



Supplementary Figure 1: Examples of clinical (A, E, I, M) and histological images of patients enrolled into the trial. Clinical diagnoses were confirmed using histology. **(A-D)** Healthy corneas obtained from enucleated globes (see Table 1 for details) served as controls. **(E-H)** Corneas from patients with keratoconus were used as a second control group. **(I-L)** Clinical images and corresponding histological images of a herpetic scar are shown. Vessels in the cornea can also be identified histologically, here surrounded by numerous plasma cells (inset in **(L)**). **(M-P)** Clinical images and corresponding histological images of an acute bacterial keratitis are shown. A distinct massive accumulation of polymorphonuclear neutrophils (PMNs) (**P**) is seen in acute bacterial keratitis (**M**).