



**S2 Fig. Effect of saline solution dilution in PK+HID method.** Five positive nasopharyngeal swab samples (#1 to #5) were processed by adding 10  $\mu$ l of proteinase K 10mg/ml (PK+HID samples) or 10  $\mu$ l in proteinase K buffer (HID' samples) and subjected to thermal incubations (55°C for 15 min and 98°C for 5 min). The viral N1 and N2 genes and the human RNase P gene (RP) were amplified and detected by RT-qPCR. **(a)** CT values obtained from RT-qPCR analysis of the same samples prepared by both different methods. **(b)** Ratio between relative amplicon amounts ( $n$ ) of PK+HID and HID' samples. The median of each measurement is represented with a line in the bars and the lengths of these bars represent the standard error. **(c)** Amplification efficiencies ( $E_{PCR}$ ). The median of each measurement is represented with a line in the bars and the lengths of these bars represent the standard error.