

## SK modulators, both natural and synthetic (Kca2) The magnesium-dependent activity of the kinase-coupled cation channel TRPM7 is inhibited by potassium channels.

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### ABSTRACT

TRPM7 (transient receptor potential cation channel subfamily M member 7) is a bifunctional protein that combines a TRP ion channel with an  $\alpha$ -type protein kinase domain. TRPM7 is required for cell proliferation and expansion. Anoxic neuronal death, cardiac fibrosis, and tumour cell proliferation are all linked to upregulation of TRPM7 function. The purpose of this study was to find non-toxic TRPM7 channel inhibitors and see how stopping endogenous TRPM7 currents affected the phenotypic of living cells. We created an aequorin bioluminescence-based TRPM7 channel activity assay and ran a hypothesis-driven screen for TRPM7 channel inhibitors. Candidates were tested electrophysiologically and in cell biology tests after they were identified. Modulators of small conductance  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -activated  $\text{K}^{+}$  channels (KCa2.1–2.3; TRPM7; SK) channels, such as the antimalarial plant alkaloid quinine, CyPPA, dequalinium, NS8593, SKA31, and UCL 1684, as well as the antimalarial plant alkaloid quinine, CyPPA, dequalinium, NS8593, SKA31, and UCL 1684. When compared to other TRP channels, the most effective drug, NS8593 ( $\text{IC}_{50}$  1.6 mM), particularly targeted TRPM7, interfered with  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ -dependent TRPM7 channel regulation, and hindered the motility of cultured cells. NS8593 displayed full and complete functionality. In HEK 293 cells, freshly separated smooth muscle cells, primary podocytes, and ventricular myocytes, reversible inhibition of natural TRPM7-like currents was observed. TRPM7 and KCa2 have very similar pharmacological characteristics, according to this study. 1–2.3 channels are available. NS8593 functions as a TRPM7 negative gating modulator, making it ideal for research into the functional properties and cellular roles of endogenous TRPM7.

**Keywords:** transient receptor potential; TRPM7; SK channels; KCa2.1–2.3 channels; magnesium; cell motility

### I. INTRODUCTION

TRPM7 (transient receptor potential cation channel, subfamily M, member 7) is a bifunctional protein with an ion channel section and a protein kinase domain. TRPM7's channel segment differs from other melastatin-related TRP (TRPM) channels, however the kinase domain belongs to the  $\alpha$ -type serine/threonine protein kinases with structural similarities to PKA. Although TRPM channels are substantially conserved throughout the animal kingdom the ion pore-forming subunits are only covalently connected to  $\alpha$ -kinase domains in TRPM7 and a genetically similar protein, TRPM6. TRPM7 behaves as in heterologous expression systems as a constitutively active cation channel that is permeable to a wide variety of divalent cations, including as  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ . TRPM7 channel activity is closely regulated by intracellular and extracellular  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ . TRPM7 is permeantly blocked by external  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ . TRPM7 is inhibited by internal  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  (as well as  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ -ATP) via a nucleotide-binding site in the kinase domain, which works in tandem with an undiscovered  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  binding site extrinsic to the kinase domain. TRPM7-like currents have been found in all implying that this channel type is important for cell function. Many essential cellular functions have been suggested to be regulated by TRPM7-mediated cation entry, including cell  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  homeostatic cell spreading as well as exocytosis. TRPM7 has been linked to anoxic neuronal death, hypertension, neurological illnesses, cardiac fibrosis, and tumour cell proliferation.

Despite the physiological and clinical relevance of TRPM7, only a few TRPM7 modulators are now available (Table 1), including spermine and 2-aminoethoxydiphenyl borate (2-APB). However, because TRPM7 null mice are embryonic fatal, pharmacological inactivation of TRPM7 will almost certainly be harmful and so is not a preferred choice. Drugs that function as 'use-dependent' or 'state-dependent' TRPM7 channel

inhibitors, on the other hand, may be very useful, similar to the situation with voltage-gated sodium channel inhibitors. As a result, organic compounds that interfere with TRPM7's Mg<sup>2+</sup>-dependent gating are of special interest, as they could be useful in the development of TRPM7 medicines.

TRPM7's gating mechanisms and high sensitivity to internal Mg<sup>2+</sup> are poorly understood, and any relevant results are debatable TRPM7 may be regulated by intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup> via one of the mechanisms discovered for a subset of K<sup>+</sup> channels. Intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup>, for example, voltage-dependently inhibits small conductance Ca<sup>2+</sup>-activated K<sup>+</sup> (SK1-3 or KCa2.1-2.3 according to ) channels, resulting in a rectified current-voltage connection In KCa2.1-2.3 channels, a comparable divalent cation-binding site was discovered in a pore-forming loop similar to TRPM7 Inward rectification is a process that occurs in inward rectifier K<sup>+</sup> channels of type 2.1-2.4 channels. Internal polyamines and Mg<sup>2+</sup> operate via a location in one of the transmembrane helices and the C-terminus of the ion channel to inhibit

voltage Ca<sup>2+</sup>-activated K<sup>+</sup> (BK or KCa1.1) channels with high conductance are also sensitive to intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup> binds to a C-terminal domain to activate KCa1.1 channels, unlike KCa2.1-2.3 and KIR2.1-2.4

TRPM7 is the target of routinely used KCa2.1-2.3 channel activators and inhibitors, according to a hypothesis-driven chemical screen to uncover novel modulators of TRPM7 channel activity. The antimalarial plant alkaloid quinine, as well as synthetic quinine, were shown to be effective. TRPM7 is inhibited by KCa2.1-2.3 modulators such as CyPPA, dequalinium, NS8593, SKA31, and UCL 1684 The most effective chemical, NS8593, works as a TRPM7 channel gating modulator, similar to how KCa2.1-2.3 channels work These findings imply that the TRPM7 and KCa2.1-2.3 channels, which are genetically unrelated, share a drug-binding region that is functionally linked to divalent cation-dependent gating. As a result, current medicines that target KCa2.1-2.3 channels could be used to investigate their efficacy against TRPM7.

**Table 1**  
**Organic compounds inhibiting TRPM7 currents**

Compound	IC <sub>50</sub> (mM)*	Description of the block
2-APB	178	<b>Reversible</b>
Spermine	2.3 <sup>†</sup>	Reversible, voltage Dependent
Carvacrol	306	Reversible
NDGA	n.d.	Tested only at 10 and 20 mM
AA861	n.d.	Tested only at 10 and 40 mM
MK886	n.d.	Tested only at 20 mM
Nafamostat mesylate	617	Reversible, voltage and extracellular divalents dependent
Waixenicin A	7.0	Irreversible, [Mg <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>i</sub> dependent
NS8593	1.6	Reversible, [Mg <sup>2+</sup> ] <sub>i</sub> dependent

\*IC<sub>50</sub> values were determined for recombinant TRPM7 in patch-clamp measurements in the

absence of internal Mg<sup>2+</sup>.<sup>†</sup>The dose-dependent effect of spermine was evaluated on endogenous

MIC currents in divalent-free external solution.n.d., not determined.

## II. METHODS:

### Compounds

2-aminobenzimidazole (ABI), 4-aminopyridine, butanedione monoxime, benzimidazol-1-methylethylbenzimidazole (BMB), CBIQ, 2-chlorobenzimidazole (CBI), clotrimazole, cibenzoline, dequalinium, diazoxide, disopyramide, DPO-1, glipizide, g (Taufkirchen, Germany). Tocris Bioscience provided synthetic apamin, CyPPA, icilin, NS309, SKA31, TRAM 34, UCL 1684, and tetrodotoxin (TTX) (Bristol, UK). Alomone Labs provided the synthetic tamapin.

### Immunofluorescence labelling, cell culture, and molecular biology

TRPM7 was produced in the pIRES-eGFP vector (Clontech Laboratories Mountain View, CA, USA) as previously described (Chubanov et al., 2004; 2007). Mederos y Schnitzler et al. (Mederos y Schnitzler et al., 2008). An RT-PCR technique was used to clone mouse TRPM3 cDNA (JF706722) from kidney mRNA and introduce it into the pcDNA3.1-TOPO vector

Earl's minimal essential media supplemented with 10% foetal calf serum, 100 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> streptomycin, and 100 U mL<sup>-1</sup> penicillin was used to maintain HEK 293 cells at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> (Invitrogen). The Lipofectamine 2000 reagent (Invitrogen) was used to transiently transfect cells according to the manufacturer's instructions. As previously described, an ecdysone-inducible expression system (Invitrogen) was used to establish a viable HEK 293 cell line expressing mouse TRPM7. The cell line was grown in Dulbecco's modified Earl's medium (DMEM, Invitrogen) supplemented with 10% foetal calf serum, 100 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> streptomycin and 100 U mL<sup>-1</sup> penicillin, 400 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> hygromycin, and 400 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> zeocin at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> (Invitrogen). 10 mM ponasterone A (Invitrogen) was added to the cell culture medium to promote the production of recombinant mouse TRPM7. Carsten Schmitz provided a stable HEK 293 cell line expressing human TRPM7 (Schmitz et al., 2003). The cell line was maintained in DMEM (Invitrogen) supplemented with 10% foetal calf serum, 100 mgmL<sup>-1</sup>, at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. 400 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> zeocin and 10 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> blasticidin, streptomycin and 100 U mL<sup>-1</sup> penicillin (Invitrogen). Cells were analysed by immunofluorescence microscopy using a TRPM7-specific antibody to validate tetracycline-dependent production of recombinant TRPM7

protein, as described before. Smooth muscle cells were extracted enzymatically from the cerebellar and basilar arteries of C57Bl/J mice and used for patch-clamp investigations right away. Promocell, Heidelberg, Germany, provided primary human ventricular cardiomyocytes, which were grown according to the manufacturer's instructions. With the fourth passage of cells, the cardiomyocyte experiments were completed.

Primary podocytes were extracted from the kidneys of 4–8-week-old C57Bl/J mice using a modified version of the Schlondorff method. Mechanically separated kidneys (four organs per batch) 200 mL, disturbed. Using a set of steel sieves with pore sizes of 100, 75, 50, and 36 mm (coated by Ham's F12 medium containing 50 percent FCS (Invitrogen) at room temperature, a set of steel sieves with pore sizes of 100, 75, 50, and 36 mm with a set of steel sieves with a pore size of 100, 75, 50, and Freshly isolated cells from the final fraction were centrifuged at 200 g for 5 minutes before being cultured in Ham's F12 medium supplemented with 10% FCS, 2 mM glutamine, 100 U mL<sup>-1</sup> penicillin, 100 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> streptomycin, 100 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> normocin, 5 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> transferrin, 5 ngmL<sup>-1</sup> natriumselenite, 100 nM hydrocortisone, and 5 mgmL<sup>-1</sup> Cell morphology and anti-podocin antibody staining revealed that podocyte enrichment was greater than 95%. After that, primary podocytes were examined following the passage of the second cell. Living cell imaging, wound healing, and viability testing. In the absence or presence of NS8593, wild-type or tetracycline-inducible HEK 293 cells were cultured in 35 mm dishes (1104 cells per dish) for 24–36 hours as shown in the figure legends. An Axiovert 40 CFL inverted microscope with an LD-A-plan 20/0.30Phi objective and an AxioCamICc 1 CCD camera was used to capture images of living cells. To test the effects of NS8593 on cellular viability, cells were washed twice in PBS and incubated in 1 mL of 0.05 percent trypsin/EDTA solution at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> (Invitrogen). 1 mL of the appropriate cell was added to the incubation to speed things up. medium of culture Using a Neubauer chamber, cells were violently resuspended and counted.

Confluent wild-type HEK 293 cells grown in 35 mm dishes were scratched with a yellow pipette tip, washed three times in PBS, and supplemented with fresh culture media with or without NS8593 for the wound healing assay. As indicated above, the wound regions (600 mm) were scanned immediately or after 24 hours was used to outline the wound area and determine the

percentage of closure to quantify the effect of NS8593 on cell motility.

#### [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub> measurements based on aequorin

The HEK 293 cell line stably expressing mouse TRPM7 was employed in the initial screening studies. Transfection of cells cultivated in 100 mm dishes with 2 mg of plasmid DNAs comprising increased green fluorescent protein fused in-frame to *Aequorea victoria* apo-aequorin in a pG5A construct. The cell culture media was replaced four hours after transfection with new medium containing 10 mM ponasterone A. The cells were then rinsed twice with PBS and treated for 1 minute at room temperature with 0.05 percent trypsin and 1 mM EDTA in PBS 24 hours after induction. Cell suspensions were centrifuged twice at 600 g for 3 minutes before being resuspended in Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free HEPES-buffered saline (HBS; Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free HBS: 140 mM NaCl, 6 mM KCl, 1 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM HEPES, 5 mM glucose, and 0.1 percent BSA, pH 7.4). Cell suspensions were treated with 5 mM coelenterazin in Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free medium to reconstitute aequorin. HBS at room temperature for 30 minutes. The cells were washed twice with 200 g for 3 min centrifugation, then resuspended in Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free HBS and put in 96-well plates (1105 cells per well). A FLU- Ostar OPTIMA microplate reader was used to detect luminescence at 37°C (BMG LABTECH GmbH, Extracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> was raised by infusion of Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free HBS containing 5 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> to monitor TRPM7-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx (final concentration). To record total bioluminescence, experiments were terminated by lysing cells with 0.1 percent (v/v) Triton X-100 in HBS. Bioluminescence rates (counts/s) were measured at 1 s intervals and converted to [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub> values using the equation:  $p[Ca^{2+}]_i = 0.332588[\log(k)] - 5.5593$ , where k is the rate of aequorin consumption (i.e. s<sup>-1</sup> divided by the total number of counts)

#### Techniques based on electrophysiology

20–30 hours before analysis, HEK 293 cells were grown to roughly 70% confluence in 35 mm dishes and transfected with mouse TRPM7 cDNA in pIRES2-eGFP vector (Clontech Laboratories) (1–2 mg per dish). At room temperature (22°C), whole-cell patch-clamp recordings were made. pH 7.4 with NaOH, mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM glucose, 10 mM HEPES 130 mM CsCl, 50 mM mannitol, 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.4 with CsOH made up the Cs<sup>+</sup>-based external bath solution. The external solution in

studies with primary human ventricular cardiomyocytes included 10 mM TTX and 10 mM nimodipin to completely inhibit voltage-gated Na<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup> currents, respectively. The PatchMaster v2x52 programme was used to record whole-cell patch-clamp recordings using an EPC10 patch-clamp amplifier (HEKA, Lambrecht, Germany) (HEKA). When filled with the typical Mg<sup>2+</sup> free intracellular solution, patch pipettes manufactured of borosilicate glass had resistances ranging from 1.2 to 2.3 MW: [5.5 nM estimated free [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub> computed with CaBuf] 130 mM CsCl, 0.635 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>. Unless otherwise noted, cells were superfused with the following physiological solution: 2 mM NaCl, 5 mM CsCl, 140 mM NaCl [10 mM BAPTA, 1 mM HEDTA, 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.2. The pipette solution containing Mg<sup>2+</sup> was adjusted to 300 mM estimated free [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>. PatchMaster software rectified the liquid junction potential to +5.1 or +4.7 mV, respectively. In all of the trials, a series resistance compensation of 80% was utilised to eliminate voltage mistakes. After filtering at 1.67 kHz, data were obtained at a frequency of 5 kHz. The osmolality of all solutions was 298.3 mOsm/kg, as measured by the vapour osmometer Vapro 5520.

#### The Hill equation was used to fit data in order to estimate IC<sub>50</sub> values:

$$E(c) = \frac{E_{max} [c^n / (IC_{50}^n + c^n)]}{1 + [c^n / (IC_{50}^n + c^n)]}$$
  
E(c) E<sub>max</sub> [c<sup>n</sup> / (IC<sub>50</sub><sup>n</sup> + c<sup>n</sup>)] E(c) E<sub>max</sub> [c<sup>n</sup> / (IC<sub>50</sub><sup>n</sup> + c<sup>n</sup>)] E<sub>max</sub> is the maximum effect/current at a given concentration c of activator/inhibitor, with E the effect/current at a given concentration c of activator/inhibitor. IC<sub>50</sub> is the maximum effect that can be achieved.

#### Fura-2-infected HEK 293 cells

HEK 293 cells were transiently transfected with 2 mg mTRPM7 cDNA in pIRES2-eGFP vector in 35 mm dishes grown on 25 mm glass coverslips. 18–24 hours after transfection, Ba<sup>2+</sup> entry was measured. At room temperature for 45 minutes, cells were loaded with 5 mM fura-2 acetoxymethyl ester (Sigma) in HBS (140 mM NaCl, 6 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM HEPES, 5 mM glucose, 0.1 percent BSA, pH 7.4). Coverslips were placed in a perfusion chamber after an additional 10 minutes incubation in HBS, rinsed three times with Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free HBS (140 mM NaCl, 6 mM KCl, 10 mM HEPES, 5 mM glucose, pH 7.4), and used right away. Measurements should be taken at room temperature. The fluorescence of Fura-2 was measured. The Hill factor, which is negative in the case of inhibitory activity, and the half-maximal concentration. TRPM7 currents were recorded in

HEK 293 cells that had been transfected with TRPM7 in pIRES-eGFP for 24 hours. Cells were perfused with a bath solution comprising 140 mM NaCl, 5 mM CsCl, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.4), 10 mM glucose with or without 10 mM NS8593 for 3–20 minutes prior to recording. Using 8 MW borosilicate pipettes filled with a divalent cation free solution containing 145 mM CsCl, 5 mM NMDG-HEPES, continuous gap-free cell-attached recordings at pipette potentials of +60 mV (corresponding to -60 mV transmembrane potential) were performed for 1.5 min after gigaseal formation at pipette potentials of +60 mV (corresponding to pH 7.4) and 200 mM Cs-HEDTA. When at least one burst of TRPM7 activity could be seen, the recording was declared positive. In HBS (140 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM glucose, 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.4), TRPM3 was functionally characterized. 120 mM CsCl, 20 mM NaCl, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 2 mM EGTA, and 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, were in the pipette solution. 10 mM PS was used to activate the cells. Interpolation of currents at +100 mV before and after the administration of the inhibitor was used to determine the extent of inhibition produced by NS8593.

#### Analytical statistics

The results are shown as means SEM. Unless otherwise specified, data were compared using the Student's unpaired t-test. P 0.05 was used to determine significance.

### III. RESULTS

#### TRPM7 activity is inhibited by KCa<sub>2.1–2.3</sub> (SK) channel modulators.

Because the pore-forming regions of TRPM7 and tetrameric K<sup>+</sup> channels have functional and structural similarities we wondered if known K<sup>+</sup> channel modulators might also influence TRPM7. To this goal, we used a 'chemical genomics' method to look into a subset of small compounds that have been found to target several types of K<sup>+</sup> channels, including KIR, KV, KCa<sub>2.1–2.3</sub>, KCa<sub>1.1</sub> (BK), and intermediate conductance K<sup>+</sup> (IK or KCa<sub>3.1</sub>) (Figure 1A). We used a recently developed bioluminescent assay to

monitor Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx mediated by recombinant TRPM7 that was stable expressed in HEK 293 cells under the supervision of the researchers a chain of ponasteron A-inducible promoters. In the absence of Mg<sup>2+</sup> in the external bath solution, a one-step increase in external Ca<sup>2+</sup> level ([Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>e</sub>) from 1 to 5 mM evoked a rapid and sustained rise in intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> in stimulated HEK 293 cells, as shown in Figure 1B. In unstimulated cells or when external Ca<sup>2+</sup> was kept constant at 1 mM, intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> levels ([Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>) did not increase (data not shown). Due to Mg<sup>2+</sup>-dependent channel inhibition, TRPM7-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry was eliminated when 5 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> was co-applied with 10 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> (Nadler et al., 2001). Furthermore, we discovered that a number of drugs (CyPPA, Dequalinium, NS8593, Quinine, and UCL 1684) that target KCa<sub>2.1–2.3</sub> channels inhibit TRPM7. was administered externally at 30 mM to varying degrees. Numerous KIR, KV, KCa<sub>1.1</sub>, and KCa<sub>3.1</sub> channel modulators (mentioned in exhibited no effect on TRPM7-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx. Because TRPM7's sensitivity to only one type of modulator was unexpected, we expanded our search to include compounds that affect more distantly related channels, such as epithelial Na<sup>+</sup> (ENaC) channels (amiloride, triamterene), voltage-gated Na<sup>+</sup> (NaV) channels (BIA 2–093, disopyramide, lidocaine, mexiletine, phenytoin, prilocaine, procainamide, procaine, RSKF 96365, vera-pamil), dipine, methoxyverapamil, plunarizine, plunarizine, plunarizine, plunarizine, plunarizine, plunarizine, plunarizine, plunarizine, plun TRPM7 was discovered to be insensitive to these chemicals (30 mM) TRPM7 has a modest cross-sensitivity to modulators targeting distinct channel groups, aside from KCa<sub>2.1–2.3</sub> channel inhibitors.

#### The TRPM7 channel is directly blocked by NS8593.

The patch-clamp approach was used to see if KCa<sub>2.1–2.3</sub> inhibitors had any direct effects on TRPM7 currents. Whole-cell currents in HEK 293 cells transiently transfected with TRPM7 cDNA are shown in Figure 2. Internal Mg<sup>2+</sup> removal with a divalent-free pipette solution resulted in significant currents with a current–voltage relationship, confirming TRPM7's signature: steep

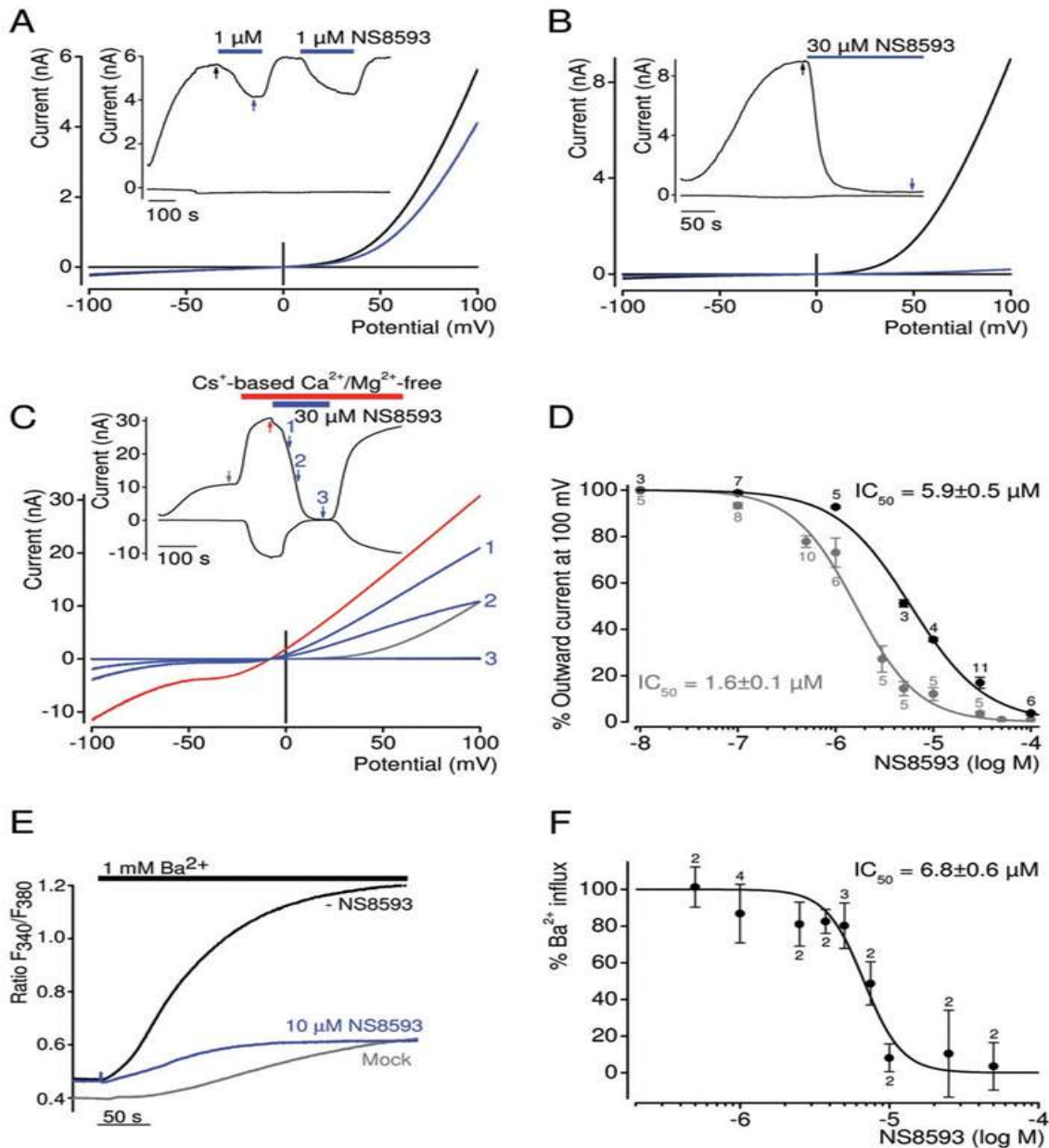


Figure 1 Inhibition of TRPM7 channel by NS8593. (A–B) Whole-cell TRPM7 currents measured in HEK 293 cells transiently expressing TRPM7. Representative current–voltage (I–V) relationships of TRPM7 currents were acquired before and after external application of 1 mM (A) or 30 mM (B) NS8593 as indicated by arrows in the corresponding currents over time recordings (shown in inserts) at -100 and 100 mV. (C) Representative traces of whole-cell currents measured as in (A–B) except that 30 mM NS8593 were applied when cells were perfused with divalent cation-free bath solution. (D)

Concentration-dependent suppression of TRPM7 currents measured with internal solutions containing 0 or 300 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>. Numbers above dots indicate the number of cells measured. (E–F) The effect of NS8593 on Ba<sup>2+</sup> influx in TRPM7-transfected HEK 293 cells. (E) Representative measurements of fura-2 fluorescence (ratio F<sub>340</sub>/F<sub>380</sub>) in cells incubated in divalent cation-free external bath solution followed by addition of 1 mM Ba<sup>2+</sup> without or with 10 mM NS8593. Traces obtained with mock-transfected cells are shown. (F) Concentration-dependent effect of NS8593 on TRPM7-mediated Ba<sup>2+</sup> entry. Measurements were

performed as in (E), and D ratio F340/380 values (calculated from datasets acquired at 25 and 250 s) were used to evaluate the inhibitory effect of NS8593. Numbers above dots indicate independent measurements.

Outward rectification, a reversal potential of roughly 0 mV, and minute inward currents with divalent cations in the bath solution (Figure 2A, B). We perfused cells with 1 or 30 mM NS8593 after the currents had reached saturation. We TRPM7 currents were efficiently decreased by 1 mM NS8593. It's worth noting that the suppression of TRPM7 currents was completely reversible and repeatable. The current-voltage (I-V) relationship of TRPM7 currents in the presence of 1 mM NS8593 was indistinguishable from TRPM7 I-V characteristics in untreated cells (Figure 2A), indicating that the inhibitory impact of NS8593 does not appear to be voltage-dependent under the experimental conditions used. Recordings of voltage ramps up to 200 mV backed up this theory, ruling out any significant voltage dependence of the NS8593 block (Supporting Information Figure S1, Appendix S1 and Appendix S2). In transfected HEK 293 cells, 30 mM NS8593 decreased TRPM7 whole-cell currents, similar to the Ca<sup>2+</sup> imaging investigations.

TRPM7 is permeantly blocked by external divalent cations (Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup>), resulting in extremely modest inward currents at physiological membrane potentials carried by divalent cations. TRPM7, on the other hand, is well permeable to monovalent cations like as Na<sup>+</sup> and Cs<sup>+</sup> in the presence of divalent cation-free external solutions, resulting in substantial inward currents. As a result, we wondered if NS8593 would be just as successful in blocking inward currents. However, early monovalent cation currents in Na<sup>+</sup>-based external saline showed a rapid run-down, implying that Na<sup>+</sup> acts as a blocker of TRPM7 under these experimental conditions, comparable to its impact on the genetically related TRPM3 channel. Whole-cell recordings, on the other hand, in the presence of TRPM7 currents were sustained inward and outward in Cs<sup>+</sup>-based external bath solutions, allowing for a valid study of NS8593 effects. The inward and outward components of monovalent TRPM7 currents were totally suppressed by 30 mM NS8593. NS8593 had no effect on the shape of the I-V relationship of Cs<sup>+</sup> currents similar to recordings with divalents in the bath solution (Figure 2A), implying that NS8593 targets the gating process of the channel rather than the permeation properties of the channel pore.

The concentration dependency of the NS8593 effect was then investigated using conventional experimental conditions (i.e. Mg<sup>2+</sup>-free internal solutions) The installation of TRPM7 currents are inhibited half-maximally. We found a 3.7-fold rightward shift in the IC<sub>50</sub> value (5.9 0.5 mM) under these conditions, indicating that NS8593 has a decreased apparent affinity for the inactive (closed) channel; that is, the drug interferes with the channel's Mg<sup>2+</sup>-dependent gating.

We adopted an imaging technique where [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub> was not affected by patch pipette solutions to explore the inhibitory effect of NS8593 under more physiological settings. TRPM7 has previously been found to be highly permeable to Ba<sup>2+</sup>. As a result, we assessed Ba<sup>2+</sup> influx in TRPM7-expressing HEK 293 cells that were fluorescently labelled with fura-2. 1 mM Ba<sup>2+</sup> was added to the mixture. The bath resulted in a rapid and continuous influx of Ba<sup>2+</sup> (Figure 2E). Ba<sup>2+</sup> entrance was suppressed by NS8593 10 mM to levels seen in untransfected HEK 293 cells. As a result, we systematically monitored TRPM7-mediated Ba<sup>2+</sup> entrance inhibition and reported an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 6.5 0.6 mM which is similar to the IC<sub>50</sub> value obtained in patch-clamp tests with 300 mM [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>. Next, we wanted to see if NS8593 inhibited TRPM7 at the single channel level, so we used the same experimental settings we used to analyse the properties of endogenous TRPM7-like currents in Jurkat T-lymphocytes and RBL cells (called Mg<sup>2+</sup> inhibited currents or MIC). As a result, we made continuous cell-attached recordings of the cation currents for 1.5 minutes following gigaseal development at -60 mV transmembrane potentials. We observed typical bursts of channel activity in TRPM7-transfected HEK 293 cells that were very similar to MIC in RBL cells. In mock-transfected HEK 293 cells, these bursts were undetectable. We evaluated the burst frequency in patches recorded from control and treated cells since TRPM7 opening was infrequent and brief under these experimental circumstances (Figure 3). When cells were pre-exposed to 10 mM NS8593, we saw that characteristic single channel activity were not detectable. The binding location of NS8593 was then discovered through a series of studies. The kinase domain has been found to control the sensitivity of the TRPM7 channel to [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>. As a result, we looked at whether the kinase domain is essential for TRPM7 currents in the NS8593 block. We used two mutant cDNA variants in these experiments: TRPM7 carrying the point mutation K1646R, which results in complete loss of kinase activity (TRPM7-K1646R), and

TRPM7 containing yellow fluorescent protein (YFP) instead of the kinase domain (residues 1464–1863 of mouse TRPM7, TR TRPM7-K1646R and TRPM7-Dkinase-YFP both produced characteristic TRPM7 currents that were reduced by 10 mM NS8593, showing that the TRPM7-K1646R and TRPM7-Dkinase-YFP mutants are related. The kinase domain is not necessary for NS8593 to operate on TRPM7.

It was shown that NS8593 interacts directly with serine and alanine residues in the pore-forming loop and the S6 helix in the case of KCa2.1–2.3 channels, meaning that NS8593 occupies the inner pore vestibule near the selectivity filter, blocking the gate of KCa2.1–2.3 channels. As a result, we looked into whether NS8593 would interact with TRPM7 in the same way. We recently discovered that the putative pore-forming loop of mouse TRPM7 contains conserved residues (E1047 and Y1049) that are required for divalent cation permeability. While the E1047Q mutant was similarly sensitive to NS8593 as wild-type TRPM7 (data not shown), TRPM7-Y1049P showed a different pattern of sensitivity. A significant rise in the channel's apparent affinity for NS8593 (Table 2). When compared to wild-type TRPM7, the Y1049P mutation resulted in a fourfold reduction in IC<sub>50</sub> values obtained with 0 or 300 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> in the patch pipette. These findings imply that the TRPM7 pore loop is engaged in the TRPM7-NS8593 interaction. In conclusion, NS8593 interacts directly and reversibly with the pore-forming region of

activated TRPM7 channels, resulting in a full block.

### **The effect of KCa2.1–2.3 channel modulators on TRPM7 currents**

In contrast to numerous modulators of other K<sup>+</sup> channel types, our primary screening tests revealed that chemically unrelated modulators of KCa2.1–2.3 channels can reduce TRPM7-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx. In order to corroborate these findings, we used patch-clamp studies to track the effects of commonly used inhibitors of KCa2.1–2.3, KCa3.1, and KCa1.1 channels. We tested the modulators in the presence and absence of divalent cations in the external bath solution, just as we did with NS8593. External (30 mM) quinine, dequalinium, CyPPA, and UCL 1684 have all been shown to suppress TRPM7 currents with varying degrees of efficacy in these assays. We also discovered that quinidine (the stereoisomer of quinine) and clotrimazole had only little inhibitory effects on TRPM7 currents (5.6 percent and 7.5 percent, respectively). Tamapin, a peptide toxin produced by the Indian red scorpion, specifically inhibits the pore of KCa2.1–2.3 channels by attaching to an exterior location of the channel subunits. TRPM7 currents were suppressed in a small but repeatable way. Apamin, a bee venom peptide toxin, as well as paxilline and TRAM 34, both known modulators of KCa1.1 and KCa3.1 channels, failed to suppress TRPM7 activity.



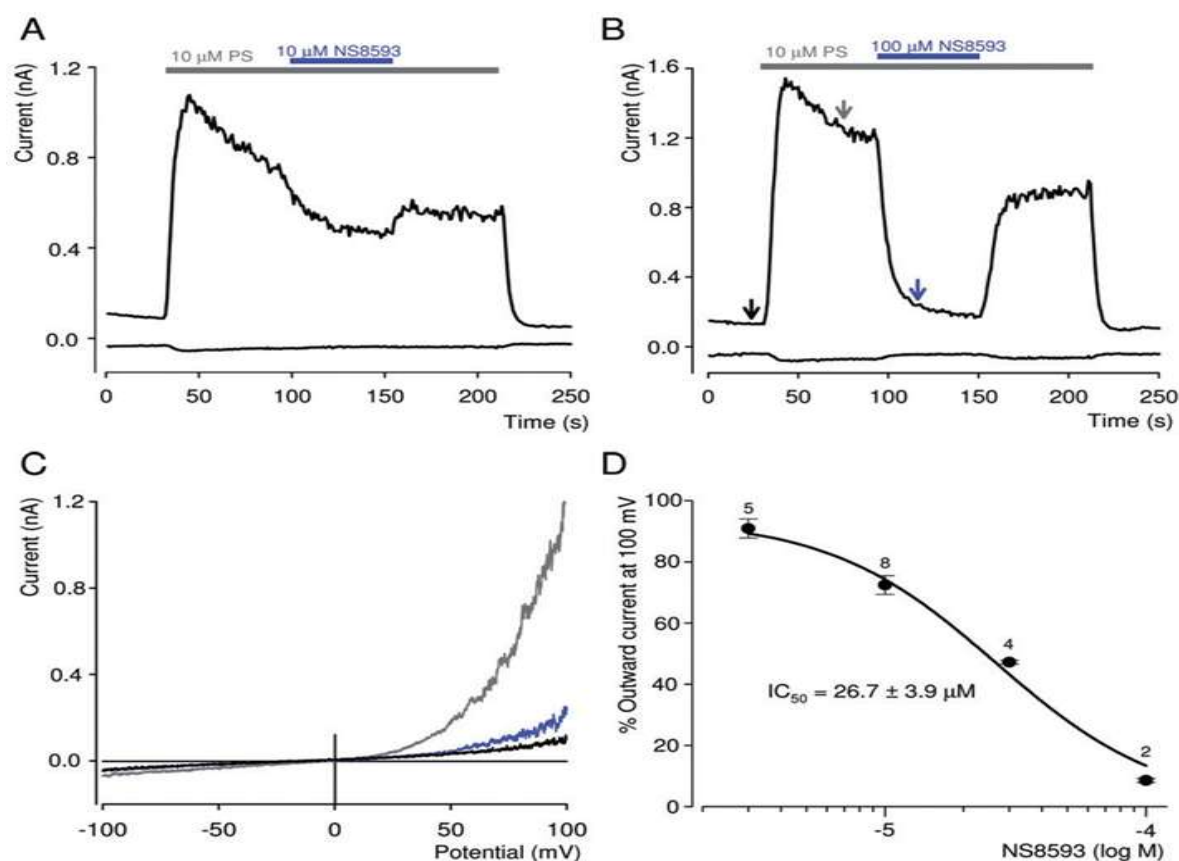


Figure B Effect of NS8593 on PS-induced TRPM3 currents. (A, B) Representative traces of whole-cell TRPM3 currents measured at -100 and +100 mV over time induced by extracellular application of 10 mM PS. NS8593 10 mM (A) or 100 mM (B) were coapplied with PS as indicated. (C) Current–voltage relationships of PS-induced TRPM3 currents acquired from measurements before and after application of 100 mM NS8593 as indicated by arrows in (B). (D) Concentration-dependent suppression of PS-induced TRPM3 currents by NS8593. Numbers above symbols indicate the number of cells measured.

#### NS8593-related compounds are being evaluated.

SARs (structure–activity relationships) give crucial data for medication development. The benzimidazole and naphthylamine groups are present in NS8593 (Figure 5A). We evaluated many small compounds reflecting different chemical moieties of NS8593, such as 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-naphthylamine (THN) and ABI, to gain first insights into SAR of NS8593. Patch-clamp tests demonstrated that 30 mM ABI lowered TRPM7 currents by 21%, whereas THN had no effect on channel activity (Figure 5B),

demonstrating that the aminobenzimidazole moiety is required for NS8593 activation. This. The fact that 30 and 100 mM BMB, which contains two covalently connected aminobenzimidazole groups, suppressed TRPM7 further reinforced this conclusion (Figure 5B). Furthermore, we discovered that CBI is as effective as ABI, implying that a benzimidazole amino group at position 2 is not required for TRPM7 benzimidazole sensitivity.

The benzimidazole group is found in a variety of compounds with known biological activity, including ABT 724 (dopamine D4 receptor antagonist), clemizole (histamine H1 receptor antagonist), DMAT (casein kinase 2 inhibitor 2), D-ribofuranosylbenzimidazole (RNA synthesis inhibitor), droperidol (dopamine D2 receptor antagonist), and IRAK-1/4 Inhibitor I (inhibitor kinases 1/4), rabenzazole (fungicide), Ro 90-7501 (amyloid b42 fibril formation inhibitor), and TBBz (casein kinase inhibitor). We used a bioluminescent test of TRPM7 channel activity to look for potential cross-reactivity between these compounds. The subsequent compounds had no measurable effects on TRPM7 at 30 mM (data not shown), hence they were removed from further

biophysical research. The benzimidazole group of NS8593 is predominantly necessary for TRPM7 channel targeting, according to our findings. However, the overall structure of benzimidazole-derived compounds appears to play a role in their

TRPM7 inhibitory activity. The benzimidazole group of NS8593 is similar to that of known positive modulators of KCa2.1–2.3 channels like NS309 and SKA31. As a result, we conducted research.

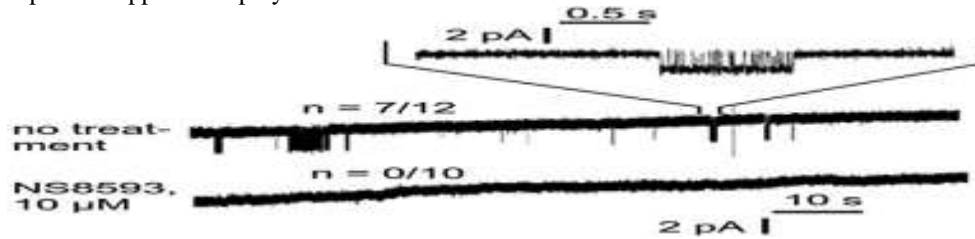
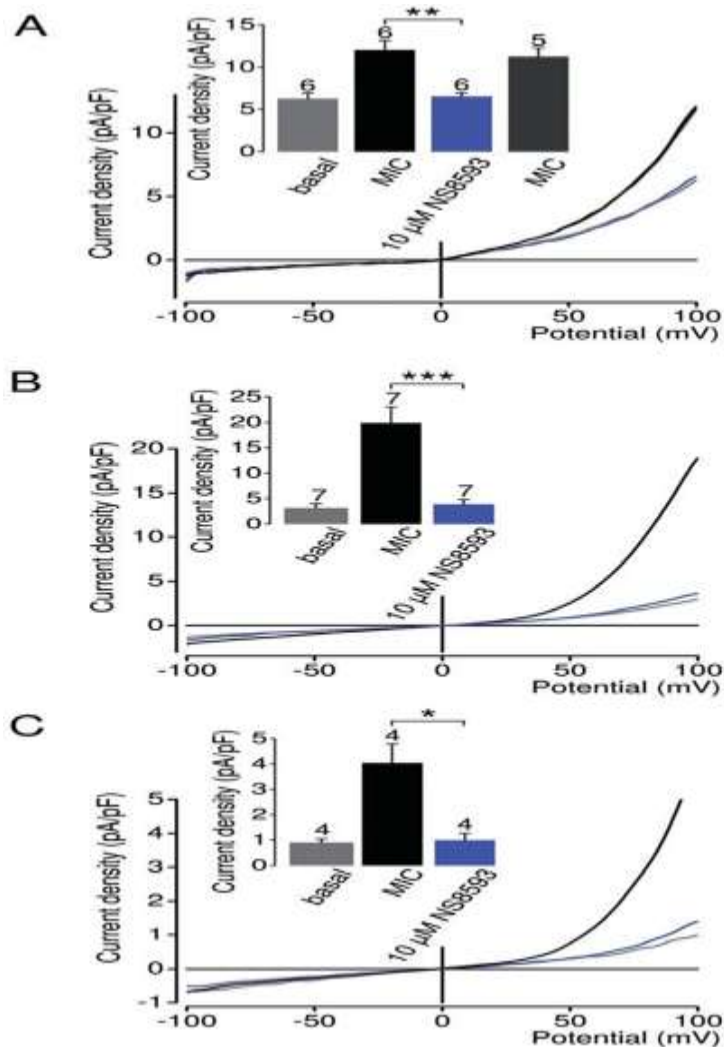


Figure Cell-attached recordings of TRPM7 currents in HEK 293 cells. Before as well as during recording, cells were superfused with normal bath solution or bath solution supplemented with 10 mM NS8593. Inward monovalent currents

through recombinant TRPM7 are visible as intermittent deflections from baseline level in 7 out of 12 untreated patches, but in 0 out of 10 patches from NS8593-pretreated cells.



Inhibition of native TRPM7-like currents in vascular smooth muscle cells, podocytes and ventricular myocytes by NS8593. Representative current density–voltage relationships of native whole-cell currents (MIC) induced by depletion of internal  $Mg^{2+}$  in mouse smooth muscle cells freshly isolated from brain arteries (A), primary mouse podocytes (B) and primary human ventricular myocytes (C). Measurements were performed as in Figure 2A. The insert shows corresponding current densities at +100 mV acquired before and during current induction or in the presence of NS8593. The insert in (A) shows recovered currents, if pretreated cells were perfused with NS8593-free solution. Numbers above columns indicate the number of cells measured; \*\*\* $P \leq 0.001$ ; \*\* $P \leq 0.01$ ; \* $P \leq 0.05$  (t-test).

#### Other TRP channels are affected by NS8593.

We tested whether NS8593 can distinguish between TRPM7 and other TRP channels that are genetically similar. Within their channel segments, TRPM7 and TRPM6 are paralogues with a 64 percent amino acid sequence identity. We were unable to track the effect of NS8593 on TRPM6 because prior attempts to generate recombinant functional TRPM6 channels in mammalian cells or *Xenopus* oocytes failed, and attempts to quantify endogenous TRPM6 currents were unsuccessful. TRPM3, the TRPM family's closest non-kinase-bearing relative of TRPM7, is a constitutively active cation channel that is extremely permeable to  $Ca^{2+}$  and can be further potentiated by  $Ca^{2+}$ .PS and other sulfated steroids (Wagner et al., 2008). To do so, we measured PS-induced currents in whole-cell measurements in HEK 293 cells transiently transfected with TRPM3 cDNA. External application of 10 mM PS generated significant cation currents, as previously reported. Co-application of NS8593 in the range of 10–100 mM at ramp potentials of +100 mV resulted in inhibition of PS-induced TRPM3 currents with an  $IC_{50}$  value of 26.7  $\pm$  3.9 mM. We noticed an increase in current suppression at highly positive potentials during voltage ramps from -100 to +200 mV. Similar investigations with TRPM7 revealed only a rudimentary version of this behaviour. To see if the compound's ability would be harmed as a result of this phenomenon, we used fluorescence-based  $Ca^{2+}$  entry assays using fura-2 loaded cells to distinguish between the two related ion channels at more realistic membrane potentials (Supporting Information Figure S4A). In TRPM3-expressing cells, NS8593 at 10 mM has no

discernible effect on PS-induced  $Ca^{2+}$  influx. TRPM7 is selective for NS8593 at moderate concentrations, according to our findings. Next, we looked at how NS8593 affected TRPM channels that were less closely related to TRPM7 in terms of main sequence similarity and function. TRPM8 is a  $Ca^{2+}$ -permeable cation channel that is activated by cold temperatures and a variety of agonists, including menthol. TRPM2 is triggered by free intracellular ADP-ribose and free intracellular  $Ca^{2+}$  in a synergistic manner. TRPM2 also has a role to play as a reactive oxygen species (ROS) sensor, such as  $H_2O_2$  (Hara et al., 2002). We used a  $Ca^{2+}$  imaging method to see if 10 mM NS8593 will inhibit  $H_2O_2$ -activated TRPM2 and icilin-activated TRPM8 channels. These tests revealed that NS8593 had no effect on TRPM8 and TRPM2 channel activity. TRPM5 is a monovalent-selective cation channel that is directly gated by intracellular calcium, which rises when GPCRs connected to PLC are stimulated. TRPM5 currents are unaffected by 10 mM NS8593, according to our findings. TRPC6 is a  $Ca^{2+}$ -permeable cation channel that is directly gated by diacylglycerol generated by PLC after GPCR such as histamine  $H_1$  receptors are activated. TRPC6 currents were identified to cause. Externally administered 10 mM NS8593 is insensitive to activation of  $H_1$  receptors. Finally, we looked at how NS8593 affected TRPV1 and TRPA1, two receptors that are sensitive to a wide range of natural and synthetic chemicals. We discovered that 10–30 mM NS8593 has no effect on  $Ca^{2+}$  entry in HEK 293 cells mediated by capsaicin-induced TRPV1 or allyl isothiocyanate (AITC)-stimulated TRPA1. As a result, NS8593 targets the TRPM7 channel particularly among TRP channels that represent different genetic and functional branches of TRP channels.

#### NS8593's long-term consequences are being studied.

So far, we've just looked at NS8593's short-term pharmacological features. We conducted additional tests to determine if NS8593 was a beneficial suppressor of TRPM7 function in a cell biology environment, in order to determine the long-term effects of NS8593. Human overexpression of TRPM7 causes dissociation and, as a result, cell death in a tetracycline-inducible HEK 293 cell line. As a result, we wondered if NS8593 could help prevent this cellular phenotype. We used tetracycline to promote TRPM7 expression in a HEK 293 cell line, and a TRPM7-specific antibody to validate channel expression. In keeping with earlier results, TRPM7-expressing cells

formed a rounded morphology following 18 hours of induction with 1 mM tetracycline whereas patch-clamp measurements demonstrated that activated cells had very high TRPM7 currents. The majority of cells stimulated for 36 hours lost their adhesion to the substratum and produced floating cell clusters. After that, we added many NS8593 was added to the culture medium in various quantities, and it was discovered that 5–10 mM NS8593 restored cell adhesion and vitality, completely correcting the cellular phenotype caused by TRPM7 overexpression. As a result, using NS8593 for a longer period of time allows for the reduction of TRPM7 function without causing any cell toxicity. Finally, we looked into whether other TRPM7 inhibitors, such as quinine and UCL 1684 may help stimulate HEK 293 cells recover their phenotypic. The addition of both compounds (10 mM) to the cell culture media prevented tetracycline-induced cells from detaching. TRPM7 current inhibitors with structurally dissimilar structures were able to prevent HEK 293 cells overexpressing recombinant TRPM7 from death morphological alterations as a result. NS8593 inhibits endogenous TRPM7 currents. We wanted to see if NS8593 could block endogenous TRPM7 channels. TRPM7 is a widely expressed protein, and patch-clamp tests repeatedly shown that natural TRPM7-like currents exist in all cells tested to far, including HEK 293 cells. How NS8593 affects native cation currents, with an I–V relationship that is extremely similar to that of recombinant TRPM7. As illustrated in Figure 2, currents were produced by removing cytosolic  $Mg^{2+}$ . We discovered that 10 or 30 mM NS8593 effectively decreased whole-cell currents to background levels as soon as the whole-cell configuration was established. The effects of 10 mM NS8593 were then investigated on endogenous TRPM7 currents in newly isolated cerebral artery smooth muscle cells, primary mouse podocytes, and primary human ventricular myocytes (Figure 9). TRPM7-like currents could be detected in all of the cell types studied. We found that 10 mM NS8593 suppressed native TRPM7-like currents completely and reversibly in HEK 293 cells. As a result, it appears that NS8593 is equally effective at targeting recombinant and native TRPM7 channels. Following that, we tested whether NS8593's pharmacological inhibition of the native TRPM7 protein would affect TRPM7-dependent cellular processes like cell motility and proliferation which are affected by TRPM7 depletion. TRPM7 or RNAi-based methods. We wanted to see if NS8593 was one of them would

have an effect on HEK 293 cell growth and motility by blocking the maximum level of natural TRPM7 currents. HEK 293 cells cultured without or with 10–30 mM NS8593 for 24 hours. We saw groups of cells with characteristic protrusions as well as numerous single spreading cells under control settings. We discovered that 10 mM NS8593 inhibited HEK 293 motility.

Because most treated cells remained in colonies and had shorter protrusions or a round shape, they were shown to be more effective. Cells grown in the presence of 30 mM furthermore. In contrast to control cells, NS8593 frequently formed very tight circular colonies. When 1 mM was used, no morphological alterations were seen. Apamin was introduced to the culture medium, indicating that  $KCa_{2.1-2.3}$  channels were not involved. Then we looked at whether benzimidazol derivatives like BMB could also inhibit HEK 293 cell motility. We previously discovered that 30 mM BMB has a mild (10%) inhibitory effect on TRPM7 currents. The addition of 10–30 mM BMB to the cell culture media had no effect on cell morphology, showing that the effect of NS8593 on HEK 293 cells was due to TRPM7 current inactivation rather than  $KCa_{2.1-2.3}$  channel inactivation. We used a wound healing test to further investigate the effect of NS8593 on the motility of HEK 293 cells. Wound closure was significantly more efficient in control cells than in cells cultivated for 24 hours in the presence of 30 mM of NS8593, confirming our prior findings. Finally, we looked at whether NS8593 will affect the proliferation of HEK 293 cells, because TRPM7 deficiency has been shown to have a significant impact on cell viability in multiple studies. The total number of HEK 293 cells cultivated for 24 hours was not significantly reduced by NS8593 10–30 mM, ruling out the possibility that the reduced motility of NS8593-treated cells is due to the drug's cellular toxicity. After 48 hours, however. In the presence of 30 mM NS8593, cell proliferation was inhibited (17 percent,  $P < 0.05$ ). As a result, NS8593 has only a little effect on HEK 293 cell proliferation, which is consistent with the hypothesis that NS8593 preferentially targets activated TRPM7 channels. However, we can't rule out the possibility that inhibiting both TRPM7's channel and kinase moieties has a more significant influence on HEK 293 cell proliferation. Overall, our cell biology investigations show that moderate doses of NS8593 selectively block native TRPM7 channels and elicit distinctive cellular phenotypes at concentrations where the drug discriminates well among TRPM7 channels and is non-toxic to cells in culture. As a

result, NS8593 could be a good pharmaceutical candidate. TRPM7 is a protein that can be targeted in vivo.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS AND DISCUSSION

We discuss the results of a hypothesis-driven 'chemical genomics' method to find non-toxic inhibitors of the Mg<sup>2+</sup>-sensitive TRPM7 cation channel, which is widely expressed. In contrast to several drugs targeting different channel types, our findings show that physically unrelated modulators of KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels can reduce TRPM7 currents. As a result of the wide range of known KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> modulators, pharmacological evaluation of still poorly understood elements of TRPM7 function is now possible. We looked into NS8593 further as a proof-of-concept. When compared to other TRP channels, this medication was found to be TRPM7 selective, inhibited TRPM7 activation in the presence of Mg<sup>2+</sup>, most likely due to contact with the channel pore, and modulated cell motility.

##### Determination of modulators TRPM7

TRPM channels appear to share some structural and functional properties with tetrameric K<sup>+</sup> channels, according to growing evidence. Temperature-sensitive TRPM8 and TRPM5 have been found to have intrinsic voltage-dependence mediated by positively charged residues in the fourth transmembrane helix, similar to a voltage sensor in voltage-gated K<sup>+</sup> channels. The ion permeation mechanisms of numerous TRPM channels have recently been discovered due to a similarity of the pore-forming regions of TRPM and K<sup>+</sup> channels. The modulation of TRPM7 channel activity by Mg<sup>2+</sup>, ATP, and PIP<sub>2</sub> is also a functional signature of various types of K<sup>+</sup> channels. In light of this, we looked into whether known inhibitors and activators of Mg<sup>2+</sup>-sensitive K<sup>+</sup> channels may be used to target TRPM7. We investigated a sample of chemicals that target different types of cation channels and found that when administered at 30 mM, some organic substances reduce TRPM7 activity. According to their chemical structure, the discovered inhibitors can be divided into three groups. Quinine, dequalinium, and UCL 1684 are quinolinium derivatives; benzimidazole derivatives include NS8593, SKA31, THN, and ABI; and a third scaffold, CyPPA, has cyclohexyl, dimethylpyrazol, and methylpyrimidin groups. Previous SAR investigations focused on these three scaffolds generated dozens of related compounds that can be employed. TRPM7 inhibitors' affinity and

specificity should be improved in the future. Some of these chemicals are known medicinal agents, which is interesting. Quinine, for example, is a plant alkaloid that was the first effective antimalaria medicine and is still used to treat the disease in some emergency conditions. Our screening tests reveal an unexpected link between TRPM7 and KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels, in addition to the discovery of new chemical modulators of TRPM7. As a result, we discovered that TRPM7 is not sensitive to a variety of modulators that target KIR, KV, KCa<sub>1.1</sub>, KCa<sub>3.1</sub>, ENaC, NaV, and CaV channels, implying that TRPM7 has a low cross-sensitivity to these cation channel modulators. Chemically unrelated inhibitors of KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels, on the other hand, were able to inhibit KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels. TRPM7 must be deactivated. The most basic molecular explanation for this discovery is that, despite their low fundamental amino acid sequence homology, TRPM7 and KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channel segments have a similar drug binding site that interferes with their gating. We can't rule out the idea that common endogenous metabolites regulate KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> and TRPM7 channels, resulting in KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> and TRPM7 channel cross-sensitivity to the same synthetic ligands.

##### NS8593 as a TRPM7 negative gating modulator

Unlike the Ca<sup>2+</sup>-dependent gating of KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels, which occurs via a 'chemical-coupling' mechanism, the mechanism underlying the Mg<sup>2+</sup>-dependent control of TRPM7 channel activity is currently unknown. The Calmodulins are constitutively linked to the C-terminus of KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels. When Ca<sup>2+</sup> interacts with calmodulin, the C-terminus and, as a result, the channel gate, undergo conformational changes. Furthermore, intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup> inhibits KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels by acting on a conserved serine pore loop residue in the pore loop. It was recently discovered that this serine residue interacts directly with NS8593. Because the inhibitory potential of NS8593 was significantly dependent on intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentrations: inhibition was apparent at low Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentrations and abolished at 30 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup>, it was hypothesized that it functions as a negative gating modulator of KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels.

A similar scenario could perhaps be at the root of the problem. NS8593 has an inhibiting effect on TRPM7. Internal Mg<sup>2+</sup> modulates the action of NS8593 on TRPM7, as evidenced by the fact that when the pipette solution was supplied with 300 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>, the IC<sub>50</sub> value of NS8593 increased by 3.7-fold. NS8593 inhibited TRPM7 currents in a

voltage-independent manner, and it was equally effective for monovalent and divalent cation currents carried by TRPM7. Furthermore, at the single channel level, we were able to detect the inhibitory action of NS8593 on TRPM7 channels. Within TRPM7, we discovered a putative NS8593 interaction site. TRPM7's kinase domain does not appear to be essential for NS8593 to target TRPM7, as two kinase-deficient mutants, TRPM7-K1646R and TRPM7-Dkinase-YFP, were fully suppressed by NS8593. We did see, however, that TRPM7-Y1049P evoked a fourfold lower IC<sub>50</sub> value, indicating that a point mutation in the pore-forming loop (Y1049P) improved the channel's sensitivity to NS8593. Finally, we conducted a preliminary SAR analysis of NS8593, which revealed that the benzimidazole group is necessary for NS8593's pharmacological effect on TRPM7. TRPM7, on the other hand, has been discovered to be insensitive to a subset of biologically active molecules containing the benzimidazole group, implying that TRPM7-NS8593 interaction is rather selective. Overall, we believe that, like KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels, NS8593 inhabits the inner pore vestibule distal to TRPM7's projected selectivity filter. The pore-forming loop of TRPM7 and the imidazole ring of NS8593 are most likely involved in the molecular interaction. The presence of intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup> is important. The observed Mg<sup>2+</sup> dependence could be explained by the fact that the inactive (closed) TRPM7 channel (high intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup> concentration) is less accessible to NS8593 than the active (open) channel (low intracellular Mg<sup>2+</sup> concentration).

Has demonstrated that a natural compound, waixenicin A, inhibits TRPM7-mediated divalent cation entrance (IC<sub>50</sub> = 12 mM) as measured by Fura 2. Patch-clamp investigations demonstrated that waixenicin A blocks TRPM7 currents irreversibly (IC<sub>50</sub> = 7 mM and 16 nM at 0 and 700 mM [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>, respectively). NS8593 and waixenicin A, unlike other TRPM7 inhibitors, act on TRPM7 in a [Mg<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>-dependent manner, which could be useful in distinguishing gating mechanisms.

The pharmacological potential of NS8593 TRPM7 is quite important with a variety of medical conditions TRPM7, for example, controls the proliferation and survival of a variety of tumour cells TRPM7 has also been linked to hypertension neuronal cell death after ischemic injury multiple sclerosis, and Alzheimer's disease Up-regulation of TRPM7 function has recently been linked to fibrogenesis in the failing heart, resulting in atrial fibrillation TRPM7 has emerged as a prospective

therapeutic target as a result of these studies. However, because TRPM7 is ubiquitously expressed and plays an essential role in the cell cycle, pharmacological inactivation of TRPM7 would have a negative impact. Most TRPM7 blockers would most likely be hazardous, meaning that use-dependent TRPM7 blockers might be a superior treatment option. We give data in this work to support the idea that this type of organic compound creation is possible. We discovered that NS8593 reversibly suppresses recombinant TRPM7 channels in a Mg<sup>2+</sup>-dependent manner, allowing active TRPM7 channels to be suppressed preferentially. Our findings show that NS8593 does not influence other TRP channels, such as TRPM2, TRPM3, TRPM5, TRPM8, TRPC6, TRPV1, and TRPA1, at concentrations (10 mM) sufficient to fully reduce TRPM7 activity. We also demonstrated that NS8593 has a long-lasting effect on TRPM7, as adding NS8593 to the cell culture media totally restored the cell-toxic effects of TRPM7 overexpression in cells. HEK 293 cells were used. Furthermore, we demonstrated that 10 mM NS8593 completely inhibits native TRPM7 currents in HEK 293 cells, resulting in a significant reduction in cell motility, demonstrating that inactivation of the bifunctional TRPM7 protein's channel activity is sufficient to generate this phenotype. Finally, we showed that 10 mM NS8593 inhibits endogenous TRPM7 currents in newly isolated mouse smooth muscle cells, primary mouse podocytes, and basic human ventricular myocytes. Our findings show that NS8593 is well-suited for *in vitro* studies of recombinant and native TRPM7 channels, and that it could be a first step toward the creation of non-toxic TRPM7-targeting medicines *in vivo*.

NS8593 was first described as a reversible inhibitor of apamin-sensitive Ca<sup>2+</sup>-activated potassium channels with an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 0.1 mM. KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> subtypes have values of 0.42, 0.60, and 0.73 mM at 0.5 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup>. Interestingly, at 30 mM [Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>, the inhibitory effects of NS8593 on KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> were undetectable (Jenkins et al., 2011). KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> channels modulate repeated electrical activity and firing patterns in excitable cells by mediating hyperpolarizing K<sup>+</sup> currents. Hyperpolarizing KCa<sub>2.1-2.3</sub> currents sustain the driving force for Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx in nonexcitable cells like endothelial cells. The pharmacological potential of NS8593 *in vivo* has already been proven for dopaminergic neuron firing rate regulation and atrial fibrillation termination. It's worth noting that the cross-reactivity of NS8593 could be useful for the following pharmacological effects: The inhibition

of TRPM7 by NS8593 may reduce intracellular concentrations of divalent cations, such as Ca<sup>2+</sup>, enhancing the NS8593-induced block of KCa<sub>2.1</sub>. 1-

2.3 channels are available. This is an issue that will need to be addressed in future investigations.

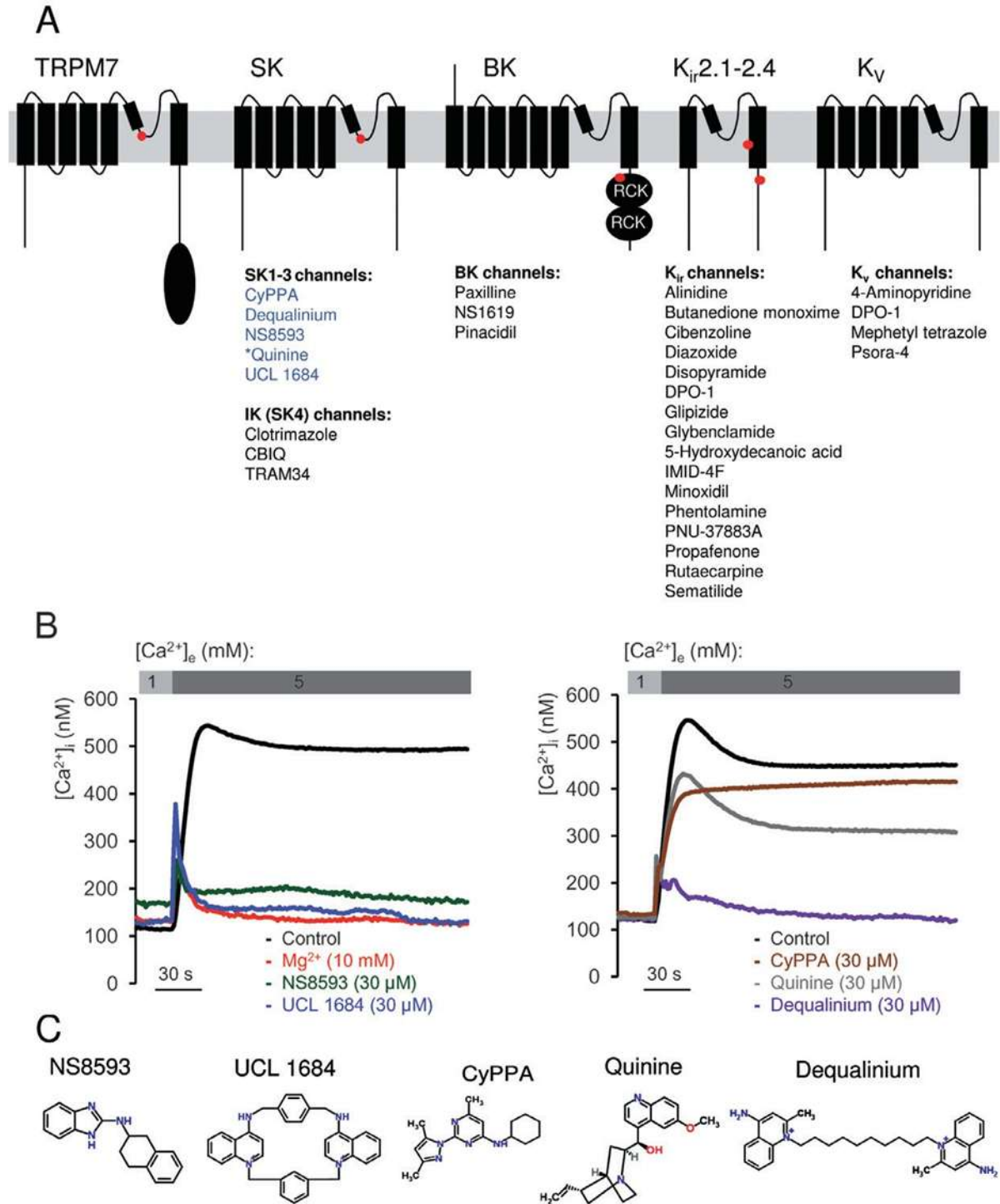


Figure .Identification of TRPM7 channel inhibitors among known modulators of Mg<sup>2+</sup> sensitive K<sup>+</sup> channels. (A) Domain architecture of

TRPM7, KCa<sub>2.1</sub>-2.3 (SK), KCa<sub>3.1</sub> (IK, SK4), KCa<sub>1.1</sub> (BK), KIR and KV channels. Locations of Mg<sup>2+</sup>-binding sites in TRPM7 (formed by E1047

and Y1049 in mouse TRPM7, KCa2.1–2.3 channel KCa1.1 channels (formed by E374 and E399 in human BK1) KIR channels (D172 and E224 in mouse KIR2.1) are indicated by red dots. KD, kinase domain in TRPM7; RCK, 'regulating the conductance of K<sup>+</sup>' domain in KCa1.1 channels. The modulators of K<sup>+</sup> channels tested in a primary screen for TRPM7 inhibitors are listed below their known targets. Compounds labelled in blue were found to be inhibitors of TRPM7, while modulators in black showed no inhibitory effect on TRPM7. \*Quinine blocks KCa1.1 and KCa3.1 channels. (B) Primary assessment of modulators using a bioluminescence-based assay of TRPM7 channel activity. Representative traces are shown from two independent experiments with similar results. The indicated compounds (30 mM) or Mg<sup>2+</sup> (10 mM) were applied to ponasterone A-induced HEK 293 cells, and the measurements were performed in the presence of 1 or 5 mM external Ca<sup>2+</sup> ([Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>e</sub>) as indicated. (C) Chemical structures of TRPM7 inhibitors identified.

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