## SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure S1. Related to Figure 1
(A) STRING database co-occurance analysis based on the proteins used in the network in Figure 1B. Each square and the associated colour indicates the presence or absence and degree of conservation.
(B) Treefam data showing percent species with Aquarius/EMB-4 in each clade.
(C) Treefam tree based on sequence conservation of Aquarius/EMB-4 proteins in different model organisms (bootstrap values are indicated on branches).
(D) Assembly of splicing factors, Aquarius/EMB-4 and exon junction complex proteins during different stages of RNA splicing. Aquarius assembles during the B complex formation on intronic RNA and stays for the rest of the splicing reactions. EJC proteins assemble during Bact complex formation.
(E) Validation of the anti-EMB-4 antibody used in this study. The monoclonal anti-EMB-4 antibody (5M19-8) detects a single band at the size corresponding to EMB-4 (170kD) in wild type animals and no band is detected in the null emb-4(hc60) mutants (alpha-tubulin is used as loading control).
(F) Immunoprecipitation of EMB-4 using anti-EMB-4 antibodies and western blotting for EMB-4 and FLAG::HRDE-1.

Figure S2. Related to Figure 2
Immune-staining of $C$. elegans germline with anti-EMB-4 antibodies. Each panel highlights a different part of the germline.

Figure S3. Related to Figure 3
(A) mjls144 transgene consists of mex-5 promoter, GFP sequence with 3 synthetic introns, histone H2B sequence for nuclear localisation, piRNA target site for 21UR-1, tbb-2 UTR and is inserted in Chr II by MosSCI single copy insertion. mjls144 transgene is fully silenced in wild type animals and de-silences in hrde-1 and emb-4 mutants.
(B) ccSi1504 transgene consists of smu-1 promoter, SV40 nuclear localisation signal, GFP sequence where all piRNA target sequences are removed (Frøkjær-Jensen et al. 2016), 4 smu-1 introns, EGL-13 nuclear localisation signal, piRNA target site for 21UR-1, smu-1 3`UTR and is inserted in Chr V by MosSCI single copy insertion. ccSi1504 is fully silenced in wild type animals and de-silences in hrde-1 and emb-4 mutants (numbers show individual
animals assayed).

Figure S4. Related to Figure 4
(A) Domain structure of EMB-4 based on the domain structure of Aquarius (De et al. 2015).
(B) Crystal structure of Aquarius (domains are highlighted with same colours as in Figure S4A.
(C) Structural alignment of Aquarius (white) and EMB-4 (red).
(D) Superimposition of Vasa/AMPPNP/ssRNA with the crystal structures of Aquarius, EMB-4 and yeast Upf1-RNA. G884 residue of EMB-4 (shown in red) is embedded in close proximity to the putative ssRNA binding pocket.
(E) Western-blot showing EMB-4 protein abundance in wild type and emb-4(sa44) adult stage animals.

Figure S5. Related to Figure 5.
Enrichment of genes in 22G-RNA density bins used in Figure 5H-I for germline and somatic 22G-RNA targets (Gu et al. 2009), for WAGO class 22G-RNA targets (Gu et al. 2009), for piRNA target genes (top 500, (Bagijn et al. 2012), for ERGO-1 target genes (Conine et al. 2010; Han et al. 2009), for ALG-3/4 target genes (Conine et al. 2010; Han et al. 2009) and for CSR-1 target genes (Claycomb et al. 2009).

Figure S6. Related to Figure 6.
mRNA and 22G-RNA profiles of (A) piRNA target gene bath-45, (B) CER-15 retro-element, and (C) Mirage1 transposable element

Figure S7. Related to Figure 7.
22G-RNA profiles of wild-type, hrde-1 and emb-4 mutant animals (mean 22G-RNA abundance of three replicates) on (A) three intron piRNA sensor and (B) single intron piRNA sensor ( Y -axis scale in wild type animals and mutants are different).

Figure S8. Related to Figure 7.
(A, B) mRNA expression levels correlate negatively with 22G-RNA abundance and correlation increases when more exons are targeted by 22G-RNAs (black line vs red line).

## References

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Figure S1

A

Homo sapiens
Mus musculus
Danio rerio
Drosophila melanogaster
Caenorhabditis elegans
Caenorhabditis japonica
Caenorhabditis remanei
Caenorhabditis briggsae
Caenorhabditis brenneri
Schizosaccharomyces pombe
Saccharomyces cerevisiae



B
C


D


E


F


Figure S2


Figure S3


Figure S4


Figure S5


Figure S6


Figure $\mathbf{S 7}$


Figure S8

emb-4


Table S1

|  | C. elegans HRDE-1 IP mean log2 fold enrichment (\# of replicates detected) | D. melanogaster PIWI IP <br> (Le Thomas et al., 2013) | $\begin{gathered} \text { D. melanogaster } \\ \text { PIWI IP } \\ \text { (Le Thomas et al., } \\ \text { 2013) } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ALYREF (ALY-3, ALY) | 0.68 (2/3) | 3/3 | 4/4 |
| RPL23 (RPL-23, RpL23) | 0.43 (3/3) | 3/3 | 1/4 |
| DDX4 (GLH-2, VAS) | 0.57 (2/3) | 2/3 | 4/4 |
| RPS15 (RPS-15, RpS15) | 0.36 (3/3) | 2/3 | 2/4 |
| EIF4A3 (MEL-46, eIF4AIII) | 0.74 (3/3) | 2/3 | 2/4 |
| AQR (EMB-4, CG31368) | 0.73 (2/3) | 2/3 | 1/4 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { NCL (K07H8.10, } \\ & \text { CG17108) } \end{aligned}$ | 0.70 (3/3) | 2/3 | - |
| SND1 (TSN-1, Tudor-SN) | 0.36 (3/3) | 1/3 | - |
| POLR2C (RPB-3, Rpll33) | 0.64 (2/3) | - | 3/4 |
| RPL34 (RPL-34, RpL34) | 0.39 (2/3) | - | 2/4 |
| NOP2 (NOL-1, CG8545) | 0.63 (2/3) | - | 2/4 |
| SRRT (E01A2.2, ARS2) | 0.40 (2/3) | - | 2/4 |
| POLR2J (RPB-11, Rpb11) | 0.54 (2/3) | - | 2/4 |
| POLR1D (F58A4.9, $\mathrm{I}(2) 37 \mathrm{Cg})$ | 0.64 (2/3) | - | 2/4 |
| SSB (C44E4.4, La) | 0.61 (2/3) | - | 2/4 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { NUP210 (NPP-12, } \\ & \text { Gp210) } \end{aligned}$ | 0.60 (2/3) | - | - |
| IMP3 (C48B6.2, CG4866) | 0.27 (3/3) | - | - |
| RPS13 (RPS-13, RpS13) | 0.42 (3/3) | - | - |
| RRS1 (RRBS-1, CG32409) | 0.50 (2/3) | - | - |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DDX24 (F55F8.2, } \\ & \text { CG9143) } \end{aligned}$ | $0.54(2 / 3)$ | - | - |
| KIAA0020 (PUF-12, PEN) | 0.50 (2/3) | - | - |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { DDX54 (Y94H6A.5, } \\ & \text { CG32344) } \end{aligned}$ | 0.55 (2/3) | - | - |
| PAPD5 (GLD-4, TRF4) | 0.88 (2/3) | - | - |
| HNRNPU (Y71G10AL.1, CG30122) | 0.29 (3/3) | - | - |
| HNRNPR (HRP-2, SYP) | 0.59 (3/3) | - | - |
| NUP93 (NPP-13, Nup93) | 0.46 (3/3) | - | - |
| CSTF2 (R09B3.2, CstF-64) | 0.36 (2/3) | - | - |
| POLR2B (RPB-2, Rpll140) | 0.63 (2/3) | - | - |

## Table S2

| Table S2. Strains used in this study, related experimental procedures |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Strain | Genotype | Comment |
| SX1316 | mjls144 II | piRNA sensor transgene |
| SX2000 | mjls144 II; hrde-1(tm1200) III |  |
| SX2929 | mjls144 II; emb-4(qm31) V |  |
| SX2930 | mjls144 II; emb-4(hc60) V |  |
| SX3041 | mjls144 II; emb-4(sa44) V |  |
| SX3073 | mjls588 II | piRNA sensor with 1 intron |
| SX3074 | mjls144 II; hrde-1(tm1200) III; emb-4(sa44) V |  |
| SX3078 | mjls588 II; hrde-1(tm1200) III |  |
| SX3079 | mjls588 II; emb-4(qm31) V |  |
| VM285 | neSi21 | 3XFLAG::HRDE-1 |
| SX3117 | emb-4(mjSi92) | Ollas::EMB-4 |

