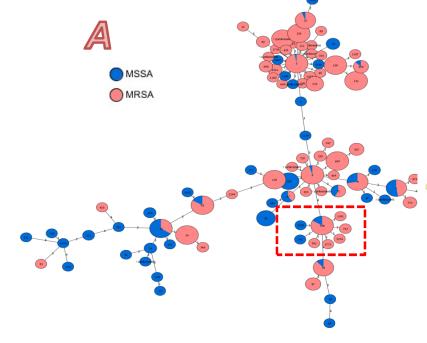
## Methods

- S. aureus genome assemblies were downloaded from NCBI and a local database was created
- Genomes were checked for quality using QUAST, and subsequently analyzed using an in house S. aureus pipeline (Fig. 1).
- Typing was performed by extracting the spa locus as well as the 7 MLST gene loci and querying against the respective databases
- cgMLST analysis and construction of minimum spanning trees was performed using SeqSphere v.3.0.1 (Ridom GmbH, Munster, Germany).
- The Simpson's diversity index (DI) was calculated for each method to compare performance.



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