



Figure S1. Detection of the DivIVA_{SPN} protein. A) Coomassie blue stained 12.5% gel of purified His-tagged DivIVA. M indicates the molecular weight standards. B) Western blotting analysis of FtsZ_{SPN} and DivIVA_{SPN} in cell crude extract of *S. pneumoniae* Rx1 and Rx1 *divIVA:cat* strain (Fadda *et al.*, 2003), detected with their respective polyclonal antisera. Note, that the expressed and purified recombinant DivIVA_{SPN} protein shows a lower mobility in SDS-PAGE with respect to the one predicted from sequence (approximately 46 kDa instead of 34 kDa, respectively). The apparent abnormal electrophoretic mobility shown by the His-tagged DivIVA_{SPN} is also observed for the wild-type protein in *S. pneumoniae* Rx1 strain (approximately 42 kDa instead of 30 kDa, respectively), suggesting that it is feature of DivIVA_{SPN} *per se*, rather than caused by sample preparation or related to the histidine tagging of the protein.