

Additional File 1. Alignment of *C. elegans* histone 3'UTR sequences

The first 200 nucleotides of the 3'UTRs of histone H2A, H2B, H3 and H4 genes were retrieved from Wormbase and aligned using ClustalW. Sequences $\geq 80\%$ conserved are boxed in black; positions with $\geq 80\%$ similar bases (either purines or pyrimidines, respectively), are boxed in gray. In the consensus sequence the hairpin element, the AATCC element and the polyadenylation signal are underlined. Note that in H2B genes the position of the polyadenylation signal varies and is not shown in the consensus. Instead the signals are bold/underlined in the alignment. Similarly, the few polyadenylation signals not fitting the consensus sequence are shown bold/underlined in the alignments of H2A, H3 and H4 3'UTRS. In animals, cleavage normally occurs 10 - 30 nucleotides 3' of the AAUAAA element, after the sequence CA, and is also dependent on a G/U downstream element 3' of the cleavage site. The position of a CA dinucleotide is $\geq 80\%$ conserved in H2A genes and is shown in consensus sequence. In some H2A genes, and in H2B, H3 and H4 genes the position of CA is less well conserved and CA dinucleotides are underlined in the alignments. This is normally followed by a G/T rich region that may encode the G/U downstream element.