Additional file 1: Sequence alignment of A4 DBL 3X (PDB code: 3BQK) and 3D7 DBL 3X domains. The disulfide linkages of A4 DBL 3X structure are colored in pairs. The cysteins forming disulfide linkages in 3D7 DBL 3X are predicted and are colored cyan.

| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | 1209 <u>SCDCSEPIYIRGCQPKIYDGKIFPGKGGEKQWICKDTIIHGDTNGACIPPRTQN</u> 1218 <u>SCDLNATNYIRGCQSKTYDGKIFPGKGGEKQWICKDTIIHGDTNGACIPPRTQN</u> : .* * . * .* .* .:*:** *.: : : : : : : |
|-----------------------|---|
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | LCVGELWDKRYGGRSNIKNDTKESLKQKIKNAIQKETELLYEYHDKGTAIISRNPMKGQK L <mark>C</mark> VGELWDKSYGGRSNIKNDTKELLKEKIKNAIHKETELLYEYHDTGTAIISKNDKKGQK **: *: *: *: **: .*: : :: :*: :*: |
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | EKEEKNNDSNGLPKGFCHAVQRSFIDYKNMILGTSVNIYEYIGKLQEDIKKIIEKGTTKQ GKNDPNGLPKGF <mark>C</mark> HAVQRSFIDYKNMILGTSVNIYEHIGKLQEDIKKIIEKGTPQQ * ** ** * ::::: ** ** ::: ***: *: *: .*: . |
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | NGKTVGSGAENVNAWWKGIEGEMWDAVRCAITKINKKQKKNGTFSID-ECGI KDKIGGVGSSTENVNAWWKGIEREMWDAVRCAITKINKK-NNNSIFNGD-ECGV *: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: : |
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | FPPTGNDEDQSVSWFKEWSEQFCIERLQYEKNIRDACTNNGQGDKIQG SPPTGNDEDQSVSWFKEWGEQFCIERLRYEQNIREACTINGKNEKKCINSKSGQGDKIQG ** : * : :::** *:** :* . : : *. |
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | DCKRKCEEYKKYISEKKQEWDKQKTKYENKYVGKSAS ACKRKCEKYKKYISEKKQEWDKQKTKYENKYVGKSAS **.*** ***:*.: * :. ::* |
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | DLLKENYPECISANFDFIFNDNIEYKTYYPYGDYSSIC DLLKENYPECISANFDFIFNDNIEYKTYYPYGDYSSIC . : :*:.::*:*: *: * * * * * *:: |
| 3D7-DBL3X A4-DBL3X | SCEQVK 1559 SCE 1577 .*: |