

Supporting Figure Legends

Supporting Figure S1. Haplotype structure and haplotype frequency in the (a) *TMD case-control* and (b) *OPPERA* cohorts. Haplotypes were constructed with SNPs situated within COMT gene haploblock 2.

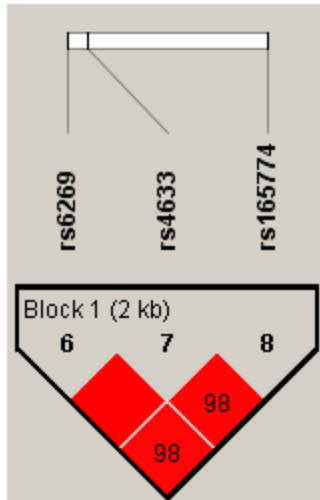
Supporting Figure S2. Conservation of alternative COMT protein variants in primates. (a) Multiple alignment of the COMT alternative protein regions (marked in red) from human, chimp and gorilla showing unambiguous similarity. Stop codons are marked by @. (b) Maximum-likelihood tree of alternative regions of (a)-COMT isoforms based on the multiple alignments of different mammals.

Supporting Figure S3. Prediction of potential miRNA targets in the 3'UTR of (a)-COMT isoform, specifically in the rs165774 (G>A) vicinity. Positions of rs165774 are shown in red; G-C pairs, which could influence the difference between G and A variants, are shown in bold.

Supporting Figure S4. Three-dimensional representation of the active site of (a) S-COMT or (b) (a)S-COMT. Interaction between the enzyme's residues, enzymatic co-factor (orange sphere), and catechol substrate (red).

Supporting Figure 5. Predicted docking poses of DHBA, norepinephrine, and epinephrine. Zoomed view of best DHBA, norepinephrine, or epinephrine docking solutions for S-COMT and (a)S-COMT (Carbon atoms of ligands, SAM, and (a)S-COMT residues are represented in green, grey and white, respectively. Catalytic Mg^{2+} ion and Mg-coordinating conserved water molecule are represented as a pink and red sphere, respectively; see Supporting Table S7 for chemical structures of catecholamines and docking energy values).

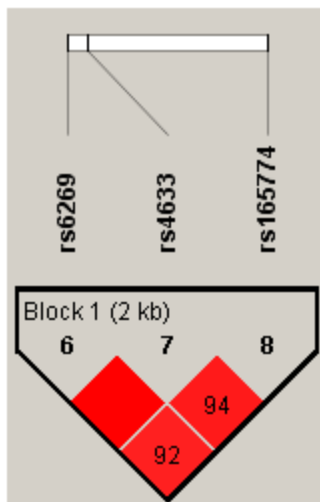
a



| Genotype | Haplotype | Frquency |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| CCG | LPS-G | 41.7% |
| ATA | APS-A | 31.3% |
| ATG | APS-G | 19.1% |
| ACG | HPS-G | 7.7% |

$D': 0.985 / r^2: 0.323$

b



| Genotype | Haplotype | Frquency |
|------------|-----------|----------|
| CCG | LPS-G | 37.7% |
| ATA | APS-A | 26.5% |
| ATG | APS-G | 17.6% |
| ACG | HPS-G | 17.4% |

$D': 0.927 / r^2: 0.204$

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human      MPEAPPLLLAAVLLGLVLLVLLLLLRHWGWLCLIGWNEFILQPIHNLLMGDTKEQRIL
chimp     ML EAPPLLLAAVLLGLVLLVLLLLLRHWGWLCLIGWNEFVLQPIHNLLMGDTKEQRIL
gorilla   MLEAPPLLLASVLLGLVLLVLLLLLRHWGWLCLIGWNEFVLQPIHNLLMGDTKEQRIL
          * ***** : ***** : *****

human      NHVLQHAEPGNAQS VLEAIDTYCEQKEWAMNVGD KKGKIVDAVIQE HQPSV LLELGAYCG
chimp     NHVLQHAEPGNAQS VLEAIDTYCEQKEWAMNVGD KKGKIVDAVIQE HQPSV LLELGAYCG
gorilla   NHVLQHAEPGNAQS VLEAIDTYCEQKEWAMNVGD KKGKIVDAVIQE HQPSV LLELGAYCG
          *****

human      YSAVRMARLLSPGARLITIEINPDCAAITQRMVD FAGVKDKVT LVVGASQDIIPQLKKKY
chimp     YSAVRMARLLSPGARLITIEINPDCAAITQRMVD FAGVKDKVT LVVGASQDIIPQLKKKY
gorilla   YSAVRMARLLSPGARLITIEINPDCAAITQRMVD FAGVDKVT LVVGASQDIIPQLKKKY
          ***** : *****

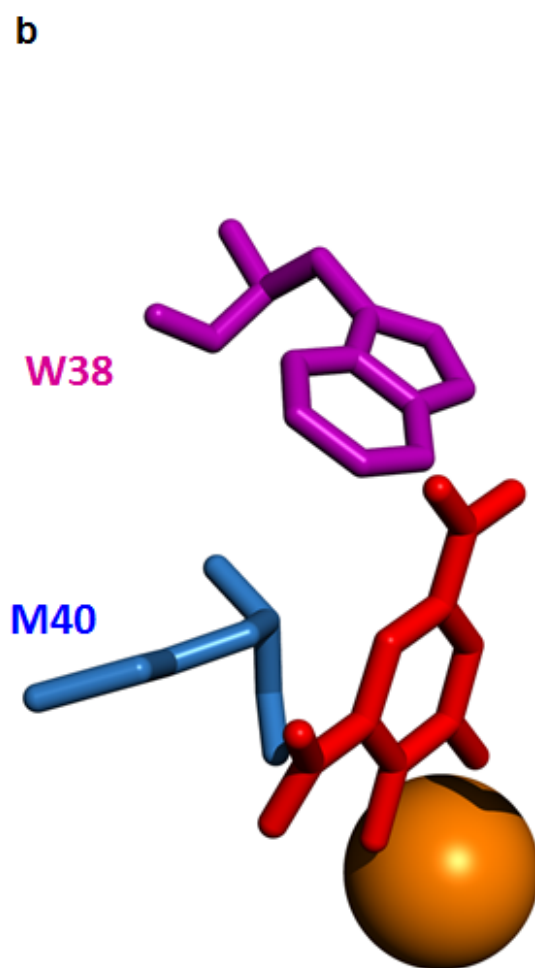
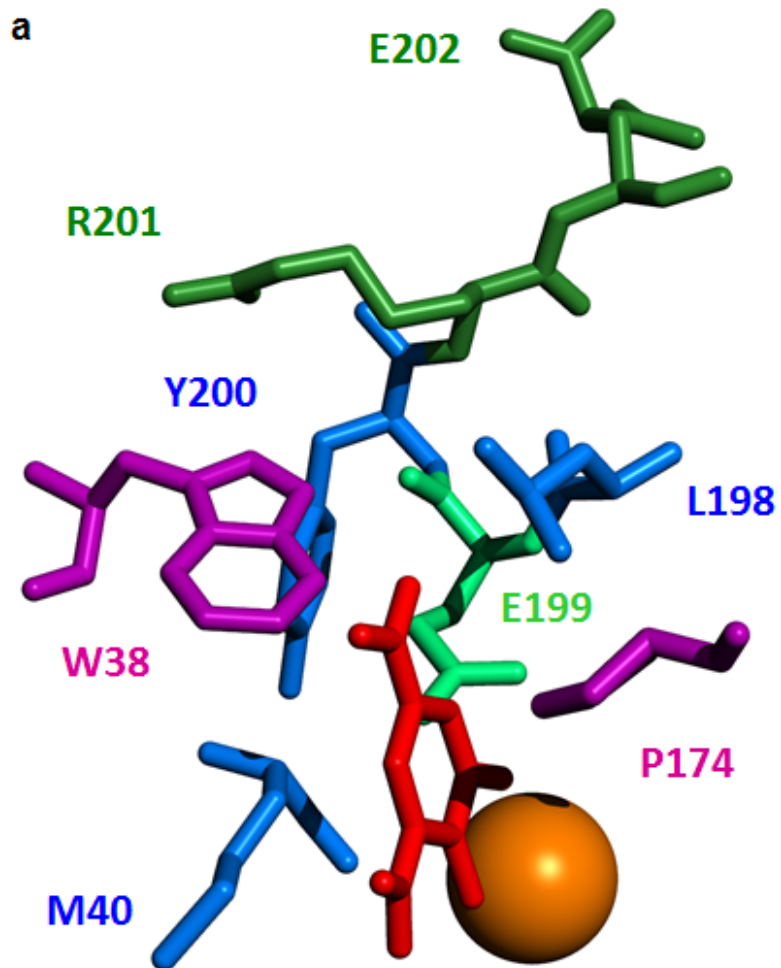
human      DVDTLDMVF LDHWD RYLPD TLLL EVSPNQDGIRASC CPEPIQSASASP KSQA FQQ@
chimp     DVDTLDMVF LDHWD RYLPD TLLL EVSPNQDGICASC CPEPIQSASASP KSQA FQQ@
gorilla   DVDTLDMVF LDHWD RYLPD TLLL EVSPNQDGICASC CPEPIQSASASP KSQA FQQ@
          *****
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A phylogenetic tree illustrating the evolutionary relationships between various species. The tree is rooted on the left and branches out to the right. The species names are listed on the right side of the tree, corresponding to the tips of the branches. The species names are color-coded: blue for primates, green for rodents, and red for lagomorphs. A scale bar at the bottom left indicates a genetic distance of 0.02.

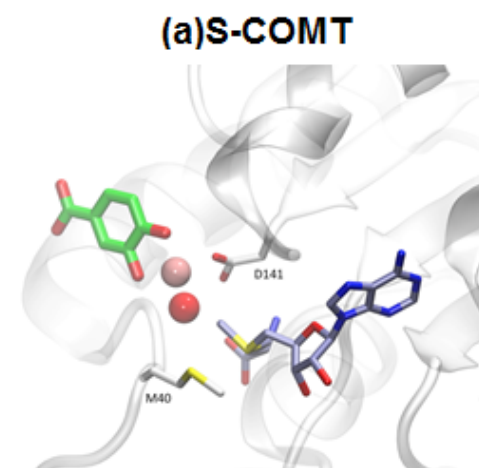
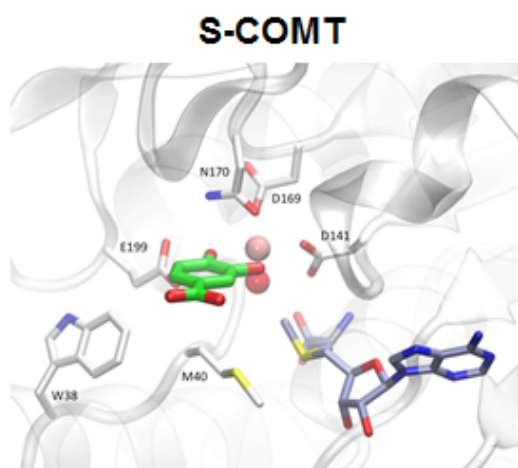
Species listed (from top to bottom):

- Homo sapiens*
- Pan troglodytes*
- Gorilla gorilla*
- Pongo pygmaeus*
- Nomascus leucogenys*
- Chlorocebus sabaeus*
- Papio hamadryas*
- Macaca mulatta*
- Macaca fascicularis*
- Callithrix jacchus*
- Saimiri boliviensis*
- Otlemur garnettii*
- Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*
- Mus musculus*
- Mesocricetus auratus*
- Rattus norvegicus*

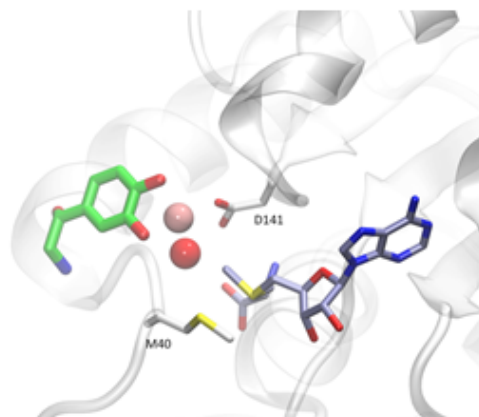
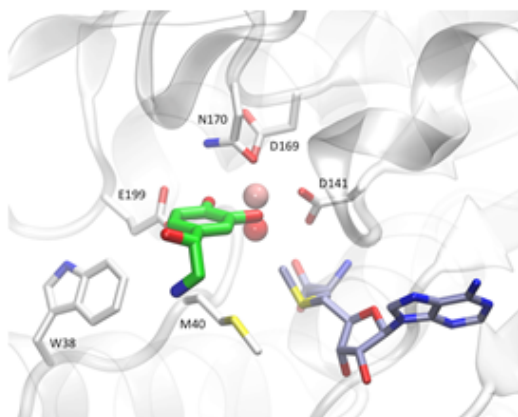
Scale bar: 0.02



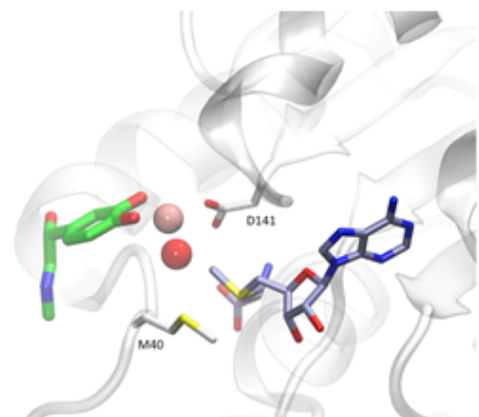
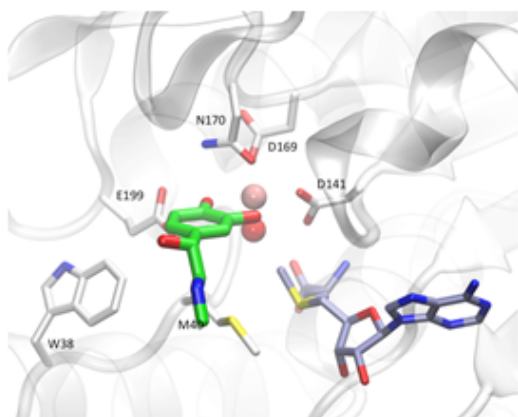
a DHBA



b NOREPINEPHRINE



c EPINEPHRINE



Supporting Table S1. Logistic regression analyses between TMD and SNP rs165774 assuming additive effects, for *TMD case-control* cohort.

| | SNP | A1 | N | OR | SE | L95 | U95 | STAT | P |
|------------|-----------------|----------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | rs2020917 | T | 384 | 1.088 | 0.159 | 0.796 | 1.486 | 0.527 | 0.598 |
| | rs737865 | G | 393 | 1.124 | 0.156 | 0.828 | 1.527 | 0.750 | 0.453 |
| | rs1544325 | A | 392 | 1.081 | 0.151 | 0.804 | 1.454 | 0.517 | 0.606 |
| | rs6269 | G | 392 | 1.262 | 0.149 | 0.943 | 1.690 | 1.562 | 0.118 |
| TMD | rs4633 | C | 391 | 1.383 | 0.152 | 1.027 | 1.861 | 2.138 | 0.033 |
| | rs165774 | A | 392 | 0.621 | 0.162 | 0.452 | 0.852 | -2.951 | 0.003 |
| | rs174697 | A | 394 | 1.812 | 0.399 | 0.829 | 3.962 | 1.490 | 0.136 |
| | rs9332381 | G | 394 | 1.812 | 0.418 | 0.798 | 4.114 | 1.421 | 0.155 |
| | rs165599 | G | 383 | 1.404 | 0.163 | 1.021 | 1.931 | 2.089 | 0.037 |

Results are for single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) situated within *COMT* gene, located on chromosome 22. (SNPs that failed quality checks have been removed). A1 = minor allele; N = number of subjects with non-missing data; OR = odds ratio; SE = standard error; L95 = lower bound of 95% confidence interval; U95 = upper bound of 95% confidence interval; STAT = Coefficient t-statistic; *P* = asymptotic p-value for t-statistic. *P* value lower than threshold of significance after correction for multiple testing using the method of spectral decomposition¹⁵ is shown in bold.

Supporting Table S2. Association between each COMT haplotype against the others and TMD, and association between each COMT haplotype enriched for SNP rs165774 against the others and TMD, in the *TMD case-control* cohort.

| | Haplotype | OR | STAT | <i>P</i> | Freq_cases | Freq_controls |
|---|-----------|-------|-------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| <i>COMT haplotype</i> | LPS | 1.27 | 2.61 | 0.106 | 0.4304 | 0.3897 |
| | APS | 0.724 | 4.5 | 0.0339 | 0.482 | 0.5359 |
| | HPS | 1.27 | 0.777 | 0.378 | 0.08763 | 0.07436 |
| <i>Enriched COMT haplotype</i> | LPS-G | 1.250 | 2.230 | 0.135 | 0.392 | 0.407 |
| | APS-G | 1.200 | 0.981 | 0.322 | 0.179 | 0.196 |
| | APS-A | 0.614 | 8.980 | 0.003 | 0.357 | 0.315 |
| | HPS-G | 1.310 | 0.967 | 0.325 | 0.072 | 0.079 |

OR = odds ratio; STAT = Test statistic (T from Wald test); *P* = Asymptotic p-value; Freq_cases = frequency of the haplotype in cases; Freq_controls = frequency of the haplotype in controls.

Supporting Table S3. Linear regression analyses between SNP rs165774 and QST phenotypes in the *TMD case-control* cohort, assuming additive effects.

| | A1 | N | BETA | SE | L95 | U95 | STAT | P | z-score rs165774G | z-score rs165774A |
|-------------------------------|----|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Pressure Pain</i> | A | 290 | -1.712 | 0.546 | -2.782 | -0.641 | -3.133 | 0.002 | 0.279 | -1.519 |
| <i>Heat Pain</i> | A | 289 | 0.082 | 0.127 | -0.167 | 0.330 | 0.644 | 0.520 | 0.006 | -0.035 |
| <i>Heat Pain-First Pulse</i> | A | 287 | 0.055 | 0.239 | -0.414 | 0.523 | 0.229 | 0.819 | -0.028 | 0.155 |
| <i>Heat Pain-Rate of Rise</i> | A | 287 | -0.031 | 0.228 | -0.477 | 0.416 | -0.134 | 0.893 | 0.046 | -0.256 |
| <i>Heat Pain-Sum</i> | A | 287 | -0.055 | 0.244 | -0.533 | 0.422 | -0.228 | 0.820 | 0.027 | -0.148 |

A1 = minor allele; N = number of subjects with non-missing data; BETA = regression coefficient; SE = standard error; L95 = lower bound of 95% confidence interval; U95 = upper bound of 95% confidence interval; STAT = Coefficient t-statistic; *P* = Asymptotic p-value for t-statistic; z-score rs165774G = average z-score for subjects carrying one or two copies of the major allele (GG and GA); z-score rs165774A = average z-score for subjects carrying two copies of the minor allele (AA).

Supporting Table S4. Logistic (TMD) or linear (QST) regression analyses between SNP rs165774 and risk of TMD or SNP rs165774 and QST phenotypes in the subset of Caucasian females from the *OPPERA* cohort, assuming additive effects.

| | Allele | N | OR | SE | L95 | U95 | STAT | <i>P</i> | Frequency rs165774G | Frequency rs165774A |
|---|--------|-----|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>TMD</i> | A | 964 | 0.899 | 0.101 | 0.737 | 1.095 | -1.061 | 0.289 | 0.2746 | 0.2751 |
| | Allele | N | BETA | SE | L95 | U95 | STAT | <i>P</i> | z-score rs165774G | z-score rs165774A |
| <i>Pressure Pain</i> | A | 964 | -0.624 | 0.303 | -1.217 | -0.030 | -2.059 | 0.040 | 0.084 | -0.840 |
| <i>Heat Pain</i> | A | 964 | 0.006 | 0.064 | -0.119 | 0.131 | 0.097 | 0.923 | 0.009 | -0.092 |
| <i>Heat Pain- First Pulse</i> | A | 964 | -0.347 | 0.185 | -0.709 | 0.015 | -1.880 | 0.060 | 0.019 | -0.185 |
| <i>Heat Pain- Rate of Rise</i> | A | 964 | 0.287 | 0.167 | -0.041 | 0.614 | 1.717 | 0.086 | 0.017 | -0.171 |
| <i>Heat Pain- Sum</i> | A | 964 | -0.138 | 0.195 | -0.519 | 0.244 | -0.707 | 0.480 | 0.017 | -0.165 |
| <i>Heat Pain- After Sensation</i> | A | 964 | -0.840 | 0.349 | -1.524 | -0.156 | -2.408 | 0.016 | 0.113 | -1.122 |
| <i>Mechanical Pain- Threshold</i> | A | 964 | -0.056 | 0.075 | -0.204 | 0.092 | -0.739 | 0.460 | 0.010 | -0.105 |
| <i>Mechanical Pain- Single Stimulus</i> | A | 964 | -0.252 | 0.115 | -0.476 | -0.027 | -2.196 | 0.028 | 0.040 | -0.398 |
| <i>Mechanical Pain- Windup</i> | A | 964 | -0.109 | 0.118 | -0.340 | 0.122 | -0.922 | 0.357 | 0.021 | -0.212 |
| <i>Mechanical Pain- After Sensation</i> | A | 964 | -0.682 | 0.237 | -1.146 | -0.217 | -2.874 | 0.004 | 0.112 | -1.113 |

A1 = minor allele; N = number of subjects with non-missing data; OR = odds ratio; BETA = regression coefficient; SE = standard error; L95 = lower bound of 95% confidence interval; U95 = upper bound of 95% confidence interval; STAT = Coefficient t-statistic; *P* = Asymptotic p-value for t-statistic; Frequency rs165774G = frequency of major allele *G* among cases; frequency rs165774A = frequency of minor allele *A* among cases; z-score rs165774G = average z-score for subjects carrying one or two copies of the major allele (GG and GA); z-score rs165774A = average z-score for subjects carrying two copies of the minor allele (AA).

Supporting Table S5. Meta-analysis of the association between SNP rs165774 and TMD or different QST, combining subjects from the *TMD case-control* cohort and Caucasian females from the *OPPERA* cohort.

| | OR | SE | L95 | U95 | P |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|
| <i>TMD</i> | 0.810 | 0.086 | 0.685 | 0.958 | 0.014 |
| | BETA | SE | L95 | U95 | P |
| <i>Pressure Pain</i> | -0.880 | 0.265 | -1.399 | -0.360 | 0.001 |
| <i>Heat Pain</i> | 0.021 | 0.057 | -0.090 | 0.133 | 0.707 |
| <i>Heat Pain-First Pulse</i> | -0.197 | 0.146 | -0.483 | 0.089 | 0.178 |
| <i>Heat Pain-Rate of Rise</i> | 0.176 | 0.135 | -0.088 | 0.440 | 0.192 |
| <i>Heat Pain-Sum</i> | -0.106 | 0.152 | -0.404 | 0.193 | 0.487 |

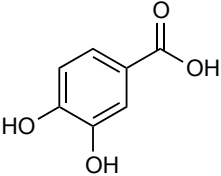
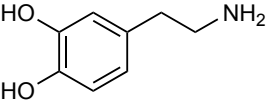
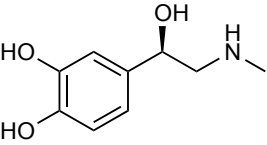
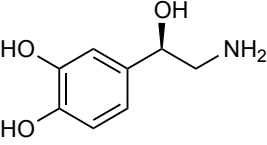
OR = odds ratio; BETA = regression coefficient; SE = standard error; L95 = lower bound of 95% confidence interval; U95 = upper bound of 95% confidence interval; *P* = combined p-value.

Supporting Table S6. Relative expression level of (a)-COMT versus reference MB-COMT (Ratio) in different tissues from human, chimp, and macaca individuals.

| Human | Ratio | Chimp | Ratio | Gorilla | Ratio |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| hsa br F 1 | 0.018 | ptr br F 1 | 0.020 | ggo br F 1 | 0.012 |
| hsa br M 3 | 0.014 | ptr br M 1 | 0.014 | ggo br M 1 | 0.008 |
| hsa br M 1 | 0.010 | ptr br M 2 | 0.013 | ggo cb F 1 | 0.078 |
| hsa br M 2 | 0.004 | ptr br M 3 | 0.011 | ggo cb M 1 | 0.016 |
| hsa br M 4 | 0.008 | ptr br M 4 | 0.007 | ggo ht F 1 | 0.048 |
| hsa br M 5 | 0.020 | ptr br M 5 | 0.010 | ggo ht M 1 | 0.005 |
| hsa cb F 1 | 0.132 | ptr cb F 1 | 0.043 | ggo kd F 1 | 0.016 |
| hsa cb M 1 | 0.060 | ptr cb M 1 | 0.112 | ggo kd M 1 | 0.008 |
| hsa ht F 1 | 0.008 | ptr ht F 1 | 0.036 | ggo lv F 1 | 0.011 |
| hsa ht M 1 | 0.022 | ptr ht M 1 | 0.015 | ggo lv M 1 | 0.004 |
| hsa ht M 2 | 0.011 | ptr kd F 1 | 0.023 | ggo ts M 1 | 0.016 |
| hsa kd F 1 | 0.021 | ptr kd M 1 | 0.014 | | |
| hsa kd M 1 | 0.011 | ptr lv F 1 | 0.014 | | |
| hsa kd M 2 | 0.015 | ptr lv M 1 | 0.011 | | |
| hsa lv M 1 | 0.006 | ptr ts M 1 | 0.129 | | |
| hsa lv M 2 | 0.020 | | | | |
| hsa ts M 1 | 0.000 | | | | |
| hsa ts M 2 | 0.070 | | | | |

M = male; F = female; br = brain without cerebellum; cb = cerebellum; ht = heart; kd = kidney; lv – liver; ts = testis

Supporting Table S7. Chemical structures and docking scores of COMT substrates.

| Molecule | Structure | S-COMT | | (a)S-COMT | |
|----------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | | conformers ^a | Gscore ^b | conformers ^a | Gscore ^b |
| DHBA |  | 2 | -8.45 ± 0.08 | 7 | -6.47 ± 0.18 |
| Dopamine |  | 5 | -8.01 ± 0.09 | 2 | -5.64 ± 0.1 |
| Epinephrine |  | 2 | -7.86 ± 0.17 | 2 | -5.76 ± 0.24 |
| norepinephrine |  | 5 | -8.18 ± 0.06 | 2 | -5.32 ± 0.22 |

Notes: **a)** Number of top energy-ranked poses with crystallographic-like distances between catechol hydroxyl groups and catalytic Mg²⁺ ion; **b)** Gscore expressed as average and standard deviation of retrieved conformer scores.

Supporting Table S8. Enzyme kinetic values of alternative COMT isoforms (a)MB-COMT and (a)S-COMT and their reference counterparts for catechol substrates DHBA, dopamine, norepinephrine and epinephrine, generated using nonlinear fitting from representative substrate-velocity curves. 95% confidence limits are shown in parenthesis. We want to point out that, in contrast to DHBA and its products, natural catecholamines and their O-methylated metabolites are not as stable under physiological conditions. Particularly 3-MT is easily destructed and may increase variation when using dopamine as a substrate. However, we think that these results are reliable for comparison of the performance of reference and alternative COMT isoforms.

| | DHBA | | DOPAMINE | | NOREPINEPHRINE | | EPINEPHRINE | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| V_{max} (pmol x min ⁻¹ x mg protein ⁻¹) | MB-COMT | S-COMT | MB-COMT | S-COMT | MB-COMT | S-COMT | MB-COMT | S-COMT |
| Reference | 8.1 (4.9–11.3) | 73.1 (70.7–76.9) | 6.5 (9.6–22.7) | 55.3 (44.0–66.7) | 12.6 (10.7–14.6) | 78.3 (55.6–100.9) | 8.4 (6.9–9.9) | 52.6 (50.1–55.1) |
| Alternative | 7.7 (7.3–8.1) | 8.2 (6.7–9.7) | 8.7 (4.9–12.6) | 11 (2.9–19.1) | 5.1 (3.5–6.6) | 14.8 (12.9–16.6) | 0 | 0 |
| K_m (μM) | | | | | | | | |
| Reference | 0.12 (0–0.27) | 0.04 (0.03–0.05) | 0.12 (0–0.85) | 0.13 (0.04–0.22) | 0.44 (0.42–0.67) | 0.59 (0.52–0.66) | 0.26 (0.11–0.41) | 0.26 (0.21–0.3) |
| Alternative | 0.63 (0.57–0.7) | 0.38 (0.14–0.61) | 0.19 (0–0.45) | 0.25 (0–0.87) | 0.52 (0.13–0.91) | 0.63 (0.42–0.83) | 0 | 0 |