

## Supplementary Materials

### *Culturable nasal bacteria in chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps: a single-center observational pilot study*

As exploratory, hypothesis-generating analyses, we assessed within each group whether the number of culturable species per subject was related to smoking status, and, in patients, whether it correlated with the SNOT-22 total score (available only in patients). These analyses are reported here in full and summarized in the main-text Discussion. Given the small subgroups, they should be interpreted with caution and were not used to draw inferential conclusions.

**Table S1.** Exploratory within-group analyses of the association between smoking status or SNOT-22 symptom burden and the number of culturable bacterial species per subject.

| Analysis                                                                 | Groups / measure                                   | Test           | p    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|------|
| Culturable species per subject, patients: smokers vs non-smokers         | 12 vs 18 subjects; median 4 vs 4 (mean 4.3 vs 4.5) | Mann-Whitney U | 0.68 |
| Culturable species per subject, controls: current smokers vs non-smokers | 8 vs 22 subjects; mean 3.25 vs 2.82                | Mann-Whitney U | 0.36 |
| Culturable species per subject vs SNOT-22 total score, patients          | n = 30; Spearman rho = 0.03                        | Spearman       | 0.86 |

Smoking was recorded as current smoking status. The number of culturable species per subject did not differ by smoking status in either group, and did not correlate with SNOT-22 symptom burden in patients. All tests were two-sided; analyses were performed in R version 4.3.