TABLE S1. Association between some clinical parameters and the presence of viable cells of different *Lactobacillus* species and *Bifidobacterium* in breast milk samples (n = 66). For comparison, the association between the clinical parameters and the detection of DNA from the same bacteria and in the same breast samples has been included in the lower part of the table.

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| **Presence of viable cells** | *Lactobacillus* | | *L. fermentum* | | *L. gasseri* | | *L. salivarius* | | *Bifidobacterium* | |  | *Bifidobacterium* |  |
|  | N (%) | *P\** | N (%) | *P* | N (%) | *P* | N (%) | *P* | N (%) | *P* |
| **Delivery mode** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vaginal (n = 49) | 20 (40.82) | 0.979 | 6 (12.24) | 0.667§ | 3 (6.12) | 0.326§ | 8 (16.33) | 0.427§ | 5 (10.20) | 1.000§ |
| Cesarean section (n = 17) | 7 (41.18) |  | 1 (5.88) |  | 3 (17.65) |  | 1 (5.88) |  | 2 (11.76) |  |
| **Anesthesia during delivery** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No (n = 42) | 15 (35.71) | 0.340 | 4 (9.52) | 1.000§ | 1 (2.38) | 0.018§ | 7 (16.67) | 0.474§ | 4 (9.52) | 0.691§ |
| Yes (n = 23) | 11 (47.83) |  | 2 (8.70) |  | 5 (21.74) |  | 2 (8.70) |  | 3 (13.04) |  |
| **Antibiotherapy**Ψ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No (n = 37) | 18 (48.65) | 0.149 | 6 (16.22) | 0.124§ | 2 (5.41) | 0.392§ | 8 (21.62) | 0.066§ | 4 (10.81) | 1.000§ |
| Yes (n = 29) | 9 (31.03) |  | 1 (3.45) |  | 4 (13.79) |  | 1 (3.45) |  | 3 (10.34) |  |
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| **Presence of DNA** | *Lactobacillus* | | *L. fermentum* | | *L. gasseri* | | *L. salivarius* | | *Bifidobacterium* | |  | | |
|  | N (%) | *P\** | N (%) | *P* | N (%) | *P* | N (%) | *P* | N (%) | *P* | |
| **Delivery mode** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Vaginal (n = 49) | 40 (81.63) | 0.059 | 17 (34.69) | 0.119§ | 13 (26.53) | 0.533§ | 22 (44.90) | 0.080§ | 16 (32.65) | 0.354§ | | |
| Cesarean section (n = 17) | 10 (58.82) |  | 2 (11.76) |  | 3 (17.65) |  | 3 (17.65) |  | 3 (17.65) |  | | |
| **Anesthesia during delivery** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | |
| No (n = 42) | 34 (80.95) | 0.159 | 15 (35.71) | 0.081§ | 9 (21.43) | 0.420 | 21 (50.00) | 0.016§ | 13 (30.95) | 0.427 | | |
| Yes (n = 23) | 15 (65.22) |  | 3 (13.04) |  | 7 (30.43) |  | 4 (17.39) |  | 5 (21.74) |  | | |
| **Antibiotherapy**Ψ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | |
| No (n = 37) | 37 (100.00) | 0.000 | 16 (43.24) | 0.005§ | 12 (32.43) | 0.092§ | 22 (59.46) | <0.001§ | 15 (40.54) | 0.027§ | | |
| Yes (n = 29) | 13 (44.83) |  | 3 (10.34) |  | 4 (13.79) |  | 3 (10.34) |  | 4 (13.79) |  | | |

\**,* Chi-square test

§, Fisher-Freeman-Halton exact test.

Ψ, During pregnancy and/or breast feeding