

Table 1S. Annealing temperatures ( $T_a$ , at 1°C/min), melting temperatures ( $T_m$ , at 0.5°C/min) and calculated values of hysteresis ( $T_m - T_a$ ) for parallel duplexes and parallel triplexes of **Rp9** at pH 7.2.

9-MERS	pH 7.2, templates 2'-OMe								
	annealing temp. $T_a$ (°C)								
components	H9_M	H9LT1	H9LT2	H9LT3	H9LT4	H9LC1	H9LC2	H9LC3	H9LC4
Rp9	35	35	35	40	46	43	53	52	55
Rp9+WC9_M	52	52	52	54	57	54/56 <sup>a</sup>	58/61 <sup>a</sup>	59/61 <sup>a</sup>	61/64 <sup>a</sup>
Rp9+WC9	50	50	50	50	54	52	57	57	60
	melting temp. $T_m$ (°C)								
Rp9	39	38	38	43	50	47	57	55	62
Rp9+WC9_M	57	57	58	58	61	58	63	64	67
Rp9+WC9	54	51	53	53	57	55	59	61	65
	hysteresis ( $T_m - T_a$ ) (°C)								
Rp9	4	3	3	3	4	4	4	3	7
Rp9+WC9_M	5	5	6	4	4	4/2 <sup>a</sup>	5/2 <sup>a</sup>	5/3 <sup>a</sup>	6/2 <sup>a</sup>
Rp9+WC9	4	1	3	3	3	3	2	4	5

<sup>a</sup>) Annealing was performed at 0.5°C/min.

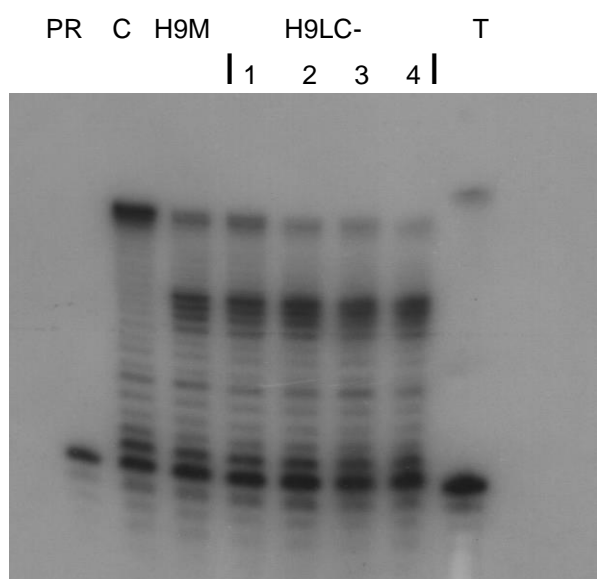


Figure 1S. Autoradiogram of PAGE separated products of reverse transcription performed with AMV RT on the **RNAT1** template. In the consecutive experiments the following components were added: Lane PR: **PR**, no enzyme; Lane C: **PR**, positive control, no inhibitors added; Line H9M: **PR + Rp9 + H9\_M**; Lines H9LC1-4: **PR + Rp9 + H9LC1÷4**, at 1:1:1 ratio. Lane T: the labeled **RNAT1** template as a marker, no **H9LC1÷4** added.