Supplementary Methods

Quantitation of mRNA depletion by real-time qRT-PCR. 48 h after transfection in 96 well plates total RNA was extracted from cells (*Invisorb* RNA extraction kit, Invitek), followed by reverse transcription reaction using *TaqMan* RT reagents (Applera) and real-time qPCR using target specific oligonucleotide primers (**Supplementary Table 2**) (Metabion) and *ABsolute* qPCR SybrGreen mastermix (ABgene) on an ABI 7900HT system (Applera). Knock-down efficiency was assessed by calculating remaining target mRNAs relative to 18S rRNA, comparing siRNA-treated samples with *Negative 1* unspecific control siRNA samples (both Ambion Europe, Ltd.). After lysis of the treated cells, all procedures were performed at Cenix Bioscience GmbH.