

Supplementary Figures

Figure S1 (related to Figure 1 and 2). Expression of Vasa transgenes.

- A) Schematic representation of transgenic constructs GFP-Vas^{WT}, GFP-Vas^{DQAD} and GFP-Vas^{GNT}.
- B) Expression patterns of *vas-Gal4* (top) and *matTub-Gal4* (bottom). Upper panels show schematic representation of the stages at which each driver is expressed. Bottom panels show confocal images of ovarioles expressing GFP-Vas^{WT} (GFP signal, green) under the control of each of the drivers. Scale bar indicates 50 μ m.
- C) Morphology of ovaries of wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*) and *vas^{D1/D1}* flies. Scale bar indicates 500 μ m.
- D) Western blot analysis using antibodies against Vasa showing protein levels in ovaries of wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{PD/D1}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{DQAD}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{GNT}*, *vas^{D1/D1}*, *vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}*, *vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{DQAD}* and *vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{GNT}*. Tubulin served as a loading control.
- E) Western blot analysis using antibodies against Vasa showing protein levels in early embryos produced by wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{PD/D1}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{DQAD}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{GNT}* and *vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}* flies. Tubulin served as a loading control.

Figure S2 (related to Figure 3). Localization of Aub and Ago3 in the egg-chamber.

- A) Immunodetection of Aub and Vasa in stage 6-8 egg-chambers from wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{PD/D1}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}*, *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{DQAD}* and *vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{GNT}* flies. Scale bars indicate 50 μ m (egg-chamber) and 10 μ m (nuage).
- B) Immunodetection of Ago3 and Vasa in stage 6-8 egg-chambers from flies as in A. Scale bars indicate 50 μ m (egg-chamber) and 10 μ m (nuage).

C) Immunodetection of Aub and Vasa in stage 10 egg-chambers from wild-type (w^{1118}), $vas^{PD/D1}$, $vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}$ and $vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{GNT}$ flies. Scale bars indicate 100 μ m (egg-chamber) and 10 μ m (posterior pole).

D) Immunodetection of Ago3 and Vasa in stage 10 egg-chambers from flies as in D. Scale bars indicate 100 μ m (egg-chamber) and 10 μ m (posterior pole).

Figure S3 (related to Figure 3). Localization of Aub and Ago3 in the egg-chamber and embryos.

A) Immunodetection of Aub and Vasa (upper panels) and Ago3 and Vasa (bottom panels) in stage 6-8 egg-chambers from $vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}$ flies. Scale bars indicate 50 μ m (egg-chamber) and 10 μ m (nuage).

B) Immunodetection of Aub and Vasa (upper panels) and Ago3 and Vasa (bottom panels) in stage 10 egg-chambers from $vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}$ flies. Scale bars indicate 100 μ m (egg-chamber) and 10 μ m (posterior pole).

C) Immunodetection of Aub and Vasa in early embryos (stage 1) produced by wild-type (w^{1118}), $vas^{PD/D1}$, $vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}$, $vas^{PD/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{GNT}$ and $vas^{D1/D1}; vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}$ flies. Scale bars indicate 100 μ m (embryo) and 20 μ m (posterior pole).

D) Immunodetection of Ago3 and Vasa in early embryos (stage 1) produced by flies as in C. Scale bars indicate 100 μ m (embryo) and 20 μ m (posterior pole).

Figure S4 (related to Figure 4). GFP-Vasa co-immunoprecipitation analyses.

A) Correlation analysis of two replicates of GFP-Vas^{WT} and GFP-Vas^{DQAD} co-IPs (co-IP1, left chart; co-IP2, right chart). Correlation was determined using Pearson's correlation coefficient calculation.

B) Venn diagrams comparing two biological replicates (co-IP1, blue circle; co-IP2, red circle) of GFP-Vas^{WT} (left) and GFP-Vas^{DQAD} (right) co-IPs.

C) Venn diagram of enriched (>2 fold) proteins represented in Figure 3C from two biological

replicates of GFP-Vas^{WT} and GFP-Vas^{DQAD} co-IPs.

D) Gene Ontology enrichment analysis of biological processes for genes enriched in GFP-Vas^{WT} and GFP-Vas^{DQAD} co-IPs.

E) Gene Ontology enrichment analysis of cellular component for genes enriched in GFP-Vas^{WT} and GFP-Vas^{DQAD} co-IPs.

Figure S5 (related to Figure 5). Age-dependent progression of ovarian atrophy.

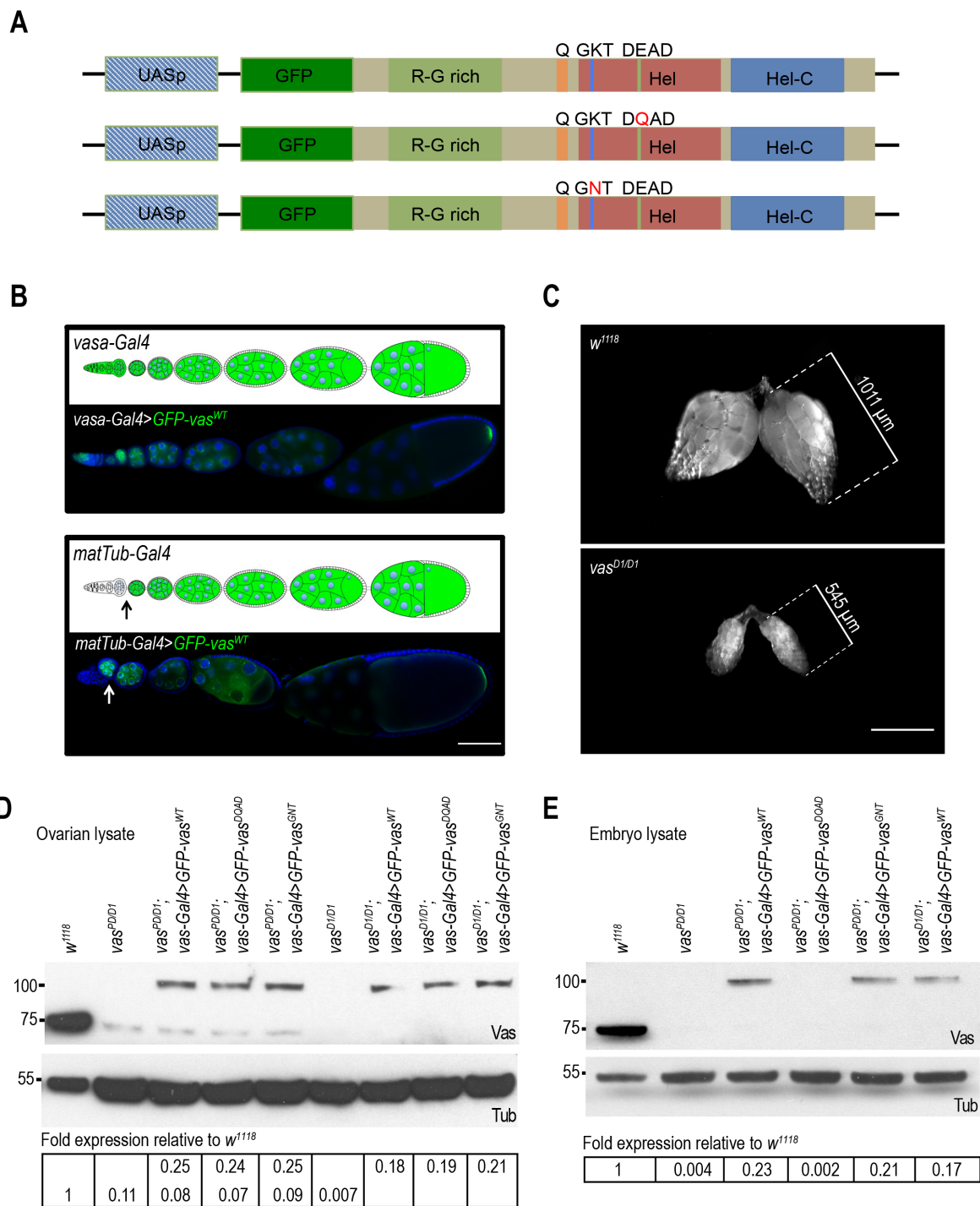
A) Images of ovaries from 3-day, 10-day, and 20-day old wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{D1/D1}*, *vas^{D1/D1}*; *vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}* and *vas^{D1/D1}*; *matTub-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}* flies. Scale bar indicates 500 μ m.

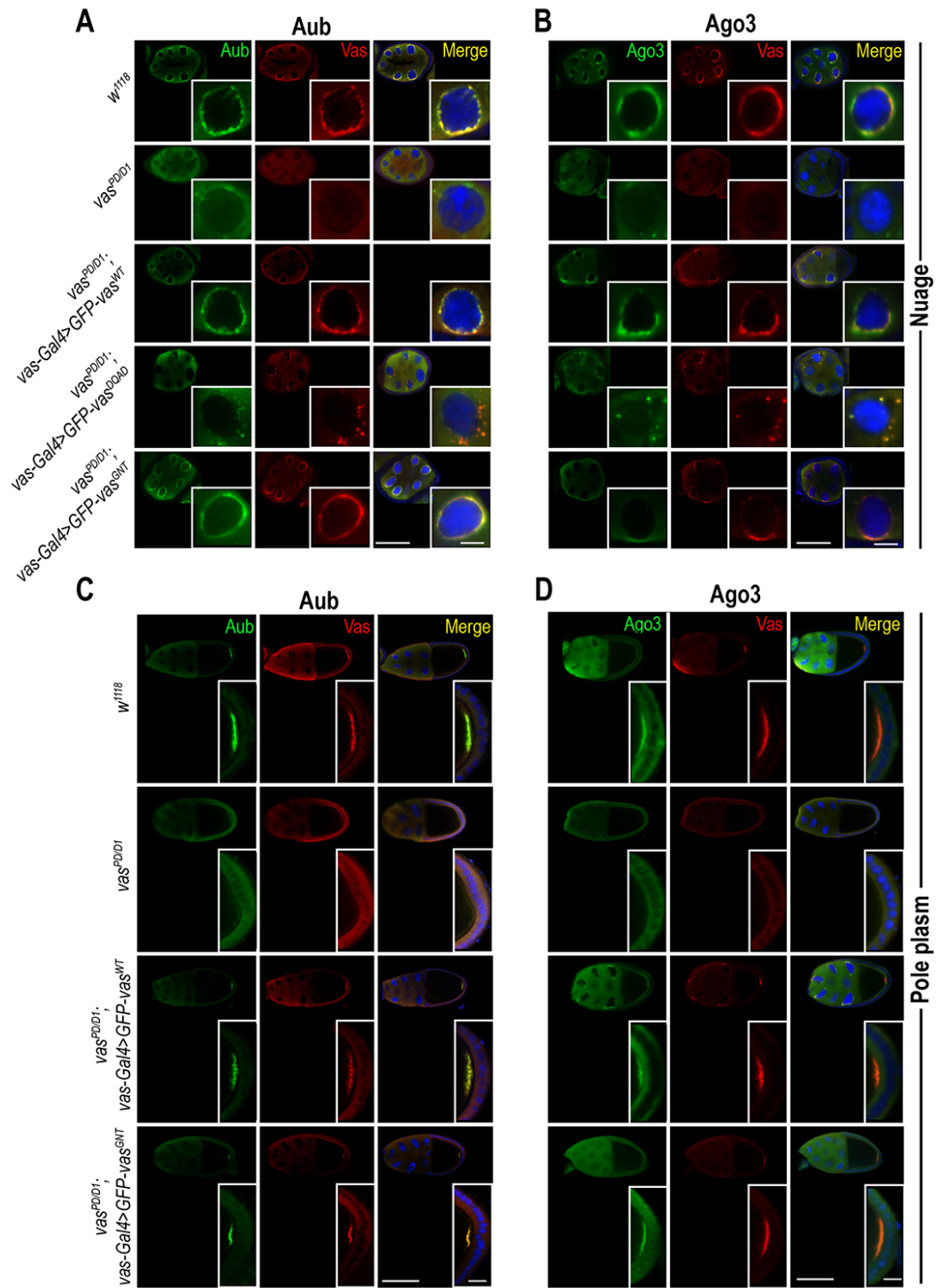
B) Confocal images of ovarioles from 3-day, 10-day, and 20-day old wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{D1/D1}*, *vas^{D1/D1}*; *vas-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}* and *vas^{D1/D1}*; *matTub-Gal4>GFP-Vas^{WT}* flies. Pyknotic egg-chambers are marked with asterisk. Scale bar indicates 100 μ m.

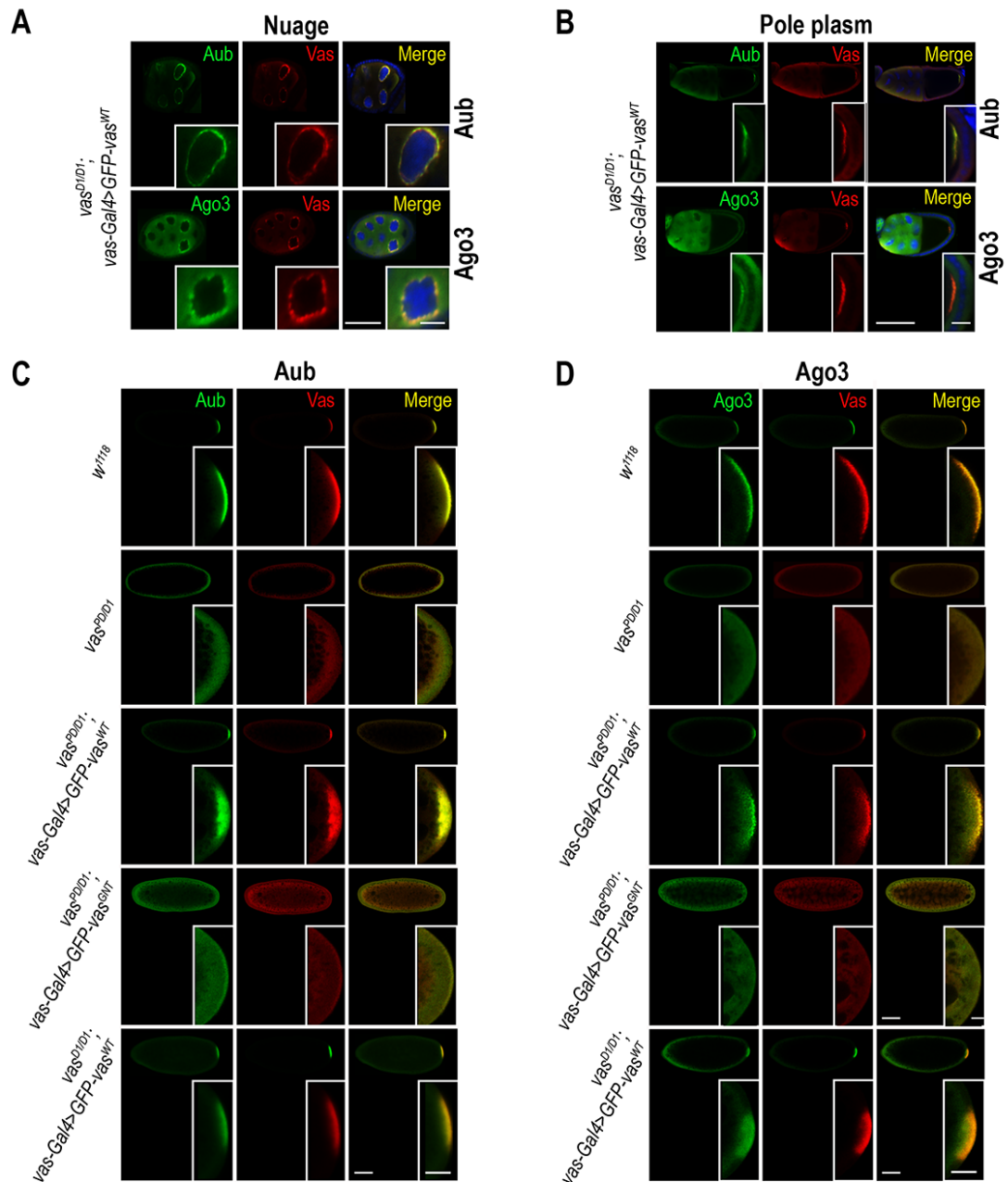
Figure S6 (related to Figure 6). Control of *mnk* RNAi efficiency.

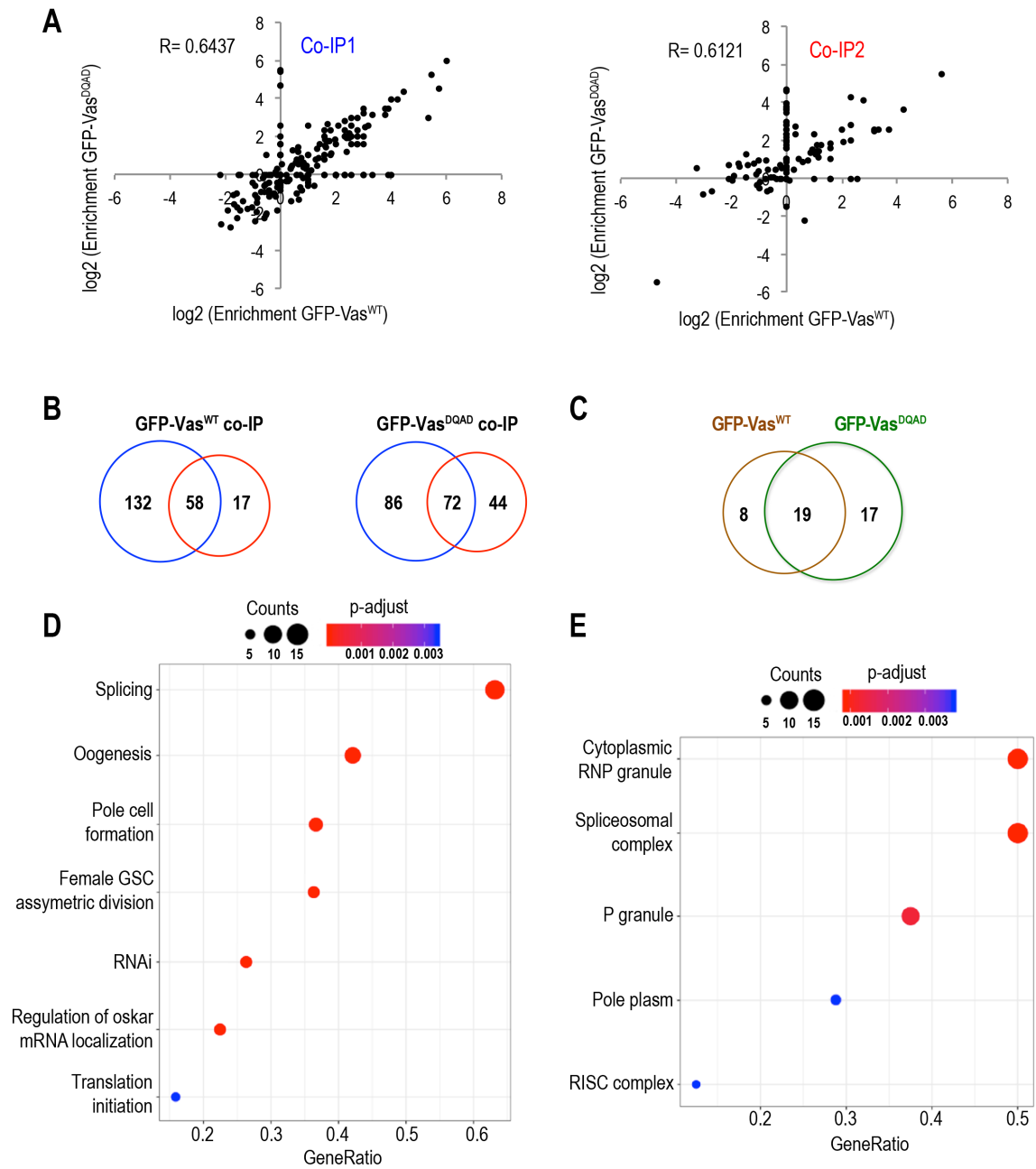
A) Q-PCR analysis of *mnk* mRNA in ovaries from wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{D1/D1}*, *vas^{D1/D1}*; *vas-Gal4>TRiPmnk*, *vas^{D1/D1}*; *matTub-Gal4>TRiPmnk* and *vas^{D1/D1}*; *vas-Gal4>TRiPw* flies. Expression level of *mnk* in *w¹¹¹⁸* was set to 1 and normalized to *rp49* mRNA in individual experiments. Error bars represent the standard deviation among three biological replicates.

B) Images of ovaries (left) and *in situ* detection of *mnk* mRNA by FISH (right), in wild-type (*w¹¹¹⁸*), *vas^{D1/D1}*, *vas^{D1/D1}*; *vas-Gal4>TRiPmnk*, *vas^{D1/D1}*; *matTub-Gal4>TRiPmnk* and *vas^{D1/D1}*; *vas-Gal4>TRiPw* ovaries. Scale bars indicate 500 μ m (ovaries) and 100 μ m (ovarioles).

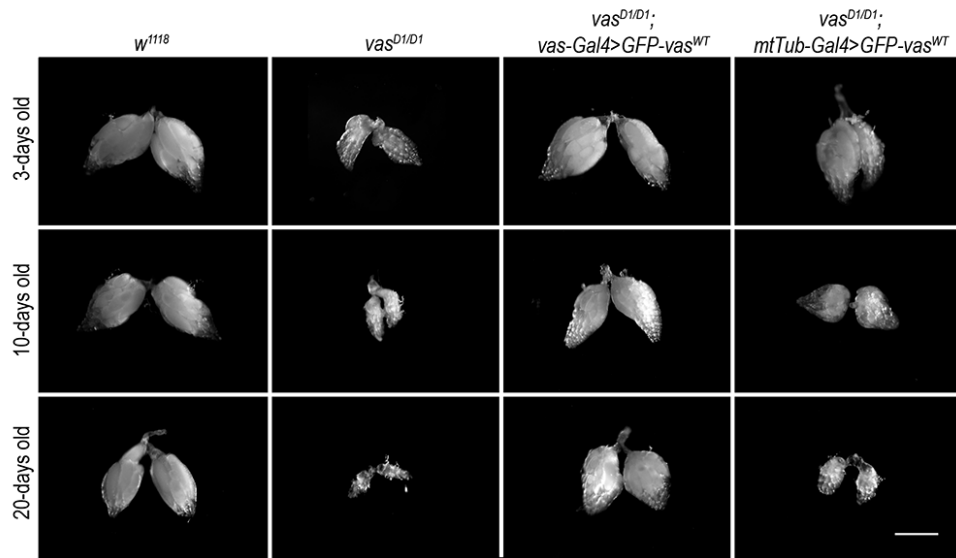




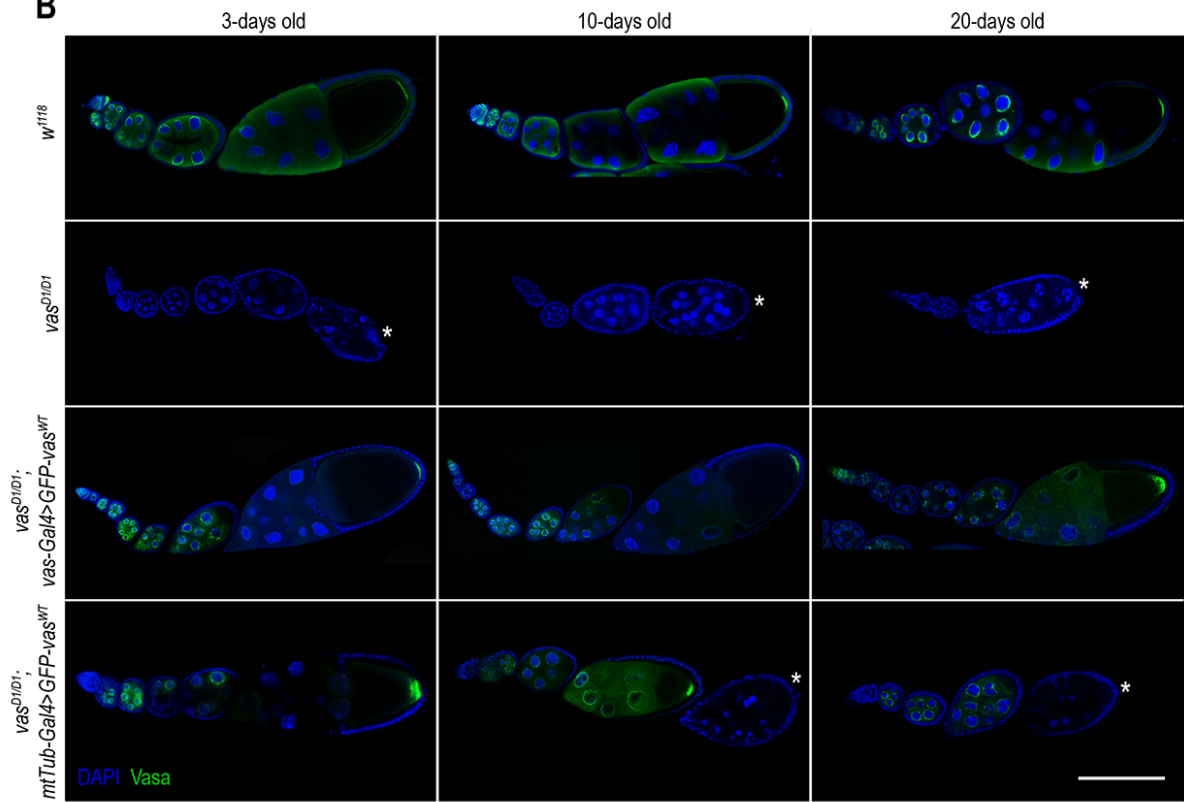




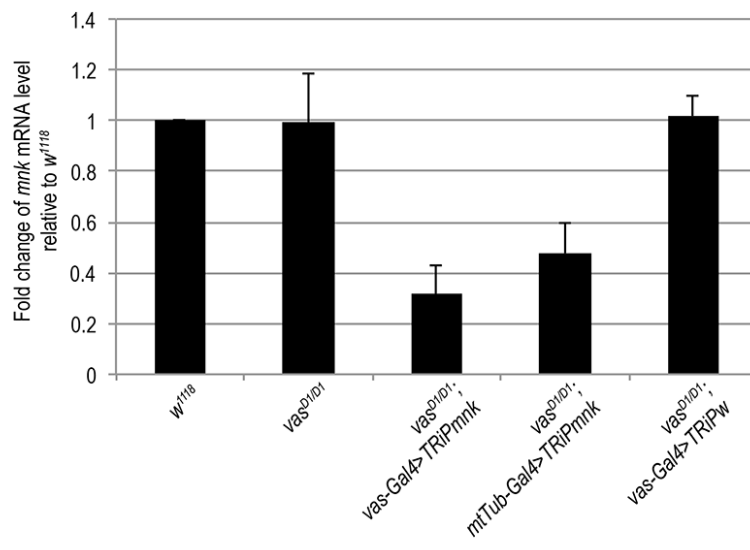
A



B



A



B

