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Supporting Online Material for

Piez01 and Piezo2 Are Essential Components of Distinct Mechanically Activated Cation Channels

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Supporting online material

Material and Methods

Cell culture and transient transfection. Neuro2A cells were grown in Eagle's Minimum Essential Medium containing 4.5 mg.ml⁻¹ glucose, 10% fetal bovine serum, 50 units.ml⁻¹ penicillin and 50 µg.ml⁻¹ streptomycin. C2C12 or Human Embryonic Kidney 293T (HEK293T) cells were grown in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium containing 4.5 mg.ml⁻¹ glucose, 10% fetal bovine serum, 50 units.ml⁻¹ penicillin and 50 µg.ml⁻¹ streptomycin. Cells were plated onto 35 mm dishes or 12-mm round glass coverslips placed in 24-well plates and transfected using lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instruction. For Piezo1 overexpression experiment, 500 to 1000 ng.ml⁻¹ of *Piezo1*-IRES-GFP or vector only were transfected and cells were recorded 12-48 hours later. For Piezo2 overexpression experiments, 600 to 1000 ng.ml⁻¹ of *mPiezo2* or vector were co-transfected with 300 ng.ml⁻¹ GFP to identify transfected cells and cells were recorded 12-48 hours later. For siRNA experiment, 20 nM total siRNA and 300 or 500 ng.ml⁻¹ GFP to identify transfected cells were co-transfected and cells were used 3 days after transfection. siRNA of Smartpool I directed against *mPiezo1* were purchased from Qiagen (Target sequences: CACCGGCATCTACGTCAAATA (siRNA1), ACCAAGAAATACAACCATCTA (siRNA2), TCGGCGCTTGCTAGAACTTCA (siRNA3) and CGGAATCCTGCTGCTGCTATA (siRNA4)) and used at 5 nM each together in Smartpool I or at 20 nM separately. siRNA4 was toxic at 20 nM, as it caused cell detachment and subsequent death 3 days after transfection. Smartpool II siRNA was a pool of 4 different siRNA purchased from Dharmacon (Target sequences: GAAAGAGATGTCACCGCTA, GCATCAACTTCCATCGCCA, AAAGACAGATGAAGCGCAT, GGCAGGATGCAGTGAGCGA). For Piezo2 siRNA experiment in N2A cells, 600 ng.ml⁻¹ of *mPiezo2* and 300 ng.ml⁻¹ GFP were co-transfected with 20 nM Piezo1 siRNA1 only or together with 20 nM Piezo2 siRNA. Cells were recorded 3 days after transfection. siRNA directed against mPiezo2 was a pool of 4 different

siRNA purchased from Dharmacon (Target sequences: GAATGTAATTGGACAGCGA, TCATGAAGGTGCTGGTAA, GATTATCCATGGAGATTAA, GAAGAAAGGCATGAGGTA).

DRG culture and siRNA

Preparation and culture of mouse dorsal root ganglion neurons (from male C57Bl6 mice) were performed as described previously (1) with the following modifications: Growth medium was supplemented with 100 ng/ml nerve growth factor (NGF), 50 ng/ml GDNF, 50 ng/ml BDNF, 50 ng/ml NT-3, 50 ng/ml NT-4. Small interference RNA (siRNA)-mediated knockdown was achieved by nucleofection of siRNA into freshly isolated DRG neurons using the SCN nucleofector kit with the nucleofector device according to the manufacturer's instructions (SCN Basic Neuro program 6; Lonza AG). DRG neurons isolated from one mouse were used per siRNA tested. siRNAs were used at 150 nM-250 nM for TRPA1 (smartpool, Qiagen) and 250 nM for Piezo2 (smartpool, Qiagen), concentrations of scrambled controls (Qiagen) were adjusted accordingly. After nucleofection, neurons were allowed to recover in RPMI medium for 10 min at 37°C , growth medium (without antibiotics and without AraC) was added and neurons were plated on poly-D-lysine coated coverslips, previously coated with laminin (2 µg.ml⁻¹). 2-4hrs after transfection half of the growth medium was exchanged with fresh medium and neurons were grown for 48-72 hours.

Electrophysiology. Patch-clamp experiments were performed in standard whole-cell or cell attached recordings using an Axopatch 200B amplifier (Axon Instruments). Patch pipettes had resistance of 2–3 MΩ when filled with an internal solution consisting of (in mM) 133 CsCl, 10 HEPES, 5 EGTA, 1 CaCl₂, 1 MgCl₂, 4 MgATP, and 0.4 Na₂GTP (pH adjusted to 7.3 with CsOH). The extracellular solution consisted of (in mM) 127 NaCl, 3 KCl, 1 MgCl₂, 10 HEPES, 2.5 CaCl₂, 10 glucose (pH adjusted to 7.3 with NaOH). NMDG solution consisted of (in mM) 150 NMDG, 10 HEPES (pH 7.5). For ion selectivity experiments, internal solution consisted of (in mM) 150

CsCl, 10 Hepes (pH 7.3 with CsOH), monovalent external solutions consisted of (in mM) 150 NaCl or KCl, 10 HEPES (pH 7.3 with NaOH or KOH) and divalent external solutions consisted of (in mM) 100 CaCl₂ or MgCl₂, 10 HEPES (pH 7.3 with CsOH). For cell attached recordings, pipette were filled with a solution consisting of (in mM) 130 NaCl, 5 KCl, 10 HEPES, 1 CaCl₂, 1 MgCl₂, 10 TEA-Cl (pH 7.3 with NaOH) and external solution used to zero the membrane potential consisted of (in mM) 140 KCl, 10 HEPES, 1 MgCl₂, 10 glucose (pH 7.3 with KOH). All experiments were done at room temperature. Currents were sampled at 20 kHz and filtered at 2 kHz. Voltages were not corrected for a liquid junction potential excepted for ion selectivity experiments were LJP were calculated using Clampex 10.1 software (Axon Instruments). Leak currents before mechanical stimulations were subtracted off-line from the current traces. 10 mM ruthenium red stock solution was prepared in DMSO; 100 mM gadolinium stock solution, in water.

Mechanical Stimulation. For whole-cell recordings mechanical stimulation was achieved using a fire-polished glass pipette (tip diameter 3–4 μm) positioned at an angle of 80° to the cell being recorded. Downward movement of the probe toward the cell was driven by a Clampex controlled piezo-electric crystal microstage (E625 LVPZT Controller/Amplifier; Physik Instrumente). The probe was typically positioned ~2 μm from the cell body. The piezoelectrically driven stimulus intensity used to measure the threshold of MA current activation was defined as the distance traveled beyond that which touched the cell. The probe had a velocity of 1 μm/ms during the ramp segment of the command for forward motion and the stimulus was applied for 150 ms. To assess the mechanical sensitivity of a cell, a series of mechanical steps in 1 μm increments were applied every 10 s, which allowed full recovery of mechanosensitive currents. Inward MA currents were recorded at a holding potential of -80 mV. For I-V relationship recordings, voltage steps were applied 0.7 s before the mechanical stimulation from a holding

potential of -60 mV. For recordings of MA currents in DRG neurons, the inactivation kinetics at a holding potential of -80 mV of traces of currents reaching at least 75 % of the maximal amplitude of current elicited per cell were fitted with mono-exponential equation (or in some case bi-exponential equation for the rapidly-adapting currents, accordingly to previous reports (2) and using the fast time constant for analysis, see Fig.4A left panel) giving a value of τ_{inac} per responsive neuron that we used for analysis.

For cell-attached recordings membrane patches were stimulated with brief negative pressure pulses through the recording electrode using a Clampex controlled pressure clamp HSPC-1 device (ALA-scientific). Otherwise stated, stretch-activated channels were recorded at a holding potential of -80 mV with pressure steps from 0 to -60 mm Hg (-10 mm Hg increments), and 3-10 recording traces were averaged per cell for analysis. Current-pressure relationships were fitted with a Boltzmann equation of the form: $I(P) = [1 + \exp(-(P - P_{50})/s)]^{-1}$, where I is the peak of stretch-activated current at a given pressure, P is the applied patch pressure (in mm Hg), P_{50} is the pressure value that evoked a current value which is 50% of I_{max} , and s reflects the current sensitivity to pressure.

Determination of Permeability Ratios. Reversal potentials for each cell in each solution were determined by interpolation of the respective current-voltage data. In these experiments, I-V relationships were performed from a holding potential of -60 mV with voltage steps ranging from -60 mV to +60 mV (before liquid junction potential correction) in 20 mV increments.

The ratio of permeabilities, P_X/P_{Cs} , was determined for each test cation X for each cell from the reversal potential of the MA activated whole-cell current when that cation was the major external cation. The Goldman-Hodgkin-Katz (GHK) equation (3), simplified for a single permeant cation on each side of the membrane, was employed:

$$E_{rev} = \frac{RT}{zF} \ln \frac{P_X[X]_0}{P_{CS}[CS]_i}$$

where RT/zF has the value of 25.5 at 23°C. For the divalent cations the appropriately modified equation was used:

$$E_{rev} = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left(\sqrt{\frac{4P_X[X]_0}{P_{CS}[CS]_i}} + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Ratio P_X/P_{CS} were presented for each cation as mean ± SEM.

Ratiometric calcium imaging. Intracellular Ca²⁺ imaging experiments were performed by washing cells three times with Ca²⁺ imaging buffer [1× Hanks Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS, 1.3 mM Ca²⁺) supplemented with 10 mM HEPES], then loaded with ratiometric Ca²⁺ indicator dye Fura-2/AM (Molecular Probes) for 30 min at room temperature, according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Cells were washed three times prior to imaging on an inverted microscope. Fura-2 fluorescence was measured by illuminating the cells with an alternating 340/380 nm light. Fluorescence intensity was measured at 510 nm. The intracellular Ca²⁺ concentration is expressed as the 340/380 ratio.

Ratiometric calcium imaging of cultured DRG neurons was performed essentially as described (1). Experiments were conducted at 37°C 48-72 hrs after plating. Threshold for activation was set at 40 % above the averaged baseline from 5 time points immediately before addition of MO (100 µM). Capsaicin (CAPS, 0.5 µM) was added at the end of each experiment to control for siRNA specificity, neuronal health and responsiveness. All experimental groups to be compared were processed in parallel using the same DRG culture preparation (2 independent preparations were used).

Generation of Piezo1 antisera. Custom polyclonal antibodies to the synthetic peptide RQRRERARQERAEQ (aa 1454..1467) were prepared in rabbit by standard methods and affinity purified (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Openbiosystems).

TRPA1 Live-Labeling and Immunocytochemistry. TRPA1 live-labeling and immunocytochemistry on HEK 293T cells were performed essentially as described (Schmidt et al., 2009) with the following modifications: For assessment of the specificity of Piezo1 antisera, cells were transfected with a Piezo1-IRES-EGFP construct and used 36 hrs later for immunocytochemistry as outlined below. Piezo1 antisera were used at 1:100 and detected by secondary antibodies conjugated to Alexa Fluor 546 (Invitrogen). For assessment of membrane expression of Piezo1, cells were co-transfected with a murine Trpa1-MYC/His construct and Piezo1 and used for live-labeling 36 hrs after transfection. Surface TRPA1 was labeled by incubating live HEK293T cells with TRPA1 antibodies (1:50) followed by incubation with Alexa Fluor 488 F(ab')2 fragment of goat-anti-rabbit (1:200, Invitrogen). Cells were fixed with 2% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in PBS for 20 min, washed and incubated with an excess of non-labeled goat-anti-rabbit IgG for 1 hour to block binding sites on any remaining unbound TRPA1 antibody. Cells were then permeabilized in PBS containing 0.4% Triton X-100, blocked with normal goat serum (10% serum in PBS), and incubated with primary antibodies against Piezo1 (1:100) and c-MYC (1:100, 9E11, mouse, Santa Cruz Biotechnology), followed by secondary antibodies (Alexa Fluor 568 goat-anti-rabbit IgG and Alexa Fluor 633 goat-anti-mouse IgG; 1:200; Invitrogen).

Immunocytochemistry experiments were imaged using an Olympus (Tokyo, Japan) Fluoview 500 confocal microscope by sequential illumination using the 488 nm line of an argon laser, a

HeNe green 543 nm laser and a HeNe red 633 nm laser. Merge stacked images were created using a 40x and 60x PlanAPO oil-immersion objective, the latter with a zoom of 1.5.

Real time qPCR. Dorsal root ganglia were freshly isolated from adult C57BL/6J wildtype mice and snap frozen on dry ice. Total RNA from DRG or siRNA transfected N2A cells (3 days after GFP co-transfection, same conditions then the one used for recordings) was extracted using Trizol treatment. Total RNA from all other tissues were purchased from Zyagen (San Diego). 500 ng total RNA was used to generate 1st strand cDNA using the Quantitect reverse transcription kit (Qiagen). Real time Taqman PCR assays for *mPiezo1* and *mPiezo2* (assay id: Mm01241570_g1 and Mm01262433_m1) were purchased from Applied Biosystems with a FAM reporter dye and a non-fluorescent quencher. Universal TaqMan PCR master mix (20X) without AmpErase UNG (Applied Biosystems) was used. The reaction was run in the ABI 7900HT fast real time system using 1 μ l of the cDNA in a 20 μ l reaction according to the manufacturer's instructions in triplicate.

Calibrations and normalizations were done using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ method (4), where $\Delta\Delta CT = ((C_T \text{ (target gene)} - C_T \text{ (reference gene)}) - (C_T \text{ (calibrator)} - C_T \text{ (reference gene)}))$. For the analysis of mRNA expression in different tissues (Fig. 4C), the target gene was *mPiezo1* or *mPiezo2*, while the reference gene was *GAPDH* and the calibrator was the lung tissue. For the analysis of siRNA induced down-regulation of mRNA expression (Fig. S1A), β -actin was used as the reference gene and Scrambled siRNA transfected N2A cells was the calibrator.

In situ hybridization and immunohistochemistry

In situ hybridization and immunohistochemistry were performed as described previously (1). In brief, adult male C57BL/6J mice, ages 6–16 weeks, or adult male Sprague Dawley rats, were

perfused with 4% PFA and dorsal root ganglia were quickly dissected. Following post-fixation and cryoprotection in 30% sucrose, single DRG were embedded in OCT and sectioned with a cryostat at 10 µm thickness. Four different, 1000 bps cRNA sense and anti-sense probes were generated corresponding to bases-3822-4886; 4837-5849; 5922-7019 and 7102-8171. All probes were in vitro-transcribed and labeled with digoxigenin (Roche Diagnostics). For fluorometric in situ hybridizations, a peroxidase-conjugated anti-digoxigenin-POD antibody (1:500) and tyramide signal amplification (TSA; NEN) were used to detect and visualize the hybridized probes. Immunohistochemistry was performed after in situ hybridization and TSA detection. Chicken anti-NF-200 (1:1000; Abcam) and chicken anti-Peripherin (1:100; Abcam) were used on mouse DRG, while guinea pig anti-TRPV1 (1:1000; Abcam) primary antibodies were used on rat DRG (this antibody did not perform on mouse DRG). Primary antibodies were detected by secondary antibodies conjugated to Alexa Fluor 568. For colorimetric in situ hybridizations, an alkaline phosphatase anti-DIG-AP antibody (Roche; 1:500) was used followed by incubation with NBT/BCIP liquid substrate system (Sigma) for development of the dark purple color. Sections were mounted in Slow fade Gold reagent (Invitrogen) and imaged using a AX70 microscope (Olympus).

Fluorometric in situ hybridizations were used for quantitation and were imaged using an Olympus (Tokyo, Japan) Fluoview 500 confocal microscope by sequential illumination using the 488 nm line of an argon laser and the HeNe green 543 nm laser. Merge stacked images were created using a 20x and a 40x PlanAPO oil-immersion objective. Images for all experimental groups were taken using identical acquisition parameters and raw images were used for analysis with Image J (NIH). Neurons were considered Piezo2-positive if the mean fluorescence intensity (measured in arbitrary units) was higher than the mean background fluorescence plus 4 times the standard deviation measured from at least 10 random unstained cells. Only sections being at least 50 µm apart were considered to avoid double counting neurons. Neurons were considered NF200- or Peripherin-positive if the mean fluorescence intensity (measured in

arbitrary units) was higher than the mean background fluorescence plus 3 times the standard deviation measured from at least 10 random unstained cells. Colorimetric *in situ* hybridizations of Piezo2 gave similar results (26.9 % Piezo2-positive neurons, data not shown), but were not used for quantitation due to variability depending on the length of development with substrate. Only for presentation purposes brightness, contrast and levels of images were adjusted.

Molecular Cloning of Piezo1. Primers were designed from cDNA sequence of *mPiezo1* from the NCBI database (NM_001037298). A 7.644 kb fragment was amplified from cDNA libraries generated from Neuro2A total RNA using primers *mPiezo1* fwd (5' atggagccgcacgtgctg 3') and *mPiezo1* rev (5' ctactccctctcacgtgtcca 3') and cloned into pcDNA3.1(-) (Invitrogen) with NotI and HindIII restriction sites. Fully sequencing this construct revealed insertion of Q at residue 156, and three amino acid changes (R147G, V228I and M1571V) compared to the NCBI sequence.

This vector was further modified to include 3' Ascl and Fsel restriction sites and an IRES-GFP PCR fragment from pIRES2-EGFP (Clontech) was then inserted using these sites. The protein sequence of Piezo1 that we cloned from N2A cells is:

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MEPHVLGAGLYWLLPCTLLAASLLRFNALSIVYLLFLLLLPWLPGPSRHSIPGHTGRLLRALLCLSLFLVAHLAFQICL  
HTVPHLDQFLGQNGSLWVKVSQHIGVTRLDLKDFNTTRLVAPDLGVLLASSLCLGLCGRLTRKAGQSRRTQELQDD  
DDDDDDDDDEDIDAAPAVGLKGAPALATKRRWLASRFRVTAHWLLMTSGRTLVIVLLALAGIAHPSAFSSIYLVVFLAIC  
TWWSCHFPLSPLGFNTLCVMVSCFGAGHLICLYCYQTFFIQDMMLPPGNIWARLFGLKNFVDLPNYSSPNALVLNTKHA  
WPIYVSPGILLLYYTATSLLKLHKSCPSELRKETPREDEEHELELDHLEPEPQARDATQGEMPMTTEPDLDNCTVHVL  
TSQSPVRQRPVRPRLAELKEMSPLHGLGHIMDQSYVCALIAMVWSIMYHSWLTFLVLLWACLIWTVRSRHQLAML  
CSPCILLYGLTLCCCLRYVWAMELPELPTTLGPVSLHQLGLEHTRYPCLDLGAMLLYLLTFWLLRQFVKEKLLKKQKVP  
AALLEVTVADTEPTQTQLLRSLGELVTGIYVKYWIYVCAGMFIVVSFAGRLVYKIVYMFLLCLTLFQVYYTLWRKL  
LRVFWWLVVAYTMLVIAVYTFQFQDFPTYWRNLGTDEQLGDLGLEQFSVSELFSSILIPGFFLLACILQLHYFHRPF  
MQLTDLEHVPPPGTRHPRWAHQDAVSEAPLLEHQEEEEVFREDGQSMDGPHQATQVPEGTASKWGLVADRLLDL  
AASFSAVLTRIQVFVRRLELHVFKLVALYTVWVALKEVSVMNLLVWAFALPYPRFRPMASCLSTVWTCIIVCKML  
YQLKIVNPHEYSSNCTEPFPNNTNLQPLEINQSLLYRGPVDPANWFGVRKGYPNLGYIQNHLQILLLVFEAVVYRRQE
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HYRRQHQQAPLPAQAVCADGTRQRQLDQDLLSCLKYFINFFYKFGLEICFLMAVNIGQRMNFVILHGCWLVAILTR
RRREAIARLWPNYCLFLFLYQYLLCLGMPPALCIDYPWRWSKAIPMNSALIKWLYLPDFFRAPNSTNLISDFLLLLC
ASQQWQVFSAERTEEWQRMAGINTDHLEPLRGEPNPIPNIHCRSYLDMLKVAVFRYLFWLVLVVVFVAGATRISIFG
LGYLLACFYLLLFGTLLQKDTRAQLVLWDCLILYNVTIISKNMLSLLSCVFVEQMGSNFCWVIQLFSLVCTVKGYYDP
KEMMTRDRDCLLPVEEAGIIWDSICFFFLLLQRRIFLSHYFLHSADLKATALQASRGFALYNAANLKSINFHRQIEEKS
LAQLKRQMKRIRAKQEYRQSQASRGQLQSKDPQDPSQEPPGDPSPGGSSPRQRWWRPWLDHATVIHSGDYFLF
ESDSEEEEEALPEDPRPAAQSAFQMAQAWVTNAQTVLQRERARQERAEQLASGGDLNPDVEPVDVPEDEMAG
RSHMMQRVLSTMQFLWVLGQATVDGLTRWLRAFTKHHRTMSDVLCAYERLLTQELLRVGEVRGVLDQLYVGEDE
ATLSGPVETRDGPSTASSGLGAEPLSSMTDDTSSPLSTGYNTRSGSEEIVTDAGDLQAGTSLHGSQUELLANARTRM
RTASELLLDRRRLHIPELEEAERFEAQQGRTRLRLRAGYQCVAAHSELLCYFIIILNHMVNTASAASLVPVLVFLWAMLTIP
RPSKRFWMTAIVFTEVMVVTKYLFQFGFPWNSYVVLRRYENKPYFPPRILGLEKTDSYIKYDLVQLMALFFHRSQLL
CYGLWDHEEDRYPKDHCSSVKDREAKEPEAKLESQSETGTGHPKEPVLAGTPRDHIQGKGSIRSKDVIQDPPEDL
KPRHTRHISFRRKETPGPKGTAVMETEHEEGEGKETTERKPRRHTQEKSFRERMKAAGRRLQSFCVSLAQSFY
QPLQRFFHDILHTKYRAATDVYALMFLADIVDIIIFGFWFAGKHSATDIASSLSDDQVPAFLFMLLVQFGTMVIDRAL
YLRKTVLGKLAQVVLVVAIHIWMFFILPAVTERMFSQNAAQLWYFVKCIYFALSAYQIRCQYPTRLGNFLTKYNHL
NLFLFQGFRLVPFLVELRAVMDWVWTDTLSLSNWMCVEDIYANIFIICKSRETEKKYPQPKGQKKKIVKGMMGLIIL
FLIAIIWFPLLMSLIRSVVGVNQPIDVTVLKLGGEPLFTMSAQQPSIVPFTPQAYEELSQQFDPYPLAMQFISQYSP
DIVTAQIEGSSGALWRISPPSRAQMKELEYNGTADITLRFTWNFQRDLAKGGTVEYTNEKHTLEAPNSTARRQLAQ
LLEGRPDQSVVIPHLFPKYIRAPNGPEANPVKQLQPDEEEDYLGVRIQLRREQVGTGASGEQAGTKASDFLEWWVIE
LQDKADCNLLPMVIFSDKVSPPSLGFLAGYGIVGLYVSIVLVGKFVRGFFSEISHSIMFEELPCVDRILKLCQDIFLVR
ETRELEEEELYAKLIFLYRSPETMIKWTRERE

Molecular Cloning of Piezo2. Primers were designed from cDNA sequence of *Piezo2* from the NCBI database (NM_001039485). An 8.469 kb fragment was amplified from cDNA libraries generated from adult C57BL/6J DRG total RNA using primers *mPiezo2* fwd (5'atggctcggaaagtgggtgc 3') and *mPiezo2* rev (5'tcagtttgtttctctagtcac 3') and cloned into pCMV-Sport6 (Invitrogen) with KpnI and NotI restriction sites. Sequencing of the cloned *mPiezo2* gene from DRG revealed differences from the NCBI annotation where three regions of

amino acid insertions were not correctly assigned as exons (628E, 14 residues at 833 and 56 residues at 1751). The protein sequence of Piezo2 that we cloned from mouse DRG is:

MASEVVCGLIFRLLLPICLAVACAFRYNGLSFVYLIYLLIPLFSEPTKATMQGHTGRLLQSLCITSLSFLLHIIFHITLASL
EAQHRITPAYNCSTWEKTFRQIGFESLGADAGNGIRVFVPDGMFIASLTIWLCRTIVKKPDTEEIAQLNSECENEEL
AGGEKMDSEEALIYEEDLDGEEGMEGELEESTKLKILRRFASVASKLKEFIGNMITTAKVVTILLGSSGMMLPSLTS
AVYFFVFLGLCTWWSCRTFDPLLFGCLCVLLAIFTAGHLIGLYLYQFQFFQEAVPPNDYYARLFGIKSVIQTDCASTW
KIIVNPDLWSYHHANPILLVMYYTLATLIRIWLQEPLVQEEMAKEDEGALDCSSNQNTAERRRSLWYATQYPTDERKL
LSMTQDDYKPSDGLLTVNGNPVDYHTIHPDSLPIENGPAKTDLYTTPQYRWEPESEESSEKKEEEEDKREDSEGEGSQ
EEKRSVRMHAMVAVFQFIMKQSYICALIAMMAWSITYHSWLTFVLLIWSCTLWMIRNRRKYAMISSPFMVVYANLLLVL
QYIWSFELPEIKKVGPFLEKKEPGELASKILFTITFWLLLRLQHLTEQKALREKEALLSEVKIGSQELEEKEDEELQDVQV
EGEPTEKEEEEEEEEIKEERHEVKKEEEEEEVEEDDDQDIMKVLGNLVVALFIKYWIYCGGMFFFVSFEGKIVMYKIIYM
VLFLFCVALYQVHYEWWRKILKYFWMSVVIYTMLVLIFIYTYQFENFPGLWQNMTGLKKEKLEDLGLKQFTVAELFTRI
FIPTSFLVCILHLHYFHDRFLELTDLKIPSKEDENTIYSHAKVNGRVYLIINRLAHPEGSLPDLAIMNMTASLDKPEVQKL
AESGEERPEECVKKTEKGEAGKDSDESEEEEEESEESSDLRNKWHLVIDRLTVLFLKFLEYFHKLQVFMWWI
LELHIIKIVSSYIIWVTKEVSLFNYVFLISWAFAFPYAKLRRASSVCTVTCVIIVKMLYQLQTIKPENFSVNCSPNE
NQTNIPLHELNKSLLYSAPVDPTEWVGLRKSSPLLVYLRRNNLLMIALAFEVTVRHQEYYGRNNLTAPVSKTIFHDIT
RLHLDGLINCAKYFVNFFYKFGLET CFLMSVNIGQRMDFYAMIHACWLIGVLYRRRKAIAEVWPKYCCFLACIITF
QYFVCIGIPPAPCRDYPWRFKGAYFNDNIKWLYFPDFIVRPNPVFLVYDFMLLLCA SLQRQIFEDENKA A VRIMAGDN
VEICMNLDAAFSQS QHN PVPDFIHCRSYL DMSKVII FSYLFWFVLTII FITGTTRISIFCMGYLVACYFLLFGGDLLKPI
SI LRYWDWLIAYNVF VITMKNILSIGACGYIGALVRNSCWLIQAFSLACTVKGYQMPEDDS RCKLPSGEAGIIWDSICFAFL
LLQRRVFM SYYFLHV VADIKASQ I LASRGAELFQATIVKAVKARI EEEKKSM DQLKRQMDRIKARQQKYKKGKERMLSL
TQESGEQDIQKVSEEDDEREADKQKAKGKKQWWRPWVDHASMRSGDYYLFETDSEEEEEELKKEDEEPRK
SAFQFVYQAWITDPKTALRQRRKEKKLAREEQKERRKGSGDGPVEWEDREDEPVKKSDGPDNIIKRIFNILKFTWV
LFLATVDSFTTWLNSISREHIDISTVLRIERCMLTREIKGNVPTRESIHMYQNHIMNLSRESGLDTIDEHSGAGSRAQ
AAHRMDSLDSRDSISSCYTEATLLISRQSTLDDLDGQDPVPKTSERARPRLRKMFSLDMSSSADSGVASSEPTQC
TMLYSRQGTTETIEEVEAEAEVVVEGLEPELHDAEEKEYAAEYEAGVEEISLTPDEELPQFSTDCEAPPYSKAVS
FEHLSFASQDDSGAKNHMVSPDDSRTDKLESSILPPLTHELTASDLMMSKMFHDDELEESEKFYVDQPRFLLFYAM
YNTLVARSEMVCYFVIILNHMTSASIITLLPILFLWAMLSVPRPSRRFWMMAIVYTEVAIVVKYFFQGFFPNKDLEIY
KERPYFPPNIIGVEKKEGYVLYDLIQLLALFFHRSILKCHGLWDED DIVDSNTDKEGSDELSDLQGRRGSSDSLKSINL
AASVESVHVTFPEQPAIRRKRCSSSQISPRSSFSSNRSKRGSTSTRNSSQKGSSVLSKQSKRELYMEKLQEHLI

KAKAFTIKKTLQIYVPIRQFFYDLIHPDYSAVTDVYVLMFLADTVDFIIIVFGFWAFGKHSAADITSSLSEDQVPGPFLVM
VLIQFGTMVVDRALYLRKTVLGKVFQVILVFGIHFWMFFILPGVTERKFSQNLVAQLWYFVKCVYFGLSAYQIRCGYPT
RVLGNFLTKSYNYVNLFQGFRLVPFLTELRAVMDWWWTDTLSLSSWICVEDIYAHIFILKCWRESEKRYPQPRGQ
KKKKAVKYGMGGMIIVLICIVWFPLLMSLIKSVAGVINQPLDVSVTLGGYQPIFTMSAQSQLKVMDNSKYNEFLK
SFGPNSGAMQFLENYEREDVTVAELEGNSNSLWTISPPSKQKMIQELDPNSCFSVVFWSIQRNMTLGAKAEIATD
KLSFPLAVATRNSIAKMIAGNDTESSNTPVTIEKIYPYYVKAPSDSNKPIKQLLENNFMNITIILFRDNVTKSNSEWWV
LNLTGSRIFNQGSQALELVVFNDKVSPPSLGFLAGYGIMGLYASVVLVIGKFVREFFSGISHSIMFEELPNVDRIKLCT
DIFLVRETGELELEDLYAKLIFLYRSPETMIKW TREKTN

Phylogenetic analysis. Accession numbers of Piezo sequences used to make the phylogenetic analysis are given with the number of TM domain predicted using TMHMM2 program. For some species, multiple predicted gene sequences were fused to obtain a complete sequence.

Hs Piezo1 (Homo Sapiens): NP_001136336.2, 2521aa (31 TM)

Mm Piezo1 (Mouse musculus): NP_001032375.1, 2546aa (30 TM)

Gg Piezo1 (Gallus gallus): XP_414209.2, 1718aa; XP_423106.2, 217aa (25 TM)

Dr Piezo1 (Danio Rerio): XP_696355.4, 2538aa (29 TM)

Hs Piezo2 (Homo Sapiens): NP_071351.2, 2752aa (35 TM)

Mm Piezo2 (Mus musculus): NP_001034574.3, 2753aa (34 TM)

Gg Piezo2 (Gallus gallus): XP_419138.2, 3080aa (33 TM)

Dr Piezo2 (Danio Rerio): ; XP_002666625., 2102aa (24 TM)

Ci Piezo (Ciona intestinalis): XP_002122901.1, 1669aa; XP_002128850.1, 591aa (33 TM)

Dm Piezo (Drosophila melanogaster): NP_001036346.3, 2671aa (36 TM)

Ce Piezo (*Caenorhabditis elegans*): NP_501648.2, 800a; NP_501647.2, 1843 (33 TM)

Dd Piezo (*Dictyostelium discoideum*): XP_640187, 3080 aa (35 TM)

At Piezo (*Arabidopsis thaliana*): NP_182327.5, 2440 aa (28 TM)

Os Piezo (*Oryza sativa – japonica group*): NP_001043105.1, 2196aa (24TM)

Tt Piezo i (*Tetrahymena thermophila*): XP_976967.1, 4690aa (30 TM)

Tt Piezo ii (*Tetrahymena thermophila*): XP_001021704.1, 4136aa (29 TM)

Tt Piezo iii (*Tetrahymena thermophila*): XP_001017682.1, 2636aa (26 TM)

Data Analysis. Data in all figures are shown as mean \pm SEM. Unless otherwise stated, statistical significance was evaluated using unpaired two-tailed Student's *t*-test for comparing difference between two samples. Unpaired two-tailed Student's *t*-test with Welch correction was used when variances where significantly different. * p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001.

Figure S1

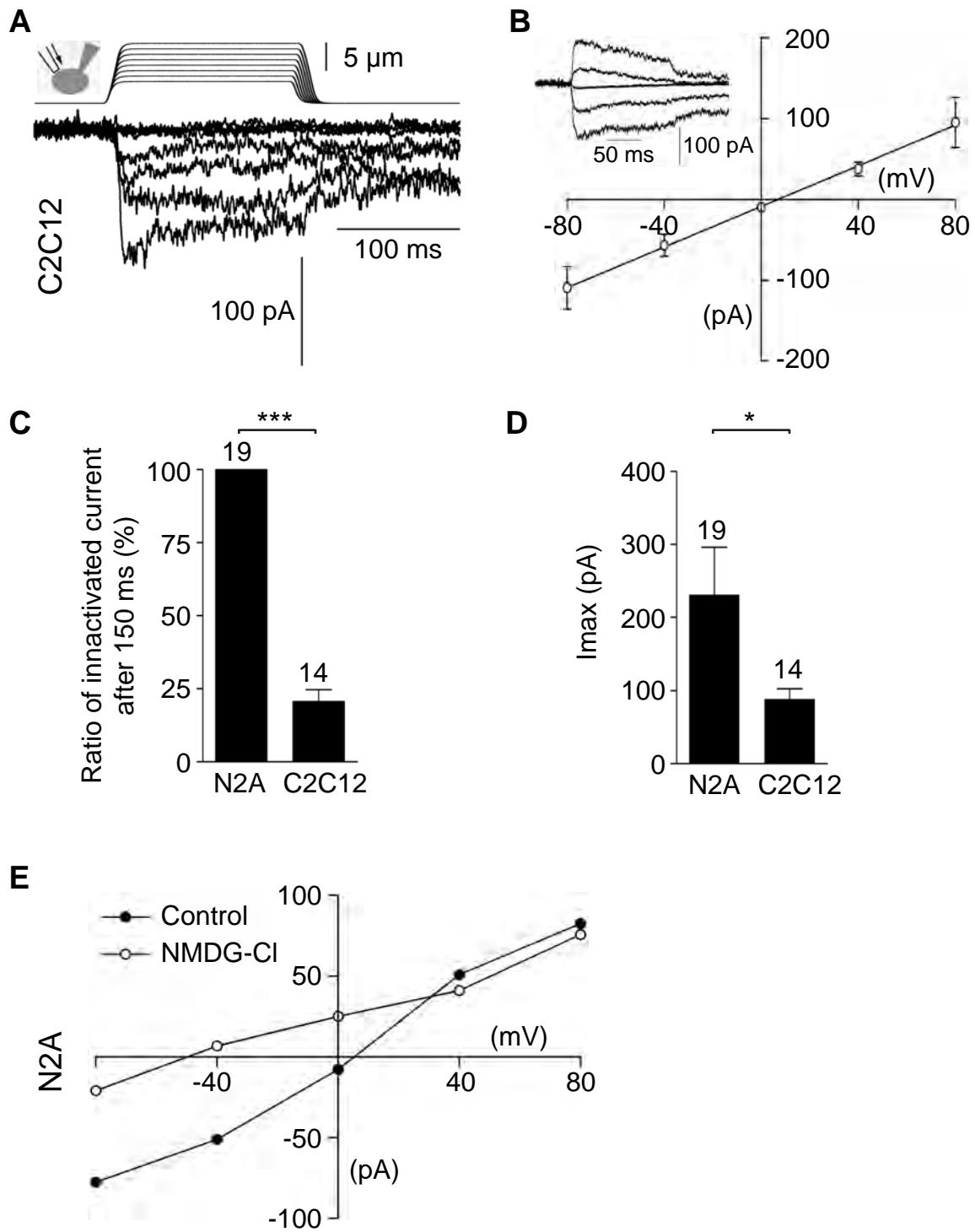


Figure S2

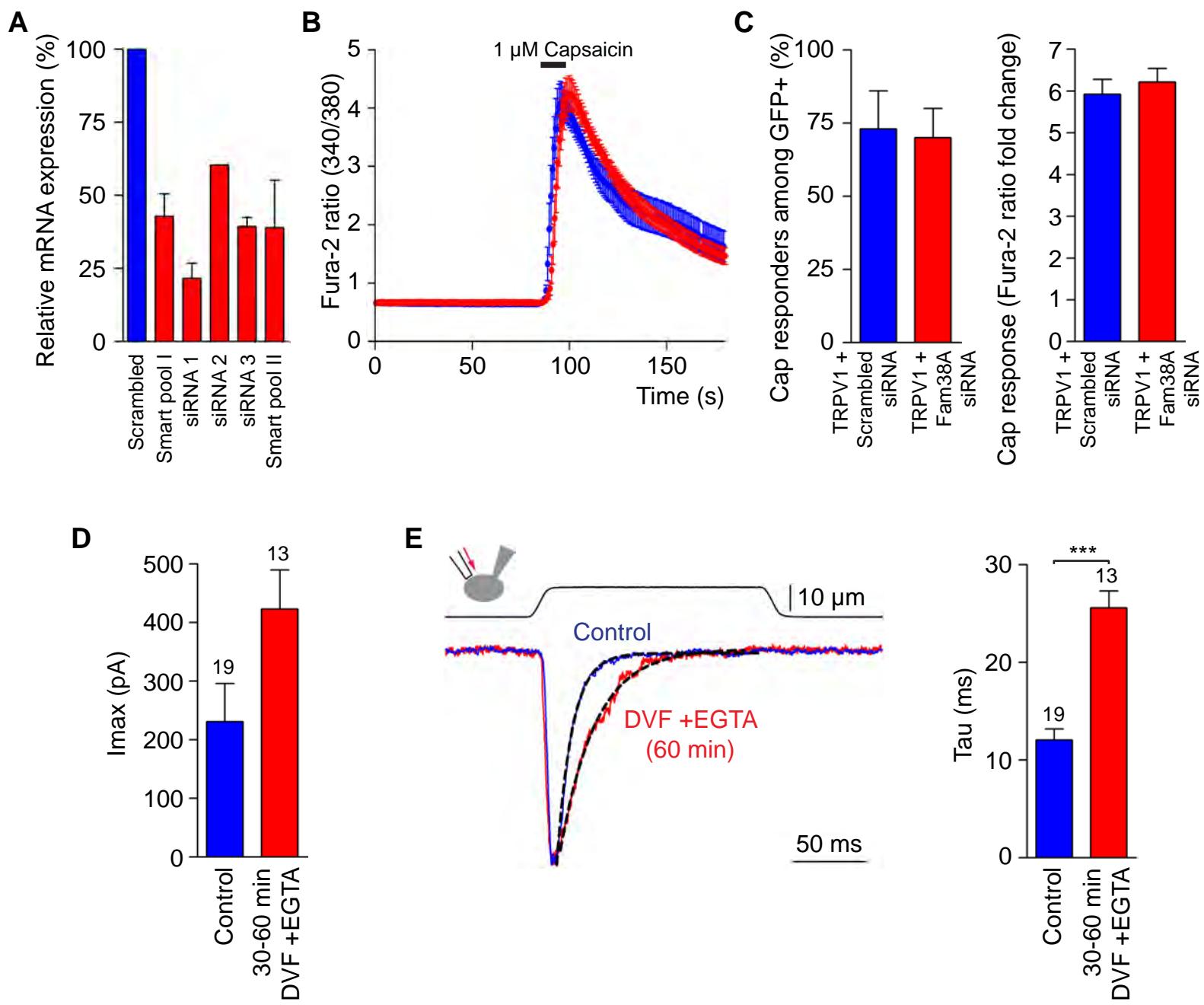
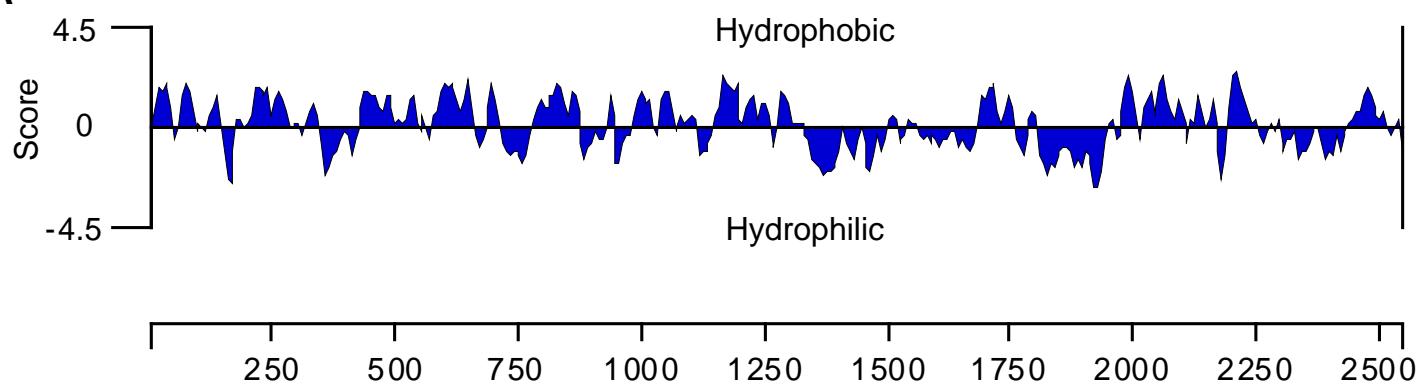


Figure S3

A



B

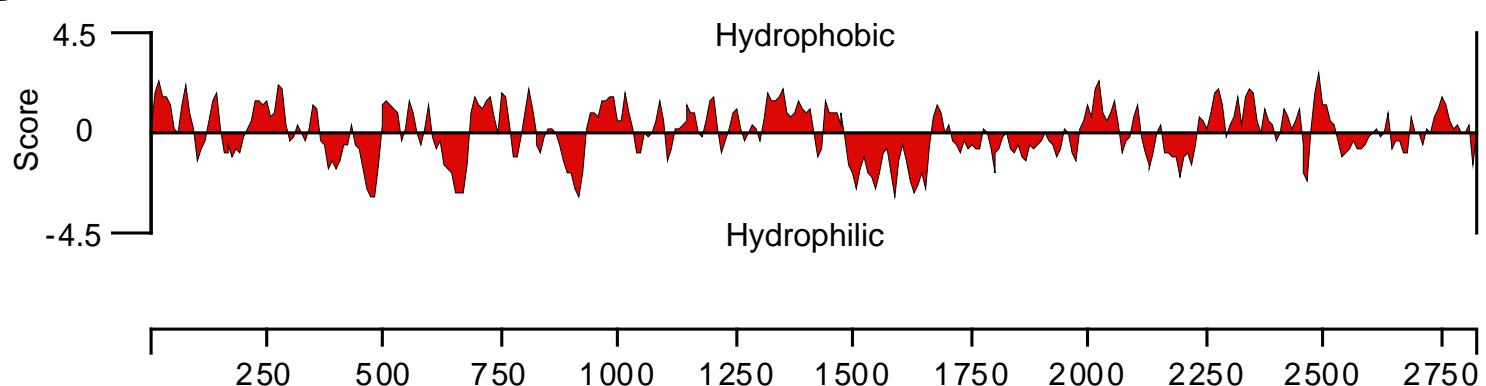


Figure S4

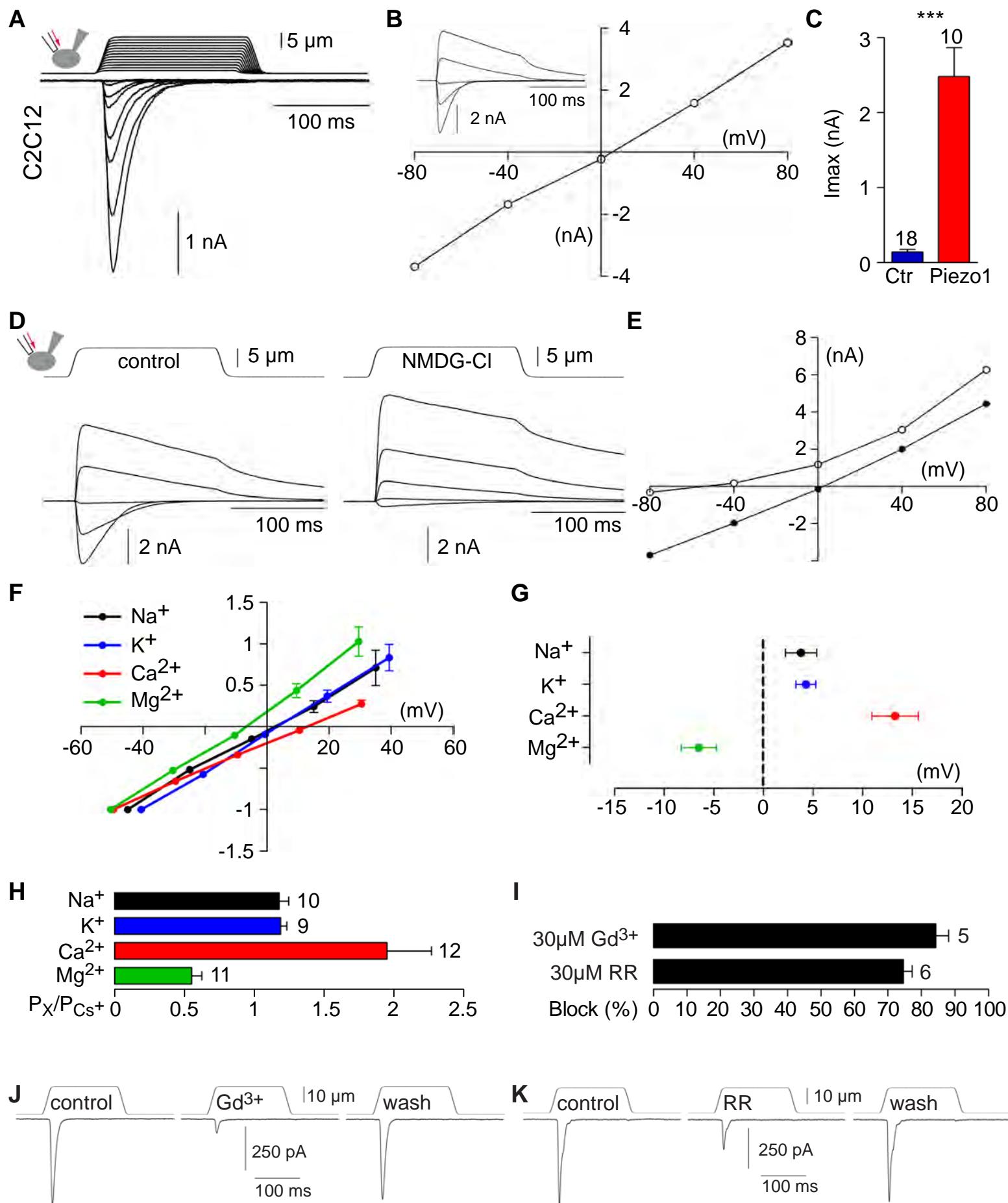


Figure S5

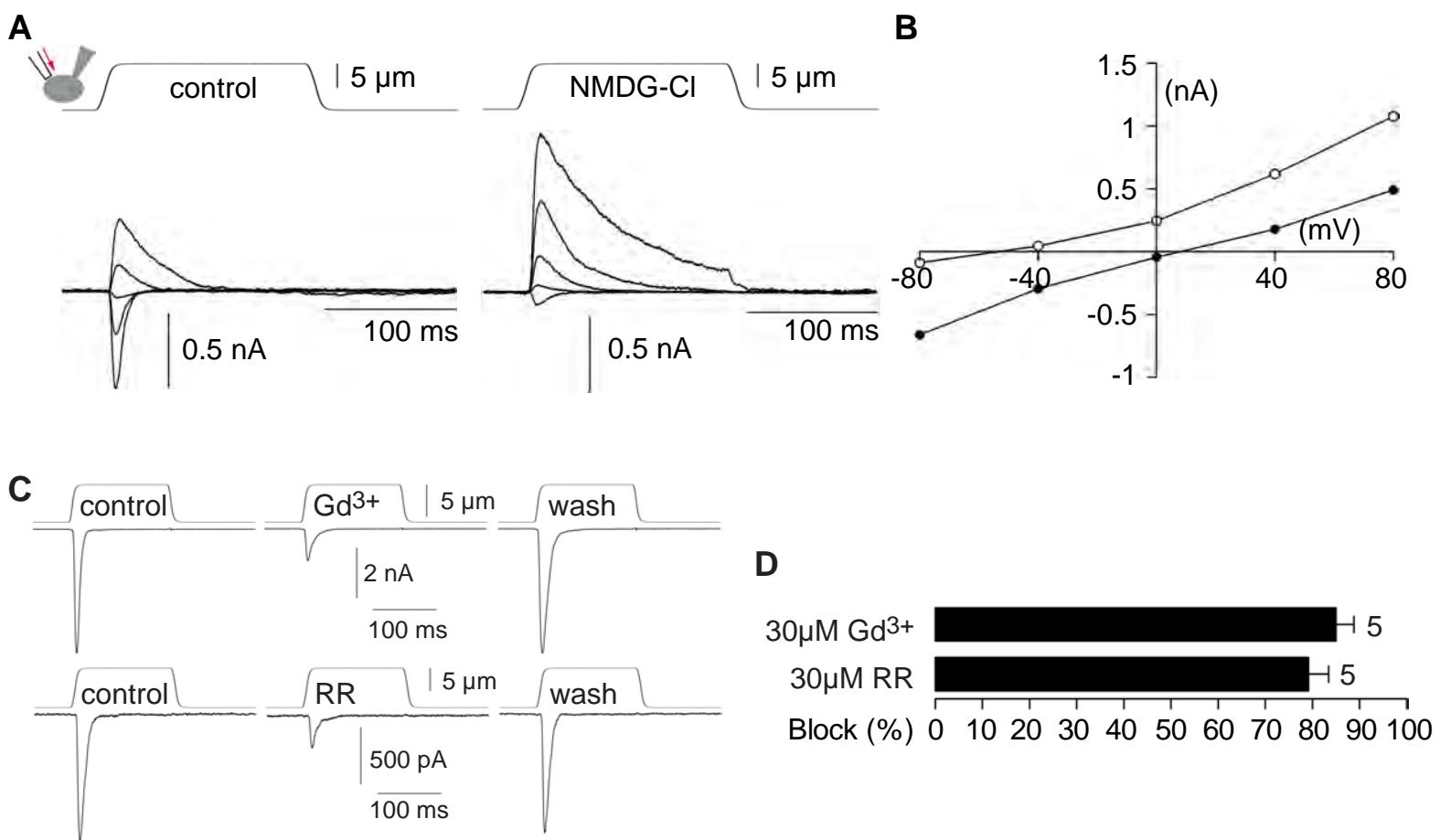
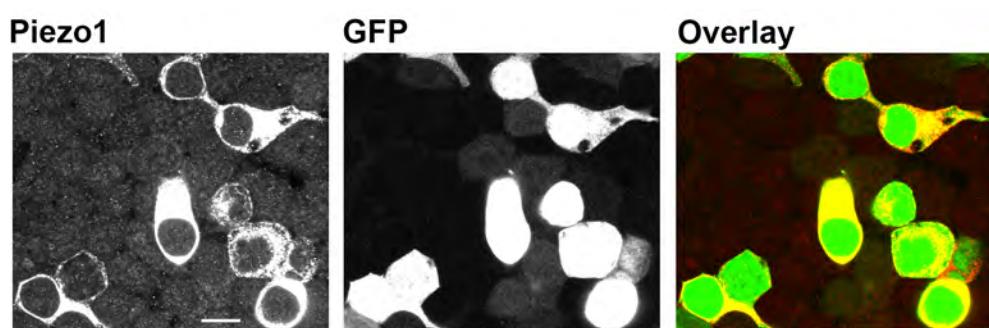


Figure S6

A



B

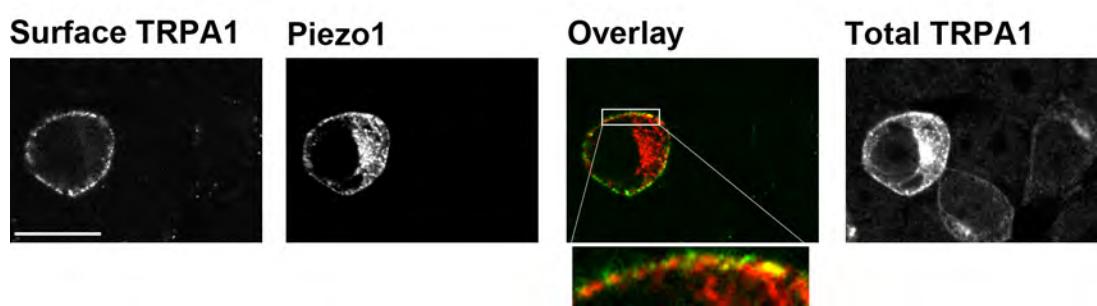


Figure S7

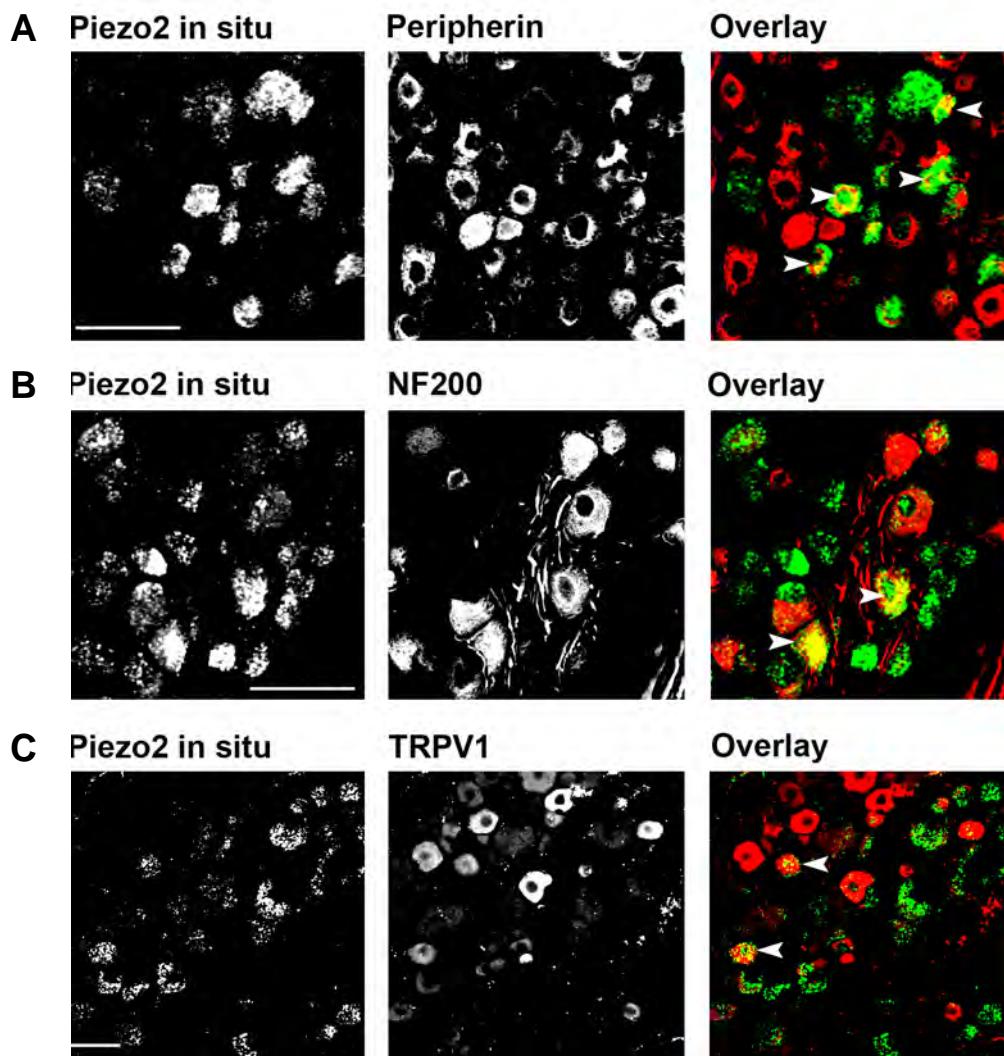
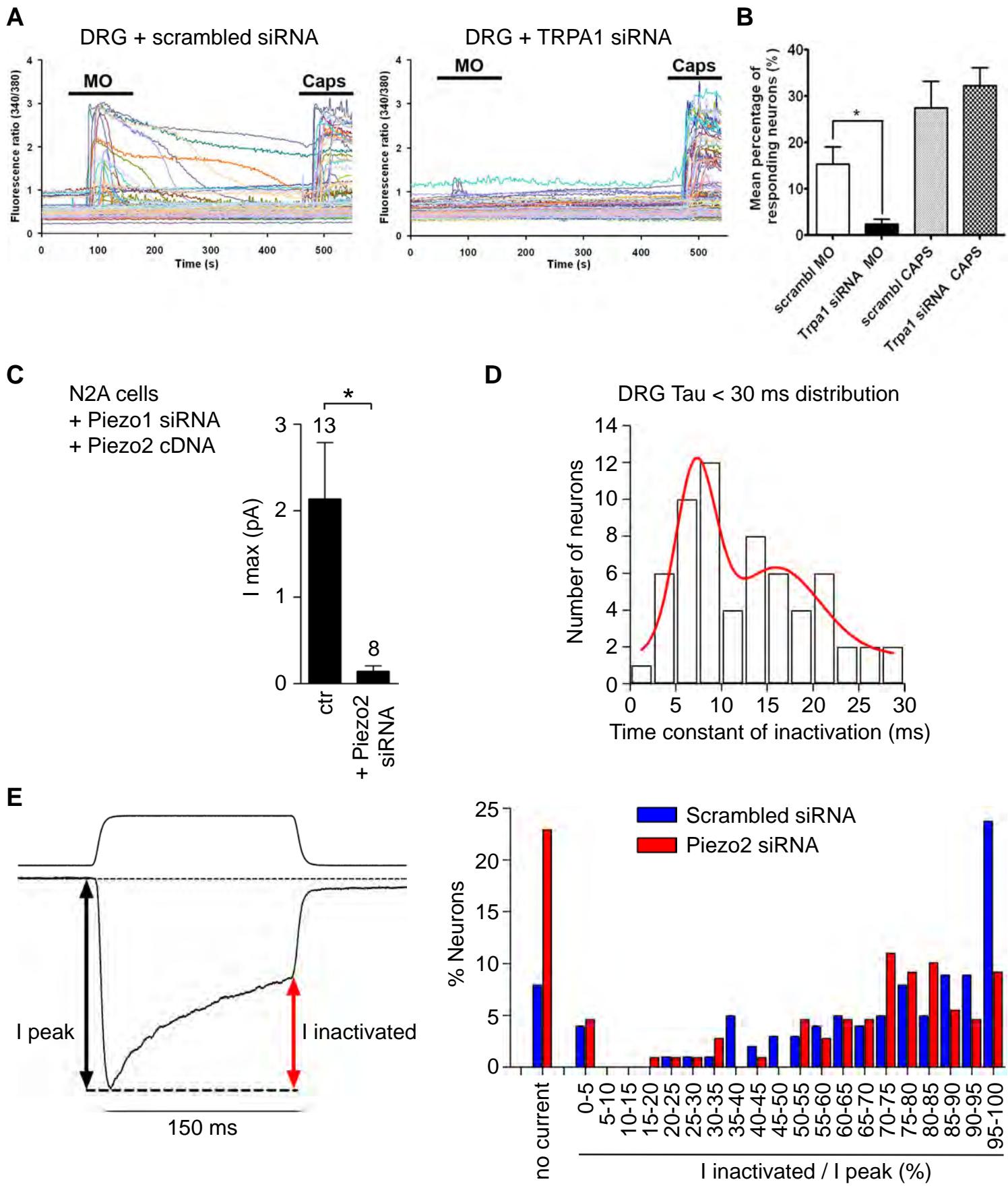


Figure S8



Supporting Figure Legends

Figure S1. Neuro2A and C2C12 cells display different types of mechanically-activated currents.

(A) Representative traces of mechanically-activated (MA) inward currents expressed in C2C12 cells. The cells are subjected to a series of mechanical steps in 1 μ m increments using a stimulation pipette (inset drawing, arrow) in the whole-cell patch configuration at a holding potential of -80 mV. (B) Average current-voltage relationships of MA currents in C2C12 ($n = 4$) cells. Inset, representative MA currents evoked at holding potentials ranging from -80 to +40 mV (applied 0.7 sec prior to the mechanical step). (C) Ratio of inactivated current at the end of a mechanical step (150 ms duration) relative to the peak current (mean \pm SEM, number of cells above the bars) in N2A and C2C12 cells for currents elicited at a holding potential of -80 mV. ***, $P < 0.001$, unpaired t-test. (D) Average maximal amplitude of MA inward currents elicited in N2A and C2C12 cells at a holding potential of -80mV (mean \pm SEM, the number of cells tested is shown above the bars). *, $P < 0.05$, unpaired t-test with Welch's correction. (E) MA current-voltage relationships of whole-cell recordings in a N2A cell bathed in control solution (filled symbols) and after perfusion with NMDG-Cl solution (open symbol). Note that inward currents present in control condition are suppressed with NMDG-Cl solution.

Figure S2. Piezo1 siRNA qPCR and cell viability control, and N2A MA currents after disruption of integrin function.

(A) siRNA-induced down-regulation of Piezo1 mRNA in N2A cells. Transfected and untransfected cells are unsorted and thus these differences are underestimated. (B) Representative ratiometric calcium imaging experiment of capsaicin stimulated N2A cells co-transfected with TRPV1 and GFP, together with either scrambled siRNA or Piezo1 siRNA

(mean \pm SEM of GFP-positive cell traces). (C) Percentage of GFP-positive cells responding to capsaicin (left panel, mean \pm SEM of two experiments) and Fura-2 340/380 ratio fold change of capsaicin responding cells (mean \pm SEM). (D) Maximal current amplitude of whole cell MA currents elicited in N2A cells at a holding potential of -80 mV in control conditions or after 30-60 minutes perfusion with a divalent free solution containing 5 mM EGTA. (E) Representative traces of MA currents normalized to peak in control conditions or after 30-60 minutes perfusion with a divalent free solution containing 5 mM EGTA (left panel). Inactivation of currents is fitted with a mono-exponential equation. In the absence of divalent cations, the time constant for inactivation is higher than with control solution (right panel). ***, P < 0.001, unpaired t-test.

Figure S3. Hydrophobicity plot of mouse Piezo1 and Piezo2.

Hydrophobicity analysis of mouse Piezo1 (A) and mouse Piezo2 (B). The Kyte-Doolittle pattern (19 residues window) shows succession of hydrophobic and hydrophilic regions. 30 and 34 transmembrane domains are predicted by TMHMM2 program analysis, respectively.

Figure S4. Piezo1-induced MA currents are cationic non-selective currents blocked by gadolinium and ruthenium red.

(A-C) MA currents of Piezo1-expressing C2C12 cells recorded in the whole-cell configuration. (A) Representative traces of MA inward currents expressed in Piezo1-transfected cells. The cell is subjected to a series of mechanical steps in 1 μ m increments using glass probe stimulation and at a holding potential of -80 mV. (B) Representative current-voltage relationships of MA currents expressed in Piezo1-transfected cells. Inset, MA currents evoked at holding potentials ranging from -80 to +40 mV. (C) Average maximal amplitude of MA inward currents elicited at a

holding potential of -80 mV in Piezo1-transfected (red) or mock-transfected (blue) cells. Bars represent the mean \pm SEM, and the number of cells tested is shown above the bars. ***, P < 0.001, unpaired t-test with Welch's correction. (D) Whole-cell MA current traces elicited in a Piezo1 transfected cell bathed in control solution (left panel) or after perfusion with 150 mM NMDG-Cl (right panel) solution. Currents are elicited from -80 mV to +80 mV in 40 mV steps. (E) MA current-voltage relationship from the same cell. Note that inward currents present in control condition (filled symbols) are suppressed with external NMDG-Cl solution (open symbol). (F) Average current-voltage relationship of MA currents elicited in Piezo1 transfected HEK293T cells and recorded with CsCl-based internal solution and 150 mM NaCl-, 150 mM KCl-, 100 mM CaCl₂- or 100 mM MgCl₂-based extracellular solutions. I-V relationships from individual cells were normalized to the value at -40 mV before liquid junction potentials were corrected. (G) Average of reversal potential values determined for each recording conditions and for individual cells (mean \pm SEM). (H) P_x/P_{Cs} ion selectivity ratios of MA currents in Piezo1-expressing cells. (I) Percent block of MA currents in Piezo1-expressing cells by 30 μ M gadolinium or ruthenium red. (J-K) Representative current traces of MA currents elicited in Piezo1 transfected cells before, during and after perfusion of 30 μ M gadolinium (J) or ruthenium red (K).

Figure S5. Piezo2-induced MA currents are cationic non-selective.

(A) Whole-cell MA current traces elicited in a Piezo2 transfected cell bathed in control solution (left panel) and after perfusion with NMDG-Cl (right panel) solution. Currents are elicited at -80, -40, 0, +40 and +80 mV. (B) MA current-voltage relationships from the same cell. Note that inward currents present in control condition (filled symbols) are suppressed with NMDG-Cl solution (open symbol). (C) Representative current traces of MA currents elicited in Piezo2-transfected cells before, during and after perfusion of 30 μ M gadolinium (upper panels) or

ruthenium red (lower panels). (D) Percent block of MA currents in Piezo2-expressing cells by 30 μM gadolinium and ruthenium red. Bars represent the mean ± SEM, and the number of cells tested is shown above the bars.

Figure S6. Piezo1 antibodies detect Piezo1 in transfected HEK293T cells.

(A) Representative images of Piezo1 labeling (red) in Piezo1-IRES-EGFP transfected cells (green). Note, GFP-negative, hence untransfected, cells are devoid of labeling. (B) A proportion of Piezo1 is expressed near or at the plasma membrane of TRPA1 and Piezo1 co-transfected HEK293T cells. Cells were live-labeled with TRPA1 antibodies (green) to delineate the plasma membrane, fixed, permeabilized, and stained for Piezo1 (red) and MYC (total TRPA1). Inset, higher magnification of boxed area in overlay image. Scale bars = 20 μm.

Figure S7. Piezo2 mRNA is expressed in a subset of DRG neurons.

To further characterize Piezo2 expression in DRG, we performed combined Piezo2 fluorometric *in situ* hybridization with immunostaining of known markers of DRG neurons. Mechanosensitivity is a property of the majority of DRG neurons including neurons with unmyelinated C-type fibers and expressing the intermediate filament Peripherin (5-6), and neurons with myelinated A-type fibers and expressing Neurofilament 200 (6-8). Most of the former play a role in sensing noxious mechanical and thermal stimuli and many also express the thermoTRP TRPV1 (6, 9-11), the latter primarily play a role in mechanosensation (of both noxious and innocuous stimuli) (6, 8).

Combined Piezo2 fluorometric in situ hybridization (left panels) with Peripherin (A, middle panel) and Neurofilament 200 (NF200) (B, middle panel) immunostaining in mouse DRG and (C) with TRPV1 (middle panel) immunostaining in rat DRG show that among Piezo2-positive neurons, 60% also expressed Peripherin ($n = 204$ for Piezo2 and $n = 555$ for Peripherin of which 23 % express Piezo2, out of 1188 total neurons); 28%, NF200 ($n = 277$ for Piezo2, and $n = 368$ for NF200 of which 19 % express Piezo2, out of 1203 total neurons), and 24%, TRPV1 ($n = 233$ for Piezo2 and $n = 394$ for TRPV1 of which 15 % express Piezo2, out of 975 total neurons). Arrowheads show examples of neurons expressing Piezo2 and respective markers (A-C, right panels). Scale bars = 50 μm .

Figure S8. DRG and Piezo2 siRNA control experiments and comparison of MA current inactivation of DRG neurons.

(A-B) siRNA-mediated knockdown of TRPA1 in cultured DRG neurons. (A) Representative traces of ratiometric calcium-imaging on cultured DRG neurons transfected with scrambled siRNA control ($n = 415$ neurons, left panel) and TRPA1 siRNA ($n = 467$ neurons, right panel). (B) Average percentage of neurons responding to mustard oil (MO, agonist of TRPA1 channels) and capsaicin (CAPS, agonist of TRPV1 channels) from 2 independent transfections were assayed 48 to 72 hours after transfection. While the percentage of responders to MO (100 μM) is significantly reduced upon siRNA treatment (scrambled: $15.34 \pm 3.69\%$; siRNA: $2.48 \pm 0.96\%$; $P = 0.0286$, Mann Whitney test), responses to CAPS (0.5 μM) are unaffected by TRPA1 siRNA treatment (scrambled: $27.43 \pm 5.81\%$; siRNA: $32.28 \pm 3.84\%$; ns). Bars represent the mean \pm SEM. (C) Average maximal amplitude of Piezo2-induced MA currents in the presence or absence of Piezo2 siRNA. N2A cells transfected with Piezo1 siRNA to suppress endogenous MA currents were co-transfected with Piezo2 cDNA or Piezo2 cDNA + Piezo2 siRNA. (D)

Histogram of time-constant of inactivation of MA currents recorded in scrambled siRNA transfected DRG neurons. Numbers of neurons expressing MA currents with time constant of inactivation \leq 30 ms were plotted using a bin of 2.5 ms (the inactivation kinetic of currents with >30 ms time constant is too slow to be accurately fitted over 150 ms). Fit with double Gaussian equation shows two peaks centered at 7.2 ± 0.5 ms and 16.0 ± 2.1 ms, respectively. (E)

Example trace of MA current showing comparison between the amount of current inactivated after 150 ms of mechanical stimulation (I inactivated, red double arrow) and the amount of current at the peak (I peak, black double arrow) (left panel). Percentage of DRG neurons with different degrees of current inactivation at 150 ms (I inactivated/ I peak in 5% increments where 100% is completely inactivated) are compared between scrambled or Piezo2 siRNA transfected conditions (right panel).

Table S1

List of candidate genes tested in N2A cells using siRNA.

Nº :	siRNA :	Nº :	siRNA :
1	Scrambled	41	Sfxn5
2	2400010G15Rik	42	Slc16a6
3	2410015B03Rik	43	Slc47a1
4	4833424O15Rik	44	Slc7a3
5	Tmem129	45	Slc7a7
6	1500016O10Rik	46	Slc8a1
7	2810432L12Rik	47	TM6sf1
8	3632451O06Rik	48	Tmc6
9	4930500O05Rik	49	Tmem108
10	9330182L06Rik	50	Tmem136
11	A830020B06Rik	51	Tmem161a
12	Accn2	52	Tmem164
13	AI848100	53	Tmem16f
14	B430119L13Rik	54	TMEM176a
15	BC042720	55	TMEM176b
16	BC062109	56	Tmem181
17	Chrna3	57	Tmem20
18	Creld1	58	Tmem41a
19	D630045J12Rik	59	Tmem54
20	Emb	60	Tmem56
21	Gpr173	61	Tmem74
22	Grik5	62	Tmhs
23	Htr3a	63	Tmtc1
24	Htr3b	64	Tmtc2
25	Josd2	65	TRPM2
26	Leprotl1	66	TRPML3
27	Lphn1	67	TRPV2
28	Mcam	68	Tspan13
29	Mfap3	69	Tspan18
30	Npal2	70	Tspan2
31	Npal3	71	Tspan33
32	Nrsn1-Vmp	72	Xkr6
33	P2X3	73	Fam38a
34	Pcdh1		
35	Pcnxl2		
36	PKD1L2		
37	Prrt3		
38	Punc		
39	Reep2		
40	Rom1		

The siRNA are in the same order as those in Figure 2A.

Table S2

Properties of mechanically activated currents elicited in different cell lines and with various transfection conditions.

		Whole-cell mechanical stimulation			Cell-attached stretch	
		Threshold (μ m)	Tau inac (ms)	I _{max} (-80mV) (pA)	P50 (mm Hg)	I _{max} (-80mV) (pA)
N2A	control	5.4 \pm 0.3 (n = 71)	12.3 \pm 0.6 (n = 74)	-194.3 \pm 34.7 (n = 89)	-28.0 \pm 1.8 (n = 21)	-8.1 \pm 2.0 (n = 28)
	Piezo1 siRNA	n.d.	n.d.	-13.8 \pm 3.2 (n = 67)	n.d.	-1.3 \pm 0.5 (n = 27)
	Piezo1 cDNA	3.7 \pm 0.7 (n = 16)	15.3 \pm 1.5 (n = 16)	-3568 \pm 567.6 (n = 16)	-28.1 \pm 2.8 (n = 13)	-68.6 \pm 7.3 (n = 13)
C2C12	control	3.3 \pm 0.4 (n = 23)	129.8 \pm 55.4 (n = 21)	-101.5 \pm 19.7 (n = 25)	n.d.	n.d.
	Piezo1 cDNA	3.0 \pm 0.3 (n = 10)	15.6 \pm 0.9 (n = 10)	-2482 \pm 384.4 (n = 10)	n.d.	n.d.
HEK293T	control	6.0 \pm 0.9 (n = 9)	88.7 \pm 26.0 (n = 7)	-88.5 \pm 19.7 (n = 10)	n.d.	-1.1 \pm 0.2 (n = 18)
	Piezo1 cDNA	2.6 \pm 0.7 (n = 10)	16.5 \pm 1.4 (n = 10)	-3696 \pm 641.1 (n = 10)	-31.2 \pm 3.5 (n = 11)	-43.0 \pm 12.8 (n = 17)

Values are given as mean \pm SEM.

N number are specified for each experiment.

n.d. : not determined.

Supporting References

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