ZRT2 encodes a low-affinity zinc transporter. There are two systems for zinc uptake in yeast, one high-affinity and one lower-affinity. Zrt2p and the high-affinity zinc transporter Zrt1p are similar to each other, and are members of the ZIP family of heavy metal ion transporters. Zap1p is a transcriptional regulator that controls levels of ZRT1 and ZRT2 mRNAs in response to intracellular zinc levels.