

**Supplemental Digital Content 4.** Longitudinal load measurements of *L. acidophilus* by treatment group

Plots showing *L. acidophilus* load by quantitative PCR in  $\log_{10}$  target copies per ml of feces (y-axis) against time since randomization (x-axis) in the placebo and the probiotic arms. Grey lines refer to individual patient profiles; solid black lines refer to lines through the means on day 1, 7(+1) and 14 (or later).

