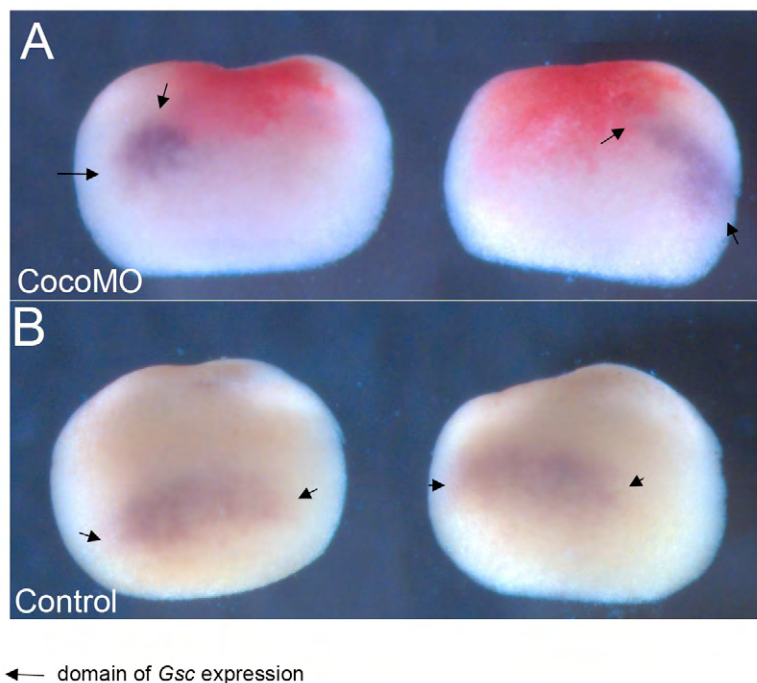
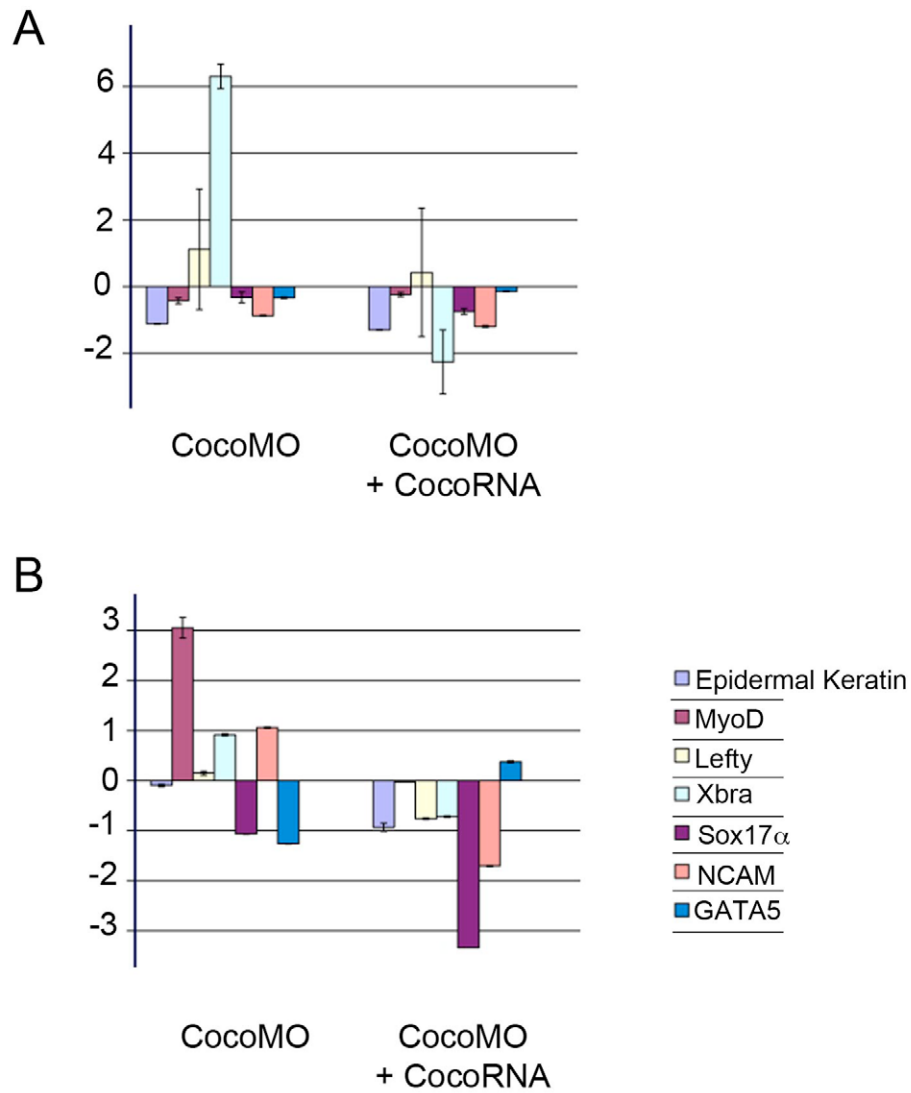


Suppl. Figure 1: Efficacy of α s-oligo and MO to Coco. (A) RT-PCR demonstrating the loss of endogenous Coco in oocytes after injection with an α s-oligo specific for Coco. (B) Oocytes were injected with Coco RNA and a Western performed with an anti-Coco antibody. A strong band can be seen which is lost after co-injection with CocoMO.



Suppl. Figure 2: Knockdown of Coco results in a loss of head mesoderm. (A) CocoMO injected embryo at st9.5. Purple staining represents *Gsc* and red staining, CocoMO. *Gsc* expression is lost where Coco is knocked down. (B) Uninjected control embryo showing endogenous *Gsc* expression.



Suppl. Figure 3: qRT-PCR of explants from st16 Coco morphant embryos. (A) Animal caps from Coco depleted embryos were analysed for a variety of molecular markers. A strong upregulation of *Xbra* was detected. (B) Analysis of equatorial region of the embryo also had an increase in mesodermal markers, as seen by the upregulation of *MyoD*. y-axis: expression ratio (2-log scale)