



Figure S2 *step* mRNA localization is indistinguishable between forming PGCs and the surrounding syncytial soma. Confocal imaging of fluorescent *in situ* hybridization of *step* mRNA in the posterior of an early syncytial embryo (nuclear cycle 10). The phase contrast image, right, shows the position of forming PGCs at the posterior pole. For the *in situ* image, left, note the indistinguishable *step* mRNA signal around the embryo periphery (for both the posterior pole where PGCs are forming and the surrounding soma). A greater interior signal is also present.