

16 January 2013

John Pham, Ph.D.
Associate Editor
Molecular Cell
600 Technology Square
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear John,

I am enclosing our revised manuscript, "An Ancient Transcription Factor Initiates the Burst of piRNA Production During Meiosis in the Mouse Testis," for consideration for publication as an article in *Molecular Cell*.

We believe that we have now satisfied the Reviewers' concerns by combining the relevant parts of our original companion manuscript with this paper, by providing additional experimental data and analyses, and by extensively rewriting the text.

We believe that our work will be of broad interest to the biological community and is appropriate for publication in *Molecular Cell*. We hope you will agree.

Thank you for encouraging us to submit our work for publication in *Molecular Cell*.

Best regards,



Phillip D. Zamore
Gretchen Stone Cook Professor of Biomedical Sciences
Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Co-director, RNA Therapeutics Institute
Professor, Biochemistry & Molecular Pharmacology