**Supplemental digital content 1. Overview of sample sizes.** 110 isolates were excluded from the study either due to missing clinical information or due to inadequate sample acquisition or preparation (e.g., because of samples from non-sterile sites or due to contaminants). All isolates were tested for antibiotic resistance and capsular phenotype by latex agglutination. A predefined number of isolates was subjected to capsular genotyping and to pilus island multiplex PCR analysis, respectively (for details see Materials and methods section). Because penicillin sensitivity implies ampicillin sensitivity, only a subset of isolates was tested for ampicillin resistance.

1088 isolates sent to study center

978 isolates fulfilled quality criteria;

Capsular serotype, antibiotic resistance and clinical data analyzed

173 isolates used for

pilus antigen analysis

281 isolates used for capsular genotyping

386 isolates tested for ampicillin resistance