











S2 Table. The expression of miRNA in v-plaque samples (v) and s-plaque samples (s) before and after treatment with lysis buffer.

| Plaque | Lysis buffer treatment | Ct miR-23a | Ct miR-451a | $\Delta$ Ct | Photo   |
|--------|------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---|
| v1     | -                      | 24.3       | 22.1        | 2.2         |    |
|        | +                      | 24.2       | 22.6        | 1.6         |   |
| v2     | -                      | 25.8       | 19.1        | 6.7         |    |
|        | +                      | 25.1       | 22.0        | 3.1         |   |
| v3     | -                      | 26.9       | 19.8        | 7.1         |    |
|        | +                      | 25.9       | 21.7        | 4.2         |   |
| v4     | -                      | 24.1       | 18.8        | 5.3         |    |
|        | +                      | 25.1       | 21.3        | 3.8         |   |
| v5     | -                      | 28.5       | 20.3        | 8.2         |   |
|        | +                      | 26.6       | 21.7        | 4.9         |   |
| v6     | -                      | 24.1       | 19.7        | 4.4         |  |
|        | +                      | 24.2       | 21.0        | 3.2         |   |
| s1     | -                      | 24.0       | 21.2        | 2.8         |  |
|        | +                      | 25.1       | 22.8        | 2.3         |   |
| s2     | -                      | 24.8       | 20.0        | 4.8         |  |
|        | +                      | 24.2       | 19.5        | 4.7         |   |
| s3     | -                      | 24.4       | 20.0        | 4.4         |  |
|        | +                      | 23.6       | 20.6        | 3.0         |   |
| s4     | -                      | 25.3       | 23.7        | 1.6         |  |
|        | +                      | 25.8       | 24.4        | 1.4         |   |

MicroRNA level was measured after isolation from untreated (-) and treated with lysis buffer (+) plaque fragments. No significant difference in Ct miR-23a after lysis buffer treatment was observed (Paired samples two-tailed t-test  $P = 0.4417$ ) and the  $\Delta$ Ct decrease (Paired samples two-tailed t-test  $P = 0.0047$ ) was caused by the increase of miR-451a Ct (Paired samples two-tailed t-test  $P = 0.0029$ ).