

**Additional file 1 - Table S1. Characterisation of the putative functional *ELP/CTI* gene, transcript and protein**

| Gene       | Species              | Gene<br>( <i>in vitro</i> ) | Gene<br>( <i>in silico</i><br>only) | Transcript<br>( <i>in vitro</i> ) | Transcript<br>( <i>in silico</i><br>only) | Protein<br>(milk/<br>colostrum) | References                       |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>ELP</b> | Fat-tailed dunnart   | ✓                           |                                     | ✓                                 | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study, 27]                 |
|            | Stripe-faced dunnart | ✓                           |                                     |                                   | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study, 27]                 |
|            | koala                | ✓                           |                                     |                                   | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study]                     |
|            | Opossum              |                             | ✓                                   | ✓                                 | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study, 27]                 |
|            | Possum               | ✓                           |                                     | ✓                                 | ✓                                         | ✓                               | [this study, 25, 28]             |
|            | Tammar wallaby       | ✓                           |                                     | ✓                                 |                                           | ✓                               | [this study, 11, 13, 20, 21, 26] |
| <b>CTI</b> | Cat                  |                             | ✓                                   |                                   | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study]                     |
|            | Cow                  |                             | ✓                                   | ✓                                 |                                           | ✓                               | [this study, 31, 36, 37]         |
|            | Dolphin              |                             | ✓                                   |                                   | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study]                     |
|            | Dog                  |                             | ✓                                   | ✓                                 |                                           |                                 | [this study]                     |
|            | Panda                |                             | ✓                                   |                                   | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study]                     |
|            | Pig                  |                             | ✓                                   |                                   | ✓                                         |                                 | [this study]                     |