Figure S4. Secondary structure of the two different alleles of 16S rRNA in the MFY30 strain. The helix (position 450 to 482 in the *E. coli* numbering system) contains the variable V3 motif. Secondary structure was determined using the mfold v2.3 software (Zuker, 2003) with default parameters except for the temperature (30°C instead of 37°C). Variable nucleotides are in bold print.

$$^{5'}GA \underset{AGGGUUGUAGA}{AGGGUUGUAGA} \overset{U}{U} \overset{A}{A} \\ _{3'}AG \overset{UUUUAACGUCU}{C} \overset{A}{A} U$$

$$^{5'}GA_{AGGGCAUUAAC}{^{CU}A}_{I\bullet\bullet\bullet} \\ ^{1\bullet\bullet\bullet\bullet}II\bullet IIII A \\ _{3'}AG^{UUUUGUGAUUG}_{CA}U$$
 Allele b