

**Supplemental Figure 1. Analysis of PorB mutants.** Coomassie staining of purified recombinant PorB loop mutants. **A)** conventional SDS-PAGE and **B)** modified PAGE (SDS-free). Prior to electrophoresis, PorB aliquots were heated in sample loading buffer in the presence or absence of 2% SDS as indicated. Bands of mol. weight corresponding to monomers (M), dimers (D), trimers (T) and oligomeric forms (O) were observed. Lanes 1 and 2, PorB<sup>GEG</sup>; lanes 3 and 4, PorB<sup>DDE255-262AKR</sup>; lanes 4 and 5, PorB<sup>L143P</sup>.