



**Figure S1: Effect of agr status on exponential growth and CFU**

**in stationary growth phase. A)** Relative fitness measured in the

exponential growth phase for the WT (white bars) and the

$\Delta$ agrA mutant (grey bars) grown in the absence or presence of

antibiotics, the generation time in TSB for the WT strain was 26 min.

**B)** CFU in TSB after 24 and 48 hours for the WT(white bars)

and the  $\Delta$ agrA mutant (grey bars) **C)** CFU after 48 hours for the

WT (white bars) and the  $\Delta$ agrA mutant (grey bars) grown in the

presence of antibiotics. (mean with error bars indicating 95%

confidence intervals are presented in A, B and C).