

1 **Title:** Low diversity and instability of the sinus microbiota over time in adults with cystic fibrosis
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20

21 **Abstract**

22 *Background*

23 Chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) is a common, yet underreported and understudied manifestation of
24 upper respiratory disease in people with cystic fibrosis (CF). There are currently no standard of
25 care guidelines for the management of CF CRS, but treatment of upper airway disease may
26 ameliorate lower airway disease. We sought to inform future treatment guidelines by determining
27 whether changes to sinus microbial community diversity and specific taxa known to cause CF
28 lung disease are associated with increased respiratory disease and inflammation.

29 *Methods*

30 We performed 16S rRNA gene sequencing, supplemented with cytokine analyses, microscopy,
31 and bacterial culturing, on samples from the sinuses of 27 adults with CF CRS at the University
32 of Pittsburgh's CF Sinus Clinic. At each study visit, participants underwent endoscopic paranasal
33 sinus sampling and clinical evaluation. We identified key drivers of microbial community

34 composition and evaluated relationships between diversity and taxa with disease outcomes and
35 inflammation.

36 *Findings*

37 Sinus community diversity was low and the composition was unstable, with many participants
38 exhibiting alternating dominance between *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Staphylococci* over
39 time. Despite a tendency for dominance by these two taxa, communities were highly
40 individualized and shifted composition during exacerbation of sinus disease symptoms.
41 Exacerbations were also associated with communities dominated by *Staphylococcus* spp.
42 Reduced microbial community diversity was linked to worse sinus disease and the inflammatory
43 status of the sinuses (including increased IL-1 β). Increased IL-1 β was also linked to worse sinus
44 endoscopic appearance, and other cytokines were linked to microbial community dynamics.

45 *Interpretation*

46 To our knowledge, this is the largest longitudinal study of microbial communities and cytokine
47 secretion in CF CRS. Our work revealed previously unknown instability of sinus microbial
48 communities and a link between inflammation, lack of microbial community diversity, and worse
49 sinus disease.

50 *Funding*

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52

53 **Research in Context**

54 *Evidence before this study*

55 A search of the PubMed database on October 11, 2021 with the terms [cystic fibrosis sinus
56 microbiome] yielded 16 results, and we have identified seven primary research articles on the CF
57 CRS microbiome (including re-analyses of existing datasets). Most are cross-sectional cohort
58 analyses, along with one prior longitudinal study of four adults at the University of Auckland, New
59 Zealand. Together, these prior studies reveal similarities between CF CRS and CF sputum
60 microbiomes, including low community diversity associated with sinus disease, the presence of
61 common CF-associated microbes in the sinuses, and prevalence of sinus communities dominated
62 by *P. aeruginosa* or *Staphylococcus aureus*. High levels of IL-1 β are linked to the presence of
63 nasal polyps in CF CRS, and polymorphisms in the IL-1 receptor antagonist gene are associated
64 with risk of CRS outside of the context of CF. Two prior studies of this cohort have been performed
65 by our laboratory. One describes clinical indicators of CF sinus disease and the other links sinus
66 infection biogeography to *P. aeruginosa* evolutionary genomics.

67 *Added value of this study*

68 Our study is the first to examine longitudinal relationships between the host immune response
69 (through cytokine profiling) and microbiota dynamics in CF CRS, including linking elevated IL-1 β
70 to worse sinus disease through reduced sinus microbial community diversity. The longitudinal
71 nature of our study also allowed us to uncover striking temporal instability of microbial
72 communities in approximately half of our cohort's sinus microbial communities over two years,
73 including switching between communities dominated by *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp.
74 This instability could hinder attempts to link the relative abundance of taxa to clinical outcomes of
75 interest in cross-sectional studies (e.g., markers of disease progression). We also identified
76 patterns of synergy and antagonism between specific taxa, and impacts of the host immune
77 response in the sinuses on community composition.

78 *Implications of all the available evidence*

79 Together with prior CF CRS microbiome studies, our study underscores similarities between sinus
80 and lower respiratory tract microbial community structure in CF, and we show how community
81 structure tracks with inflammation and several disease measures. This work strongly suggests
82 that clinical management of CRS could be leveraged to improve overall respiratory health in CF.
83 Our work implicates elevated IL-1 β in reduced microbiota diversity and worse sinus disease in CF
84 CRS, suggesting applications for existing therapies targeting IL-1 β . Finally, the widespread use
85 of highly effective CFTR modulator therapy has led to less frequent availability of spontaneous
86 expectorated sputum for microbiological surveillance of lung infections. A better understanding of
87 CF sinus microbiology could provide a much-needed alternative site for monitoring respiratory
88 infection status by important CF pathogens.

89

90 **Introduction**

91 The upper airways are constantly exposed to microbes inhaled from the environment. In healthy
92 individuals, these microbes are captured by mucus produced by the sinusal epithelium and
93 removed by mucociliary clearance, but this process is impaired in people with the genetic disorder
94 cystic fibrosis (CF).¹ The sinusal cavity is thought to be the first site in the respiratory tract to
95 be colonized by opportunistically pathogenic microbes that may seed downstream lung disease
96 in CF.² Chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS), defined as symptomatic chronic infection and inflammation
97 of the sinusal cavity, is common among people with CF, yet under-reported and the interactions
98 between microbes in the upper respiratory tract, local inflammatory responses, and clinical
99 outcomes are poorly understood. The unified airway hypothesis is a conceptual framework
100 originating in the field of asthma research that links upper (URT) and lower (LRT) respiratory tract
disease.³ This framework proposes that treatment of URT symptoms can improve LRT disease

102 and vice-a-versa. A growing body of literature supports similarities and interplay between CRS
103 and LRT disease in CF. For example, the microbiota of CF CRS resembles that of the LRT in
104 terms of taxa present and diversity⁴⁻⁶; children harbor comparatively diverse microbes, whereas
105 adults tend to be dominated by one or very few organisms.⁷ Furthermore, medical or surgical
106 management of sinus disease symptoms may lead to better LRT outcomes in CF.^{8,9} Recently,
107 studies by our team and others have shown that evolved traits and evolutionary strategies of
108 *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* isolated from the sinuses of people with CF CRS resemble those
109 previously reported among CF lung populations.^{10,11} We have also shown that sinus exacerbation
110 increases the odds of a subsequent pulmonary exacerbation, and recently others have shown
111 that sinonasal quality of life worsens during CF LRT exacerbations.^{12,13} Together, these studies
112 strongly suggest that CF CRS impacts LRT disease, yet there are currently no standard of care
113 guidelines for the management of CF CRS. One gap in the CF CRS literature is our lack of
114 understanding regarding whether and how CF sinus communities change over time and as the
115 conditions in the surrounding host environment change (e.g., during periods of increased
116 inflammation and/or exacerbation of symptoms).

117
118 The goal of this study was to evaluate how the microbial composition and inflammatory
119 environment of the sinuses relates to upper and lower airway disease in adults with CF CRS. We
120 hypothesized that lack of sinus microbial community diversity and changes in relative abundance
121 of opportunistic pathogens or pathobionts (commensals that can cause disease under certain
122 circumstances) would be associated with increased sinus disease severity and inflammation. In
123 addition to revealing similarities between microbiota-related correlates of CF sinus disease and
124 inflammation to those described for the lower respiratory tract in CF, our study hints at potential
125 new therapeutic opportunities based on these microbe-immune interactions and highlights the
126 relevance of sinus disease to overall CF respiratory health.

127
128 **Results**
129 *Cohort demographics and association of CF-related diabetes (CFRD) with lower respiratory*
130 *disease*

131 We performed a longitudinal study of 33 adults with CF and symptomatic CRS who had
132 undergone prior functional endoscopic sinus surgery (FESS) as treatment for CF CRS (Table 1).¹³
133 During quarterly clinic visits and unscheduled visits due to exacerbation of clinical symptoms, we
134 obtained at least one endoscopically guided specimen for 16S amplicon sequencing from 27 of
135 the 33 study participants (longitudinal microbiota samples collected from 18 of the 27). Additional

136 samples included sinus secretions that were collected for inflammatory cytokine analyses,
137 bacterial culturing, and microscopy. The following demographic and clinical characteristics of the
138 cohort (covariates) were controlled for in most of the later analyses: Patient ID (to control for
139 repeated measures within study participants), age, sex, CFTR mutation class, diagnosis of CF-
140 related diabetes (CFRD), BMI, and topical antibiotic use. We tested for associations between
141 these covariates and patient outcomes examined throughout this study (sinus exacerbation,
142 pulmonary exacerbation, sinus disease score [Sino-nasal Outcome Test, SNOT-22¹⁴; modified
143 Lund-Kennedy, mLK¹⁵], and lung function [FEV₁]), independent of information on the microbiota.
144 We found that CFRD was associated with reduced FEV₁ (univariate regression coefficient: -68.3,
145 Holm-Bonferroni adjusted p < 0.05). No other covariates were significantly associated with the
146 outcomes of interest.

147

148 *Low diversity and instability of sinus microbial communities in adults with CF CRS*

149 Sinus microbial community diversity in our cohort was low, with the median Shannon diversity
150 from all participants being 0.35 (IQR 0.11-0.62) and Simpson 0.18 (IQR 0.04-0.86; Figure 1A).
151 The median evenness was 0.15 (IQR 0.04-0.63), suggesting communities were dominated by a
152 subset of the taxa present. Finally, the Tail statistic ("τ") is a rank-based diversity measure that is
153 more sensitive to changes in low-abundance taxa. The median τ was 0.46 (IQR 0.45-0.66) , but
154 had a fairly large range (from 0.04-5.6), indicating that diverse low-abundance taxa are present
155 in the sinuses of some, but not all, study participants (Supplemental table 1). We detected a total
156 of 302 genera (Supplemental table 2).

157

158 While diversity indices of the sequenced sinus microbiotas were low, microbial community
159 composition was unstable for many study participants (Figure 1B). For individuals that contributed
160 at least 3 longitudinal microbiota samples, we quantified this instability based on the standard
161 deviation of the microbiota distance (Manhattan) at later timepoints relative to the first timepoint.
162 The histogram of these values was bimodal on either side of the median value for the study cohort,
163 allowing us to classify eight individuals as relatively stable (for example, the individual whose
164 taxonomic barplots are shown in Figure 1C) and seven as relatively unstable (for example, in
165 Figure 1D). The most common bacterial taxa were *Staphylococcus* spp. and *Pseudomonadaceae*
166 (Supplemental table 2), and the relative abundances of these two taxa varied over time in several
167 study participants from whom we collected longitudinal samples (Figure 1D and Supplemental
168 figure 1). Based on Sanger sequencing of the 16S rRNA gene following bacterial culture, the
169 *Pseudomonadaceae* taxon represents *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and is referred to as such

170 hereafter. We then examined the biogeography of *P. aeruginosa* and/or *S. aureus* in these
171 communities, using fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH) on explanted obstructive sinus material
172 that was surgically debrided as part of routine clinical care. We found that both *P. aeruginosa* and
173 *S. aureus* reside as small aggregated communities in close association with host cells in the
174 sinuses (Figure 1E). Eubacterial labeling did not fully overlap with species-specific probes,
175 suggesting other unidentified species were present in mixed-species aggregates. Overall, these
176 results suggest that while CF CRS microbes can reside in small, sparse aggregates where
177 diversity is low, the aggregates can contain mixed species in proximity with each other and with
178 host cells. Furthermore, the overall taxonomic composition of sinus communities can be rather
179 unstable, especially in individuals co-infected by *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp.

180

181 While *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp. were abundant in many study participants, other
182 microbes were stably present as well. Regarding patterns of co-occurrence among microbes, we
183 identified positive correlations between the presence of *Corynebacterium* spp. and
184 *Dolosigranulum* spp., whereas *P. aeruginosa* and *Burkholderia* spp. exhibited an antagonistic
185 relationship (Supplemental figure 2). In addition to taxa recognized as members of the nasal,
186 sinus, or oral microbiotas of healthy adults, we identified bacteria known to be present in potable
187 water and capable of causing opportunistic infections in susceptible populations (e.g.
188 *Sphingomonas* spp. in 11 out of 27 participants, *Bradyrhizobium* spp. in ten, *Methylobacterium*
189 spp. in nine, and *Delftia* spp. in six; Supplemental table 2).¹⁶ The composition of environmental
190 and reagent control samples processed and sequenced alongside our study specimens was
191 distinct from clinical specimens (PERMANOVA; $p < 0.0001$), and the controls had significantly
192 lower read counts compared to the study samples (T-test; p -value <0.0001). These controls
193 suggest that the drinking water taxa were not due to contamination of clinical specimens. Overall,
194 these findings demonstrate that while most sinus communities were dominated by *P. aeruginosa*
195 and/or *Staphylococcus* spp., a variety of other taxa were also detected. The presence of bacteria
196 frequently reported to be present in potable water suggests a potential exposure route of the
197 sinuses to opportunistically pathogenic microbes that contribute to diversity of low-abundance
198 taxa.

199

200 *Pseudomonas* spp. and *Staphylococcus* spp. drive community structure and low diversity

201 To further interrogate the drivers of sinus microbial community structure in CF, we performed an
202 unsupervised cluster analysis (Figure 2A). We found that individual sinus samples grouped into
203 three clusters (Supplemental figure 3A), with separation of the two largest clusters driven by the

204 relative abundances of *Pseudomonas* spp. and *Staphylococcus* spp. and the third cluster driven
205 by the relative abundance of a mix of other taxa that were less prevalent in our cohort (Figure
206 2B). Similarly, these two dominant taxa were also found to unify different groups, with
207 *Pseudomonas* spp. unifying Cluster 1, whereas *Staphylococcus* spp. unified Cluster 2
208 (Supplemental figure 3B). Consistent with the instability observed in Figure 1, study participants
209 did not tend to belong to solely one cluster. Instead, most participants' sinus microbiotas
210 frequently switched between clusters over time, depending on the relative abundance of
211 *Pseudomonas* spp. and/or *Staphylococcus* spp. at that time point (Supplemental figure 4).
212
213 Using the stability classification from Figure 1B, six of the seven individuals with unstable
214 microbiotas switched between clusters in Supplemental figure 5, whereas five of the eight
215 individuals with a stable sinus microbiota exhibited cluster switching. The individual from the
216 unstable group who did not switch clusters (Patient #1 in Supplemental figure 1) stayed within
217 Cluster 3 (cluster driven by a mix of taxa other than *Pseudomonas* spp. or *Staphylococcus* spp.),
218 but their sinus microbiota transitioned from *Streptococcus* spp. to *Burkholderia* spp. dominance,
219 which is why they were grouped among the "Unstable" population despite not switching clusters.
220 In contrast, most of the relatively stable individuals who switched clusters were co-infected with
221 *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp.; their cluster switching was due to changes in relative
222 abundance of these two taxa that drove them between Clusters 1 (*Pseudomonas*-driven cluster)
223 and 2 (*Staphylococcus*-driven cluster), yet did not lead to a high enough variability in Manhattan
224 distances to categorize them as unstable in Figure 1B because they remained co-infected.
225 Furthermore, the increased relative abundance of *P. aeruginosa* or *Staphylococcus* spp. tracked
226 with decreasing Shannon diversity (Figure 2C,D), suggesting that the low sinus community
227 diversity is attributable to dominance by these two taxa. This reduction in Shannon diversity as
228 the relative abundance of *Pseudomonas* spp. or *Staphylococcus* spp. increased was most
229 apparent in samples from Clusters 1 and 2). Interestingly, CFRD was positively associated with
230 Cluster 1 membership (*Pseudomonas*-driven cluster) and negatively associated with Clusters 2
231 and 3 (clusters driven by *Staphylococcus* spp. or other taxa) (Figure 2A). In agreement with this
232 clustering analysis, we found that people with CFRD had a higher relative abundance of
233 *Pseudomonas* spp. than those without CFRD (univariate regression coefficient: 45.82, Holm-
234 Bonferroni adjusted p < 0.05). Finally, sinus exacerbation was positively associated with Cluster
235 2 membership (driven by *Staphylococcus* spp.). These results demonstrate how further clustering
236 sinus microbiotas of people co-infected by *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp. based on

237 drivers of community structure can reveal relationships with co-morbidities (CFRD) or disease
238 status (sinus exacerbation).

239

240 *Sinus microbiotas are highly individualized, but may share a common signature during sinus*
241 *exacerbation*

242 We used permutational multivariate analysis of variance (PERMANOVA) to determine whether
243 community-level differences in sinus microbiotas track with any characteristics of our study
244 participants or clinical outcomes. We measured sinus disease severity through assessment of
245 symptoms with the validated SNOT-22 questionnaire¹⁴ and scoring of endoscopic exam findings
246 performed by a clinician (mLK)¹⁵, and we used FEV₁ as an indicator of lung function. We also
247 used sinus or pulmonary exacerbation status at the time of the clinic visit as additional indicators
248 of respiratory disease. We found that the variation in community composition was largely
249 explained by the study participant who contributed the sample (Supplemental table 3;
250 PERMANOVA R² = 0.483, p < 0.001), suggesting that sinus microbiotas are highly individualized.
251 However, whether a person was experiencing a sinus exacerbation at the time of the study visit
252 also explained a small but significant amount of variability (Supplemental table 3; PERMANOVA
253 R² = 0.022, p < 0.05), suggesting that a common signature of disturbance in the CF CRS
254 microbiota may occur during sinus exacerbations.

255

256 *Worsened sinus disease is associated with reduced microbial community diversity and changes*
257 *in Gammaproteobacteria relative abundance*

258 Because the PERMANOVA suggested a distinct microbial community associated with sinus
259 exacerbation and because reduced sputum microbiota diversity is correlated with worse lung
260 function in CF¹⁷⁻¹⁹, we next asked whether a similar relationship between microbial community
261 diversity and disease occurs in the sinuses during CF CRS. We developed a predictor versus
262 responder test to compare models that use diversity indices or specific taxa as predictors of
263 respiratory disease outcomes against models that use the same indices or taxa as responders to
264 disease outcomes. We found that microbial community diversity (Shannon and Simpson) and
265 evenness decreased in response to increasing mLK score (Figure 3A), suggesting that a more
266 diverse sinus microbiota, not dominated by one or very few taxa, is associated with less severe
267 sinus disease. Examining whether any of the top 15 most abundant taxa were associated with
268 the same disease outcomes (Figure 3B), we found a positive relationship between
269 *Stenotrophomonas* spp. and physician-scored sinus disease (mLK; overall range of 4-16 across
270 study participants' visits in our study), in which the relative abundance of *Stenotrophomonas* spp.

271 increases in response to increasing mLK score. In contrast, the relative abundance of two taxa,
272 *Stenotrophomonas* spp. and *Haemophilus* spp., decreased in response to worse symptomatic
273 sinus disease (higher SNOT-22 scores). The relative abundance of *Stenotrophomonas* spp.
274 ranged from 0% in some study participants to over 80% in Patient 35's fourth visit and the relative
275 abundance of *Haemophilus* spp. ranged from 0 up to 17.6% in Patient 18's second visit (Figure
276 S1). We did not detect statistically significant relationships between these diversity indices or taxa
277 and exacerbation (sinus or pulmonary) or FEV₁. Together these data suggest relationships
278 between microbial community diversity, and specifically two Gammaproteobacteria
279 (*Stenotrophomonas* spp. and *Haemophilus* spp.), and upper respiratory disease severity. In the
280 case of the opportunistic pathogen *Stenotrophomonas* spp., the relationship differs depending on
281 whether the outcome of interest is patient- or physician-scored disease.

282

283 *Low sinus community diversity and the relative abundance of several taxa are associated with*
284 *cytokine changes*

285 Both CRS and CF respiratory disease progression are thought to be caused by cycles of infection
286 and inflammation. Therefore, we sought to identify relationships between the sinus inflammatory
287 environment and community diversity, as well as specific taxa. Using the same predictor versus
288 responder approach, we identified a negative relationship between the levels of a pro-
289 inflammatory cytokine and three microbiota diversity indices. Higher Shannon or Simpson
290 diversity predicted decreased IL-1 β levels (Figure 3C; coefficient [p-value]: Shannon/log[IL-1 β]: -
291 2.64 [0.0222], Simpson/log[IL-1 β]: -4.2 [0.0223]). Similarly, the diversity of low-abundance taxa
292 (Tail statistic) decreased in response to higher levels of IL-1 β (Figure 3C; -0.233 [0.00058]).
293 Furthermore, the relative abundances of several taxa exhibited relationships with the host
294 cytokine response (Figure 3D). The relative abundances of some taxa decreased in response to
295 increasing levels of cytokines. *Stenotrophomonas* spp. decreased in response to increased levels
296 of pro-inflammatory IL-6 (-1.09 [0.0186], *Haemophilus* spp. decreased in response to anti-
297 inflammatory IL-19 (-0.287 [0.000637], and *Fusobacterium* spp. decreased in response to pro-
298 inflammatory interferon- λ 1 (also known as IL-29; -0.342 [0.000653]). The relative abundances of
299 other taxa exhibited positive correlations with some cytokines. Increased relative abundance of
300 unclassified taxa within the family Enterobacteriaceae predicted increased levels of the pro-
301 inflammatory cytokine pentraxin-3 (341.0 [0.0213]), whereas the relative abundance of
302 unclassified taxa within the phylum Actinobacteria increased in response to increasing
303 concentrations of interferon- λ 1(0.85 [0.0211]). These findings suggest that sinus inflammation is
304 highest when the microbial community diversity is low.

305

306 **Discussion**

307 The unified airway hypothesis suggests that management of upper airway disease (e.g. CRS)
308 could benefit the lower airways, yet the understudied nature of CF sinus disease means evidence-
309 based recommendations for management of CF CRS are currently lacking.²⁰ In the present study,
310 we sought to determine how sinus microbial community structure and composition in adults with
311 CF CRS changes across disease and inflammatory states over time. We found that while
312 communities lacked diversity and tended to be dominated by *P. aeruginosa* or *Staphylococcus*
313 spp., many displayed a striking degree of instability over time. Our work also revealed a link
314 between *Staphylococcus* spp. dominance and sinus exacerbation, as well as potential interplay
315 among *P. aeruginosa* dominance in the sinuses, CFRD, and reduced lung function. Pro-
316 inflammatory cytokine responses were associated with decreased sinus microbial community
317 diversity and changes in relative abundance of several taxa. Together these findings shed light
318 on potential host-microbe interactions occurring in the sinuses during CF CRS and have
319 implications for the design of future studies aimed at linking CF CRS phenotypes to disease
320 outcomes, as well as suggest new therapeutic strategies for CF sinus disease.

321

322 We identified a striking amount of instability in CF CRS communities over time, even among
323 individuals whose communities were dominated by *P. aeruginosa* or *Staphylococcus* spp. Such
324 instability has been implicated with worse lung function in a meta-analysis of CF sputum
325 microbiotas from several cohorts²¹ and, similarly, in non-CF CRS and diseases involving other
326 microbiome-mucosal interfaces, such as in the gut.^{22,23} Whether and how the sinus community
327 instability observed in our study is linked to overall respiratory disease progression warrants future
328 investigation, but some parallels can be drawn to existing ecological models of CF lung disease.
329 For example, the climax-attack model of CF pulmonary exacerbation is rooted in the concept of
330 unstable respiratory communities in which the presence/absence or relative abundance of taxa
331 associated with “attack” (community associated with exacerbation, inflammation, and tissue
332 damage) or “climax” (community dominating during periods of clinical stability) communities cycle
333 over time, leading to repeated periods of inflammation, pulmonary exacerbation, and progressive
334 tissue damage.²⁴ It is possible that the most unstable communities in our study could be cycling
335 between attack and climax communities, similarly driving sinus disease progression. These
336 communities may also be shifting in response to changing antimicrobial treatments. Another
337 explanation for this instability could be related to the infection site biogeography, specifically the
338 size and structure of bacterial aggregates present in the paranasal sinuses. Using an advanced

339 imaging technique called MiPACT-HCR (microbial identification after passive clarity technique
340 and hybridization chain reaction)²⁵, we recently discovered that the size and structure of *P.*
341 *aeruginosa* populations varied drastically in adults with CF CRS who were also members of the
342 present cohort, and these varying population sizes impacted ongoing genome evolution and
343 adaptation.¹⁰ In the present study, we imaged two additional sinus microbial populations (including
344 one that contained *S. aureus*) and observed small, sparse aggregates of bacteria in both
345 participants. Therefore, another explanation for the apparent instability could be due to community
346 compositional differences among isolated aggregates in a structured sinus environment where
347 different taxa may occupy distinct niches. Notably, our examination of microbial community
348 instability is limited by the fact that our microbiota analyses are compositional and not quantitative.
349 Future studies examining the apparent instability of CF CRS microbiotas should endeavor to
350 quantify changes in the absolute abundance of bacteria present at the sampling site.^{26,27} A future
351 longitudinal study would also benefit from more frequent sample collection with regularly spaced
352 intervals of time between samples to better assess microbial community stability or instability.
353 More broadly speaking, CF respiratory disease is chronic and progressive, with cycles of mucus
354 obstruction, infection, and inflammation driving worsening of respiratory health over an individual's
355 lifetime.²⁸ Predictors of exacerbation or biomarkers of disease progression would greatly inform
356 clinical care, but are currently lacking. The instability identified in our study highlights a potential
357 hurdle for cross-sectional studies that aim to link relative abundance of taxa to outcome measures
358 that develop over longer periods of time (rather than outcomes of acute phenomena), and this
359 limitation should be taken into consideration for future study design.

360
361 Our findings share similarities and build upon prior microbiota studies of CF CRS and CF sputum
362 examining diversity and taxonomic drivers of community structure. Consistent with previous adult
363 CF CRS and sputum studies, microbial community diversity was low^{4,5,17,29,30-32}, and
364 communities were frequently dominated by *P. aeruginosa* or *Staphylococci*.^{4-6,32-35} Lucas *et al.*
365 recently showed that low diversity was associated with dominance by *Pseudomonas* spp. and
366 was not significantly associated with clinical factors examined³³, whereas we found that both *P.*
367 *aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp. can drive low community diversity and that low diversity is
368 associated with worse sinus disease as measured by mLK score. Additionally, a recent
369 longitudinal study of four adults with CF CRS reported marked stability in sinus communities over
370 time³⁵, whereas approximately half of our cohort exhibited instability. These inconsistencies
371 between studies could be due to differences in study design (e.g. cohort sizes, cross-sectional
372 versus longitudinal), methodological differences in sequencing or analysis approaches, or

373 potentially differences in the cohorts themselves, all of which were recruited at single, distinct
374 study centers. While our 16S amplicon sequencing approach did not detect large taxonomic
375 changes in the group of individuals classified as relatively stable, it is important to note a limitation
376 of this approach. We are unable to determine whether the metabolic activity, for example, of the
377 consortia of stable taxa shift over time in ways that would achieve functionally similar changes as
378 the taxonomic shifts in the relatively “unstable” individuals, as has previously been described in
379 the oral cavity.³⁶ On the other hand, taxonomic drivers of the three microbial community clusters
380 identified in our study share similarities with the five clusters recently identified by Hampton *et al.*
381 in a meta-analysis of CF sputum microbiomes from multiple adult cohorts.²¹ We observed a link
382 between cluster membership and sinus disease exacerbation, whereas Hampton *et al.* linked
383 sputum cluster membership to variability in lung function. Specifically, we found that sinus
384 exacerbation was associated with having a microbial community driven by *Staphylococcus* spp.
385 (Cluster 2 membership). This result is consistent with a clinical study of nasal lavages from CF
386 adults which found that colonization of the upper airway by *S. aureus* (as determined by clinical
387 lab culture) was associated with increased levels of several pro-inflammatory cytokines, whereas
388 no association was detected for *P. aeruginosa*.³⁷ It is also consistent with the prior publication
389 from our research group on clinical indicators of sinus disease, which found a link between sinus
390 *S. aureus* colonization (as determined by clinical lab culture) and worsening sinus disease.¹³
391 Together, these studies reveal that beyond resembling each other taxonomically, CF URT and
392 LRT microbial communities also share similar drivers of their structure, some of which can be
393 linked to sinus disease.

394
395 CRS is an inflammatory disease and we found several examples of how cytokine signaling in the
396 sinuses could shape CF CRS microbial communities. Multiple lines of evidence link elevated
397 levels of the pro-inflammatory cytokine IL-1 β to sinus disease. Polymorphisms in the IL-1 receptor
398 antagonist gene (IL1RN) are associated with CRS, and in CF, elevated IL-1 β is associated with
399 the presence of nasal polyps.³⁸⁻⁴¹ We found that lower microbial community diversity was
400 associated with higher levels of IL-1 β and with worse endoscopic appearance of the sinuses (mLK
401 score). Our findings suggest IL-1 β signaling in the sinuses as a therapeutic target to control sinus
402 inflammation and potentially restore microbial community diversity. Considering a recombinant
403 IL-1 β receptor antagonist is already available to treat rheumatoid arthritis and other inflammatory
404 diseases, this finding warrants further investigation.⁴² These cytokine interactions suggest ways
405 that the inflammatory environment of the sinuses could reinforce a lack of diversity and dominance
406 by more abundant taxa, including *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp.

407
408 The CF lung environment displays a high degree of interplay between host-microbe and microbe-
409 microbe interactions that impact bacterial behaviors such as expression of virulence factors and
410 response to antimicrobials.⁴³ The strongest signature of microbe-microbe co-occurrence in our
411 study was a positive correlation between *Corynebacterium* spp. and *Dolosigranulum* spp., which
412 has previously been observed in the upper respiratory tract of healthy individuals and associated
413 with relative stability of the microbiota.^{44,45} We interpret these findings to suggest that CF CRS
414 sinuses continue to harbor a commensal subpopulation displaying interactions seen outside of
415 the context of CF.^{44,46,47} We also observed a negative correlation between the relative abundance
416 of *P. aeruginosa* and *Burkholderia* spp. A type VI secretion-mediated mechanism of antagonism
417 between these two organisms was recently demonstrated to evolve among CF sputum isolates,
418 further suggesting similarities between polymicrobial interactions in the URT and LRT.⁴⁸ Finally,
419 we observed a correlation between CFRD and reduced lung function, as was previously
420 reported¹³. Adding to this finding, here we identified a relationship between CFRD and sinus
421 communities driven by *P. aeruginosa* (many of which also contained *Staphylococcus* spp.), which
422 was reminiscent of a report by Limoli *et al.* that LRT co-infection by *P. aeruginosa* and *S. aureus*
423 is common among people with CFRD.⁴⁹ These parallels between our findings and previous
424 reports from studies of the LRT in CF further underscore the relevance of the URT to overall CF
425 respiratory disease dynamics. To further examine CF sinus disease in the context of the unified
426 airway hypothesis, comparison of microbiotas from paired sinus and sputum samples collected
427 longitudinally is needed to examine how these two populations relate to each other and change
428 over time, including during disease exacerbations.

429
430 In the United States, the CF Foundation is currently developing guidelines for the management
431 of CF CRS and our study advances the growing body of literature establishing the sinuses as an
432 important site of chronic infection along the respiratory tract of people with CF. More work is
433 needed in a larger cohort to understand the causes and consequences of sinus microbial
434 community instability in adults with CF CRS, and how community structure relates to the
435 inflammatory environment of the sinuses. Furthermore, the CF community has entered the era of
436 highly effective modulator therapy (HEMT), in which widespread use of HEMT is changing CF
437 disease in unprecedented ways that will require complementary changes in how CF is managed
438 for many people⁵⁰. Initiation of HEMT early in life may delay respiratory disease progression and
439 it is possible that management of sinus disease could offer an additional opportunity to prevent
440 or delay LRT disease, as well as to relieve the symptomatic quality of life burden for people with

441 CF. As therapeutic options for CF are expanded and life expectancy extended, a comprehensive
442 understanding of the ecological and evolutionary drivers of CF sinus disease holds promise for
443 more rational interventions and treatment of chronic respiratory infections in people with CF.

444

445 **Methods**

446 *Study design, participants, sinus sampling, and clinical evaluation*

447 We performed a prospective, longitudinal study of 33 CF adults with symptomatic CRS and prior
448 functional endoscopic sinus surgery (FESS) following an IRB-approved protocol
449 (STUDY19100149) between February 2015 and August 2017.¹³ Participants were treated in a
450 CF-focused otolaryngology clinic at the University of Pittsburgh. During quarterly clinic visits and
451 unscheduled clinic visits, at least two sinus swabs were collected endoscopically for 16S rRNA
452 gene amplicon sequencing (dry flock swab; Puritan Medical Products, Guilford, Maine) and
453 bacterial culturing (flocked swab with liquid Amies medium; Copan Diagnostics, Inc. Murrieta,
454 CA). Samples were collected from the frontal, maxillary, or ethmoid sinuses (Supplemental Table
455 4). The swab for bacterial culturing was stored on wet ice and cultured within 4 hours of sampling.
456 Sinus wash was collected for cytokine analysis by flushing 5mL of sterile saline into the sinus
457 cavity and collecting endoscopically with a sterile trap. Sinus washes and dry swabs were stored
458 at -80°C. Of the 33 participants enrolled in the study and for whom sinus samples had been
459 collected, we sequenced microbiota samples on at least two different study visits from 18 people
460 (i.e. longitudinal samples) and sequenced a single cross-sectional sample from 9 people, for a
461 total cohort size of 27 people (Table 1). Patient demographics, clinical characteristics including
462 the criteria for disease outcome variables “sinus exacerbation” and “pulmonary exacerbation”,
463 and medication use was previously described for the full 33 person cohort and the same
464 definitions were used in the present study.¹³ Briefly, a sinus disease exacerbation was defined as
465 an unscheduled visit to the sinus clinic (i.e. a visit that was outside of regular study visits) and/or
466 if the study participant reported an acute increase in symptom severity. A pulmonary exacerbation
467 occurred if at least two of the following three occurred within four weeks of a study visit: (1) a
468 greater than 10% drop in percent predicted FEV₁, (2) institution of a new course of systemic
469 antibiotics by the pulmonary team, and (3) documentation by the treating pulmonologist that the
470 study participant was experiencing a pulmonary exacerbation in the medical record. Supplemental
471 table 4 contains the study’s clinical metadata and Supplemental table 5 is a codebook describing
472 each variable.

473

474 *DNA extraction and 16S rRNA gene amplicon sequencing*

475 DNA extraction was performed using the Qiagen DNeasy Powersoil Kit (Qiagen Cat#12888,
476 Germantown, MD) and processed following the manufacturer's protocol. Reagent blanks were
477 included as negative controls and cells from a microbial community of known composition were
478 included as positive controls (ZymoBiotics Microbial Community Standards; Zymo Research,
479 Irvine, CA). The V4 region of the 16S rRNA gene was amplified from approximately 5 ng of
480 extracted DNA in 25 μ l reactions using Q5 HS High-Fidelity polymerase (New England BioLabs,
481 Ipswich, MA) with inline bare primer design as previously described.⁵¹ The following V4-specific
482 primers were used: 515f 5'-GTGCCAGCMGCCGCGTAA-3' and 806r 5'-
483 GGACTACHVGGGTWTCTAAT-3'. Cycle conditions were 98°C for 30 seconds, followed by 30
484 cycles of 98°C for 10 seconds, 57°C for 30 seconds, and 72°C for 30 seconds, then a final
485 extension step of 72°C for 2 minutes. We used two-sided AMPure XP bead purification at 0.8:1
486 (left-side) and 0.61:1 (right-side) ratios to remove small and large fragments, respectively. Eluted
487 DNA was quantified on a Qubit fluorimeter (Life Technologies, Grand Island, NY). Samples were
488 pooled on ice by combining 40ng of each purified band. For negative controls and poorly
489 performing samples, 20 μ l of each sample was used. The sample pool was purified with the
490 MinElute PCR purification kit (Qiagen, Germantown, MD). The final sample pool underwent two
491 more purifications: AMPure XP beads at a ratio of 0.8:1 to remove primer dimers and a final
492 cleanup using the Purelink PCR Purification Kit (Life Technologies Cat #K310001; Grand Island,
493 NY). The purified pool was quantified in triplicate with a Qubit fluorimeter prior to sequencing.

494 Amplicons of the V4 region were sequenced on a MiSeq (Illumina, San Diego, CA) using
495 paired-end 2 x 250 reads, deconvolved, and quality checked by dust low complexity filtering,
496 quality value (QV) trimming, and trimming of primers used for 16S rRNA gene amplification by
497 the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Medicine and the Microbiome (CMM) using the scripts
498 fastq_quality_trimmer and fastq_quality_filter from Hannon's Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory's
499 FASTAX-Toolkit (http://hannonlab.cshl.edu/fastx_toolkit/). Reads were trimmed until the QV was
500 30 or higher. Trimmed reads shorter than 75bp or those with less than 95% of the bases above a
501 QV of 30 were discarded. Forward and reversed paired reads were merged with a minimum
502 required overlap of 25 bp, proportion overlap mismatch > 0.2 bp, maximum N's allowed = 4, and
503 a read length minimum of 125 bp. Reads were taxonomically classified with Mothur version
504 1.39.1¹⁶, using Ribosomal Database Project (RDP v123) reference sequences.⁵² Environmental
505 controls and extraction kit controls, along with *E. coli* and mock community (ZymoBIOMICS
506 Microbial Community DNA Standard) positive controls, were sequenced alongside clinical
507 specimens to monitor for contamination and technical performance during the extraction and
508 sequencing process.

509

510 *Verification of Pseudomonadaceae_uncl taxon as P. aeruginosa*

511 For every study visit, a sinus swab was streaked onto *Pseudomonas* isolation agar (PIA) and
512 incubated at 37°C for 48 hours. Genomic DNA from representative isolate(s) for each study
513 participant was extracted using a QIAGEN DNeasy Blood & Tissue kit (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany)
514 and the 16S rRNA gene was amplified using the primers 63f and 1387r.⁵³ Amplicons were purified
515 enzymatically with ExoSAP-It (Applied Biosystems, Waltham, MA) prior to Sanger sequencing
516 (Eurofins Genomics, Louisville, KY) to confirm their species identity as *P. aeruginosa*. We did not
517 detect Pseudomonads other than *P. aeruginosa*. Furthermore, whole genomes were previously
518 sequenced for all *P. aeruginosa* isolates collected from six study participants (Patients 9, 24, 32,
519 33, 41, and 52 in Figure S1). We did not detect non-*P. aeruginosa* Pseudomonads among whole
520 genome sequenced isolates.

521

522 *FISH imaging of explanted obstructive sinus material*

523 When clinically indicated, obstructive sinus material was surgically removed from two study
524 participants following sinonasal endoscopy and immediately fixed in 10% phosphate-buffered
525 formalin (Fisher Scientific). Fixed samples were then rinsed and embedded for freezing in O.C.T.
526 compound (Tissue-Plus, Fisher HealthCare). Cryoprotected samples were sectioned at 10µm on
527 a Microm HM505E Cryostat Microtome (Microm International, Waldorf, Germany) and
528 immobilized on poly-L-lysine coated slides. In preparation for staining, slides were removed from
529 the freezer and thawed at room temperature. Samples were permeabilized by incubating with
530 lysozyme (10 mg/mL in 0.1M Tris-HCL and 0.05 M EDTA) at 37°C for 3 hours. The lysozyme
531 solution was removed, and the samples were rinsed briefly with sterile RNase/DNase-free water.
532 The samples were then dehydrated with increasing concentrations of ethanol (50%, 80% and
533 100%) for 3 minutes per treatment as previously described⁵⁴ and then air dried at room
534 temperature. FISH was performed using oligonucleotide probes directed toward 16S rRNA
535 sequences specific to Eubacteria (Eub338; 5'-GCT GCC TCC CGT AGG AGT-3')⁵⁵, *S. aureus*
536 (Sau16S69; 5'-GAA GCA AGC TTC TCG TCC G-3')⁵⁶, or *P. aeruginosa* (PsaerA; 5'-GGT AAC
537 CGT CCC CCT TGC-3').⁵⁴ Probes were synthesized by IDT (Coralville, IA) and 5' labeled with
538 the cyanine dye Cy3 (PsaerA and Sau16S69) or Cy5 (Eub338). Samples were incubated in
539 hybridization buffer (0.9 M NaCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl [pH 7.6], 0.01% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 30%
540 formamide) with desired probe combinations for 1h at 46°C. Samples were then washed with pre-
541 warmed washing buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl [pH 7.6], 0.01% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 112 mM NaCl)
542 and incubated in washing buffer for 15 minutes at 48°C. Slides were then rinsed with sterile water,

543 and the general DNA stain Hoechst trihydrochloride trihydrate was applied (1.0 µg/mL in PBS) for
544 10 minutes on ice. Slides were rinsed again with sterile water and left to air dry in a vertical position
545 protected from light. When dry, samples were mounted with ProLong Gold antifade reagent (Life
546 Technologies) for microscopy. Microscopy was performed on an Olympus FluoView FV1000
547 inverted confocal microscope using a 60X oil objective.

548

549 *Cytokine panels*

550 Cytokine levels in 54 sinus washes (stored frozen at -80°C) from 22 people were quantified using
551 a Bio-Plex Pro™ Human Inflammation 24-Plex Panel or a Bio-Plex Pro™ Human Th17 Cytokine
552 Panel 15-Plex Panel (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA). Cytokines were omitted from further analyses
553 if their concentration was close to the lower limit of detection in most samples, based on
554 manufacturer-specified values and examination of the 5pl standard curves produced by the Bio-
555 Plex Pro™ software. Seven cytokines were included in the predictor/responder analyses in Figure
556 3. All cytokine concentrations were log-transformed except pentraxin 3 (PTX3), which was
557 sufficiently normally distributed according to the Shapiro-Wilks test, without additional log-
558 transformation.

559

560 *Statistical analyses*

561 Statistical analyses were performed with GraphPad Prism version 9.1.2 or in RStudio version
562 1.1.456, and significance determined at $\alpha = 0.05$ unless otherwise specified. Relative abundances
563 of taxa were transformed using the additive log ratio (ALR) transformation.^{57,58} Alpha diversity
564 values were calculated using the *diversity* function in the R package vegan v2.5-3. The clustering
565 analyses in Figure 2A, B and Figure S3 were performed with vegan and the R packages *permute*
566 and *lattice*. The Manhattan distance between each sample was computed, and samples were
567 hierarchically clustered based on the Ward's minimum variance method. The taxon/taxa driving
568 cluster formation was determined by calculating R^2 ratios (sum of squares between clusters
569 divided by sum of squares total) from ANOVA. In Figure 2A, cluster multinomial log linear models
570 were fit for covariates and clinical outcome variables to determine relationships between any of
571 these variables with 16S microbiota profile cluster(s). The PERMANOVA in Supplemental table 3
572 was performed with the *adonis* function in vegan (N = 88 samples; 12000 permutations). Linear
573 models in the predictor/responder analyses in Figure 3 were calculated as previously described.⁵⁹
574 Briefly, for both the sinus disease outcome and cytokine analyses, the following covariates were
575 included Patient ID (to control for repeated measures within patients), age, sex, BMI on
576 enrollment, CFTR mutation, CFRD diagnosis, and current topical antibiotic use. A p-value < 0.025

577 in both the predictor and responder versions of the versions of the model (i.e., alpha = 0.05 for
578 two simultaneous tests) was required for relationships to be summarized in Figure 3. Taxon co-
579 occurrences in Figure S2 were determined for the top 15 taxa by Pearson correlation across all
580 samples (N=101) and significance was determined after Holm-Bonferroni correction (p < 0.05).
581 The Rs95 values included with taxon prevalence in Supplemental table 2 provide estimates that
582 account for unequal sequencing depth using the binomial distribution. For example, in a sample
583 with a read depth of 3000, if the abundance of the taxon was 0.001, then according to the binomial
584 distribution, the probability of not detecting this taxon (0 reads) is 0.0497, if the sample was re-
585 sequenced to the same depth. Therefore, at least 1 read will be associated with this taxon in that
586 sample, with a probability of 1-0.0497 = 0.9505 or > 95% of the time.

587

588 *Data sharing*

589 All V4 amplicon sequencing reads were deposited in NCBI's SRA under BioProject
590 PRJNA750353. Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed
591 to and will be fulfilled by the lead contact, Dr. Jennifer Bomberger (jbomb@pitt.edu).

592

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603

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757

758

759 **Figure legends**

760 **Figure 1. Sinus microbial community diversity is low and the composition can be unstable**
761 **in adults with CF chronic rhinosinusitis, with most study participants' sinuses dominated**
762 **by *P. aeruginosa* or *Staphylococcus* spp.** **A)** Boxplots depicting the median Shannon or
763 Simpson diversity indices, evenness, or Tail statistic per study participant. Overlaid are the
764 cohort's median and interquartile range. N = 27 participants. **B)** Study participants' sinus microbial
765 communities were categorized as being relative stable or unstable over time. Histogram binning
766 of study participants based on the standard deviation (SD) of each of their study visits' Manhattan
767 distances from the first microbiota sample sequenced. The dotted line indicates the median SD
768 across all participants. N = 15 study participants with 3 or more visits. **C)** An example of a study
769 participant (Patient 41), categorized as relatively stable based on the results in Figure 1B, whose
770 sinus microbiota was consistently dominated by *P. aeruginosa* over time. Taxonomic bar plots
771 depict the relative abundance of *Pseudomonadaceae* (*P. aeruginosa*; peach). The overlaid line
772 plotted on the right y-axis is the Manhattan distance of each sample from their first microbiota
773 sample. **D)** An example of a study participant (Patient 33), categorized as unstable based on the
774 results in Figure 1B, who exhibited switching between *P. aeruginosa* and *Staphylococcus* spp.
775 dominance over time. Taxa bar plots depicting the relative abundance of *Pseudomonadaceae* (*P.*
776 *aeruginosa*; peach), *Staphylococcus* spp. (red), *Corynebacterium* spp. (purple), and other low
777 abundance taxa. The overlaid line plotted on the right y axis is the Manhattan distance of each
778 sample from their first microbiota sample. **E)** Representative FISH images of CF CRS microbial
779 communities from explanted obstructive sinus debris sampled by endoscope from two study
780 participants. On the left, red = *S. aureus* probe, green = Eubacterial (universal) probe, blue =
781 Hoechst stain (mostly host cell nuclei). On the right, red = *P. aeruginosa*, green = Eubacterial
782 (universal) probe, blue = Hoechst stain. Scale bars = 50 μ m. The macroscopic image at the top
783 left of each FISH image depicts the mucopurulent sinus sample prior to processing for
784 microscopy.

785

786 **Figure 2. Relative abundance of *Staphylococcus* spp. or *P. aeruginosa* almost exclusively**
787 **drives low microbial diversity and community structure.** **A)** Dendrogram depicting individual
788 patient samples hierarchically clustered using Ward's minimum variance method on the inter-
789 sample Manhattan distance. Individual microbiota samples are colored based on their cluster (1
790 = red, 2 = green, 3 = blue). Covariates or sinus disease outcome measures that significantly
791 correlated with cluster membership by multinomial linear regression are summarized below the
792 clusters. CFRD is positively associated with Cluster 1 and negatively associated with Clusters 2

793 and 3. Sinus exacerbation is positively associated with Cluster 2. **B)** Identifying which and to what
794 extent each taxon drives the differences between clusters was calculated by comparing the
795 coefficient of determination (R^2) for a reduced model (without a taxon of interest) against a full
796 model (with all taxa included) with the R^2 ratio: R^2 reduced / R^2 full. If excluding a taxon (evaluated
797 with the reduced model) reduces the separation between two clusters relative to keeping it
798 (evaluated with the full model), then it was an important taxon to the cluster, and the R^2 ratio would
799 be <1 . Values plotted are $\log_{10}(R^2$ reduced / R^2 full), with negative values indicating the most
800 influential taxa separating the two clusters compared. The bottommost plots are classical
801 multidimensional scaling (MDS) plots depicting the separation of individual samples in the
802 indicated clusters. **C)** Microbial community diversity (Shannon) is reduced as the relative
803 abundance of *P. aeruginosa* (Cluster 1 samples in red and X axis) or *Staphylococcus* spp. (Cluster
804 2 samples in green) begin to dominate. Individual samples that were clustered in Figure 2A are
805 plotted by the relative abundance of *P. aeruginosa* (x-axis) and their Shannon diversity index (y-
806 axis), then colored by their cluster membership. Samples in Cluster 3 (blue) tended to have higher
807 Shannon diversity values than those in Cluster 1 or 2. **D)** Relative abundance of *Staphylococcus*
808 spp. overlaid onto the same plot as Figure 2C, showing that Shannon diversity decreases as the
809 relative abundance of this taxon increases.

810
811 **Figure 3. Relationship of microbial community diversity and individual taxa with**
812 **respiratory disease outcomes and pro- or anti-inflammatory cytokines.** Summary matrix
813 depicting statistically significant relationships between clinical outcome variables (left panels: A,
814 B) or cytokines (right panels: C, D) with alpha diversity (top panels: A, C) or the top 15 taxa (lower
815 panels: B, D). The blue P's represent the associations when the alpha diversity indices or taxa
816 best predict ("P") the cytokine values or clinical variables. In contrast, the orange R's depict when
817 the clinical variables or cytokines predict the alpha diversity indices or taxa with greater statistical
818 significance (i.e. when the alpha diversity indices or taxa respond ("R") to the cytokine values or
819 clinical variables). The green upward-pointing triangles represent positive associations between
820 diversity or taxa and clinical variables or cytokines, whereas the red downward-pointing triangles
821 represent negative associations based on the coefficients of their association. To compute the
822 associations, eight linear regression models were fit. In panel A, 1) diversity indices = covariates
823 + clinical variables and 2) clinical variables = covariates + diversity indices. In panel B, 3.) taxa =
824 covariates + clinical variables and 4) clinical variables = covariates + taxa. In panel C, 5) diversity
825 indices = covariates + cytokines and 6) cytokines = covariates + diversity indices. In panel D, 7.)
826 taxa = covariates + cytokines and 8) cytokines = covariates + taxa. Taxa were represented as

827 additive log ratio transformed abundances. Cytokine concentrations were log transformed, except
828 for pentraxin 3 (PTX3), which was sufficiently normally distributed. Covariates included Patient
829 ID, age, sex, BMI, CFTR mutation, CFRD status, and topical antibiotic usage. Associations
830 included in the predictor/response matrix required at least one of the associations from the models
831 to have an estimated coefficient p-value < 0.025. The coefficients for relationships depicted in
832 each panel are as follows: A) Shannon responds to mLK: -0.138, Simpson responds to mLK: -
833 0.169, Evenness responds to mLK: -0.138; B) *Stenotrophomonas* responds to mLK: 0.287,
834 *Stenotrophomonas* responds to SNOT-22: -0.0691, *Haemophilus* responds to SNOT-22: -0.0483;
835 C) Shannon predicts log[IL-1 β]: -2.64, Simpson predicts log[IL-1 β]: -4.2, Tail responds to log[IL-
836 1 β]: -0.233; D) *Stenotrophomonas* responds to log[IL-6]: -1.09, *Haemophilus* responds to log[IL-
837 19]: -0.287, *Fusobacterium* responds to log[IFN- λ 1]: -0.342, *Enterobacteriaceae*_uncl predicts
838 PTX3: 341, *Actinobacteria*_uncl responds to log[IFN- λ 1]: 0.85.

839

840 **Supplemental figure legends**

841 **Figure S1. CF CRS microbial communities can be unstable, with many individuals**
842 **switching between *Staphylococcus* spp. and *P. aeruginosa* at the greatest levels of relative**
843 **abundance over time.** Taxa bar plots depicting the percent of each taxon measured at clinic visit
844 dates for each of the 27 study participants for whom we sequenced one microbiota sample (top)
845 or longitudinal (bottom) samples. Colors representing each taxa can be matched by the legend
846 on the right. *Staphylococcus* spp. is depicted in red, *P. aeruginosa* is represented by
847 *Pseudomonadaceae* in peach and *Pseudomonas* spp. in dark teal. Values indicated beneath
848 each stacked bar plot signify the days since study enrollment. Black lines were drawn over the
849 individual bar plots to indicate the degree of microbiota dissimilarity relative to the first time point.
850 The units of dissimilarity were measured with the Manhattan distance and are annotated on the
851 y-axis on the right.

852

853 **Figure S2. Commensal taxa *Corynebacterium* spp. and *Dolosigranulum* spp. co-occur,**
854 **whereas opportunistic pathogens *P. aeruginosa* and *Burkholderia* spp. display**
855 **antagonism.** Depicted in bold text and with a thick black box are the coefficients for relationships
856 among the top 15 taxa that were statistically significant after controlling for multiple comparisons
857 (Holm-Bonferroni adjusted p-value <0.05). In non-bold black text are individual associations that
858 were statistically significant prior to correcting for multiple hypothesis testing (p < 0.05), but not
859 after (Holm-Bonferroni adjusted p-value >0.05).

860

861 **Figure S3. Characterization of cluster assignment in Figure 2. A)** The Calinski-Harabasz
862 Pseudo-F statistic was calculated across all cluster cuts (k) to determine the optimal numbers of
863 cluster cuts to use in Figure 2AB. Although at $k = 5$ cluster cuts, the clusters had the greatest
864 inter-cluster separation, the cuts from $k = 3$ to 7 were not statistically significantly different from
865 each other. Ultimately, the cluster cut at $k = 3$ was chosen because deeper cuts at $k = 4$ or $k = 5$
866 would have yielded cluster sizes too small to find statistically significant associations with the
867 clinical or cytokine data. **B)** To determine which taxa influence the differentiation of clusters from
868 one another (in Figure 2AB), taxa were iteratively evaluated for their contribution to pair-wise
869 cluster separation by comparing the coefficient of determination (R^2) with (full) and without
870 (reduced) the taxon of interest. The x-axis annotates this calculated metric: $\log(R^2 \text{ reduced} / R^2$
871 full). If excluding a taxon (reduced model) increases the separation between two clusters relative
872 to its inclusion (full model), then it was an important clustering influencer, and the log ratio would
873 be <1 . Log ratios greater than 1 indicate that the taxon added more noise (within cluster
874 variance), thus reducing between cluster separation.

875

876 **Figure S4. Twelve of eighteen individuals with longitudinal microbiota samples switch**
877 **between cluster membership over time.** Cluster membership is colored as in Figure 2. Cluster
878 1 (*P. aeruginosa*) = red, Cluster 2 (*Staphylococcus* spp.) = green, Cluster 3 (other taxa) = blue.
879 The size of each dot is proportional to the Manhattan distance at each timepoint from the first
880 sequenced sample.

881

882 **Supplemental table legends**

883 **Supplemental table 1. Diversity indices for each sequenced microbiota sample.** The sample
884 ID numbers listed correspond to the sample ID numbers in the metadata file (Supplemental table
885 4).

886

887 **Supplemental table 2. Top 100 taxa identified in this study.** The mean abundance per
888 participant is averaged across all study participants, regardless of whether the taxon was
889 detected. For participants with multiple study visits, the relative abundance of each taxon was first
890 averaged across their visits. Number of participants is a count of the number of study participants
891 with at least one study visit in which that taxon was identified. The prevalence is the percentage
892 of patients with at least one study visit in which that taxon was identified. The Rs95 value is an
893 estimate of mean abundance that takes into account the uneven sequencing depth of samples

894 and is presented as a count of participants and prevalence based on this adjustment. All statistics
895 for taxonomic abundances are performed on additive log-transformed abundances.

896

897 **Supplemental table 3. CF CRS microbial communities are highly individualized, but may**
898 **share similarities during sinus exacerbation.** PERMANOVA results describing the proportion
899 of variance in sample composition attributable to variables tested ("source" of variation). Two
900 sources contributed a significant amount of variance ($p < 0.05$; Patient ID and whether or not a
901 study participant was experiencing a sinus exacerbation), whereas enrollment age has a non-
902 statistically significant effect ($p < 0.1$) and the remaining variables had non-significant effects ($p >$
903 0.1). The name of the variable as it appears in the metadata sheet is included in parentheses in
904 the first column ("Source"). Terms were added sequentially and the model was run with 12000
905 permutations. Significance levels were determined by the $Pr(>F)$. ***: $p < 0.001$, **: $p < 0.01$, *: p
906 < 0.05 , o : $p < 0.1$, blank: $p > 0.1$.

907

908 **Supplemental table 4. Metadata associated with each sequenced microbiota sample.** See
909 the codebook in Supplemental table 5 for a description of each variable.

910

911 **Supplemental table 5. Codebook describing each variable in the metadata.** See
912 Supplemental table 4 for the metadata.

913

Tables

Table 1. Demographics of the adult CF CRS microbiota study cohort. The cohort includes 27 people from the larger 33 person study, for whom we sequenced at least one 16S amplicon microbiota sample from a paranasal sinus swab collected by endoscope. For 18 of these 27 people, we sequenced at least two samples, giving us longitudinal information. Drug use is reported for any time during study. CF-related diabetes (CFRD) is reported for at any time within the study or +/- 12 months of enrollment. Clinical parameters of the full cohort (N = 33) were published in Zemke, IFAR 2019.

Microbiota cohort (N = 27/33)	
Longitudinal microbiota samples (%)	18/27 (66.6)
Median age on enrollment (range)	27.6 (19.7-43.6)
Male (%)	9/27 (33.3)
	ΔF508 homozygous 13/27 (48.2)
CFTR genotype (%)	ΔF508/other 11/27 (40.7)
	Other/other 2/27 (7.4)
	Missing 1/27 (3.7)
CFRD (%)	12/27 (44.4)
Topical sinus antibiotic use? (%)	22/27 (81.5)
Topical or oral steroid use? (%)	21/27 (77.7)
CFTR corrector/modulator use? (%)	10/27 (37)

914

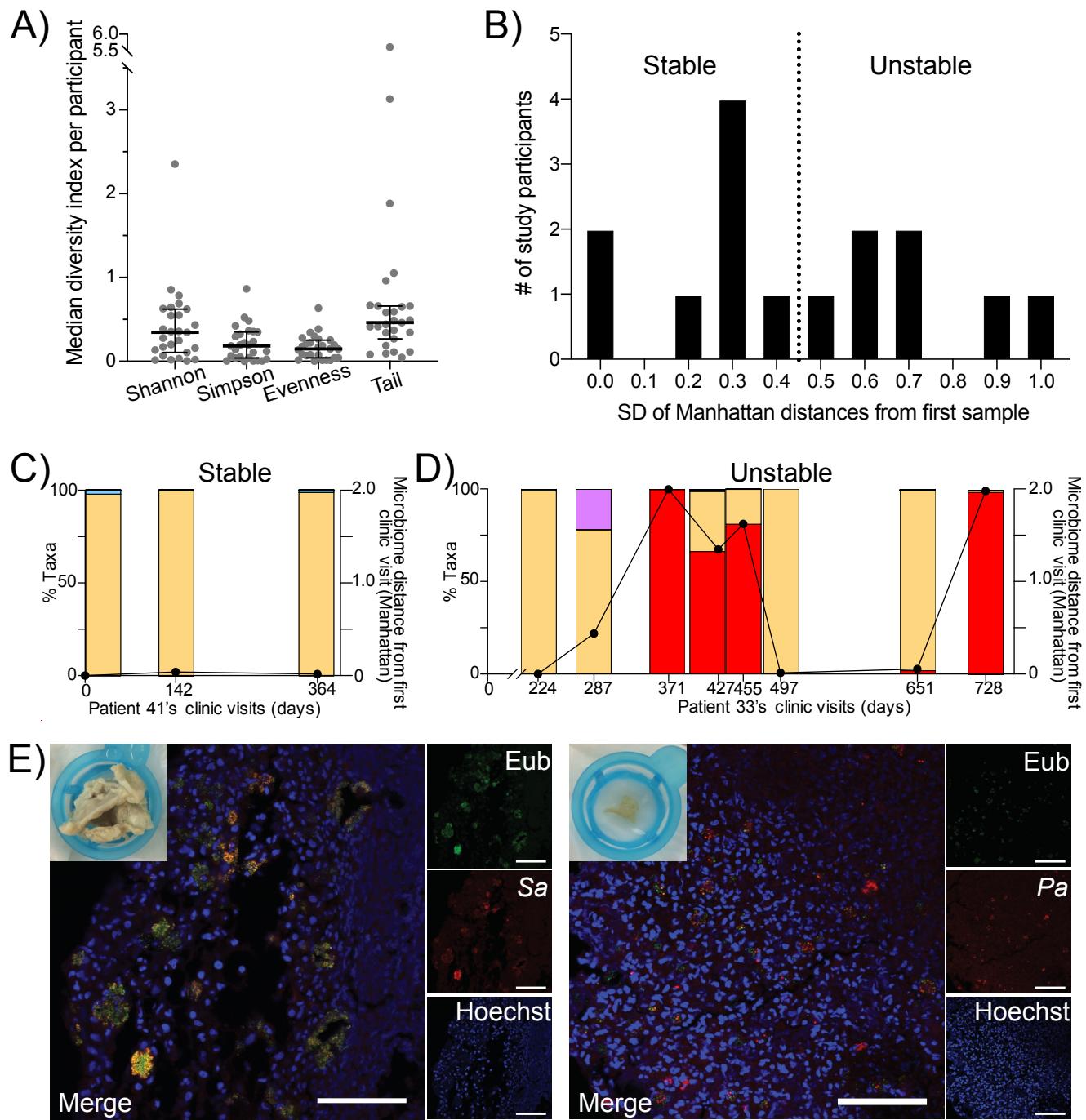


Figure 1

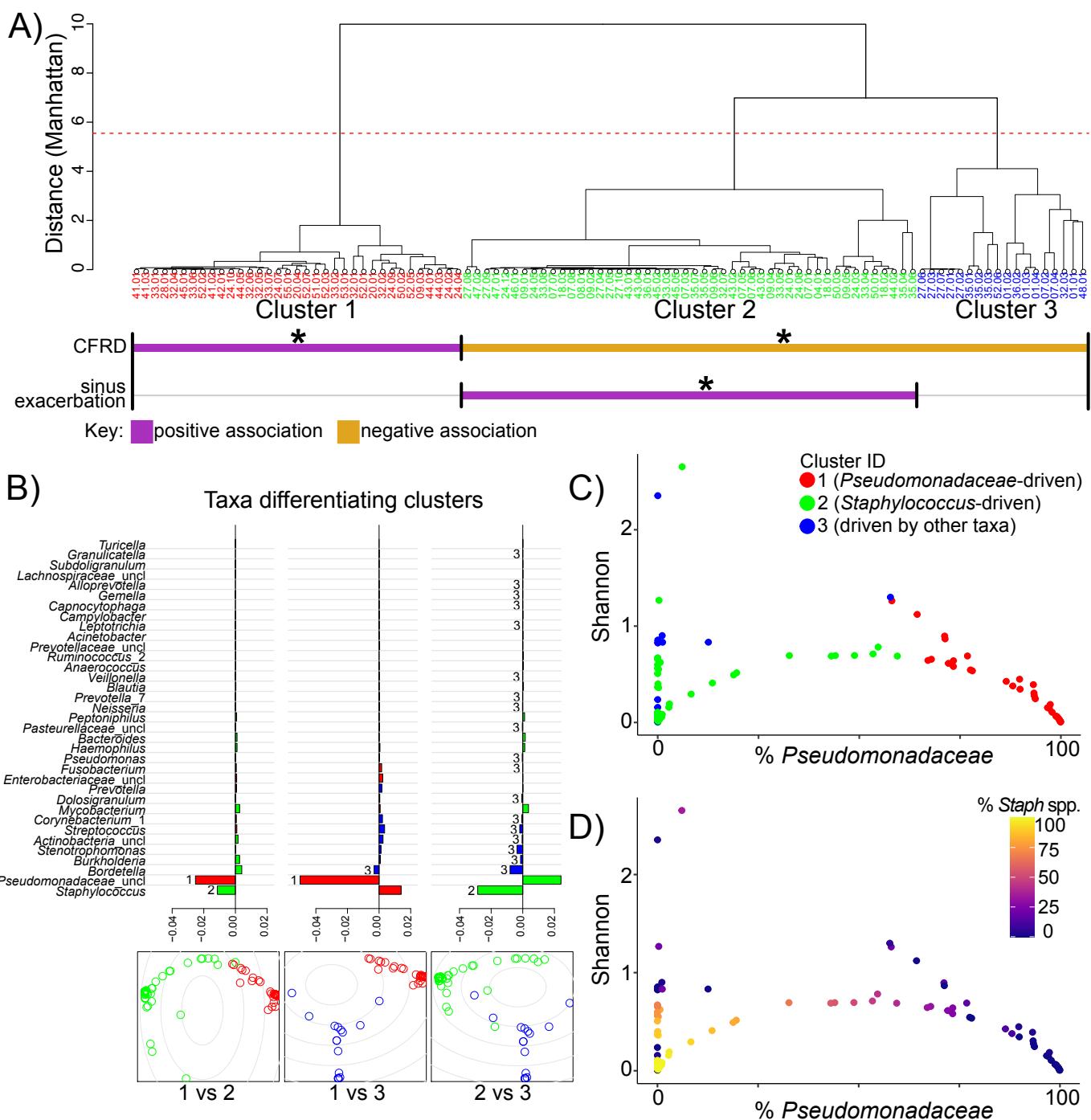


Figure 2

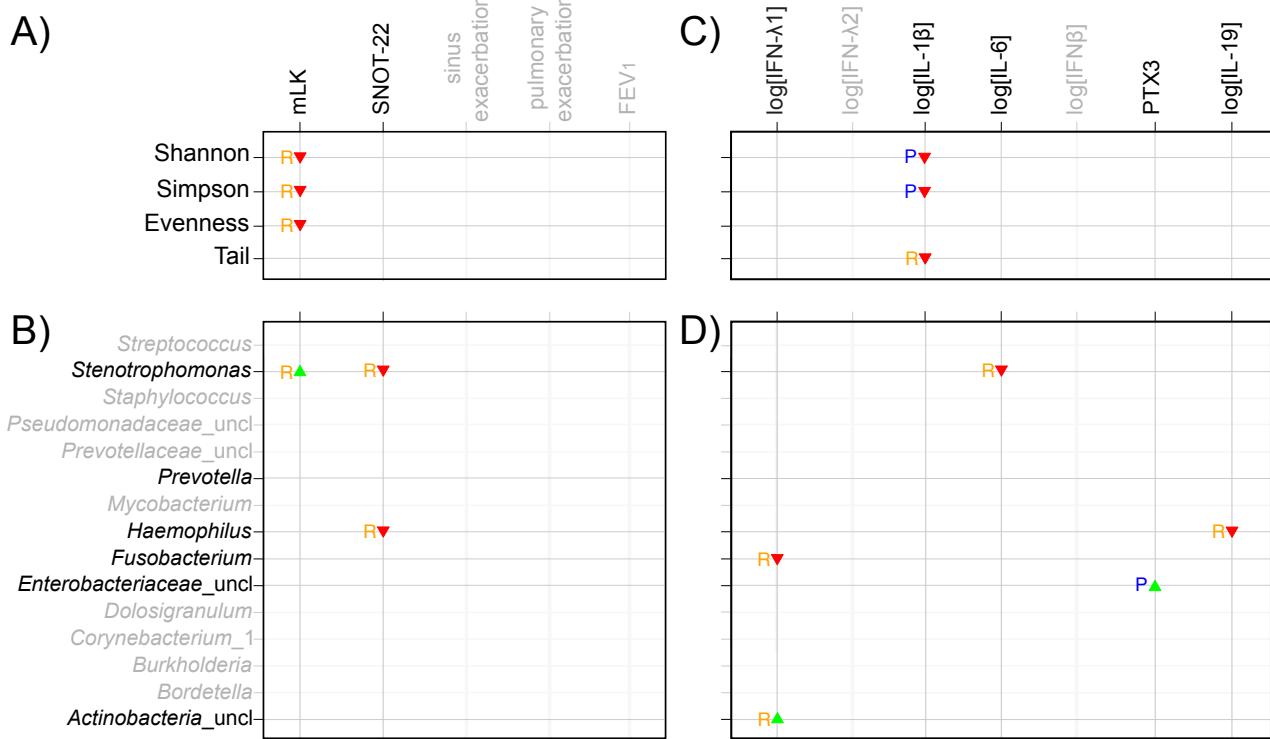
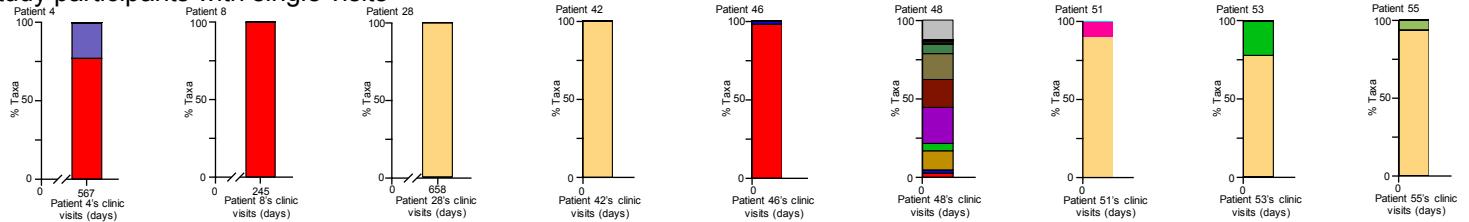


Figure 3

Study participants with single visits



Study participants with longitudinal visits

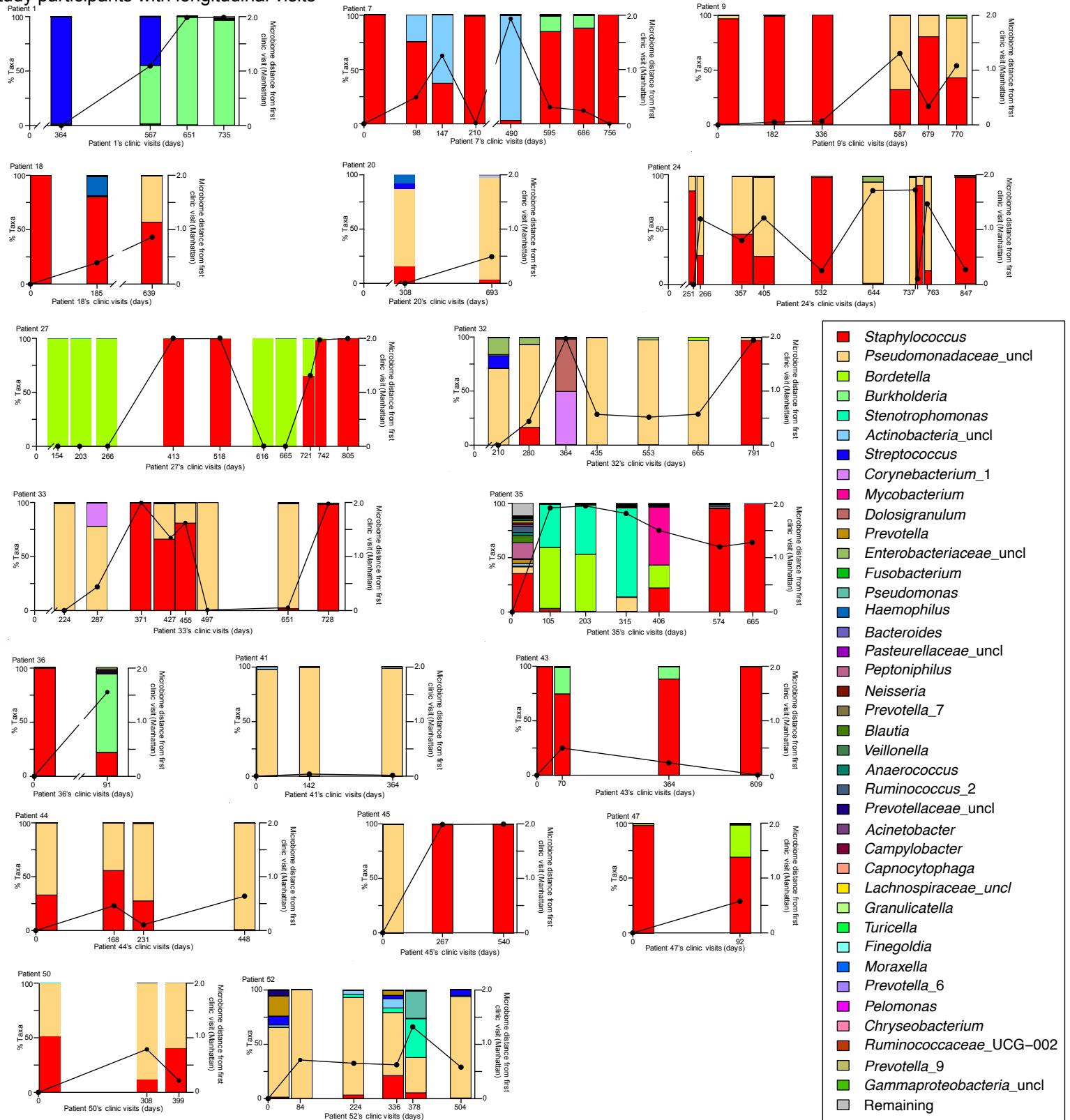


Figure S1

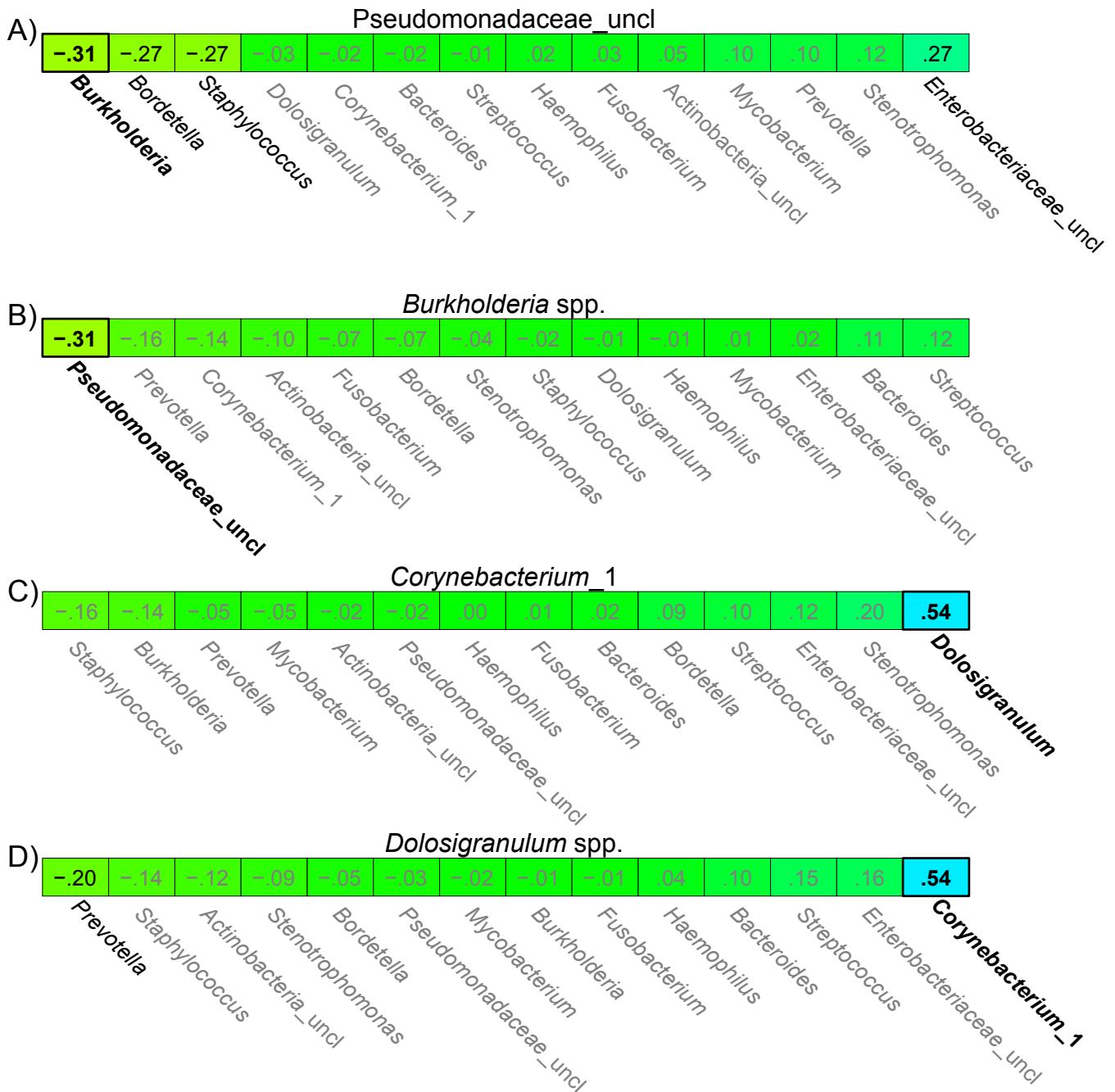


Figure S2

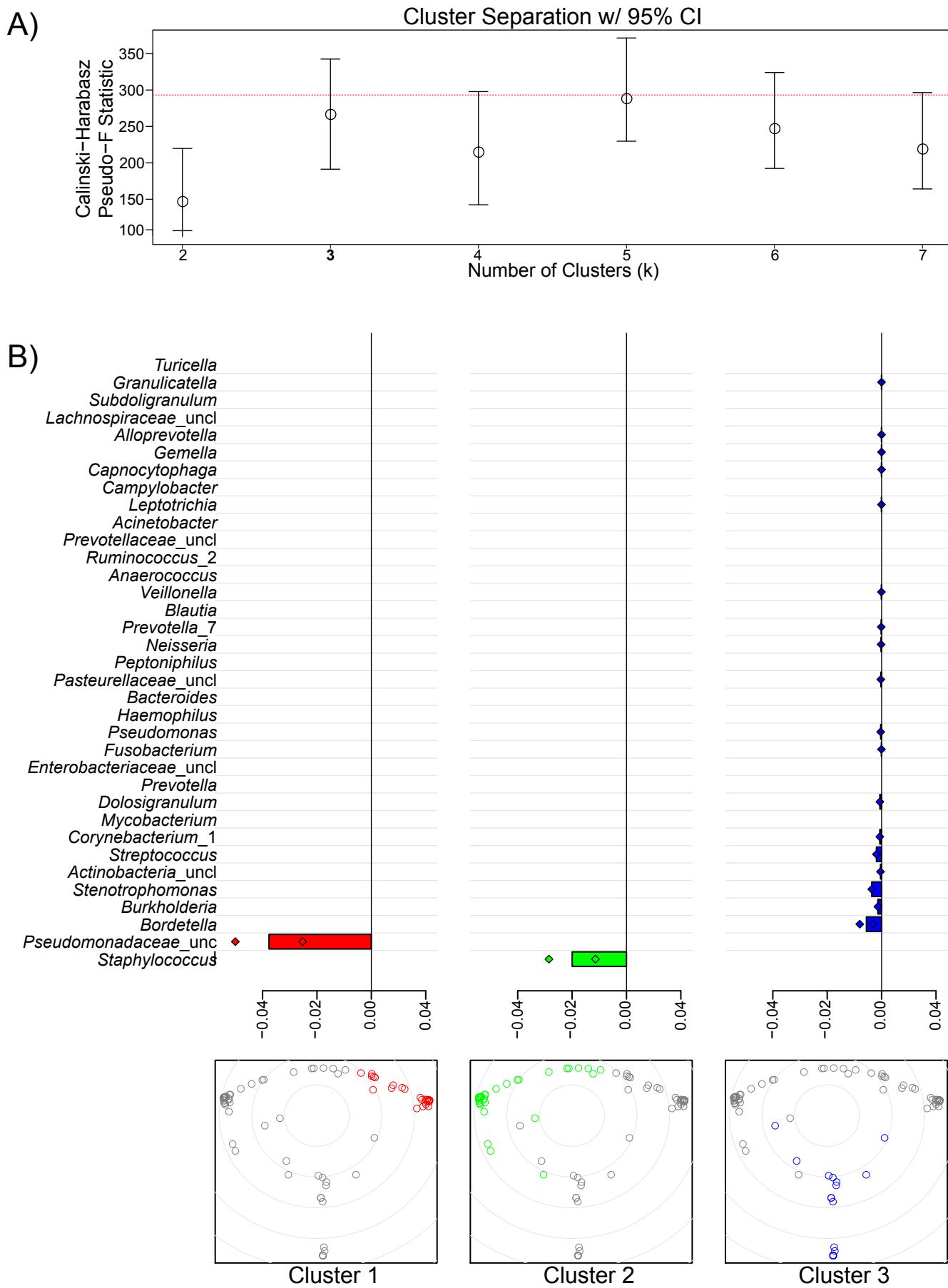


Figure S3

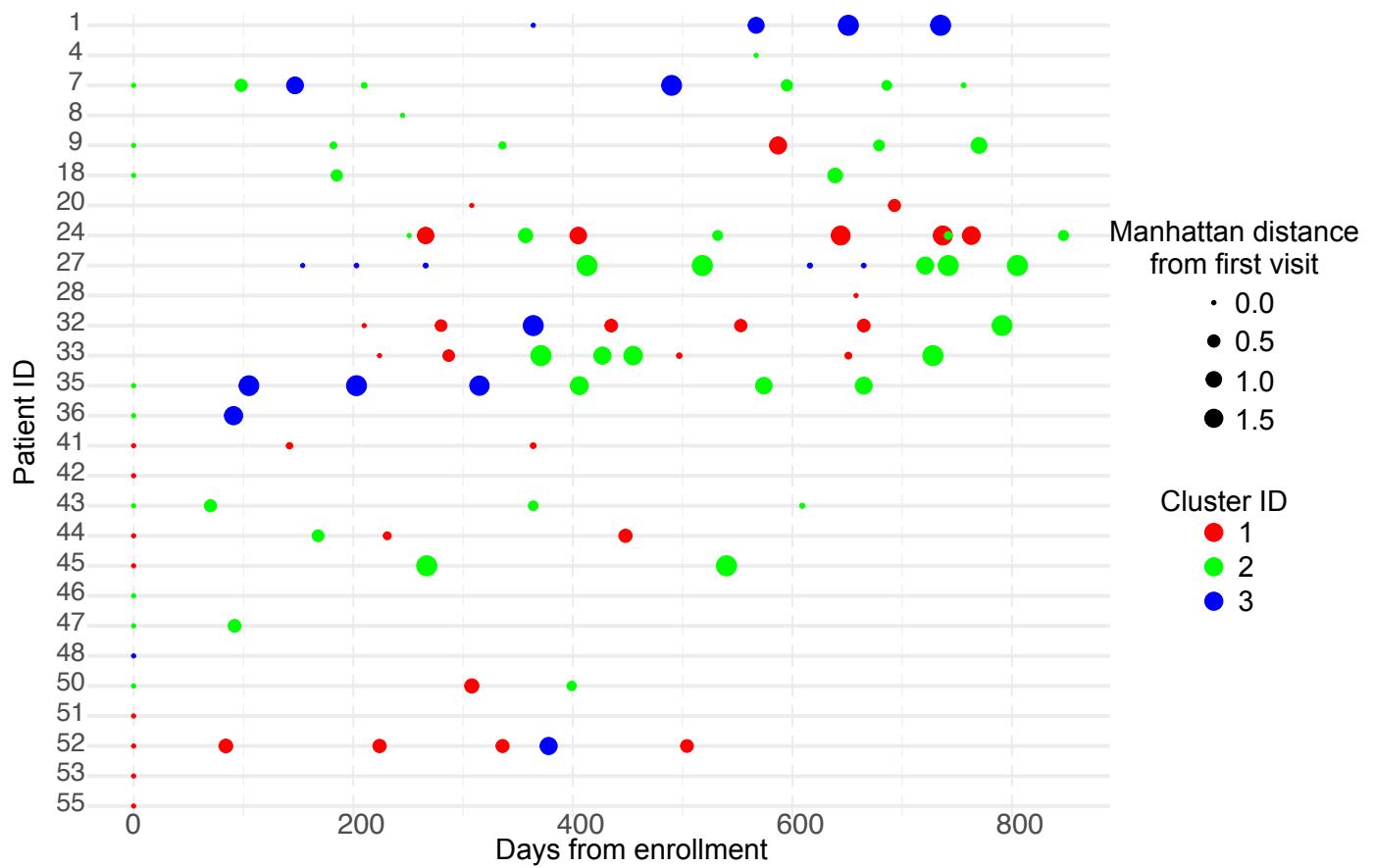


Figure S4

Supplemental table 1. Diversity indices for each sequenced microbiota sample. The sample ID numbers listed correspond to the sample ID numbers in the metadata file (Supplemental table 4).

Sample ID	Shannon	Simpson	Evenness	Tail	Richness
0104.01.01.SINUS	0.10589483	0.03397046	0.05092465	0.287282	8
0104.01.02.SINUS	0.8179829	0.51611268	0.27780603	1.23346473	19
0104.01.03.SINUS	0.05154394	0.01166583	0.01750552	0.62712527	19
0104.01.04.SINUS	0.23749582	0.06885968	0.08769993	1.23729498	15
0104.04.01.SINUS	0.55157206	0.35447306	0.34271099	0.48696288	5
0104.07.01.SINUS	0.5631518	0.37064178	0.16249126	0.57228765	32
0104.07.02.SINUS	0.66782445	0.46875164	0.34319388	0.61981386	7
0104.07.03.SINUS	0.07910591	0.01762764	0.0211645	1.57350577	42
0104.07.04.SINUS	0.15674374	0.06603898	0.1426743	0.20127525	3
0104.07.05.SINUS	0.50714676	0.26517697	0.15957777	0.98347694	24
0104.07.06.SINUS	0.40024958	0.21522894	0.14779991	0.59603557	15
0104.07.07.SINUS	0.0121703	0.00264745	0.00679237	0.11119694	6
0104.07.08.SINUS	0.00778681	0.00148121	0.00324735	0.16889304	11
0104.08.01.SINUS	0.00432632	0.00088028	0.00312078	0.04532762	4
0104.09.01.SINUS	0.08402852	0.02486021	0.02470557	0.57216535	30
0104.09.02.SINUS	0.00142403	0.00028937	0.00205443	0.01202944	2
0104.09.03.SINUS	0.65588247	0.43865674	0.36605497	0.61119325	6
0104.09.04.SINUS	0.51529151	0.31923503	0.23451927	0.47379282	9
0104.09.05.SINUS	0.78229205	0.5148748	0.4366055	0.72857792	6
0104.09.06.SINUS	0.19234726	0.06978859	0.0605236	0.93817563	24
0104.18.01.SINUS	0.62057285	0.32374802	0.16939058	1.92072164	39
0104.18.02.SINUS	0.68887458	0.49111112	0.49691797	0.65939088	4
0104.18.03.SINUS	0.00836935	0.00174383	0.00467103	0.08647293	6
0104.20.01.SINUS	0.89683958	0.46001571	0.40816928	0.98816278	9
0104.20.04.SINUS	0.3885309	0.13060842	0.09652098	2.68572267	56
0104.24.01.SINUS	0.4094465	0.23690178	0.17782036	0.41456201	10
0104.24.02.SINUS	0.58119984	0.39109617	0.5290309	0.5167745	3
0104.24.03.SINUS	0.7110311	0.50035517	0.44178846	0.69425102	5
0104.24.04.SINUS	0.63897899	0.39483391	0.19850998	1.16587182	25
0104.24.05.SINUS	0.05833955	0.02057431	0.05310295	0.10332065	3
0104.24.07.SINUS	0.30522775	0.12649838	0.12283268	0.5061858	12
0104.24.08.SINUS	0.29419649	0.15405914	0.21221791	0.29673778	4
0104.24.09.SINUS	0.42659598	0.23561198	0.26505899	0.41326579	5
0104.24.10.SINUS	0.05857163	0.01761035	0.0363926	0.1517269	5
0104.24.12.SINUS	0.10335155	0.03279684	0.04703732	0.28326927	9
0104.27.01.SINUS	0.01002628	0.00181389	0.00289297	0.40264721	32
0104.27.02.SINUS	0.0079806	0.00161679	0.00410122	0.10310041	7
0104.27.03.SINUS	0.02148301	0.00472933	0.00932995	0.21063452	10
0104.27.04.SINUS	0.03243851	0.00824179	0.01305422	0.23774389	12
0104.27.05.SINUS	0.0210052	0.00565583	0.01515205	0.06893748	4
0104.27.06.SINUS	0.01964533	0.00571675	0.02834221	0.05354057	2
0104.27.07.SINUS	0.01097545	0.00263642	0.00791711	0.05137333	4
0104.27.08.SINUS	0.65581038	0.45334025	0.4074779	0.59864025	5
0104.27.09.SINUS	0.07297444	0.02729362	0.10527986	0.11763635	2
0104.27.10.SINUS	0.0177899	0.00440411	0.0128327	0.08401063	4
0104.28.01.SINUS	0.02275625	0.00551117	0.0116944	0.14182516	7
0104.32.01.SINUS	0.86733327	0.45454917	0.36170607	0.95381009	11
0104.32.02.SINUS	0.69004526	0.37816213	0.35461312	0.67418798	7

0104.32.03.SINUS	0.82344377	0.52160291	0.28489199	0.99783591	18
0104.32.04.SINUS	0.02379887	0.00605704	0.0122302	0.1255229	7
0104.32.05.SINUS	0.14457184	0.05562015	0.06278675	0.25443824	10
0104.32.06.SINUS	0.15334763	0.06380262	0.07880509	0.21475188	7
0104.32.07.SINUS	0.15684413	0.0605612	0.06811654	0.34175494	10
0104.33.01.SINUS	0.04310884	0.01254171	0.01491464	0.27159448	18
0104.33.02.SINUS	0.53595587	0.34303814	0.27542683	0.48392336	7
0104.33.03.SINUS	0.03000626	0.00746224	0.01365644	0.18039856	9
0104.33.04.SINUS	0.69416067	0.45336895	0.24500826	0.73161372	17
0104.33.05.SINUS	0.49254924	0.30718119	0.21391142	0.46863302	10
0104.33.06.SINUS	0.00719502	0.00139141	0.00280513	0.1381955	13
0104.33.07.SINUS	0.1788408	0.05278516	0.045953	1.98165623	49
0104.33.08.SINUS	0.08335648	0.02719195	0.03620126	0.25233094	10
0104.35.01.SINUS	0.89561934	0.52979487	0.32302639	1.00465728	16
0104.35.02.SINUS	0.85395521	0.52355481	0.26870382	1.25972202	24
0104.35.03.SINUS	0.75738899	0.31301841	0.19782187	3.56206679	46
0104.35.04.SINUS	1.24399943	0.62473957	0.31799389	3.13508178	50
0104.35.05.SINUS	0.3378025	0.10282788	0.08468384	2.96338754	54
0104.35.06.SINUS	2.63562916	0.83780344	0.62247588	13.0473956	69
0104.35.07.SINUS	0.06032969	0.01531783	0.02427845	0.38003598	12
0104.36.01.SINUS	0.03495463	0.0098714	0.01457721	0.17654247	11
0104.36.02.SINUS	0.83224584	0.42967049	0.42768976	1.14070365	7
0104.41.01.SINUS	0.10540975	0.04214031	0.07603706	0.15114284	4
0104.41.02.SINUS	0.01533826	0.0039999	0.01106422	0.05744511	4
0104.41.03.SINUS	0.06672001	0.02447487	0.09625663	0.11131475	2
0104.42.01.SINUS	0.01807113	0.00442783	0.01303556	0.09118583	4
0104.43.01.SINUS	0.02637757	0.00614694	0.00866394	0.3089862	21
0104.43.02.SINUS	0.59837818	0.37762027	0.21581931	0.67459121	16
0104.43.03.SINUS	0.36706226	0.20307205	0.14771672	0.42625751	12
0104.43.04.SINUS	0.03255379	0.0070786	0.01233538	0.45574127	14
0104.44.01.SINUS	0.64386079	0.44264048	0.21492601	0.659217	20
0104.44.02.SINUS	0.69408029	0.49392019	0.31588955	0.67550772	9
0104.44.03.SINUS	0.61347552	0.40354821	0.21224796	0.68952096	18
0104.44.05.SINUS	0.06140531	0.02132493	0.04429457	0.11321719	4
0104.45.01.SINUS	0.0081712	0.00171266	0.00456044	0.08352691	6
0104.45.02.SINUS	0.03262632	0.01001701	0.02027187	0.08118358	5
0104.45.05.SINUS	0.01537737	0.00400778	0.01399708	0.05487295	3
0104.46.01.SINUS	0.10567839	0.03882913	0.03902379	0.34435305	15
0104.47.01.SINUS	0.09856943	0.03622011	0.04280816	0.2160261	10
0104.47.02.SINUS	0.66867394	0.43215508	0.37319403	0.58890149	6
0104.48.01.SINUS	2.35363069	0.86435954	0.63379157	5.61677333	41
0104.50.01.SINUS	0.69408007	0.49985878	0.6317789	0.69914799	3
0104.50.02.SINUS	0.37886231	0.21033836	0.19469672	0.37760126	7
0104.50.03.SINUS	0.68887166	0.48359093	0.38446659	0.64854983	6
0104.51.01.SINUS	0.34527223	0.18211599	0.13461171	0.46116123	13
0104.52.01.SINUS	1.12138729	0.54057118	0.40445497	1.41079921	16
0104.52.02.SINUS	0.00520951	0.00105428	0.00290748	0.05420299	6
0104.52.03.SINUS	0.44870722	0.19058439	0.19487107	0.69406454	10
0104.52.05.SINUS	1.2623419	0.60501169	0.39720595	1.70145422	24
0104.52.06.SINUS	1.29989416	0.70018226	0.66801345	1.43817256	7
0104.52.07.SINUS	0.27742563	0.12400344	0.20012029	0.33000668	4
0104.53.01.SINUS	0.5450781	0.34868089	0.28011473	0.49035187	7
0104.55.01.SINUS	0.24599724	0.11865297	0.1774495	0.26771423	4

Supplemental table 2. Top 100 taxa identified in this study. The mean abundance per participant is averaged across all study participants, regardless of whether the taxon was detected. For participants with multiple study visits, the relative abundance of each taxon was first averaged across their visits. Number of participants is a count of the number of study participants with at least one study visit in which that taxon was identified. The prevalence is the percentage of patients with at least one study visit in which that taxon was identified. The Rs95 value is an estimate of mean abundance that takes into account the uneven sequencing depth of samples and is presented as a count of participants and prevalence based on this adjustment. All statistics for taxonomic abundances are performed on additive log-transformed abundances.

Rank	Taxa	Mean abundance per participant	Number of participants	Prevalence (%)	Number of participants (Rs95)	Prevalence (Rs95:%)	Mean abundance across all samples		
							Standard Deviation	Standard Error	
1	Staphylococcus	0.4118	25	92.6	23	85.2	0.43002067	0.424574076	0.0422467
2	Pseudomonadaceae_uncl	0.4077	25	92.6	21	77.8	0.348833988	0.41211472	0.041006947
3	Bordetella	0.043	15	55.6	10	37	0.069704213	0.230869672	0.022972391
4	Burkholderia	0.0275	8	29.6	4	14.8	0.038078581	0.163958354	0.016314466
5	Streptococcus	0.0146	19	70.4	13	48.1	0.01817556	0.107603503	0.010706949
6	Fusobacterium	0.01	6	22.2	2	7.4	0.002678309	0.022560873	0.002244891
7	Stenotrophomonas	0.0098	12	44.4	6	22.2	0.020840547	0.10566466	0.010514027
8	Actinobacteria_uncl	0.0093	13	48.1	8	29.6	0.020388974	0.116331921	0.011575459
9	Pasteurellaceae_uncl	0.0085	10	37	6	22.2	0.002338915	0.022733269	0.002262045
10	Bacteroides	0.0084	11	40.7	7	25.9	0.002373978	0.022598338	0.002248619
11	Mycobacterium	0.0069	3	11.1	2	7.4	0.006255698	0.053828728	0.005356159
12	Neisseria	0.0066	10	37	6	22.2	0.001873116	0.017635309	0.001754779
13	Prevotella_7	0.0062	6	22.2	4	14.8	0.00180565	0.016410278	0.001632884
14	Prevotella	0.0055	9	33.3	6	22.2	0.003978868	0.022749065	0.002263617
15	Haemophilus	0.0035	6	22.2	4	14.8	0.002634651	0.019099189	0.00190044
16	Enterobacteriaceae_uncl	0.0035	11	40.7	4	14.8	0.003576617	0.018490395	0.001839863
17	Corynebacterium_1	0.0033	15	55.6	9	33.3	0.007405359	0.053400466	0.005313545
18	Dulosigranulum	0.0024	4	14.8	2	7.4	0.004828915	0.048269142	0.004802959
19	Veillonella	0.0022	9	33.3	4	14.8	0.000647501	0.005971301	0.000594167
20	Leptotrichia	0.0017	5	18.5	2	7.4	0.000453501	0.004464456	0.00044423
21	Alloprevotella	0.0008	2	7.4	1	3.7	0.000202502	0.002025486	0.000201543
22	Gemella	0.0007	4	14.8	3	11.1	0.000202893	0.001922157	0.000191262
23	Lachnoanaerobaculum	0.0005	3	11.1	1	3.7	0.000147851	0.001463586	0.000145632
24	Peptoniphilus	0.0005	3	11.1	2	7.4	0.001928542	0.014726115	0.001465303
25	Selenomonas_3	0.0003	2	7.4	1	3.7	8.75489E-05	0.000857603	8.53347E-05
26	Capnocytophaga	0.0003	7	25.9	1	3.7	0.000212675	0.001449359	0.000144217
27	Prevotella_6	0.0003	4	14.8	2	7.4	0.00010341	0.000813092	8.09056E-05
28	Campylobacter	0.0003	4	14.8	3	11.1	0.000331682	0.001969071	0.00019593
29	Stomatobaculum	0.0003	3	11.1	1	3.7	7.58472E-05	0.000724581	7.20985E-05
30	Anaerococcus	0.0003	7	25.9	3	11.1	0.000557374	0.003150702	0.000313507
31	Prevotellaceae_uncl	0.0002	8	29.6	2	7.4	0.000517544	0.00488722	0.000486446
32	Pseudomonas	0.0002	12	44.4	5	18.5	0.002669558	0.02513086	0.002500614
33	Acinetobacter	0.0002	15	55.6	7	25.9	0.0004655	0.002066011	0.000205576
34	Moraxella	0.0002	10	37	6	22.2	0.000133847	0.000572013	5.69174E-05
35	Megasphaera	0.0002	4	14.8	1	3.7	4.51189E-05	0.000428852	4.26723E-05
36	Granulicatella	0.0001	6	22.2	1	3.7	0.000164862	0.001226152	0.000122007
37	Gamma-proteobacteria_uncl	0.0001	8	29.6	4	14.8	7.13E-05	0.00027522	2.74E-05
38	Bergeyella	0.0001	3	11.1	1	3.7	2.43348E-05	0.000208357	2.07323E-05
39	Blautia	0.0001	8	29.6	3	11.1	0.000678114	0.00655322	0.00065207
40	Chryseobacterium	0.0001	6	22.2	4	14.8	8.801E-05	0.000541202	5.38517E-05
41	Sphingomonas	0.0001	11	40.7	7	25.9	5.25892E-05	0.00019488	1.93912E-05
42	Pelomonas	0.0001	10	37	5	18.5	0.000100349	0.000468823	4.66497E-05
43	Turicella	0.0001	6	22.2	2	7.4	0.000159799	0.001021605	0.000101654
44	Oribacterium	0.0001	2	7.4	2	7.4	1.91712E-05	0.000151526	1.50774E-05
45	Neisseriaceae_uncl	0.0001	5	18.5	2	7.4	4.27E-05	0.000268764	2.67E-05
46	Ruminococcus_2	0.0001	4	14.8	2	7.4	0.000556224	0.00546117	0.000543407
47	Lactobacillus	0.0001	7	25.9	4	14.8	5.14529E-05	0.000259294	2.58007E-05
48	Finegoldia	0.0001	5	18.5	2	7.4	0.000151581	0.000924509	9.19921E-05
49	Rothia	0	9	33.3	5	18.5	4.07843E-05	0.00131184	1.30533E-05
50	Aquabacterium	0	4	14.8	3	11.1	2.00704E-05	0.00150486	1.49739E-05
51	Bradyrhizobium	0	10	37	6	22.2	6.77824E-05	0.000255806	2.54537E-05
52	Micrococcus	0	8	29.6	2	7.4	5.24264E-05	0.000239931	3.3874E-05
53	[Eubacterium]_nodatum_grp	0	1	3.7	1	3.7	1.03E-05	0.000103496	1.03E-05
54	Bacilli_uncl	0	9	33.3	5	18.5	4.71E-05	0.000145319	1.45E-05
55	Comamonadaceae_uncl	0	5	18.5	4	14.8	7.56E-05	0.000504326	5.02E-05
56	Bacteria_uncl	0	8	29.6	4	14.8	4.18E-05	0.000146741	1.46E-05
57	Methylobacterium	0	9	33.3	6	22.2	4.05889E-05	0.000168225	1.6739E-05
58	Lachnospiraceae_uncl	0	7	25.9	2	7.4	0.000196502	0.00188629	0.000187693
59	Dialister	0	2	7.4	2	7.4	8.78323E-05	0.000525151	5.22544E-05
60	Alishewanella	0	4	14.8	1	3.7	1.1186E-05	8.23999E-05	8.1991E-06
61	Actinomycetes	0	3	11.1	1	3.7	1.017E-05	6.53118E-05	6.49877E-06
62	unknown_uncl	0	3	11.1	1	3.7	3.06E-05	0.000176293	1.75E-05
63	Subdoligranulum	0	5	18.5	1	3.7	0.000167339	0.001415227	0.00014082
64	Porphyromonas	0	5	18.5	2	7.4	2.41443E-05	0.000159913	1.5912E-05
65	Hymenobacter	0	5	18.5	3	11.1	2.10241E-05	0.000105945	1.05419E-05

66	Alloiococcus	0	6	22.2	3	11.1	2.14639E-05	0.00012783	1.27196E-05
67	Domibacillus	0	1	3.7	1	3.7	3.03339E-05	0.000304852	3.03339E-05
68	Delftia	0	6	22.2	1	3.7	1.54631E-05	7.56312E-05	7.52559E-06
69	Ruminococcaceae_UCG_002	0	5	18.5	2	7.4	8.17E-05	0.000513844	5.11E-05
70	Prevotella_9	0	7	25.9	2	7.4	7.46306E-05	0.000568666	5.65844E-05
71	Prevotella_2	0	4	14.8	0	0	9.40291E-06	6.42449E-05	6.3926E-06
72	Janibacter	0	2	7.4	2	7.4	9.20962E-06	5.64448E-05	5.61646E-06
73	Alcaligenaceae_und	0	3	11.1	3	11.1	2.89E-05	0.000109037	1.08E-05
74	Pseudobutyrivibrio	0	6	22.2	3	11.1	0.000103679	0.000894836	8.90395E-05
75	Faecalibacterium	0	6	22.2	2	7.4	5.55362E-05	0.000342782	3.41081E-05
76	Sporobacter	0	1	3.7	1	3.7	5.71651E-06	5.74502E-05	5.71651E-06
77	Azomonas	0	7	25.9	2	7.4	1.67769E-05	5.25508E-05	5.229E-06
78	Anaerostipes	0	3	11.1	2	7.4	0.000132057	0.001290912	0.000128451
79	Micrococcaceae_und	0	6	22.2	1	3.7	1.69E-05	8.91E-05	8.87E-06
80	Fusicatenibacter	0	1	3.7	1	3.7	0.000138337	0.001390272	0.000138337
81	Sorangium	0	4	14.8	1	3.7	2.22701E-05	0.000139415	1.38723E-05
82	Bacillales_und	0	9	33.3	1	3.7	1.78E-05	8.07E-05	8.03E-06
83	Xanthomonadaceae_und	0	4	14.8	1	3.7	7.95E-06	4.95E-05	4.93E-06
84	Staphylococcaceae_und	0	7	25.9	1	3.7	1.39E-05	5.18E-05	5.15E-06
85	Massilia	0	3	11.1	1	3.7	1.43407E-05	7.2316E-05	7.19571E-06
86	Abiotrophia	0	5	18.5	1	3.7	9.92484E-06	3.74956E-05	3.73095E-06
87	Cloacibacterium	0	4	14.8	3	11.1	1.59258E-05	9.49309E-05	9.44598E-06
88	Ruminococcus_1	0	1	3.7	1	3.7	9.22517E-05	0.000894035	8.89598E-05
89	Actinobacillus	0	1	3.7	0	0	2.94234E-06	2.95702E-05	2.94234E-06
90	Facklamia	0	2	7.4	1	3.7	5.64365E-06	4.08389E-05	4.06363E-06
91	Devosia	0	2	7.4	1	3.7	5.64365E-06	4.08389E-05	4.06363E-06
92	Brevundimonas	0	3	11.1	1	3.7	1.62809E-05	0.00011187	1.11315E-05
93	Ruminococcaceae_und	0	2	7.4	1	3.7	2.00E-05	0.000140293	1.40E-05
94	Alphaproteobacteria_und	0	6	22.2	2	7.4	1.72E-05	9.01E-05	8.97E-06
95	Tepidiphilus	0	2	7.4	1	3.7	1.95942E-05	0.000186642	1.85716E-05
96	Conchiformibius	0	1	3.7	1	3.7	4.57391E-06	4.59672E-05	4.57391E-06
97	Candidate_division_SR1_und	0	2	7.4	0	0	3.12E-06	2.21E-05	2.20E-06
98	Sphingomonadales_und	0	6	22.2	0	0	3.76E-05	0.000236781	2.36E-05
99	Lachnoclostridium	0	8	29.6	3	11.1	3.29414E-05	0.00020429	2.03276E-05
100	Rheinheimera	0	3	11.1	0	0	7.04733E-06	4.60856E-05	4.58569E-06

Supplemental table 3. CF CRS microbial communities are highly individualized, but may share similarities during sinus exacerbation. PERMANOVA results describing the proportion of variance in sample composition attributable to variables tested ("source" of variation). Two sources contributed a significant amount of variance ($p < 0.05$; Patient ID and whether or not a study participant was experiencing a sinus exacerbation), whereas enrollment age has a non-statistically significant effect ($p < 0.1$) and the remaining variables had non-significant effects ($p > 0.1$). The name of the variable as it appears in the metadata sheet is included in parentheses in the first column ("Source"). Terms were added sequentially and the model was run with 12000 permutations. Significance levels were determined by the $\text{Pr}(>F)$. ***: $p < 0.001$, **: $p < 0.01$, *: $p < 0.05$, \circ : $p < 0.1$, blank: $p > 0.1$.

Source	df	Sum of Squares (SS)	Mean Squares (MS)	F	R2	Pr(>F)	Significance
Age upon enrollment (age_onenrollment)	1	2.006	2.00589	2.75998	0.02119	0.0585	\circ
CFRD (cfrd)	1	0.927	0.927	1.27548	0.00979	0.25823	
Patient ID (crs_ID)	22	45.722	2.07829	2.85958	0.48298	8.33E-05	***
Current topical antibiotic usage (current_topabx)	1	0.882	0.88227	1.21394	0.00932	0.27673	
Current sinus exacerbation (sinus_exacerbation)	1	2.095	2.09525	2.88292	0.02213	0.04841	*
Current pulmonary exacerbation (pulmonary_exacerbation)	1	0.176	0.17618	0.24241	0.00186	0.89676	
FEV1 (fev)	1	0.522	0.52165	0.71775	0.00551	0.51196	
SNOT-22 (snot22)	1	0.407	0.40721	0.56029	0.0043	0.6157	
Modified Lund-Kennedy Score (mLK)	1	0.504	0.50386	0.69327	0.00532	0.52254	
Residuals	57	41.426	0.72678		0.4376		
Total	87	94.668			1		

Supplemental table 4. Metadata associated with each sequenced microbiota sample.

SampleID	BarcodeSequence	LinkerPrimerSequence	participant_id	visit_number	days_since_first_visit	sex_is_female	age_on_enrollment	BMI_on_enrollment	crfd	transplant_prior_to_enrollment	hmzg	mut508	allergic	rhinitis	ever_on_topabx	ever_on_topvanc	ever_on_topgent
0104.01.01.SINUS	CGTTGGAAATGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_01	1	0	23.94000053	24.90999985	0	0	0.5	0	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.01.02.SINUS	AAGAACTATGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_01	2	77	0	23.94000053	24.90999985	0	0	0.5	0	1	1	1	1	
0104.01.03.SINUS	TGATATCGTT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_01	3	161	0	23.94000053	24.90999985	0	0	0.5	0	1	1	1	1	
0104.01.04.SINUS	CGGTGACCTACT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_01	4	245	0	23.94000053	24.90999985	0	0	0.5	0	1	1	1	1	
0104.04.01.SINUS	AATTTAGGTTAGG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_04	1	0	0	27.02000046	20.89999962	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	
0104.07.08.SINUS	TTCGATGCCGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	1	0	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.01.SINUS	AGAGGGTATCG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	2	98	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.02.SINUS	AGCTCTAAAGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	3	147	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.03.SINUS	CTGACAGAAATA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	4	210	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.04.SINUS	GCTGCCACCA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	5	490	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.05.SINUS	GCGTTTGTAGC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	6	595	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.06.SINUS	AGATCGTCTTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	7	686	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.07.07.SINUS	AGATCGTCTTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_07	8	756	1	43.56999969	24.84000015	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.08.01.SINUS	AATGGTCAGCA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_08	1	0	1	24.20999908	19.52000046	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.09.06.SINUS	GAACAGTACTC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_09	1	0	1	25.79000092	28.76000023	1 NA	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
0104.09.01.SINUS	CGACCCATACA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_09	2	182	1	25.79000092	28.76000023	1 NA	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
0104.09.02.SINUS	GTGCTATACTG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_09	3	336	1	25.79000092	28.76000023	1 NA	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
0104.09.03.SINUS	CTACAGGGTCTC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_09	4	587	1	25.79000092	28.76000023	1 NA	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
0104.09.04.SINUS	CTACAGGGTCTC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_09	5	679	1	25.79000092	28.76000023	1 NA	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
0104.09.05.SINUS	CTTGGAGGCTTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_09	6	770	1	25.79000092	28.76000023	1 NA	0.5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
0104.18.03.SINUS	CAGTTTATTTC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_18	1	0	1	27.68000031	19.87999916	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.18.01.SINUS	TAATCGGTCGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_18	2	185	1	27.68000031	19.87999916	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.18.02.SINUS	CGGGACACCGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_18	3	639	1	27.68000031	19.87999916	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.20.01.SINUS	GAAGAGGGTTC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_20	1	0	1	23.06999969	19.54000092	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.20.04.SINUS	TTACACAAAGGC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_20	2	385	1	23.06999969	19.54000092	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.24.01.SINUS	GTTAACTTACTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	1	0	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.02.SINUS	GTTAACTTACTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	2	15	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.03.SINUS	CGTATAAAATGCC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	3	106	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.04.SINUS	ATCTGCAACAC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	4	154	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.05.SINUS	ACTCGCTCGT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	5	281	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.07.SINUS	CGTCCGTTAGAA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	6	393	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.10.SINUS	ACGTGAGAACG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	7	486	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.08.SINUS	GTGTTCTGGGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	8	491	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.09.SINUS	GTGTTCTGGGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	9	512	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.24.12.SINUS	CATATAGCCGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_24	10	596	1	27.62000084	24.13999939	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
0104.27.01.SINUS	AGCTTTAACGAC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	1	0	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	1	
0104.27.02.SINUS	TAAGGATTATGG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	2	49	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	1	
0104.27.03.SINUS	ATACATGCAAGA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	3	112	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.04.SINUS	CTTATGCGAGAA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	4	259	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.05.SINUS	ATATCTGGCG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	5	364	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.06.SINUS	AGGATCAGGAA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	6	462	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.07.SINUS	AATAACTAGGAT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	7	511	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.08.SINUS	AATAACTAGGAT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	8	567	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.09.SINUS	TATTGCGAGCAG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	9	588	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.27.10.SINUS	TGATGTTAGTAA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_27	10	651	1	23.45000076	19.15999985	1	0	0.5	0	1	0	0	1	
0104.28.01.SINUS	CTTATTAACGCT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_28	1	0	0	28.36000061	20.34000015	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	
0104.32.01.SINUS	TATTTGATTGTT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	1	0	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.32.02.SINUS	TGTCAAAGTC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	2	70	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.32.03.SINUS	CTATGTTATTG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	3	154	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.32.04.SINUS	CTATGTTATTG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	4	225	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.32.05.SINUS	ACTCCGTGTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	5	343	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.32.06.SINUS	CGGTATGACAA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	6	455	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.32.07.SINUS	CGGTATGACAA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_32	7	581	0	26.54000092	18.45000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	0	1	
0104.33.01.SINUS	ACTTGTTAAG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	1	0	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.02.SINUS	ACTTGTTAAG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	2	63	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.03.SINUS	ATTAGCTATAC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	3	147	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.04.SINUS	ATTAGAATAACC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	4	203	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.05.SINUS	ATTAGAATAACC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	5	231	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.06.SINUS	ATTAGAATAACC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	6	273	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.07.SINUS	TGTCAGGCCAT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	7	427	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.33.08.SINUS	TGTCAGGCCAT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_33	8	504	1	27.03000069	21.56999969	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
0104.35.06.SINUS	TATCCAAAGCGCA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	1	0	1	35.02999878	25.04999924	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	
0104.35.01.SINUS	AGAGCCAAAGC	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	2	105	1	35.02999878	25.04999924	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	
0104.35.02.SINUS	GGTGAGCAAGCA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	3	203	1	35.02999878	25.04999924	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	
0104.35.03.SINUS	TTCGGGACCTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	5	315	1	35.02999878	25.04999924	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	
0104.35.04.SINUS	TTCGGGACCTA	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	6	406	1	35.02999878	25.04999924	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	
0104.35.05.SINUS	GTGTCCTAAATG	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	7	574	1	35.02999878	25.04999924	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	
0104.35.07.SINUS	TGCAAGCTGCT	GTGTGTCAGCMGCGCGGTTAA	crs_35	8													

0104.42.01.SINUS	GTCATGCTCAG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_42	1	0	1	38.58000183	30.06999969	1	1 NA	0	1	0	0	0
0104.43.01.SINUS	GAGATACAGTTC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_43	1	0	0	33.22999954	22.01000023	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
0104.43.02.SINUS	GTGAGTCTCAT	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_43	2	70	0	33.22999954	22.01000023	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0104.43.03.SINUS	ACCTTACACCTT	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_43	3	364	0	33.22999954	22.01000023	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0104.43.04.SINUS	TAATCTGCCGG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_43	4	609	0	33.22999954	22.01000023	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
0104.44.01.SINUS	GGAGAACGACAC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_44	1	0	1	26.19000053	19.65999985	0 NA	1	1	1	0	0	0
0104.44.02.SINUS	GTACTCGAACCA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_44	2	168	1	26.19000053	19.65999985	0 NA	1	1	1	0	0	0
0104.44.03.SINUS	GTACTCGAACCA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_44	3	231	1	26.19000053	19.65999985	0 NA	1	1	1	0	0	0
0104.44.05.SINUS	TCCGGCGGGCAA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_44	4	448	1	26.19000053	19.65999985	0 NA	1	1	1	0	0	0
0104.45.01.SINUS	TCCATACCGGAA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_45	1	0	0	24.20999908	19.59000015	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	1
0104.45.02.SINUS	TCCATACCGGAA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_45	2	267	0	24.20999908	19.59000015	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	1
0104.45.05.SINUS	CTTAACCGGTC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_45	3	540	0	24.20999908	19.59000015	0	0	0.5	1	1	0	1
0104.46.01.SINUS	GTTCATTAACAT	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_46	1	0	1	36.54000092	24	1	0	0	0.5	0	0	0
0104.47.01.SINUS	CTCGCCCTGCC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_47	1	0	1	26.18000031	17.88999939	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
0104.47.02.SINUS	TCTCTTTGACA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_47	2	92	1	26.18000031	17.88999939	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
0104.48.01.SINUS	CTTGGATTCTGA	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_48	1	0	0	31.75	26.5	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
0104.49.01.SINUS	TGCCCCGCCAC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_50	1	0	1	30.71999931	22.11000061	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	0
0104.50.02.SINUS	CTTGACCGATG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_50	2	308	1	30.71999931	22.11000061	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	0
0104.50.03.SINUS	CAAACTGGTTG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_50	3	399	1	30.71999931	22.11000061	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	0
0104.51.01.SINUS	GTGTGATAGATG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_51	1	0	1	36.16999817	18.60000038	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
0104.52.01.SINUS	CTATATTATCCG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_52	1	0	1	35.83000183	23.03000069	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0104.52.02.SINUS	ACCGAACAAATCC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_52	2	84	1	35.83000183	23.03000069	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0104.52.03.SINUS	ACGGTACCCCTAC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_52	3	224	1	35.83000183	23.03000069	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0104.52.05.SINUS	ACCTACTGTCT	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_52	4	336	1	35.83000183	23.03000069	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0104.52.06.SINUS	ACTGTGAGTCC	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_52	5	378	1	35.83000183	23.03000069	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0104.52.07.SINUS	CATGTCCTCAT	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_52	6	504	1	35.83000183	23.03000069	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
0104.53.01.SINUS	GTAGTAGACCAT	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_53	1	0	1	19.67000008	20.77000046	0	0	0.5	1	0	0	0
0104.55.01.SINUS	CCTCCGTATGG	GTGTGYCAGCMGCGCGGTAA	crs_55	1	0	0	40	22.20000076	1	0	0.5	1	1	0	1

ever_on_top_mupirocin	ever_on_top_cipro	ever_on_nasal_steroid	ever_on_chronic_oral_steroid	sinus_exacerbation	pulmonary_eon_nasal	ca_interim	hos	hospital_days	transplant_at	visit	visit_bmi	samp_loc	ppFEV1	ppFEF25-75	snot22	mlk	sputum_pa	sputum_staph	sinus_staph		
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0 25.4099999 Maxillary	94	NA	74	5	4	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0 25.0499992 Ethmoid	66	27	62	10	0	1	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0 23.4300003 Ethmoid	70	31	48	12	0	1	1	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.8099995 Ethmoid	65	34	34	8	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.7900009 Ethmoid	63	26	59	8	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 24.7099991 Ethmoid	63	29	54	6	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 25.9500008 Ethmoid	63	24	54	10	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 25.3700008 Ethmoid	66	28	58	10	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 26.4099999 Ethmoid	56	21	55	10	0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	NA	NA	0 18.1000004 Maxillary	76	62	47	12	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 28.7600002 Ethmoid	100	79	67	16	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	NA	NA	0 29.7000008 Ethmoid	92	63	83	16	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	NA	NA	0 30.8600006 Ethmoid	104	70	85	16	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 33.0900002 Ethmoid	83	46	83	8	NA	1	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 33.5499992 Ethmoid	101	72	81	8	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 33.9199982 Ethmoid	98	79	96	NA	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 19.8799992 Ethmoid	54	19	30	14	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	NA	NA	0 22.0699997 Maxillary	51	18	18	6	NA	NA	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	23	NA	NA	0 19.8799992 Ethmoid	47	15	63	8	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 19.3600006 Maxillary	71	64	48	8	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 19.0300007 Maxillary	66	85	51	4	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.5200005 Ethmoid	27	8	39	8	1	0	1	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	NA	NA	NA	0 23.1000004 Ethmoid	34	10	50	10	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	4	NA	NA	0 21.9400005 Ethmoid	31	11	49	12	0	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	3	NA	NA	0 21.5799999 Maxillary	25	8	40	12	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 24.3400002 Ethmoid	30	11	43	10	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 23.0400009 Ethmoid	27	10	33	10	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 24.3400002 Maxillary	28	8	45	10	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 23.9799995 Ethmoid	21	7	45	12	1	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	NA	NA	NA	0 18.4799995 Ethmoid	38	42	12	8	NA	NA	0	0
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	NA	NA	NA	0 17.8500004 Ethmoid	26	25	30	12	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 18.8199997 Ethmoid	27	16	14	8	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 17.8500004 Ethmoid	28	18	29	12	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	NA	NA	NA	0 19.6900005 Maxillary	37	35	21	10	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	4	NA	NA	0 18.8199997 Ethmoid	27	24	26	6	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	NA	NA	NA	0 18.6800003 Maxillary	32	28	15	6	0	0	1	0
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	NA	NA	NA	0 18.8199997 Ethmoid	25	40	18	6	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	NA	NA	NA	0 19.8400002 Ethmoid	22	19	18	8	0	1	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	NA	NA	NA	0 19.6900005 Ethmoid	33	10	8	6	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.9500008 Maxillary	42	14	21	6	NA	NA	0	0
1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 19.6800003 Maxillary	60	32	60	8	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	NA	NA	0 20.5599995 Maxillary	67	34	36	8	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 19.9599991 Maxillary	61	30	59	4	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 19.1900005 Maxillary	77	18	52	NA	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	NA	NA	0 19.4400005 Maxillary	62	8	NA	NA	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	10	NA	NA	0 17.3199997 Maxillary	58	25	52	10	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 17.9500008 Ethmoid	57	20	74	8	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.0599995 Maxillary	88	59	0	10	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	NA	NA	0 21.7199993 Maxillary	91	71	0	6	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	NA	NA	NA	0 21.9400005 Maxillary	92	66	0	10	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.5900002 Maxillary	83	59	0	4	NA	NA	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.6499996 Ethmoid	81	54	3	4	1	0	1	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 22.25 Ethmoid	83	55	0	3	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 NA Ethmoid	82	52	1	2	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 23.1100006 Ethmoid	94	58	1	4	1	0	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 25.0499992 Maxillary	94	55	29	6	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 23.8799992 Maxillary	92	55	16	6	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 24.2099991 Maxillary	91	58	25	6	NA	0	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 24.6599999 Ethmoid	86	49	48	8	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 24.8099995 Ethmoid	94	59	37	4	0	1	0	0
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 26.6900005 Maxillary	88	43	47	5	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 27.5499992 Maxillary	99	61	40	2	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 27.5 Maxillary	81	59	0	6	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA	0 28.4799995 Ethmoid	81	59	1	2	1	1	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	7	NA	NA	0 17.5400009 Ethmoid	30	8	31	7	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	6	NA	NA	NA	0 16.5799999 Maxillary	27	6	34	8	1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	23	NA	NA	0 16.5799999 Maxillary	59	64	NA	8	1	0	0	0

1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0 NA	1	30.0699997	Ethmoid	NA	NA	7	NA	NA	NA	NA	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	NA	0	22.0100002	Maxillary	71	19	50	10	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	NA	0	22.6599999	Ethmoid	74	23	38	8	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	NA	0	24.2199993	Maxillary	68	16	25	6	1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	24.7099991	Ethmoid	84	32	28	9	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	NA	0	19.9799995	Maxillary	76	45	47	8	0	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	NA	0	20.0200005	Ethmoid	78	43	47	8	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	NA	0	19.3099995	Maxillary	73	45	71	9	1	1	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	NA	0	20.1200008	Ethmoid	74	39	53	6	1	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	NA	0	19.5900002	Frontal	62	25	13	8	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	18.9799995	Maxillary	59	20	8	6	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	20.0499992	Maxillary	54	17	13	9	1	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	NA	0	0	34	Ethmoid	65	40	67	10	0	1	1	1
1	0	1	0	1	1	0	NA	0	17.8899994	Ethmoid	51	16	50	12	0	1	1	1	
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	NA	0	17.5300007	Maxillary	54	18	29	8	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	26.25	Maxillary	NA	NA	17	NA	NA	NA	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	NA	0	22.1100006	Frontal	34	12	22	9	1	0	0	0
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	NA	0	23.0400009	Maxillary	34	8	22	10	0	1	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	NA	0	22.1100006	Ethmoid	32	10	24	10	0	1	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	NA	Maxillary	64	36	30	8	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	0	23.0300007	Maxillary	56	30	58	8	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	0	24.0599995	Ethmoid	62	31	41	4	1	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	0	23.7999992	Ethmoid	56	27	47	4	NA	NA	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	0	23.7999992	Maxillary	NA	NA	36	6	NA	NA	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	0	23.7999992	Ethmoid	NA	NA	34	6	NA	NA	1	1
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	NA	0	23.7999992	Ethmoid	NA	NA	34	6	NA	NA	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	30.4799995	Maxillary	81	63	8	8	1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	NA	0	22.000008	Ethmoid	76	11	60	10	1	0	0	0

Supplemental table 5. Codebook describing each variable in the metadata.

Variable	Description
SampleID	Unique name for the 16S amplicon sequencing sample
BarcodeSequence	Sequence of the barcode
LinkerPrimerSequence	Sequence of the linker primer
participant_id	The study participant's unique ID number
visit_number	Numerical order of visits for each participant (ascending)
days_since_first_visit	Count of the number of visits since enrollment (Day 0)
sex_is_female	male = 0, female = 1
age_onenrollment	in years
BMI_on_enrollment	mg/kg2
cfrd	prior diagnosis of CF-related diabetes; 0 = no, 1 = yes
transplant_prior_to_enrollment	prior LUNG transplant at day of enrollment, no = 0, yes = 1. Note that one subject gets a transplant during the study
hmzg_mut508	homozygous = 0, heterozygous = 1, other mutations = 2, missing = NA
allergic_rhinitis	no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_topabx	Is the subject on topical antibiotics at ANY TIME during the study, no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_topvanco	If the subject on specific topical antibiotics at ANY TIME during the study, no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_top_togent	If the subject on specific topical antibiotics at ANY TIME during the study, no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_top_mupirocin	If the subject on specific topical antibiotics at ANY TIME during the study, no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_top_cipro	If the subject on specific topical antibiotics at ANY TIME during the study, no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_nasal_steroid	Is the subject on a nasal steroid at ANY TIME during the study? no = 0, yes = 1
ever_on_chronic_oral_steroid	Is the subject on chronic oral prednisone during the study? no = 0, yes = 1
sinus_exacerbation	Is this an unscheduled visit because of worse sinus disease? no = 0, yes = 1
pulmonary_exacerbation	Have they been treated for a CF pulmonary exacerbation in the month surrounding the study visit (+/- 4 weeks on each side)? no = 0, yes = 1
on_nasal_cannula_oxygen	no = 0, yes = 1
interim_hos	no = 0, yes = 1
hospital_days	if yes to interim_hospitalization, then this is the number of days in the hospital since the last visit
transplant_at_visit	transplant status on DAY OF VISIT no = 0, yes = 1
visit_bmi	mg/kg2
samp_loc	the site in the sinus cavity where the sample taken from
ppFEV1	% predicted FEV1 (theoretical max is about 110%, min around 25%)
ppFEF25-75	% predicted FEF25-75
snot22	sinus symptom scale 0-100. people without sinus disease score 0-7 points
mlk	endoscopy visual severity score, modified lund kennedy scale, normal = 0, maximally severe disease = 16
sputum_pa	Was Pseudomonas aeruginosa grown from the sputum at this visit (or within 1 month, from the medical records); n = 0, yes = 1.
sputum_staph	Was Staphylococcus aureus grown from the sputum at this visit (or within 1 month, from the medical records); n = 0, yes = 1.
sinus_staph	Was Pseudomonas aeruginosa grown from the sinuses at this visit (or within 1 month, from the medical records); n = 0, yes = 1.
sinus_pa	Was Staphylococcus aureus grown from the sinuses at this visit (or within 1 month, from the medical records); n = 0, yes = 1.
current_topabx	is the subject currently on topical sinus rinses, no = 0, yes = 1
current_top_vanco	if the subject is on rinses, which drug, no = 0, yes = 1
current_top_gent	if the subject is on rinses, which drug, no = 0, yes = 1
current_top_mupirocin	if the subject is on rinses, which drug, no = 0, yes = 1
current_top_cipro	if the subject is on rinses, which drug, no = 0, yes = 1
is_subject_on_systemic_abx	is the subject currently on systemic antibiotics (oral or IV)
IV_vanco	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_gent	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_pip-tazo	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_cephalosporin	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_carbenem	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_colistin	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_cipro	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
IV_aztreonam	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_linezolid	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_cipro	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_clinda	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_sulfa	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_doxy	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_other	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
oral_betaactam	if the subject is on systemic antibiotics, which one, no=0, yes=1, these are by drug class
days_IVs_current_course	days of IV therapy as of visit in current course
days_oral_abx_currentcourse	days of oral therapy as of visit in current course
is_patient_currently_on_abx	is the subject on IV abx AT THE DAY OF VISIT
days_on_current_abx	days on antibiotics as of the visit
days_iv_abx_since_last_visit	total number of days on IV abx since last visit
days_of_oral_since_last_visit	total number of days on oral abx since last visit
il_1b	continuous variable (pg/mL)
il_6	continuous variable (pg/mL)
infbeta	continuous variable (pg/mL)
il_19	continuous variable (pg/mL)
ifn_lambda2	continuous variable (pg/mL)
il_29	continuous variable (pg/mL)
pentraxin_3	continuous variable (pg/mL)