



## Figure S1

Vertical transversal cross-sections of 17-day-old colonies formed by wt and KO strains. (A, B) Cross-sections (20 µm thin) of colonies formed by wt and different rtg∆ strains were prepared by vibrating microtome and visualized by Nomarski contrast. The green dotted rectangle delimitates U cells, and the red dotted rectangle delimitates lower L cells with decreased viability in colonies of  $rtg\Delta$  strains.