

Figure 1. eRNA synthesis and function. During transcriptional activation, coactivator (e.g., p300/CBP) and RNA Pol II bind to a subset of enhancers and bidirectionally transcribe eRNAs. Chromatin looping between the enhancer and promoter will bring eRNAs near the target gene promoter to allow coordinate activation. Some eRNAs (e.g., eRNAs expressed from ER- α -bound enhancers in human breast cancer cells) facilitate and/or stabilize specific enhancer–promoter looping, in part by interacting with cohesin.

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