



**Figure 11.** Factors involved in *Xist*-mediated silencing. Depiction of changes in higher-order chromosome architecture during the establishment of X inactivation. *Xist* RNA initially coats repeat rich chromosomal domains; genes and other regulatory elements occupy an external position. As X inactivation proceeds, genes are internalized within the *Xist* territory with consequent restriction in the mobility of chromosome loops. Establishment of X inactivation is also linked to positioning of the chromosome on the nuclear and/or nucleolar periphery. Nuclear scaffold factors (SATB1) and chromosome structure factors (Smchd1) may play a role in the reorganization of chromosome architecture on Xi.