



Figure S1 Effect of *rpoS* on the adherence of EPEC to epithelial cells. 5×10^7 bacteria were transferred to HEp-2 cells monolayers in DMEM supplemented with 2% FBS and incubated for 3 h. The cell wells were washed and the bacteria were released, diluted and plated on L-agar for CFU counting. (A) LRT9, wild-type strain; *rpoS::Tn10*, LRT9 carrying a *rpoS* mutation; pNP5->*rpoS::Tn10*, *prpoS*⁺ plasmid in strain LRT9 *rpoS::Tn10*. (B) E2348/69, wild-type strain; E2348/69 *rpoS::Tn10*; pNP5->E2348/69 *rpoS::Tn10*. Each bar represents the mean \pm S.E.M. of three independent experiments.