Supplemental Material

MOMP contains eight cysteines; disulfide bonds between these residues could stabilize the trimer state and/or the loop conformations necessary for antibody recognition. To better understand the native state of detergent samples, nMOMP/Z3-14 samples were subjected to no boiling or boiling for 10 min and/or mixed with 1% dithiothreitol (DTT) (Fig. S1). For the samples stored at either temperature, addition of DTT had little effect on the amount of protein migrating at 66 kDa (i.e., the trimer); after boiling, the protein migrated at 40 kDa (i.e., the monomer), whether DTT was present or not. These data are consistent with the notions that neither SDS-insoluble aggregates are formed, nor that disulfide bridges are responsible for the formation of the trimer (Sun et al. 2007).

**Fig. S1** Integrity of the tertiary and quaternary structures of nMOMP samples in either A8-35 or Z3-14, stored either at room temperature or at 4°C, as monitored by SDS-PAGE and Western blotting; complete gel; sections of this gel are presented in Fig. 2. a. Western blot probed with mAbs-18b. b. Corresponding silver-stained gel. Samples in Z3-14 were boiled (B+) or not (B-) for 10 min, and incubated (D+) or not (D-) with DTT prior to electrophoresis.