



**Fig. S1** Nickel limitation in the urease negative *H. influenzae* R2866 strain effects lifestyle. (A) The wild type cells (solid line) did not aggregate (the y-axis shows the OD<sub>600nm</sub>) compared to a *nikQ* mutant (dotted line) and this translated to a (B) nickel dependent biofilm formation. Biofilm assays (Abs<sub>600nm</sub>; y-axis) revealed an increased biofilm in the *nikQ* mutant (grey bars) compared to the wild type (black bars) and this was removed by addition of nickel. (C) The R2866 *nikQ* mutant (grey bars) were more sensitive to the presence of oxidative stress (S/oxide, superoxide, menadione; HP, hydrogen peroxide; GSNO, S-nitrosoglutathione at concentrations described in the Materials and methods) than the wild type cells (black bars). The values represent an average (OD<sub>600nm</sub>) of replicates as described in the Materials and methods and the error bars are the standard deviation.