

Online Resource 1 Immunolocalization of VASA in *Ruditapes philippinarum* during the gonad reconstituting phase.

VASA-labelled cells are detected in the intestinal epithelium (a) and in the connective tissue (b). (a) A tangential section of the intestinal epithelium allows to visualize several VASA-labelled cells (arrowheads) scattered among the batiprismatic cells of the gut (bc). (b) In the connective tissue, acini are forming (one is circled in dotted line), showing many germ cells at the beginning of gametogenesis (*) and some developing oocytes (n = oocyte nucleus) surrounded by many VASA-labelled cells (arrowheads). Red: VASA staining; green: nuclear staining.

