

**Supplementary Figure S1:** Homeostatic erythropoiesis does not explain the observed dynamics in reticulocyte proportion and parasitemia. The observed dynamics of the proportion of reticulocytes (**A**) and parasitemia (**B**) for WT (*black*) and KO (*grey*) parasites are shown. Colored lines indicate the predictions by the mathematical model assuming normal erythropoietic feedback conditions as described by Eqs. (1)-(3) and Eqs. (4)-(8) in the manuscript with different values for the infection rate  $\beta_0$  (given in mz<sup>-1</sup>  $\mu$ l<sup>-1</sup> h<sup>-1</sup>). Such a model is not able to explain the simultaneous decrease in the reticulocyte proportion and increase in parasitemia around day 3 post infection.