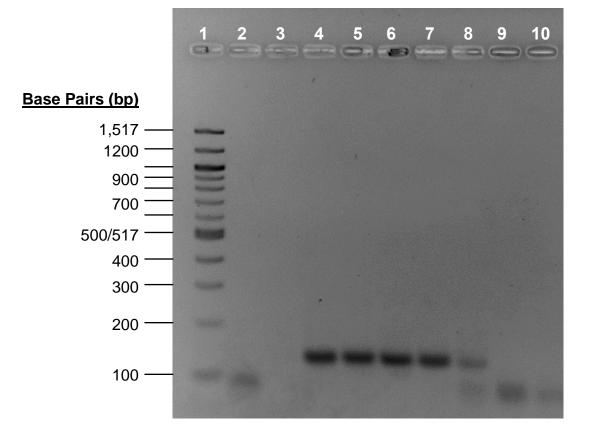
## Additional File 2.



Gel electrophoresis image of r364(a) PET-PCR products

In this agarose gel, NEB Quick-Load Purple 100 bp ladder standards (#N0551) are in lane 1; the negative control for nuclease-free water in lane 2 showed a smaller amplicon (100 bp) and was therefore categorized as a false-positive qPCR assay (C<sub>t</sub>-value=37); the negative control for human (non-plasmodial) DNA in lane 3 had no visible amplicons and was categorized as a true-negative qPCR assay (C<sub>t</sub>-value=negative [>41]); the positive controls for parasite DNA in lanes 4 to 8 ( $10^{+2}$  to  $10^{-2}$  pg DNA per qPCR) showed the larger amplicon (~125 bp) and were categorized as true-positive qPCR results (C<sub>t</sub>-values=23, 27, 30, 34 and 37, respectively); the positive controls in lanes 9 and 10 ( $10^{-3}$  and  $10^{-4}$  pg DNA per qPCR) showed only the smaller amplicon (~100 bp) and thus were categorized as false-positive qPCR assays (C<sub>t</sub>=37 and 38).