



Figure S3. BPE123 is not essential for *B. abortus* virulence. (A) Intracellular replication of parental *B. abortus* 2308 (open circles) and BEP123K mutant strain (filled circles) in J774.A1 macrophages, BMDM and BMDC (MOI 20:1). CFUs were determined at the indicated times. Each determination is the average of two independent experiments performed in duplicate. (B) Quantification of LAMP-1 acquisition by BCVs in HeLa cells infected with *B. abortus* 2308 (WT) or BEP123K mutant strain (MOI 500:1). (C) Representative confocal images showing colocalization of *Brucella* with calnexin in HeLa cells infected with BEP123K mutant strain for 24 h (MOI 500:1). Insets show intracellular *Brucella* within calnexin positive vacuoles. (D) Persistence of *B. abortus* 2308 (open circles) or BEP123K mutant strain (filled circles) in spleens of infected mice. Mice were inoculated intraperitoneally and CFUs in spleens were determined at 30 and 60 days p.i. Each circle represents the result obtained for one infected mouse and the median values are marked by horizontal bold lines (n=4).