





control group are highlighted in gray. Two of the 63 cases in Malawi and Mozambique were excluded from the grouping by age because the participants ages were unknown.

**Table S1.** Primers for PCR amplification and sequencing.

Serine Repeat Antigen 5 Gene (sera5)		5' ==> 3'
Primers used for PCR amplification		
3.3 kb fragment		
1st PCR	sera5-5F0 sera5-3R0	GATAATCCGAAATCTTAAATGTTACAAA GAGGTACATGATAAATTAAGATATTATACTACCTTAATAA
2nd PCR	sera5-5F3 sera5-3R2	TTACGCATACACAAACATTGTGCTTA CTACCTTAATAAAAATGAATAATGGAGAGTTATGCCCTATT
5' -half fragment		
1st PCR	sera5-5F0 sera5-R0	GATAATCCGAAATCTTAAATGTTACAAA CATCCATAATTATCTAAGGTACCTGTTGTA
2nd PCR	sera5-5F3 sera5-R2	TTACGCATACACAAACATTGTGCTTA GTTGTATCTACGCTTTAAGTAAACTACAGTAA
3' -half fragment		
1st PCR	sera5-F1 sera5-3R0	CAAATACCTATCTGAAGATATTGTAAGTAACTTCA GAGGTACATGATAAATTAAGATATTATACTACCTTAATAA
2nd PCR	sera5-F2 sera5-3R2	GCTGAGACAGAAGATGATGATGAAGATGATTATACT CTACCTTAATAAAAATGAATAATGGAGAGTTATGCCCTATT
Primers used for sequencing		
3.3 kb fragment		
	sera5-FA sera5-FB sera5-FC sera5-FD sera5-FE sera5-FF sera5-RA sera5-RB sera5-RC sera5-RD sera5-RE sera5-RF	GTTATAAAATGTACAGGAGAAAGTCAAACA GTAAAACCTACCATCAAATGGTACAA GATAACAAAGTTGATGTAAGAAAGTATTT GAAAAATGTGATACCTTAGCTTCCA CTTTATCATATGATAACTCAGA GTATGGACCAACTCATTGTCA ATACAGCTGCATTACGGAAT GTTATTACCTGGAATGTCTGA ATACTTTCAGTAGTATCTTTTGT CGTTACATGGACCAGTAACTT TCATCACACATAAGTTCTG CGTTATTGTATCCAATTTGGA
5' -half fragment		
	sera5-FA sera5-FB sera5-FC sera5-FD sera5-R2 sera5-RB sera5-RC sera5-RD	GTTATAAAATGTACAGGAGAAAGTCAAACA GTAAAACCTACCATCAAATGGTACAA GATAACAAAGTTGATGTAAGAAAGTATTT GAAAAATGTGATACCTTAGCTTCCA GTTGTATCTACGCTTTAAGTAAACTACAGTAA GTTATTACCTGGAATGTCTGA ATACTTTCAGTAGTATCTTTTGT CGTTACATGGACCAGTAACTT

3' -half fragment	sera5-F2 sera5-FE sera5-FF sera5-RE sera5-RF	GCTGAGACAGAAGATGATGATGAAGATGATTATACT CITTATCATATGATAACTCAGA GTATGGACCAACTCATTGTCA TCATCACCACATAAAGTTCTG CGTATTTGTATCCAATTGGA
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**Table S2.** Odds ratio (OR) and 95% confidence interval (CI) for eBL case status in univariate and multivariate logistic regression models.

Characteristics with	Univariate All subjects	Bivariate association with Sera5 Sequence		
		Sera5 Sequence Adjusted*	Sera5 PCR Adjusted†	OR (95% CI)
Sera 5 PCR 2				
<i>Negative</i>	<i>Ref</i>	---		<i>Ref</i>
<i>Positive</i>	1.17 (0.76, 1.81)			1.15 (0.68, 1.93)
Sera5 sequence				
<i>Single</i>	<i>Ref</i>	---	<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Mixed</i>	2.18 (1.12, 4.26)		2.40 (1.11, 5.17)	
Diversity score				
<Mean	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>
≥Mean	1.25 (0.69, 2.29)	0.95 (0.49, 1.82)	0.66 (0.32, 1.39)	0.85 (0.46, 1.56)
Sera5 sequence				
<i>Single</i>		<i>Ref</i>		
<i>Mixed</i>		2.23 (1.10, 4.53)		
Log Pf DNA copy number				
<Mean	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>
≥Mean	1.74 (0.95, 3.20)	1.38 (0.72, 2.64)	1.66 (0.79, 3.49)	2.11 (1.10, 4.01)
Sera5 sequence				
<i>Single</i>		<i>Ref</i>		
<i>Mixed</i>		1.95 (0.96, 3.95)		
Proportion of SNPs called				
<Mean	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	---	---
≥Mean	1.09 (0.55, 2.19)	0.89 (0.43, 1.84)		
Sera5 sequence				
<i>Single</i>		<i>Ref</i>		
<i>Mixed</i>		2.22 (1.13, 4.38)		
Gender				
<i>Female</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>
<i>Male</i>	1.09 (0.59, 2.01)	1.01 (0.54, 1.88)	0.81 (0.41, 1.57)	0.99 (0.62, 1.58)
Sera5 sequence				
<i>Single</i>		<i>Ref</i>		
<i>Mixed</i>		2.18 (1.12, 4.26)		
Age group				
0–5 yrs	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>	<i>Ref</i>
6–10 yrs	2.27 (1.15, 4.52)	2.76 (1.35, 5.66)	2.96 (1.42, 6.17)	2.79 (1.66, 4.68)
11–15 yrs	0.62 (0.24, 1.58)	0.71 (0.27, 1.86)	0.67 (0.25, 1.78)	0.66 (0.35, 1.26)
Missing	2.17 (0.40, 11.94)	1.96 (0.34, 11.20)	2.18 (0.37, 12.89)	1.57 (0.48, 5.11)
Sera5 sequence				
<i>Single</i>		<i>Ref</i>		
<i>Mixed</i>		2.44 (1.12, 4.26)		

\* Sera5 Seq Adjusted for diversity score, DNA copy number, gender and age. † Sera5 PCR Adjusted for diversity score, DNA copy number, gender and age. ‡ Analysis for this variable omitted in the analysis.