Table 2 Clinical symptoms of patients and microscopy findings according to the bacterial species isolated from patient samples during outbreaks of foodborne illness in the Islamic Republic of Iran

| Bacteria <sup>a</sup>                         | Clinical and microscopy findings No. (%) <sup>b</sup> |               |               |                   |               |                   |
|---|---|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
|   | Vomiting  | Nausea        | Fever         | Abdominal<br>pain | Headache      | Blood in<br>stool |
| Escherichia coli (n = 376)                    | 71/129 (55.0)   | 91/126 (72.2) | 52/115 (45.2) | 10/115 (8.7)      | 38/117 (32.5) | 10/376 (2.7)      |
| Shigella spp. (n = 24)                        | 4/9 (44.4)  | 7/10 (70.0)   | 10/10 (100.0) | 3/11 (27.3)       | 4/11 (36.4)   | 3/24 (12.5)       |
| Klebsiella spp. (n = 18)                      | 2/2 (100.0)   | 2/2 (100.0)   | 2/2 (100.0)   | 2/2 (100.0)       | 2/2 (100.0)   | 0/18 (0)          |
| Enterobacter spp. $(n = 2)$                   | NR  | NR            | NR            | NR                | NR            | 0/2 (0)           |
| Citrobacter (non-toxigenic) (n = 17)          | 7/12 (58.3)   | 7/12 (58.3)   | 1/1 (100.0)   | 0/12 (0)          | 8/12 (66.6)   | 0/17 (0)          |
| Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (n = 3)         | 2/3 (66.6)  | 2/3 (66.6)    | 1/3 (33.3)    | 2/3 (66.7)        | 0/3 (0)       | 0/3 (0)           |
| Shiga toxin-producing Citrobacter ( $n = 2$ ) | 2/2 (100.0)   | 2/2 (100.0)   | 2/2 (100.0)   | 2/2 (100.0)       | 2/2 (100.0)   | 0/2 (0)           |

NR: not reported.

<sup>\*</sup>Other enteric bacteria were found in 45 samples. Other enteric bacteria were found as a single infection or in coexistence with some of the bacteria shown in Table 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>The difference in denominators from the total number of bacteria isolated (n) is because of missing information on symptoms in the questionnaires.