

Supporting Information for

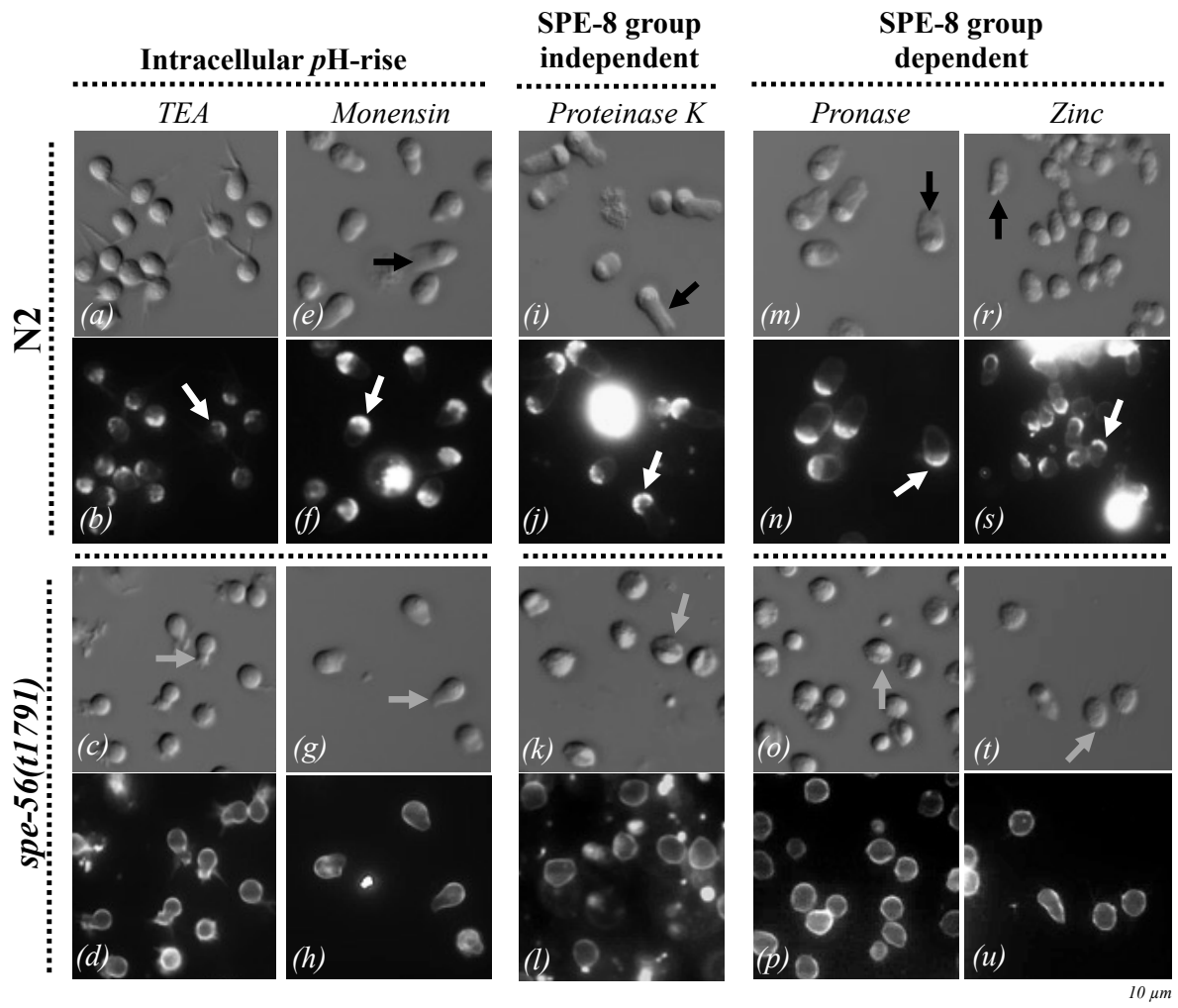
The intrinsically disordered protein SPE-56 is required for acrosomal-like exocytosis and fertility in *Caenorhabditis elegans*

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32 **Fig. S1**



34 **Figure S1. Assessment of *in vitro* activation in *spe-56*-deficient sperm.**

35 DIC and fluorescence images of *in vitro*-activated spermatozoa isolated from N2 wild-type
 36 and *spe-56(t1791)* mutant males. Various chemical agents were used to induce activation,
 37 including Triethanolamine (TEA; **a–d**), Monensin (**e–h**), Proteinase-K (**i–l**), Pronase (**m–p**),
 38 and Zinc (**r–u**), which target different activation mechanisms, including intracellular pH-rise,
 39 an SPE-8-independent pathway, and the canonical SPE-8 pathway. Black arrows indicate the
 40 pseudopods of the activated spermatozoa; white arrows indicate the MO fusion pores. Gray
 41 arrows indicate the short pseudopods that are typical of *spe-56*-deficient spermatozoa.

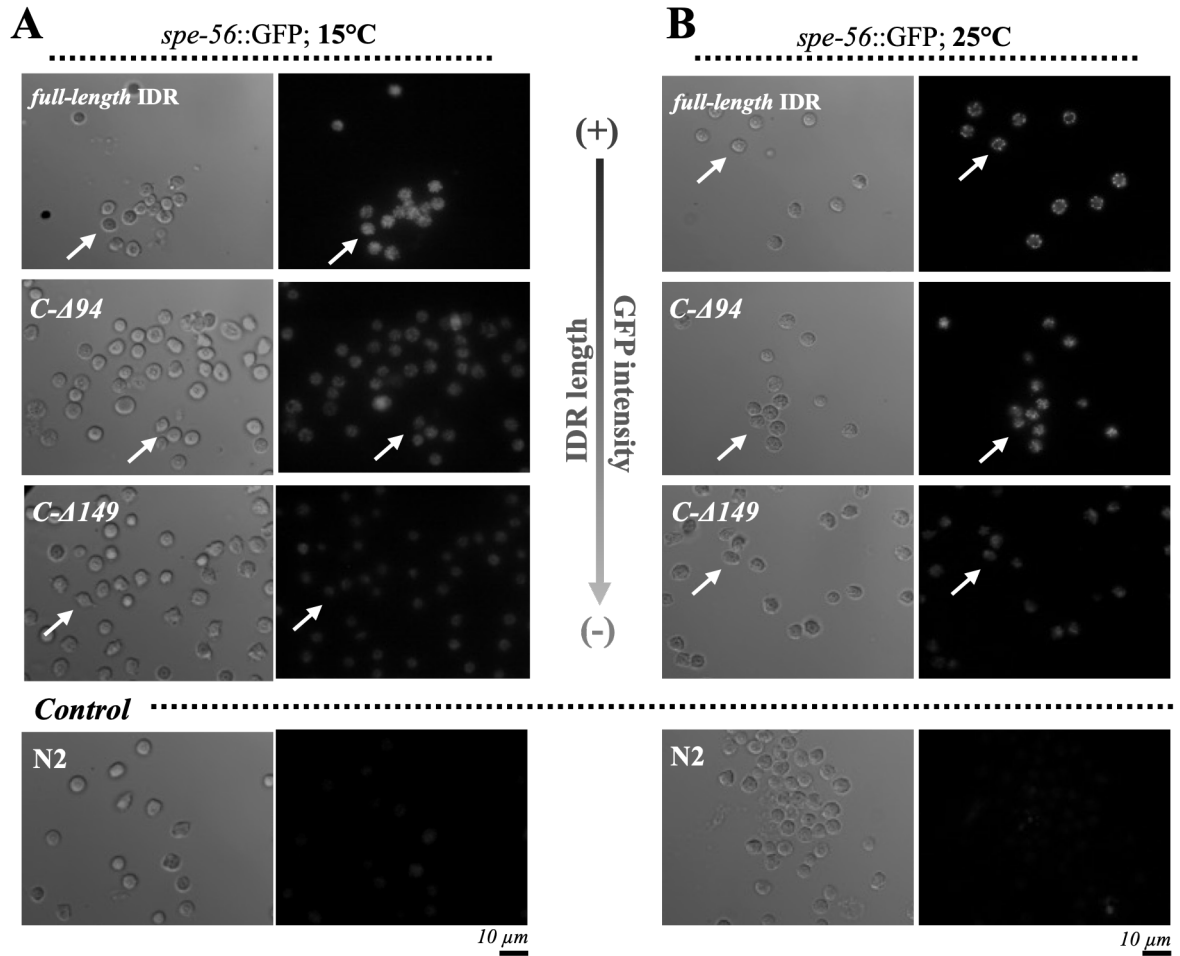
Fig. S2



Figure S2. Multiple sequence alignment of SPE-56 homologs of rhabditid nematodes.

Amino acid alignments with *Clustal Omega* and *Clustal* color scheme (94) shows sequence similarities in *C. elegans* compared with *C. briggsae*, *C. japonica*, *C. remanei*, and *C. brenneri*. The black border indicates disorder prediction by MobiDB (92).

70 **Fig. S3**



71
72 **Figure S3. Temperature- and IDR-dependent segregation of SPE-56 in C-terminal**
73 **deletion mutants.**

74 DIC and fluorescence images of *spe-56(fed113)* spermatid groups carrying SPE-56::GFP with
75 either the full-length C-terminal IDR or CRISPR/Cas9-engineered IDR-deletion variants (*C-*
76 *Δ194* or *C-Δ149*), grown at 15 °C (**A**) or 25 °C (**B**). Autofluorescence-control images
77 depicting N2 wild-type spermatids are shown below. White arrows indicate spermatids. The
78 gray long arrow between the images indicates the relative loss of GFP fluorescence with
79 increasing IDR deletion.