



**Figure S1.** Effects of co-culture and co-infection on the HCMV infection of the Caco-2 cells. (A) Plaque reduction assay with Caco-2 mono-cultures and co-cultures infected as well as Caco-2 with HCMV-infected HELF Fi301 were performed at 7 d p.i. Total plaques [%] are normalized against those of the infected Caco-2 mono-culture (dashed line). The total cell count on infection, as determined by trypan blue exclusion test, was averaged from four experiments. Values represent mean  $\pm$  SD from four independent experiments. (B) Analysis of the effect of co-infection by plaque reduction assay. Caco-2 cells were co-cultured with HCMV infected HELF Fi301 for 7 d p.i. Plaques were visualized using the AEC staining kit (A-B, D-E). Mock-infected cells served as controls (C, F). The bar represents 200  $\mu$ M. White arrows: lysis of monolayers; grey arrows: infected proliferating cell. \*\*\*\* $p < 0.0001$ .