

Supplemental figure 3: Test of fluoresces penetration in samples used for growth estimates based on PNA-FISH staining of rRNA. (A-C) three examples of the three investigated diagnosis. These three specimens were tested for fluorescent penetration. Results presented in D-F. D-F) Overlay graph of the mean FU measured in each of the 5 layers of the images ( $\mu$ m apart). The red bars represent the mean FU in the bacterial biomass. The blue bars represent the mean FU from the DAPI stained biomass. The gray bars represent the background fluorescence of the images. There was no significant slope gradient in any of the image. G-O) The mean FU histogram of nine randomly picked images, three from each investigated diagnose. The red bars represent the mean FU of the threshold bacterial biomass each layer of each images. The y-axis represent the depth in slides of the images.