



Figure S6. Small RNA eQTL tests detect known miRNA eQTLs in cells but show no signal for piRNA eQTLs. (A,B) QQ-plots compare observed $-\log_{10} p$ -values of the eQTL tests with the expected values from a uniform distribution. (A) miRNA eQTL QQ-plots show an excess of small p -values in cells (left) with a weaker signal in exosomes (right). The subset of points corresponding to miRNAs with known eQTLs at a 5% FDR from two large cohort studies, one from 373 LCLs (Lappalainen *et al.* 2013) and another from 5239 whole blood samples (Huan *et al.* 2015), are colored in red. The miRNAs with known eQTLs are significantly enriched toward the lower end of the p -value distribution for cells (two-sided Wilcoxon rank-sum; $p = 9.5 \times 10^{-5}$), which indicates that we are replicating known effects. The enrichment is not statistically significant in exosomes ($p = 0.79$). (B) QQ-plots for piRNA eQTL tests show no strong enrichment of small p -values in cells (left) nor exosomes (right).