



**Figure S4: C5a-liberation in whole blood models of mouse and human by different *Nme* strains.** **A:** C5a release in *ex vivo* infection of lepirudin whole mouse blood with  $10^8$ CFU/ml of various *Nme* strains covering most relevant serogroups and sequence types as indicated in legend (means + SEM; n = 3). **B:** Same as for panel A, but with human whole blood (n = 4 individual donors, indicated by individual symbols).