**Supporting Information**

**S7 Table.** Proportion of vertebrae exhibiting pneumatic features in rhea (*Rhea americana -* NHMUK 2.5.1).

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| --- |
| **Cervical pneumatic features** |
| **Pneumatic foramina** | **Laminae** | **Fossae** | **PF+L** | **F + L** | **PF+F** | **Septated****PF** |
| All vertebrae (variably expressed) | All vertebrae (variably expressed) | All vertebrae (variably expressed) | Middle and posterior vertebrae | Middle and posterior vertebrae | Middle and posterior vertebrae | Middle and posterior vertebrae |
| **Thoracic pneumatic features** |
| **Pneumatic foramina** | **Laminae** | **Fossae** | **PF+L** | **F + L** | **PF+F** | **Septated****PF** |
| Mostly anterior and posterior vertebrae | All vertebrae (variably expressed) | All vertebrae (variably expressed) | All vertebrae (variably expressed) | - | All vertebrae (variably expressed) | - |
| **Synsacral pneumatic features** |
| **Pneumatic foramina** | **Laminae** | **Fossae** | **PF+L** | **F + L** | **PF+F** | **Septated****PF** |
| - | Anterior and posterior vertebrae | - | Anterior and posterior vertebrae | Posterior vertebrae | Posterior vertebrae | Anterior and posterior vertebrae |
| **Caudal pneumatic features** |
| **Pneumatic foramina** | **Laminae** | **Fossae** | **PF+L** | **F + L** | **PF+F** | **Septated****PF** |
| All vertebrae | - | - | - | - | - | All vertebrae |