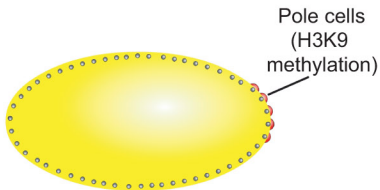


C. elegans



Pie-1

D. melanogaster



pgc: Polar granule component

M. musculus



Blimp1

Figure 4. Germ-Line Development in Different Animal Species

In *C. elegans*, the germ-line lineage (*red*) is specified after the first division of the zygote by expression of Pie1, which confers transcriptional quiescence. The other cell (*blue*) gives rise to somatic tissues. In *D. melanogaster*, the precursors of the germ cells are the so-called pole cells contained on one side of the zygote syncytium (i.e., multinucleated); transcriptional quiescence in these cells depends on localized RNA from the gene *Pgc*. In *M. musculus*, the earliest precursors of the germ cells are visible by expression of Blimp1 at the base of the allantois. Blimp1 initiates transcriptional quiescence in these cells.