

Figure S1. Structure-function of the WW domain. Related to Figsures 1, 2 and 3. (A) Amino-acid sequence alignment of the WW domain and carboxy-flank of DGCR8 homologs. Perfectly conserved residues are in red and residues with conservative amino acid differences are in green. The sequences used to create GST-WW and GST-WWD proteins are shown. GST-WWD includes a highly conserved region C-terminal to the WW domain that contains the heme-binding protoporphyrin cysteine residue involved in dimerization. (B) Binding between GST-WW protein and biotinylated peptides containing four CTD heptad repeats. Binding reactions were performed in high-stringency potassium phosphate buffer as described in Supplemental Experimental Procedures. Peptide-associated GST-WW protein was visualized by Western blot. Input shown represents 12% of total binding reactions. (C) Quantitation of change in S2P-modified Pol II that was pulled down by GST-WWD protein in nuclear extracts prepared from cells that had been treated for 2 hours with flavopiridol. Error bars are standard deviations and p-value is from a two-tailed t-test. Although the short treatment caused a slight reduction in total S2P-modified Pol II, it greatly reduced the S2Pmodified Pol II that was free to bind to the GST-WWD bait.

Figure S2. Molecular genetics of *cdk9G57S* **mutant and its** *Cdk9* **genomic rescue.** Related to Figure 4 (A) Schematic showing the ATP-binding motif in the kinase domain of Cdk9. Sequencing of homozygous *cdk9* mutant larvae revealed a point mutation (red) resulting in a serine substitution at an invariant glycine residue. (B) Lethal phase analysis of *cdk9* mutant animals. Homozygous mutant animals die between 3 and 6 days after egg laying. Red dashed line marks the L1-L2 molt when we harvested mutant animals for all RNA and protein analysis. (C) Offspring from *cdk9* heterozygous balancer parents were scored for their *cdk9* genotype (heterozygous or homozygous) at different larval instar stages. If homozygous *cdk9* offspring developed normally, they should have represented 33% of the population at all stages. However, mutant representation was greatly diminished by the second and third instar stages. (D) Schematic of the genomic DNA used to create a rescue transgene for *cdk9*. (E) Wildtype, *cdk9* heterozygous, *cdk9* homozygous and rescued larvae at 72 hours after egg laying, when larvae are normally third instar. (F) Mitotic recombination was used to generate homozygous *cdk9* mutant eye cells in an otherwise heterozygous animal. Note the mispatterned eye facets suggesting a role for *cdk9* in eye development. However, the mutant is not cell-lethal since if it had been, no eye would have formed.

Figure S3. Analysis of polycistronic pri-miRNAs affected by *cdk9***.** Related to Figure 5. (A) Western blot of total Pol II using antibody 4H8 from *cdk9* mutant and rescued larvae. (B) Schematics of the five polycistronic transcripts showing the relevant regions analyzed by nested RT-PCR. Black, green and blue lines correspond to predicted cDNAs, primary amplicons, and secondary amplicons, respectively. Sizes of predicted secondary amplicons are shown. Note the secondary amplicons span all pre-miRNAs for a given pri-miRNA. (C) Stained agarose gel with nested PCR reaction products, as indicated. Each product is the predicted size for secondary amplicons as in B. (D) Alignment of the sequenced 3'RACE product generated from pri-miR-275/305 RNA with release 6 of the *Drosophila* genome. Primary features are highlighted.

Figure S4. Analysis of miRNAs dependent on *cdk9***.** Related to Figure 5. (A) Fold change (log2) of mature miRNA levels as measured by splinted-ligation assays in *cdk9* mutant relative to wildtype. Some of the mature miRNAs were below the level of detection by the assay and are not included. (B) Differential expression of pri-miRNAs between *drosha* mutant and wildtype larvae, as determined by RT-qPCR. Shown below each plot are positions of the various RT-qPCR products being assayed. Error bars are standard deviations. (C) Fold change (log2) of miR-14 and miR-7 sequencing reads in *cdk9* mutant relative to wildtype libraries. (D) Northern analysis of miR-14 and miR-7 RNAs extracted from *cdk9* mutant and wildtype larvae. For miR-7, it was possible to detect the pri-miRNA species as well. RNAs were normalized to 2S rRNA, and fold change (log2) in *cdk9* mutant relative to wildtype is shown. (E) Northern blot of mature miR-7 extracted from adult heads. These heads were genotypic chimeras, with all eye cells being *cdk9* mutant. The wildtype samples had a copy of the *Cdk9* rescue transgene. (F) RT-qPCR of pri-miR-7 from adult heads with *cdk9* mutant eyes. No significant difference in pri-miR-7 was detected in *cdk9* mutants compared to wildtype. Head RNA from *mir-7* null mutants was also analyzed to test the specificity of pri-miR-7 primers.

GMR>GFP::Brd CDS and 3'UTR

A

 $\bm{\mathsf{B}}$

AUGGUGAGCAAGGGCGAGGAGCUGUUCACCGGGGUGGUGCCCAUCCUGGU CGAGCUGGACGGCGACGUAAACGGCCACAAGUUCAGCGUGUCCGGCGAGG GCGAGGGCGAUGCCACCUACGGCAAGCUGACCCUGAAGUUCAUCUGCACC ACCGGCAAGCUGCCCGUGCCCUGGCCCACCCUCGUGACCACCCUGACCUA CGGCGUGCAGUGCUUCAGCCGCUACCCCGACCACAUGAAGCAGCACGACU UCUUCAAGUCCGCCAUGCCCGAAGGCUACGUCCAGGAGCGCACCAUCUUC UUCAAGGACGACGGCAACUACAAGACCCGCGCCGAGGUGAAGUUCGAGGG CGACACCCUGGUGAACCGCAUCGAGCUGAAGGGCAUCGACUUCAAGGAGG ACGGCAACAUCCUGGGGCACAAGCUGGAGUACACUACAACAGCCACAACG UCUAUAUCAUGGCCGACAAGCAGAAGAACGGCAUCAAGGUGAACUUCAAG AUCCGCCACAACAUCGAGGACGGCAGCGUGCAGCUCGCCGACCACUACCA GCAGAACACCCCCAUCGGCGACGGCCCCGUGCUGCUGCCCGACAACCACU ACCUGAGCACCCAGUCCGCCCUGAGCAAAGACCCCAACGAGAAGCGCGAU CACAUGGUCCUGCUGGAGUUCGUGACCGCCGCCGGGAUCACUCUCGGCAU GGACGAGCUGUACAAGUAAAGCGGCCGCAAAAGCUGGUACCUCGAGGAAA AUGGGAAAUCCGAAAAAAAAUACCACUUUCCAAUCAGCUUUAAAGACUCC AACGGAUUCGGUCUCUAAACAUCAUCCGCAACAGCUUUAACUCUCCACAC UGUGCAAGUGGAGAUUUUAAAAUGAAAUGCACAAAUAUCCAGCUUUAAUC AUUGUCUUCCAUCUAUGUUUAAGAGAGUAUGAAUAAAUACAUAAUAUUAA UACCGAAACUUGUUUGCAUUUCUGAUUUCUUAUUCGAACUUUCCCUUUGU CAUUGUAAUUUCCUCGAAGGUUUUUCCAAGAAUCUGUAAGCCAAAAACCG UUCUUAUCCCGUACCCCUGACCCUUCCACAUUCACGGAA

Figure S5. Analysis of Brd reporter expression. Related to Figure 6. (A) Schematic of the Brd reporter transgene that is expressed from the eye-specific GMR promoter. Green sequence is the GFP open reading frame and red sequence is the stop codon. Location of the forward cDNA primer used in 3'RACE analysis is underlined. Boxed is the M8-A1 8mer seed match to miR-7 in the Brd 3'UTR. Expression of the Brd reporter is dependent on miR-7, as determined by loss-of-function and gain-of-function experiments (data not shown). (B) Brd reporter mRNA 3'RACE products generated from total RNA from adult heads. Stained agarose gel with reaction products, as indicated. Each product is the predicted size for an amplicon as predicted in A. Moreover, no difference was detected in 3'-end structure after sequencing the 3'-RACE products derived from cdk9 mutant and wildtype tissue (data not shown).

Table S2. Drosophila Strains. Related to Figures S2 - S5 and 6.

Brd reporter assay:

Fig. 6A) *y w, ey-FLP; FRT42D, Cdk9G57S / FRT42D, GMR>myr-RFP; GMR > GFP::Brd* Fig. 6B) *y w, ey-FLP; FRT42D, Cdk9G57S/ FRT42D, GMR>myr-RFP; GMR > GFP::Brd / P[Cdk9]*

Apoptosis Assay:

Fig. 6C) *rbf1120a*, *eyFLP; act5c*>*CD2*>*GAL4*, *UAS-GFP* Fig. 6D*) rbf1120a, eyFLP; act5c>CD2>GAL4, UAS-mir-998* Fig. 6E) *rbf1120a, eyFLP; FRT42D, Ubi>GFP / FRT42D, Cdk9G57S*

Other Assays:

y w, ey-FLP; FRT42D, Cdk9G57S

y w, ey-FLP; FRT42D

y w, ey-FLP; FRT 42D, Cdk9G57S / FRT42D, GMR>Hid, cl

y w, ey-FLP; FRT 42D, Cdk9G57S / FRT42D, GMR>Hid, cl ; P[Cdk9]

miR-7^Δ¹ / Df(2R)exu1

qPCR primers	
Pri-miR-11/998_1F	CGATGCTCTCTTCAACGACA
Pri-miR-11/998 1R	GTTACAGGCGGATGCAAAAT
Pri-miR-11/998 2F	AGGCGCACTTGTCAAGAACT
Pri-miR-11/998 2R	GTTGGCCGAAAGGTTGTAAA
Pri-miR-11/998 3F	AGTAAACCACCCAACCGACA
Pri-miR-11/998_3R	TGAATTTGACACGAGGACGA
Pri-miR-11/998 4F	CTCCAGGGCAAATTGTTCAT
Pri-miR-11/998 4R	GGCTGGCTGCATATGATTTT
Pri-miR-283/304/12 F1	CCCGCGATTCACTTGACTAA
Pri-miR-283/304/12 R1	TCTCTCTCTCGCTCCCAAAG
Pri-miR-283/304/12 F2	TCACCATAAGCGCAACAAAA
Pri-miR-283/304/12 R2	ACCTGTGAGGTGAGGTGAGC
Pri-miR-283/304/12 F3	TTGTTGTTGATCGCTGCTTC
Pri-miR-283/304/12 R3	AACGGATGGTACGGTTTACG
12 flankF1	GACGCACTGAAGGATCGTCT
12 flankR1	TGATCATGTGAGTGGAACTCG
Pri277/34 F1	GCGCCTGCCACTTATTACAT
Pri277/34 R1	GGCCGAAAAGACATCGATAA
277 flankF1	AACGAGGCCTAACGATAAAATG
277 flankR1	TTATCGCATTTTCCTGCATTC
34 flankF1	TAATTGGCTATGCGCTTTGG
34 flankR1	TGCCATAACCATCTGATACAGG
Pri275/305_F1	GCGACGGAGACCTAATACCA
Pri275/305 R1	ATGGCAACAAAACTGCATCA
Pri275/305 F2	TCGTGTGTGAGAAGCAAAGC
Pri275/305 R2	CTGTCGCTCGAATTTCACAA
Pri275/305 F3	GAAATGCTCGCAGGCGAGTCC
Pri275/305 R3	GTTGAACACTTGTATCGGTCGC
Pri-miR-7 F	CTGCTTCTGCTCCTGTTCCT
Pri-miR-7 R	GGGAGTGTCCCGTGTAAGTG
Pri-miR-279/996 F1	TTGAAATTAAAGAGGAGGCGAG
Pri-miR-279/996_R1	AAGTTTGTCAAGAAAACACGTGC
Pri-miR-279/996 F2	GTCACTCAGTCCGTCCCAAT
Pri-miR-279/996_R2	AACCAAGAAGCCAAAGACGA
996 flankF1	CCAATCACAAAAATGCCACA
996 flankR1	CGTTGTGCTGACCCAACTTA
RPL32F	GACGCTTCAAGGGACAGTATCTG
RPL32 R	AAACGCGGTTCTGCATGAG

Table S3. Oligonucleotides used in the study. Related to Figure 4.

SUPPLEMENTAL EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Immunoprecipitations

To immunoprecipitate GFP-Pasha, cells were lysed in 10 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 0.5 mM EDTA, 0.5% NP-40 with phosphatase inhibitors and protease inhibitors (10 mM NaF, 1 mM Na₃VO₄, 0.5 µg/mL MG132, 10 µg/mL soybean trypsin inhibitor, 3.6 µg/mL aprotinin, 2 µg/mL pepstatin A, 1 mM PMSF). Lysate was spun 15 minutes at 16,000xg at 4°C. Supernatant was adjusted to 1 mg/ml protein with wash buffer (lysis buffer without NP-40). One ml of extract was incubated overnight with 20 µL of washed GFP-Trap A beads (Nanotrap). The reaction was then spun at 2,500xg at 4°C and beads were washed once in lysis buffer and three times in wash buffer with phosphatase inhibitors before eluting with 2X SDS loading buffer.

To immunoprecipitate Pol II, cells were lysed in 50 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 1.5 mM EGTA, 10% glycerol and 0.2% NP-40 with protease and phosphatase inhibitors. Lysates were spun for 15 minutes at $16,000xg$ and the supernatants were pre-cleared by 1 hour rotating at 4° C with 10 µL washed protein G IgG magnetic beads (Dynabeads). Immunoprecipitation reactions were performed overnight at 4°C with 0.5 ml of 1 mg/ml protein extract and 1 µg antibody, either Abcam ab5095 (Ser2P), ab5131 (Ser5P), ab5408 (Ser5P), 8W16G (hypophosphorylated Pol II), or 4H8, which recognizes all CTD isoforms of Pol II (Brodsky et al., 2005; Schroder et al., 2013). Reactions were centrifuged at 10,000xg, 10 minutes at 4°C and the supernatants were incubated with 10 µL protein G IgG magnetic beads for 2 hours at 4°C. Beads were washed four times in 50 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl with phosphatase inhibitors and eluted with 2X SDS loading buffer.

Precipitate samples were subjected to 8 or 10% SDS-PAGE and wet-transferred to PVDF membrane. Membranes were blocked in 5% non-fat dry milk in TBS, 0.05% Tween-20 and incubated overnight at 4 °C in primary antibody in blocking solution. Antibodies used were anti-Pol II antibodies at 1 µg/mL, 1:2000 anti-Pasha (gift of G. Hannon), anti-GFP at 0.5 µg/ml (GFP-Tag antibody, Molecular Probes) or anti-alpha-tubulin at 0.9 µg/ml (12G10, Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank).

To determine if RNA was required for the interaction between Pol II and Pasha, 500 µg cell extract were incubated overnight with ab5408 as described above. Before incubation with protein G beads, samples were treated with 30 µg RNase A and 5000 U RNase T1 for 2 hours at 16°C. Control experiments determined that this treatment was sufficient to degrade bulk RNA in the extract (data not shown). Samples were then spun 10,000xg, 10 minutes at 4°C to remove precipitates and incubated with protein G IgG magnetic beads. The remaining steps were carried out as described above.

GST Protein Purification

To generate GST fusion proteins, bacteria were cultured in LB + 1% (w/v) glucose + 30 μ g/ml hemin (Sigma), which is amenable for expressing heme-binding proteins such as human hemoglobin (Hoffman et al., 1990). IPTG was added to induce GST fusion protein expression, and GST proteins were purified using standard procedures (Sambrook and Russell, 2001). Purified proteins were stored in 25 mM HEPES pH 7.5, 100 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, 10% glycerol, with protease and phosphatase inhibitors.

Peptide Binding Assays

CTD peptides with four repeats of YSPTSPS and amino-terminal biotinylation were described previously (Kim et al., 2004), and were synthesized by the BCMP Biopolymers facility at Harvard Medical School. Peptides were either unmodified, or phosphorylated on serine-2, serine-5, or serine-2 and serine-5. 500 µg of streptavidin-coupled magnetic beads (M280 Dynabeads; Invitrogen) were incubated with 1 µg of biotinylated peptide for 60 min at 4°C in 500 µl of coupling buffer: 25 mM Tris-Cl (pH 7.6), 50 mM NaCl, 1 mM DTT, 5 % glycerol, 0.03 % Triton X-100, protease and phosphatase inhibitors. Beads were washed three times with 500 ul of ice-cold coupling buffer. Beads with 1 ug of coupled peptide were then mixed with 100 µl of GST fusion protein in 50 mM HEPES pH7.5, 20 mM NaCl, 50 mM KOAc, 10 mM Mg₂OAc, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, 10% glycerol, 0.1% NP-40, 0.05% Triton X-100, protease and phosphatase inhibitors, and BSA such that total protein concentration was constant at 1 mg/ml . GST fusion protein was adjusted such that its concentration was $5.0 \mu M$, and the GST/peptide molar stoichiometry was 2:1. Reactions were incubated overnight at 4°C with mixing. The beads were then washed 3 - 5 times in 0.5 ml ice-cold binding buffer before elution in SDS-PAGE loading buffer. To assay for high-stringency binding, beads with 1 µg of coupled peptide were mixed with 5.0 μ M GST fusion protein in 10 mM Potassium Phosphate pH7.7, 100 mM KOAc, 20 mM Mg₂OAc, 5 mM EGTA, 10% glycerol, 0.1% NP-40, and 0.05% Triton X-100 (Kim et al., 2004). Incubation and washing was performed as above. For all reactions, input loaded on the SDS-PAGE gel was 0.1% of the total reaction, while bound eluate was 2% of the total reaction. The anti-GST Western blot was scanned and quantitated. Intensity of eluate GST-WWD band

was approximately five-fold greater than intensity of the input band. Thus, 25% of total GST-WWD protein formed a stable complex with peptide. If we assume a 1:1 binding stoichiometry between peptide and protein, then the K_d is approximately 3.75 µM.

GST Pulldown Assays

Nuclear lysates of S2 cells were prepared essentially as described (Wright et al., 2006). Approximately $1x10^8$ cells were washed and suspended in 2 packed-cell volumes of Buffer A. This was incubated on ice for 30 min. Triton X-100 was added to a final concentration of 0.1% (v/v). Cells were homogenized with a type B Dounce homogenizer until 80 - 90% lysis was achieved. Nuclei were pelleted at 7,650×g for 10 min in the cold, and resuspended in 4 pellet volumes of Buffer B. Nuclei were lysed by adding $1/10^{th}$ volume of 4 M (NH4)₂SO₄ and then gently mixed for 30 min at 4^oC to avoid shearing DNA. The lysate was centrifuged at 37,000 rpm in a TL-100 ultracentrifuge (Beckman, Mountain View, CA) for 20 min at 4°C. The supernatant was precipitated by dropwise addition of an equal volume of saturated (NH4)2SO4. The precipitate was centrifuged at 16,000 x g for 15 min. Buffer C (50 mM HEPES pH7.5, 50 mM KOAc, 10 mM Mg2OAc, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, 10% glycerol, with protease and phosphatase inhibitors) was added to dissolve the pellet at a volume corresponding to 1/5th of the original packed-cell volume. The lysate was then completely equilibrated into Buffer C by passage through a 0.5 ml Sephadex G-25 spin column. Final protein concentration was typically 15 mg/ml.

For pulldown reactions, 66 pmoles of GST fusion protein was pre-bound to 10 µ of glutathione-sepharose beads for 2 hr at 4 \degree C. Nuclear lysate was diluted to 1 mg/ml in Buffer D (Buffer C + 0.1% NP-40 + 0.05% Triton X-100) $+ 0.2$ mM PMSF) and centrifuged at 14,000 x g for 15 min. 100 µl of the supernatant was incubated at 4 °C for 2 hr with 10 µl glutathione-sepharose beads to pre-clear the lysate of non-specific binding proteins. Cleared lysate was then incubated with 10 µl of GST-bound sepharose beads overnight at 4°C. Beads were washed three times in Buffer D before they were boiled in 2 x SDS-PAGE loading buffer without DTT. Eluate was adjusted to 100 mM DTT and re-boiled before it was subjected to 7.5% SDS-PAGE and Western analysis.

Bioinformatics

For RNA-seq analysis, we used EdgeR and an estimate of the biological coefficient of variation (BCV) to fit the data to a negative binomial model and estimate the significance of differentially expressed miRNAs (Robinson et al., 2010). Specifically, we used the raw number of reads as input for EdgeR, which first normalizes the libraries for any variation in sequencing depth/library size. We then fit the data to a negative binomial model using the function rnbinom and chose a nominal BCV value of 0.1 to calculate the dispersion. We next used the exactTest function (which parallels a Fisher's exact test for a negative binomial model) to calculate significance. MicroRNAs with an FDR adjusted p-value $(q$ -value) ≤ 0.05 were considered significant.

Motif analysis of pri-miRNA hairpins was performed using Probability Logo (Plogo) (O'Shea et al., 2013). Residue heights in a pLogo are closely proportional to the log(base10) odds of the significance of overrepresentation versus the significance of underrepresentation for that RNA base. These significance values are calculated using the binomial probability of base frequencies, with respect to a background data set (in this case the set of complete premiRNA sequences). The use of this log-odds approximation of the binomial probability for pLogo residue heights has the following attractive properties: (i) it is intuitive, as it closely represents the log odds of overrepresentation; (ii) it has a value of 0 (or very close to 0) when a residue is neither underrepresented nor overrepresented; (iii) if a base is substantially underrepresented or overrepresented, one probability will be very small and the other will be near 1.0; thus, being toward one tail or the other will hardly be affected at all by the weight of the other tail.

Sequences representing the Pfam WW domain family seed alignment were derived from the Protein family database (Finn et al., 2010). A multiple sequence alignment and phylogenetic tree were constructed with Clustal W2 and the Mobyle Portal programs Prodist and Neighbor (Neron et al., 2009).

To model predicted pre-miRNA structures, we extracted pre-miRNA sequences from miRbase. These were independently inputted into the folding programs mFold (Zuker, 2003) and RNAfold (Hofacker, 2003) using default settings. A consensus structure for each hairpin-loop was derived from the output from both programs.

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