**Table S2.** Primers used to validate genes transcribed before the midblastula transition.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gene** | **Forward Primer** | **Reverse Primer** |
| *cdc14b* | TATGTGAGAATGCCGAAGGA | CGCTGCTTCTCAACCATAAA |
| *dpp8* | GAGAATGGGAGGTTCTTGGA | AGCAAGCATGAGAGAACCCT |
| *btbd17* | ACCATGACACCAGCAAGAAA | CCATTCCACTCATTGCTGAC |
| *cdk5r2* | AAATCGGAGAAGAGCCTCAA | GGCCATTAATAGGACCTGGA |
| *arih2* | CTGCAGCTAGAGGCACAGAC | CACTTTGCTAGCAGCTTTGC |
| *slc9a3r1* | CAAGGAGTGCAATGTGGTTC | GGGACTCTGGGTGAATCTGT |
| *loc100170544* | AACCCTCGAGAGGTGAAGAA | CCAGGGAAGACTGGTTCATT |
| *mtx1* | GTCCATAAGGTCACCAACCC | AGGAGCTTCTCTTCCAGCAG |
| *slain2* | AAAGCAGGGCAACAACTTCT | AAGCTTGTCTTTGCCAGGTT |
| *lrrcc1* | AAGTGGCTGAAGAGGGAAGA | CTTCCTCTATCCTGGGCAAG |
| *gart* | GGTCCATGTGAAACAAGTGC | AAGAGGAGCTTCTGGACCAA |
| *oct25* | CAGTTCGCCAAAGATCTGAA | CGCTCTAGGAAGGGTTTGAG |
| *ets2* | GCGTTCCGACCTCTCTCTAC | TTCAGGGCTTGACTCATCAC |
| *akt2* | CTGGAGAATCTCATGCTGGA | TCTGGTGTGCCACAGAAAGT |
| *c20orf72* | TGCAGCACAAATCTTTCCTT | GTGACAGTACGCACCAAACC |
| *ier5* | CGCTGGGAAAGATCTACCAT | GGGCTTTGGCTCAGATAGAC |
| *nkrf* | TGGACAGTCAGAAGCAGGAG | TGTCTGCCTTCATCTTCCAC |
| *rhou* | CCTACGGCTTTCGATGATTT | GCTGACAACACTGAAGCACA |
| *spats2* | CCACTCCTGAGCTTTCATCA | CTGCCCTTGTCTCTTGTTCA |
| *xnr5* | GTGAAGGATCCTGTCCGATT | TGCATGATGGGCATTCTACT |
| *xbra* | AGGTTCAAGGAGCTCACCAA | GAACCCATTCTCCATTCACG |
| *odc* | TTTGGTGCCACCCTTAAAAC | CCCATGTCAAAGACACATCG |