

Supplementary information: Electrophoretic gels and blots

Visualization of PCR products was obtained using from the ChemiDoc MP imaging system and associated image lab Software (version 6.0) (BioRad Laboratories). Agarose gel images were converted from SCN to JPEG format to accommodate the editing application - Image J software (National institutes of Health). Thereafter, images were inverted and cropped for annotated figures. Brightness and contrast were adjusted. However, this was applied to the entire image including controls. Annotated figures adhere to digital image and integrity policies.

Original and unannotated images of agarose gels are included in supplementary files for the biological replicates of *Gallus gallus* and *Cercopithecus pygerythrus*.

Important to note: Figure 1 and 2 includes specimen 3 of *Gallus gallus* and *Cercopithecus pygerythrus*. For the stage 5 reactions, a second comb was used to load product. This is apparent in the raw images. These images were cropped and included in composite figures. In particular, the PCR product derived from a left rib sample stored at -80°C (no reverse transcriptase) of *Cercopithecus pygerythrus* was loaded on a second comb without a ladder. The supplementary includes an overexposed original image. Unfortunately, there is no other images available for this reaction.