

## Supplementary Material

**Supplementary Table 1:**  $IC_{50}$  values for tetracaine at different holding potentials (HP) for an average of 4 chips in standard internal solution and 3 chips in fluoride-free internal solution. Single addition of compound to each well was performed and the concentration response curve calculated across multiple wells. Shown are mean  $\pm$  S.E.M.

Parameter	Standard internal	Fluoride-free internal
IC <sub>50</sub> Tetracaine HP -120 mV (μM)	$35.60 \pm 9.41$	$41.76 \pm 9.29$
IC <sub>50</sub> Tetracaine HP -100 mV (μM)	14.76 ± 4.43	21.28 ± 5.29
IC <sub>50</sub> Tetracaine HP -80 mV (μM)	5.20 ± 1.64	10.28 ± 2.49

Supplementary Table 2: Success rate,  $R_{Seal}$  and  $I_{Peak}$  parameters for CHO cells expressing  $Na_V1.5$  at physiological temperature.  $R_{Seal}$  values > 4 G $\Omega$  could not be accurately calculated, therefore only  $R_{Seal} \leq 4$  G $\Omega$  were used for the calculation.

Parameter	Standard internal	Fluoride-free internal
Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 1$ G $\Omega$ at start of experiment	79.6 ± 4.7 (10 chips)	$30.0 \pm 7.1$ (6 chips)
Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 250~M\Omega$ at start of experiment	88.8 ± 4.5 (10 chips)	35.5 ± 9.2 (6 chips)
R <sub>Seal</sub> (GΩ)	2.11 ± 0.06 (286)	$1.41 \pm 0.07 (156)$
I <sub>Peak</sub> (nA)	$-2.40 \pm 0.20$ (357)	-1.61 ± 0.09 (194)

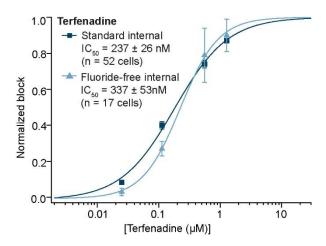
**Supplementary Table 3:** Success rate in % for the different channels/cell lines tested with different fluoride free approaches,  $R_{Seal}$  and  $I_{Peak/Tail}$  cut off at  $R_{Seal} > 1$  G $\Omega$  or  $R_{Seal} > 0.25$  G $\Omega$  as indicated. n.d = not done

Channel/	Parameter	Fluoride-free internal	Fluoride-free internal
Cell line		(K-Gluconate based)	(K-Chloride based)
Nav1.5-	Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 1$ G $\Omega$ & I < -100 pA	Start: $41.9 \pm 9.3$ (17 chips)	Start: 37.8 ± 6.6 (6 chips)
CHO		End: $33.0 \pm 5.7$ (17 chips)	End: 30.2 ± 4.4 (6 chips)
Nav1.5-	Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 250 \ M\Omega \ \&$ I < -100 pA	Start: $55.0 \pm 11.7$ (17 chips)	Start: 57.4 ± 5.8 (6 chips)
CHO		End: $46.3 \pm 8.6$ (17 chips)	End: 48.9 ± 6.1 (6 chips)
hERG- CHO	Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 1$ $G\Omega \& I > 150$ $pA$	n.d	Start: $38.0 \pm 7.1$ (2 chips) End: $32.0 \pm 8.5$ (2 chips)
hERG- CHO	Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 250 \ M\Omega$ & $I > 150 \ pA$	n.d	Start: $63.5 \pm 9.2$ (2 chips) End: $57.5 \pm 6.4$ (2 chips)
hERG-	Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 1$ $G\Omega \& I > 150$ $pA$	Start: $35.9 \pm 7.9$ (32 chips)	Start: $36.9 \pm 8.3$ (2 chips)
HEK		End: $33.6 \pm 7.8$ (32 chips)	End: $32.2 \pm 6.4$ (2 chips)
hERG-	Success rate (% available wells) $R_{Seal} \ge 250 \ M\Omega \ \&$ $I > 150 \ pA$	Start: $59.0 \pm 8.5$ (32 chips)	Start: $47.8 \pm 3.8$ (2 chips)
HEK		End: $57.0 \pm 8.8$ (32 chips)	End: $45.3 \pm 7.0$ (2 chips)

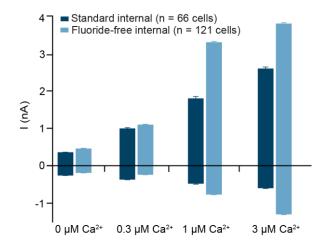
## 1 Supplementary Figures and Tables

For more information on Supplementary Material and for details on the different file types accepted, please see <a href="here">here</a>. Figures, tables, and images will be published under a Creative Commons CC-BY licence and permission must be obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including re-published/adapted/modified/partial figures and images from the internet). It is the responsibility of the authors to acquire the licenses, to follow any citation instructions requested by third-party rights holders, and cover any supplementary charges.

## 1.1 Supplementary Figures



**Supplemental Figure S1:** Concentration response curve for Terfenadine in standard internal solution or fluoride-free solution are shown overlaid.



**Supplementary Figure S2.** Mean  $I_{Peak}$  values observed after applying 0, 0.3, 1 and 3  $\mu$ M free internal  $Ca^{2+}$  in standard internal solution or fluoride-free solution at -120 mV (bars below 0 nA) or 60 mV (bars above 0 nA).