+	NA	+
sucrose,	-	+	-	NA	+
glucose,	+	+	+	+	+
sodium citrate	NA	+	NA	NA	NA
H ₂ S production	-	+	-	NA	NA
Indole production	-	-	NA	NA	NA
Fermentation of glucose	-	-	NA	+	+