Supplemental data figure legends

- **Fig. 1** Detection of SARS-CoV sequences by real-time quantitative RT-PCR for the polymerase region of the viral genome. An amplification plot of △Rn, which is the fluorescence intensity over the background (Y-axis), against the PCR cycle number (X-axis) is shown. Each plot corresponds to a particular input synthetic DNA oligonucleotide target quantity marked by a corresponding colored symbol.
- Fig. 2 Detection of SARS-CoV sequences by real-time quantitative RT-PCR for the nucleocapsid region of the viral genome. An amplification plot of ARn, which is the fluorescence intensity over the background (Y-axis), against the PCR cycle number (X-axis) is shown. Each plot corresponds to a particular input synthetic DNA oligonucleotide target quantity marked by a corresponding colored symbol.
- **Fig. 3** Amplification plot of △Rn (Y-axis) against the PCR cycle number (X-axis). Each plot corresponds to a real-time assay at 5 copies input synthetic DNA oligonucleotide target quantity marked by a corresponding symbol.
- **Fig. 4** Serum SARS-CoV RNA concentrations in SARS patients on the day of hospital admission. A box plot of SARS-CoV concentrations (common logarithmic scale) in sera of SARS patients requiring and not requiring ICU admission. The unfilled boxes denote the SARSPol1 system while the shaded boxes denote the SARSN system. The lines inside the boxes denote the medians. The boxes mark the interval between the 25th and 75th percentiles. The whiskers denote the interval between the 10th and 90th percentiles. The filled circles mark the data points outside the 10th and 90th percentiles. The horizontal dash lines represent the detection limit of the assay.