***eLife’s* transparent reporting form**

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**Sample-size estimation**

* You should state whether an appropriate sample size was computed when the study was being designed
* You should state the statistical method of sample size computation and any required assumptions
* If no explicit power analysis was used, you should describe how you decided what sample (replicate) size (number) to use

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Sample sizes for individual experiments were chosen according to the number of embryos that can be processed for measurement within the time window defined by the developmental stage of interest. Information about total sample sizes arising from multiple biological repetitions is provided in the figure legends or in the source data files.

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* You should report how often each experiment was performed
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Dot plots have been used throughout the manuscript to provide a clear visual representation of the distribution of individual data sets. Numerical information about all sample sizes is provided either in the figure legends or in the source data files. All data points where used, no outliers removed.

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* Statistical analysis methods should be described and justified
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* Indicate how samples were allocated into experimental groups (in the case of clinical studies, please specify allocation to treatment method); if randomization was used, please also state if restricted randomization was applied
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Please indicate the figures or tables for which source data files have been provided:

Source data files containing complete statistical informations have been provided for Figure 1 and Figure 1-figure supplement 1, Figure 2, Figure 3 and Figure 3-figure supplement 5, Figure 4 and Figure 4-figure supplement 1 as well as Figure 5.