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International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology. LXXVI. Current Progress in the Mammalian TRP Ion Channel Family

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***Abstract*——Transient receptor potential (TRP) channels are a large family of ion channel proteins, surpassed in number in mammals only by voltage-gated potassium channels. TRP channels are activated and regulated through strikingly diverse mechanisms, making them suitable candidates for cellular sensors. They respond to environmental stimuli such as temperature, pH, osmolarity, pheromones, taste, and plant compounds, and intracellular stimuli such as Ca^{2+} and phosphatidylinositol signal transduction pathways. However, it is still largely unknown how TRP channels are activated in vivo. Despite the uncertainties, emerging evidence using TRP channel knockout mice indicates that these channels have broad function in physiology. Here we review the recent progress on the physiology, pharmacology and pathophysiological function of mammalian TRP channels.**

I. Introduction

Unlike most ion channels, TRP[1] channel family members are identified by their sequence homology rather than

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[1]Abbreviations: 2-APB, 2-aminoethoxydiphenyl borate; ADPKD, autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease; CaM, calmodulin; CIRB, CaM/IP_3R-binding; CSNB, congenital stationary night blindness; DAG, diacylglycerol; EPSC, excitatory postsynaptic current; GSK1016790A, (*N*-((1*S*)-1-{[4-((2*S*)-2-{[(2,4-dichlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}-3-hydroxypropanoyl)-1-piperazinyl]carbonyl}-3-methylbutyl)-1-benzothiophene-2-carboxamide; HC-030031, 2-(1,3-dimethyl-2,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-7*H*-purin-7-yl)-*N*-(4-isopropylphenyl)acetamide; HEK, human embryonic kidney; IP_3R, inositol trisphosphate receptor; mGluR1, metabotropic glutamate receptor 1; MLIV, mucolipidosis type IV; OMIM, Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man; PIP_2, phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate; PKD, polycystic kidney disease; PLC,

by ligand function or ion selectivity. To date, ~30 mammalian TRP channels have been identified and are grouped into six subfamilies on the basis of amino acid sequence homology: TRPC ("canonical"), TRPM ("melastatin"), TRPV ("vanilloid"), TRPA ("ankyrin"), TRPML ("mucolipin"), and TRPP (or PKD) ("polycystin") (Clapham et al., 2005).

A. Common Features

TRP channels conduct cations and, when activated, depolarize cells. If, as a result, TRP channel-mediated intracellular Ca^{2+} induces increases above basal levels (~100 nM), they initiate a plethora of cellular responses. They are commonly found in epithelial cells but can be found in all cell types. Most TRP channels are weakly voltage-sensitive and nonselective, with $P_{Ca}/P_{Na} < 10$, with the exception of the monovalent-selective TRPM3α1, TRPM4, and TRPM5 ($P_{Ca}/P_{Na} < 0.05$) and the Ca^{2+}-selective TRPM3α2, TRPV5, and TRPV6 ($P_{Ca}/P_{Na} > 100$). Based on extensive work on other members of the voltage-ligand-gated superfamily of ion channels (Yu et al., 2005) and TRP channel primary sequences, they are assumed to have six transmembrane (TM) spanning domains (S1–S6) with a pore domain between the fifth (S5) and sixth (S6) segments and both C and N termini located intracellularly. The cytoplasmic end of the S6 helices seem to form the lower gate, which opens and closes to regulate cation entry into the channel. The S1–S4 domain may gate the pore in response to ligand binding, but the paucity of positively charged arginines in S4 helices indicates weak voltage sensitivity of TRP channels. All elements outside the S5–S6 region provide means of either subunit association or act as linkers to elements that control gating. Other structural features of TRP channels include 1) a 25-amino acid TRP domain containing a TRP box (EWKFAR) just C-terminal to S6 in TRPC (also in TRPV and TRPM, but less conserved); 2) ankyrin repeats in the N-terminal cytoplasmic domain of TRPC, TRPV, and TRPA; and 3) proline-rich regions in the region just C-terminal to S6 in TRPC, TRPM, and in some TRPVs (Clapham, 2003; Ramsey et al., 2006).

Although some TRP channels clearly function as chemosensors for exogenous ligands, relatively few endogenous ligands are known for TRP channel activation. Therefore, one of the central unanswered questions in the field is how TRP channels are normally activated in vivo. Many TRP channels are potentiated by phospholipase C activation. Large classes of G protein-coupled receptors ($G_{q/11}$; linked to PLCβ) and tyrosine kinase receptors (linked to PLCγ) potentiate most TRP channels. However, the mechanism of this potentiation is not well understood (Trebak et al., 2007). Elements of the phosphatidylinositol signaling pathway are closely linked to the plasma membrane and also seem to regulate many TRP channels. In particular, PIP_2, a common regulator of ion channels, potentiates most TRP channel activity (Voets and Nilius, 2007). In addition, intracellular Ca^{2+} increases the activity of some mammalian TRP channels and modulates practically all TRP channels. Regulation by phosphorylation, PIP_2, and Ca^{2+} are common to ion channels and are not specific features of the TRP class of channels.

A common problem in the TRP field is the lack of specific pharmacological tools, leading to the dependence on highly *nonspecific* blockers, such as ruthenium red (which binds most Ca^{2+} binding sites in proteins), 2-APB, flufenamate, niflumic acid, and 1-(β-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propoxy]-4-methoxyphenethyl)-1*H*-imidazole (SKF96365). More useful tools include capsaicin, a fairly specific agonist of TRPV1, and 2-(1, 3-dimethyl-2,6-dioxo-1,2,3,6-tetrahydro-7*H*-purin-7-yl)-*N*-(4-isopropylphenyl)acetamide (HC-030031), a relatively specific antagonist of TRPA1 (Caterina et al., 1997; McNamara et al., 2007). La^{3+} is useful in recognizing TRPC4 or TRPC5 because it potentiates these channels and blocks most other TRP and Ca^{2+}-permeant channels (Strübing et al., 2001). TRP channel antagonists with higher selectivities and potencies are being developed in the pharmaceutical industry but most are currently unavailable for academic research. The dearth of useful pharmacological tools forces reliance on small interfering RNA and genetic strategies, but these methods do not replace the usefulness of blockers and antagonists. There is currently significant disagreement on the assembly, localization, and function of TRP channels. This confusion has been created by nonspecific antibodies, lack of precise pharmacological tools, and over-reliance on indirect Ca^{2+} measurements rather than direct measurement of currents.

Indeed, emerging evidence using knockout mice has revealed the very diverse functions of TRP channels (Moran et al., 2004; Desai and Clapham, 2005; Venkatachalam and Montell, 2007). Human genetics has further uncovered potential TRP channel functions. For example, 13 channelopathies have been proposed to stem from mutations in TRP genes: focal segmental glomerulosclerosis 2 (OMIM 603965), caused by TRPC6 mutations; Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease type 2C (OMIM 606071) and scapuloperoneal spinal muscular atrophy (OMIM 181405), caused by TRPV4 mutations; congenital stationary night blindness (OMIM 301500), caused by TRPM1 mutations; progressive familial heart block type 1 (OMIM 113990), caused by TRPM4 mutations; autosomal-recessive hypomagnesemia with secondary hypocalcemia (OMIM 602014), caused by TRPM6 mutations; amyotrophic

phospholipase C; SKF96365, 1-(β-[3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propoxy]-4-methoxyphenethyl)-1*H*-imidazole; TM, transmembrane; TRP, transient receptor potential; TRPA, transient receptor potential ankyrin; TRPC, transient receptor potential canonical; TRPM, transient receptor potential Melastatin; TRPML, transient receptor potential mucolipin; TRPP, transient receptor potential polycystin; TRPV, transient receptor potential vanilloid.

lateral sclerosis-Parkinsonism/dementia complex (OMIM 105500), caused by TRPM2 or TRPM7 mutations; brachyolmia type 3 (OMIM 113500); mucolipidosis IV (OMIM 252650), caused by TRPML1 mutations; Kozlowski type of spondylometaphyseal dysplasia (OMIM 184252); metatropic dysplasia (OMIM 156530); congenital distal spinomuscular atrophy (OMIM 600175); autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (OMIM 173910), caused by TRPP1 or TRPP2 mutations; and familial episodic pain syndrome, caused by a TRPA1 mutation. The function of TRP channels in vivo is the current focus in the field. Here we summarize recent progress on the physiology, pharmacology, and pathophysiological function of mammalian TRP channels.

For detailed tables of TRP genes, accession numbers, splice variants, domains, biophysical properties, and pharmacology, see http://www.iuphar-db.org/DATABASE/FamilyIntroductionForward?familyId=78 and http://clapham.tch.harvard.edu. There are many excellent comprehensive reviews on TRP channel domain structure, channelopathies, pharmacology, and neuronal TRPs (Venkatachalam and Montell, 2007; Talavera et al., 2008; Latorre et al., 2009; Nilius and Owsianik, 2010).

II. The Transient Receptor Potential (Canonical) Family

Seven mammalian TRPC proteins (TRPC1–7; Fig. 1) have been identified, but TRPC2 is a pseudogene in humans. These channels can be divided into three subgroups by sequence homology: C1/C4/C5, C3/C6/C7, and C2. All mammalian TRPC proteins seem to be potentiated by stimulation of G-protein-coupled receptors and receptor tyrosine kinases.

A. Transient Receptor Potential C1/C4/C5 Subgroup

TRPC1 was the first member of the mammalian TRPCs purported to form an ion channel (Zitt et al., 1996). However, whether TRPC1 can form functional homomeric channels by itself remains debatable. Although homomeric TRPC1 was proposed to be a store-operated channel or stretch-activated channel (Zitt et al., 1996; Maroto et al., 2005), heterologous overexpression of TRPC1 has produced no measurable currents distinguishable from background leak (Lintschinger et al., 2000; Strübing et al., 2001). It is possible that TRPC1 homomeric channels are functional, but the activating stimulus has not yet been found. Alternatively, TRPC1 may function as a homomer in the endoplasmic reticulum and reach the plasma membrane only when coassembled with other TRP subunits. A more detailed examination of previously proposed homomeric TRPC1 channels is required before TRPC1 can be assumed to form a plasma membrane channel by itself.

TRPC1 forms heteromeric channels with C4 or C5, which have properties distinct from those of homomultimers (Lintschinger et al., 2000; Strübing et al., 2001). The existence of TRPC1 and C4 or C5 heteromeric channels is supported by the following evidence: 1) TRPC1 coexpressed with TRPC4 or TRPC5 form current-voltage relationships distinct from TRPC4 or TRPC5 expressed alone; 2) single-channel currents from TRPC1 coexpressed with TRPC4 or TRPC5 have

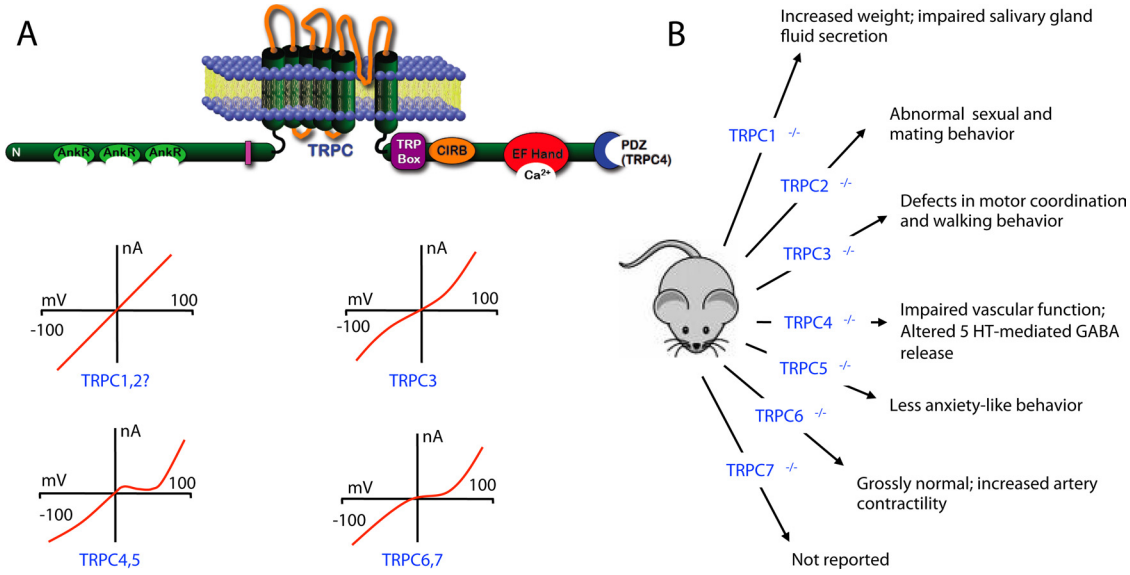

FIG. 1. TRPC (canonical) family. A, molecular domains of TRPC channels and their current-voltage relationships. The TRP box is a conserved region in TRPC, TRPV, and TRPM families; its function is unclear, but it may bind PIP_2. CIRB refers to a calmodulin/IP_3R-binding (CIRB) domain. The EF hand is a helix-loop-helix structural domain found in a large family of calcium-binding proteins. PDZ (postsynaptic density 95/disc-large/zona occludens) is a common protein interaction motif that holds together signaling complexes. In this and the following figures, steady state current-voltage curves are shown. B, results of genetic deletion experiments. The *TrpC7*(−/−) phenotype has not been reported. *TrpC2* is a pseudogene in humans.

clearly distinct conductances from TRPC4 or TRPC5 homomeric currents; 3) TRPC1 coimmunoprecipitates with TRPC4 or TRPC5 when purified from brain, and; 4) in hippocampal neurons, TRPC1/C4 or TRPC1/C5 heteromeric channels seem to localize to the cell bodies of neurons, whereas TRPC4 or TRPC5 can reside in both the cell body and the periphery (dendrites, axons) (Strübing et al., 2001, 2003). Therefore, given the wide expression of TRPC1 and its ability to coassemble with other TRPC subunits, TRPC1 might be a component of different heteromeric TRP complexes.

TRPC4 and TRPC5 are close homologs, sharing 64% identity. Both TRPC4 and TRPC5 contain a C-terminal PDZ-binding motif (VTTRL). PDZ domain scaffolding proteins, such as Na^+/H^+ exchanger regulator factor, as well as signaling molecules such as PLCβ1, have been reported to coimmunoprecipitate with TRPC4 and TRPC5 (Tang et al., 2000). TRPC4 and TRPC5 channels also share many functional characteristics, are both potentiated by GPCRs that couple to $G\alpha_{q/11}$, and have similar current-voltage relationships (Okada et al., 1998; Schaefer et al., 2000). Although activation of these channels seems to require PLC enzymatic activity, their direct agonists are still unknown (Hofmann et al., 1999; Schaefer et al., 2000).

Homomeric TRPC4 or TRPC5 subunits underlie currents with a unique doubly rectifying current-voltage relationship with single-channel conductance of 28 and 38 pS, respectively. In addition, TRPC4 and TRPC5 channels are unique among TRP channels in that they are potentiated by micromolar concentrations of the trivalent cations La^{3+} or Gd^{3+} (Schaefer et al., 2000; Strübing et al., 2001). TRPC5 is dramatically potentiated by intracellular Ca^{2+}, which does not seem to involve calmodulin (CaM). Intracellular Ca^{2+} also potentiates TRPC4 channel activity to a lesser degree (Blair et al., 2009). CaM itself was reported to accelerate TRPC5 agonist-activated current via a CaM-binding site located at the C terminus of TRPC5 but not the CaM/IP3R-binding (CIRB) domain (Ordaz et al., 2005). Other modulations include potentiation of TRPC5 channels by extracellular thioredoxin (Xu et al., 2008) and nitric oxide (Yoshida et al., 2006), inhibition of TRPC4 channels by PIP_2 (Otsuguro et al., 2008), inhibition of outward TRPC5 current by intracellular Mg^{2+} (Obukhov and Nowycky, 2008), and desensitization of TRPC5 channels by PKC-mediated phosphorylation (Ordaz et al., 2005).

In heterologous expression systems, homomeric TRPC5 channels can be rapidly delivered to the plasma membrane after stimulation of growth factor receptors via Rac, phosphatidylinositol 3 kinase, and phosphatidylinositol 5 kinase (Bezzerides et al., 2004). In young hippocampal neurons, TRPC5 channel subunits seem to interact with growth cone-enriched protein stathmin 2, are packaged into vesicles, and then carried to newly formed growth cones, where TRPC5 expression modulates neurite extension and growth cone morphology (Greka et al., 2003). A recent study showed that the downstream signaling for TRPC5 in neurite growth and axon formation may involve CaM kinase kinase and CaM kinase I γ (Davare et al., 2009).

TRPC1, TRPC4, and TRPC5 are expressed in the brain, predominantly in the hippocampus, cortex, olfactory bulb, and amygdala as well as heart, lung, liver, spleen, and testis (Venkatachalam and Montell, 2007; Riccio et al., 2009). TRPC1 was reported to mediate store-operated current (Zitt et al., 1996), stretch-activated current (Maroto et al., 2005), or the metabotropic glutamate receptor 1 (mGluR1)-evoked slow EPSC (Kim et al., 2003). One group reported that TRPC1(−/−) mice have increased body size, and the store-operated current was not affected in vascular smooth muscle cells from the knockout mice (Dietrich et al., 2007), whereas another group reported that TRPC1(−/−) mice exhibit impaired salivary gland fluid secretion while the store-operated current was reduced (Liu et al., 2007). A recent study found that TRPC1(−/−) mice displayed normal mGluR1-mediated synaptic transmission, with no obvious impairment of slow EPSCs or store-operated current (Hartmann et al., 2008). These conclusions depend on one TRPC1(−/−) mouse, and further studies should be carried out to verify that the mice indeed lack TRPC1 protein. This issue is complicated by the lack of adequate TRPC1 antibodies.

TRPC4(−/−) mice are viable, fertile, and exhibit no gross abnormalities (Freichel et al., 2001). At the cellular level, TRPC4 plays an important role in Ca^{2+} signaling in endothelial cells, and TRPC4(−/−) mice have defects in acetylcholine-induced vasoregulation and lung microvascular permeability (Freichel et al., 2001; Tiruppathi et al., 2002). Another study using TRPC4(−/−) mice concluded that TRPC4 mediates the increase of 5-hydroxytryptamine 2 receptor-coupled GABA release in thalamic interneurons (Munsch et al., 2003). TRPC5(−/−) mice exhibit no obvious developmental or anatomical defects. However, upon behavioral testing, TRPC5(−/−) mice exhibit a reduced anxiety-like (innate fear) phenotype (Riccio et al., 2009). The cellular mechanism underlying this phenotype stems from reduced responses mediated by group 1 mGluR and cholecystokinin 2 receptors in neurons of the amygdala, a brain region that integrates sensory input with behaviors related to fear and other emotions (Riccio et al., 2009). It is noteworthy that mice lacking stathmin, a protein interacting with TRPC5, have a similar phenotype (Shumyatsky et al., 2005).

B. Transient Receptor Potential C3/C6/C7 Subgroup

TRPC3, TRPC6, and TRPC7 amino acid sequences are roughly 75% identical. When expressed in heterologous systems, these proteins are potentiated by $G_{q/11}$-coupled receptors or by direct application of diacylglycerol (DAG) analogs (Hofmann et al., 1999; Okada et al., 1999). TRPC3/C6/C7 channels generate nonselective, doubly rectifying cation currents with a single-channel conductance of 65, 35, and 25 pS, respectively. They have

relatively low selectivity for Ca^{2+} over Na^{+} and are sensitive to intracellular Ca^{2+}. TRPC3 may assemble with TRPC1 in some cells (Lintschinger et al., 2000; Strübing et al., 2003).

Several signaling molecules modulate TRPC3, TRPC6, and TRPC7 channel activities. DAG analogs potentiate TRPC3/C6/C7 channel activity but not via DAG's stimulation of PKC (Trebak et al., 2003). By phosphorylating Ser-712 in TRPC3, PKC itself negatively regulates TRPC3 function (Venkatachalam et al., 2003; Trebak et al., 2005). PKG directly phosphorylates TRPC3 and inhibits the channel activity (Kwan et al., 2004). The nonreceptor tyrosine kinases *Src* and *Fyn* positively regulate TRPC3 and TRPC6, respectively (Hisatsune et al., 2004; Vazquez et al., 2004). Intracellular Ca^{2+} stimulates TRPC6 but inhibits TRPC7 activity (Shi et al., 2004). TRPC3 reportedly interacts with syntaxin 3, which may be involved in channel trafficking or insertion (Singh et al., 2004). Translocation of TRPC3 may also be regulated by its interaction with the scaffolding protein Homer1 (Kim et al., 2006). TRPC3 was further found to associate via its N terminus with PLCγ1 to form a bimolecular PH domain, which binds PIP_2 as well as sphingosine-1-phosphate (van Rossum et al., 2005). Thus, TRPC3/C6/C7 channels may serve as versatile downstream effectors for a wide range of hormone and neurotransmitter receptors.

TRPC3 is present in brain, with the highest expression in cerebellum, cortex, and hippocampus. In hippocampal neurons and pontine neurons, TRPC3 is reportedly activated through a pathway that is initiated by binding of brain-derived neurotrophic factor to TrkB, engagement of a PLCγ, and activation of the inositol trisphosphate receptor (Li et al., 1999; Amaral and Pozzo-Miller, 2007), whereas in striatal cholinergic neurons or cerebellar Purkinje neurons, mGluR1s activate TRPC3 (Berg et al., 2007; Hartmann et al., 2008). TRPC3 is also reportedly involved in brain-derived neurotrophic factor-induced axon guidance or neuronal survival in cerebellar granule cells (Li et al., 2005; Jia et al., 2007). Brain development in TRPC3(−/−) mice appears grossly normal. However, TRPC3(−/−) mice (but not TRPC1-TRPC4 double-knockout mice) lack mGluR1-mediated inward currents or slow synaptic potentials (Hartmann et al., 2008), suggesting that TRPC3 is responsible for the mGluR-evoked slow EPSCs in mouse cerebellar Purkinje cells. More importantly, a defect in walking behavior was found in TRPC3(−/−) mice, indicating a critical function for TRPC3 in motor coordination (Hartmann et al., 2008). Subsequently, "moonwalker" mice, which have motor and coordination defects with a characteristic backward walk, were shown to have a gain-of-function mutation (T635A) in TRPC3 (Becker et al., 2009). Gain of function resulting in constitutive activation of TRPC3 channels overloads cells with Ca^{2+}. It is interesting that TRPC3 loss of function and gain of function have similar phenotypes (Trebak, 2010). Transgenic mice with cardiac-specific overexpression of TRPC3 display a cardiomyopathic phenotype with increased hypertrophy after pressure overload (Nakayama et al., 2006).

TRPC6 channels are abundant in smooth and cardiac muscle cells and thus are candidates for the receptor-activated nonselective cation channels long known to exist in these cells. TRPC6 is an essential part of the α1-adrenoreceptor-activated cation channel in rabbit portal vein myocytes (Inoue et al., 2001). As reported for numerous Ca^{2+} channels with constitutive activity, cardiac-specific overexpression of TRPC6 in transgenic mice results in cardiomyopathy (Kuwahara et al., 2006). Thus, it is important to find conditions in which TRPC6 is overexpressed or contains gain-of-function mutations. Indeed, gain-of-function mutations in TRPC6 are associated with the kidney disorder focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, characterized by proteinuria, nephrotic syndrome, and progressive loss of renal function in humans (Reiser et al., 2005; Winn et al., 2005). It would seem that this gain of function results in loss of normal podocyte function.

TRPC6(−/−) mice exhibit agonist-induced contractility of cerebral arteries, perhaps as a result of compensatory up-regulation of TRPC3 and TRPC7 (Dietrich et al., 2005). TRPC6 is reported to affect dendritic growth, synaptic formation, and neuronal survival (Li et al., 2005; Jia et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2008); however, brain development appears normal in TRPC6(−/−) mice. Transgenic mice overexpressing TRPC6 in the forebrain show enhanced spatial learning and memory (Zhou et al., 2008).

TRPC7 is widely expressed. In brain, TRPC7 may couple to the activation of group 1 mGluR in cholinergic neurons of the striatum (Berg et al., 2007). In heart, angiotensin II may activate TRPC7 to produce Ca^{2+} overload, induce myocardial apoptosis, and contribute to heart failure (Satoh et al., 2007).

C. Transient Receptor Potential C2 Subgroup

TrpC2 is a pseudogene in humans, but its rodent ortholog encodes a functional TRPC2 channel important to pheromone sensing. In heterologous expression, TRPC2 forms homomeric channels permeant to cations and is potentiated by PLC-mediated signaling cascades (Vannier et al., 1999; Hofmann et al., 2000). In mouse, TRPC2 is predominantly expressed in the vomeronasal organ, a specialized region of the vertebrate brain involved in pheromone sensing (Liman et al., 1999; Vannier et al., 1999). In vomeronasal sensory neurons, DAG can directly activate TRPC2 (Lucas et al., 2003). Assumed homomeric TRPC2 current-voltage relationships are linear with a single channel conductance of 42 pS (Lucas et al., 2003).

The selective expression of TRPC2 in the vomeronasal organ hints at its potential role in pheromone signaling

and sexual responses. Indeed, TRPC2(−/−) mice display radically altered response to pheromone cues and abnormal mating behavior (Leypold et al., 2002; Stowers et al., 2002). TRPC2(−/−) male mice fail to display male-male aggression, and they initiate sexual and courtship behaviors toward both male and female mice. TRPC2(−/−) female mice show a reduction in female-specific behavior but display unique characteristics of male sexual and courtship behaviors (Stowers et al., 2002; Kimchi et al., 2007). TRPC2 protein was detected in spermatogenic cells based on antibody staining (Wissenbach et al., 1998; Jungnickel et al., 2001), but TRPC2(−/−) mouse fertility is normal.

III. The Transient Receptor Potential (Vanilloid) Family

The TRPV (vanilloid) subfamily (Fig. 2) is named after vanilloid receptor 1 (Caterina et al., 1997). Six mammalian TRPV proteins (TRPV1–6) have been identified. They are commonly divided into two subgroups based on sequence homology, functional similarities, and Ca^{2+} selectivity: TRPV1–V4 and TRPV5/V6. The channel structure of the TRPV family contains intracellular N-terminal ankyrin repeats, prevalent protein interaction motifs that have been suggested to promote channel tetramerization (Erler et al., 2004) and regulate channel activity (Al-Ansary et al., 2010; Phelps et al., 2010). The pharmacology of the TRPV family has been detailed in a recent review (Vriens et al., 2009).

A. Transient Receptor Potential V1–V4 Subgroup

TRPV1–V4 subgroup members are weakly Ca^{2+}-selective cation channels modulated by various intracellular signals, including Ca^{2+}, CaM, and phosphoinositides (Zhu, 2005; Rohacs and Nilius, 2007). As for several members of the TRP superfamily and certain other ion channels (e.g., Hv1 and K2P), channels in this subgroup exhibit high temperature sensitivities ($Q_{10} > 10$), suggesting roles for TRPVs in thermal sensing by peripheral sensory neurons and other tissues. However, these channels are modulated by many different types of chemical and physical stimuli, indicating more complex roles in cellular sensing besides thermal sensing.

TRPV1 forms a voltage-gated outwardly rectifying weakly Ca^{2+}-selective cation channel activated by noxious heat (>43°C) and low pH (Caterina et al., 1997; Tominaga et al., 1998; Jordt et al., 2000). As its name suggests, TRPV1 can also be activated by vanilloid compounds, such as capsaicin and capsinate found in hot (chili) and nonpungent (bell) peppers, respectively (Caterina et al., 1997; Iida et al., 2003), as well as by a myriad of endogenous compounds, such as anandamide (*N*-arachidonoylethanolamine) (Zygmunt et al., 1999), *N*-arachidonoyldopamine (Huang et al., 2002), *N*-oleoyldopamine (Chu et al., 2003), and arachidonic acid metabolites (12- and 15-hydroperoxyeicosatetraenoic acid, 5- and 15-hydroxyeicosatetraenoic acid) (Hwang et al., 2000). However, because of their lipophilicity, many of these second messengers may have broad effects on most ion channels. Many accumulate in plasma membranes but are also rapidly altered, making it difficult to test their activities under physiological conditions. A recent study found a peptide toxin, DkTx, from the Earth Tiger tarantula (*Ornithoctonus huwena*) that selectively and irreversibly activates TRPV1 (Bohlen et al., 2010). The toxin has a unique tandem repeat structure that binds to trap TRPV1 in the open state by interacting with residues in pore-forming region of the channel.

The activity of TRPV1 is modulated by a variety of intracellular molecules, including CaM, ATP, PIP_2, and Ca^{2+}-dependent phosphorylation and dephosphorylation. CaM interacts with both the C and N termini of the channel and cross-links them to desensitization (Numazaki et al., 2003; Rosenbaum et al.,

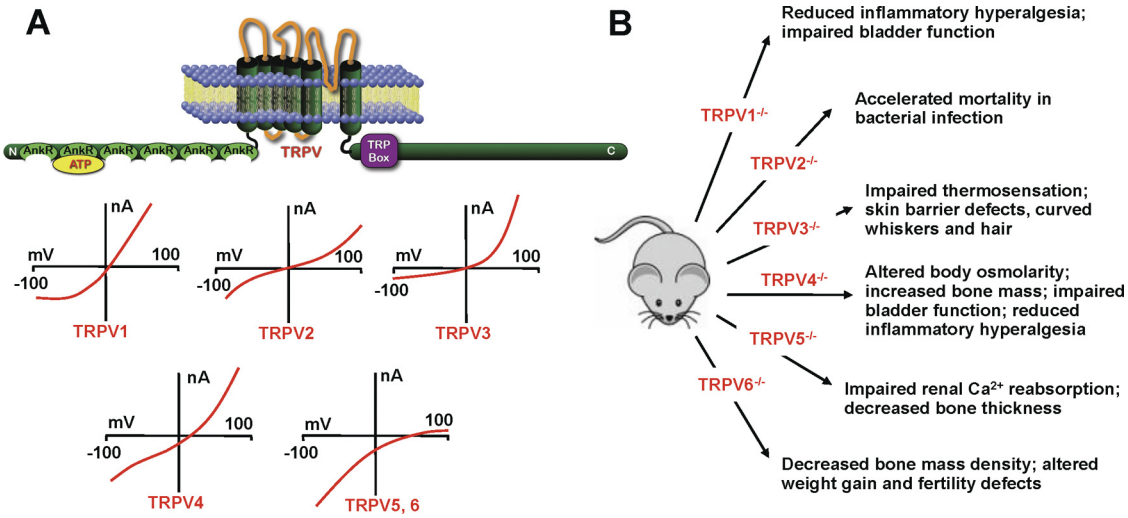

FIG. 2. TRPV (vanilloid) family. A, molecular domains of TRPV channels and their current-voltage relationships. The ankyrin repeat is an ~33-residue motif consisting of two α helices separated by loops. This region in TRPV1 binds ATP. B, results of genetic deletion experiments.

2004; Lishko et al., 2007). Intracellular ATP competes with CaM for binding at overlapping sites in the TRPV1 ankyrin repeat domain, thereby opposing the actions of CaM and enhancing TRPV1 currents, and prevents desensitization (Lishko et al., 2007). Although the effect of PIP_2 on TRPV1 modulation has been controversial, there is growing support that PIP_2 sensitizes TRPV1. PIP_2 binds the TRPV1 C terminus and competes with CaM for binding (Kwon et al., 2007). PIP_2-mediated enhancement of TRPV1 current was also reported to require PIP_2 binding to PIRT (phosphoinositide-interacting regulator of TRP), a putative auxiliary subunit of the channel (Kim et al., 2008a). TRPV1 activity is also regulated through the dynamic balance of Ca^{2+}-dependent phosphorylation and dephosphorylation. Activation of the protein phosphatase calcineurin dephosphorylates the channel and enables channel desensitization (Docherty et al., 1996), whereas activation of protein kinase C (Premkumar and Ahern, 2000) and protein kinase A (De Petrocellis et al., 2001) seems to increase channel activity.

TRPV1 is highly expressed in myelinated (Aδ) and unmyelinated (C) nociceptive fibers of dorsal root, trigeminal, and nodose ganglion neurons (Helliwell et al., 1998; Caterina et al., 2000). Although there is a paucity of functional evidence for TRPV1 in the central nervous system, TRPV1 may be present in the brain (Steenland et al., 2006) and was proposed to play a role in synaptic plasticity, such as long-term depression (Gibson et al., 2008; Maione et al., 2009). TRPV1 is reportedly expressed in other tissues; like most of the TRP field, however, functional evidence lags behind error-prone antibody-determined localization data. Because TRPV1 is activated by heat and expressed in thermosensitive tissues, there is much interest in whether TRPV1 is important for thermosensation. Indeed, TRPV1(−/−) mice display reduced thermal hyperalgesia after inflammation and injury; however, whether TRPV1(−/−) mice have decreased responses to acute noxious heat is still debated (Caterina et al., 2000; Davis et al., 2000; Bölcskei et al., 2005). Many of the pro-inflammatory agents produced during injury reduce TRPV1 thresholds to noxious stimuli to as low as 30°C, so that normally nonpainful thermal stimuli are capable of activating TRPV1 (Sugiura et al., 2002). As such, TRPV1(−/−) mice show reduced thermal hyperalgesia in response to inflammatory mediators such as bradykinin or NGF (Caterina et al., 2000; Davis et al., 2000; Chuang et al., 2001). Drugs developed to antagonize TRPV1 by the pharmaceutical industry reduce sensitivity to heat stimuli in humans and initially raise body temperature (Gavva et al., 2008). This may be due to the tonic activation of visceral TRPV1 by nonthermal factors, which suppresses autonomic cold-defense effectors and body temperature; blockade of the activation by TRPV1 antagonists disinhibits thermoeffectors and causes hyperthermia (Romanovsky et al., 2009). In addition to important roles in thermosensation and thermoregulation, TRPV1 has been reported to be important for normal bladder function (Birder et al., 2002), gastrointestinal motility (Rong et al., 2004), behavioral responses to ethanol (Blednov and Harris, 2009; Ellingson et al., 2009), airway inflammation and disease (Geppetti et al., 2006), and detection of salt (Lyall et al., 2004).

TRPV2 is 50% identical to TRPV1 and forms a weakly Ca^{2+}-selective cation channel. It is activated by temperatures >52°C when expressed in *Xenopus laevis* oocytes (Caterina et al., 1999; Kanzaki et al., 1999). There are, however, species-dependent differences in this activation, and human TRPV2 is apparently not activated by heat (Neeper et al., 2007). TRPV2 is reported to be present in a wide variety of tissues, including brain, pancreas, spleen, lung, stomach, intestine, bladder, prostate, and blood cells (Caterina et al., 1999; Kowase et al., 2002), with the usual caveat that antibody specificity has not been tested in knockout mice. It has been proposed that TRPV2 may serve as an endosomal calcium release channel that controls endosome fusion and/or exocytosis (Saito et al., 2007). Indeed, many studies suggest that activation of TRPV2 causes translocation of the channel to the plasma membrane (Kanzaki et al., 1999; Iwata et al., 2003; Nagasawa et al., 2007; Hisanaga et al., 2009), and TRPV2 inhibitor transilast (*N*-(3,4-dimethoxycinnamoyl) anthranilic acid) prevents this redistribution (Hisanaga et al., 2009). It is noteworthy that aberrant localization of TRPV2 is detected in rodent models of muscular dystrophy, and expression of dominant-negative TRPV2 reduced muscle damage (Iwata et al., 2009). TRPV2 has been shown to be expressed in macrophages and has a critical role in macrophage particle binding and phagocytosis. TRPV2(−/−) mice have been consistently shown to be more vulnerable when challenged with pathogens such as *Listeria monocytogenes*, mainly because of the greater organ bacterial load (Link et al., 2010).

TRPV3 also forms a voltage-sensitive weakly Ca^{2+}-selective cation channel that is activated by warm temperatures (33–39°C) (Peier et al., 2002b; Smith et al., 2002; Xu et al., 2002) and a variety of botanical compounds including camphor, eugenol, thymol, and carvacrol (Moqrich et al., 2005; Xu et al., 2006). TRPV3 currents are unusual in two respects; they sensitize (grow larger) with repeated activation, and their temperature-dependent potentiation exhibits a marked hysteresis. In rodent skin keratinocytes, TRPV3 is proposed to sense warmth (Peier et al., 2002b; Chung et al., 2004); TRPV3(−/−) mice display altered behavioral responses to heat, including altered temperature preferences in thermotaxis assays (Moqrich et al., 2005). Unexpectedly, a recent study found that TRPV3 is required for epidermal growth factor receptor signaling in keratinocytes,

and TRPV3(−/−) mice exhibit wavy hair coat and curly whiskers (Cheng et al., 2010a).

Many pro-inflammatory agents such as bradykinin, histamine, ATP, and prostaglandin E2 sensitize TRPV3 function (Xu et al., 2006; Huang et al., 2008; Mandadi et al., 2009). ATP interacts with the channel's N-terminal ankyrin repeats to regulate this sensitization (Phelps et al., 2010). Elevated TRPV3 activity can dramatically influence skin integrity; rodents with constitutively active TRPV3 channels have an increased susceptibility to dermatitis and skin lesions (Asakawa et al., 2006; Imura et al., 2007).

TRPV4 is activated by warm temperatures in the range of 27–34°C; consequently, at physiological temperatures, the channel should demonstrate significant constitutive activity (Liedtke et al., 2000; Güler et al., 2002; Watanabe et al., 2002). Activation of TRPV4 by heat may not be direct; in inside-out patches, TRPV4 cannot be activated by heat, yet it can still be activated by 4α-phorbol 12,13-didecanoate, a non–PKC-activating phorbol ester (Watanabe et al., 2002). TRPV4 is sensitive to osmotic and mechanical stimuli, such as cell swelling or fluid flow, and sensitivity of TRPV4 to these stimuli may depend on phospholipase A_2 activation and the subsequent production of the arachidonic acid metabolite epoxyeicosatrienoic acid (EET) (Liedtke et al., 2000; Strotmann et al., 2000; Watanabe et al., 2003; Vriens et al., 2004, 2005; Fernandes et al., 2008). TRPV4 can also be activated by botanical and synthetic compounds such as 4α-phorbol-12,13-dihexanoate (Klausen et al., 2009), bisandrographolide (Smith et al., 2006), and (*N*-((1*S*)-1-{[4-((2*S*)-2-{[(2,4-dichlorophenyl)sulfonyl]amino}-3-hydroxypropanoyl)-1-piperazinyl]carbonyl}-3-methylbutyl)-1-benzothiophene-2-carboxamide (GSK1016790A) (Thorneloe et al., 2008). Like TRPV1, TRPV4 is modulated by CaM and ATP, C-terminal CaM binding potentiating the current (Strotmann et al., 2003) and Ca^{2+}- dependent CaM binding to the N terminus desensitizing the current (Rosenbaum et al., 2004; Lishko et al., 2007). A variety of kinases also seem to modulate its activity (Gao et al., 2003; Chen et al., 2008a; Fan et al., 2009; Wegierski et al., 2009).

TRPV4 is widely distributed and was proposed to sense temperature in the hypothalamus, skin and primary sensory neurons (Liedtke et al., 2000; Güler et al., 2002; Peier et al., 2002b). However, three groups reported TRPV4(−/−) mice had normal behavioral responses to thermal stimulation in the hot plate and radiant paw heating assays, except under inflammatory conditions (Liedtke and Friedman, 2003; Suzuki et al., 2003; Todaka et al., 2004). A more recent study revealed that TRPV4(−/−) mice exhibited a strong preference for 34°C, whereas wild-type mice failed to discriminate between floor temperatures of 30°C and 34°C (Lee et al., 2005a). Such differences in findings may be due to strain differences.

The sensitivity of TRPV4 to osmotic stimuli may be important for cellular and systemic osmoregulation. TRPV4 was detected in putative osmoreceptive neurosensory cells around the ventricle (Liedtke et al., 2000), and TRPV4(−/−) mice display diminished drinking, elevated systemic osmotic pressure, and reduced synthesis of antidiuretic hormone in response to systemic hypertonicity induced by salt ingestion (Liedtke and Friedman, 2003). However, another study described an increase in antidiuretic hormone secretion in response to hypertonicity induced by water deprivation in TRPV4(−/−) mice (Mizuno et al., 2003). TRPV4 was also detected in cholangiocytes or the ciliated epithelial cells lining the bile duct, where it may play a key role in osmotic regulation of bile composition (Gradilone et al., 2007).

In support of a mechanosensing function for TRPV4, TRPV4(−/−) mice have a reduced behavioral response to persistent tail pressure as well as a reduced sensory neuronal discharge to pin prick on glabrous skin (Suzuki et al., 2003). TRPV4 may also contribute to the development of mechanical hyperalgesia after inflammation and injury (Alessandri-Haber et al., 2006). TRPV4 is expressed in urothelium and may play a role in urothelium-mediated transduction of intravesical mechanical pressure. In support of this hypothesis, TRPV4(−/−) mice display impaired bladder function (Birder et al., 2007; Gevaert et al., 2007). TRPV4 is expressed in inner and outer hair cells of the cochlea, but TRPV4(−/−) mice show no difference in the response to acoustic startle compared with wild-type mice (Liedtke and Friedman, 2003), indicating that the channel may not be the mechanotransduction channel in hair cells. In lung endothelial cells, TRPV4 may respond to unequal pressure across the alveolar septal barrier to regulate the permeability of these cells (Alvarez et al., 2006; Hamanaka et al., 2007). TRPV4(−/−) mice displayed significantly less lung edema in response to high peak inflation pressure ventilation compared with wild-type mice (Whitlock, 1995).

TRPV4 seems to regulate vascular tone (Earley et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2009) and bone deposition and remodeling (Masuyama et al., 2008; Mizoguchi et al., 2008). It is noteworthy that mutations in TRPV4 have been identified in patients with three dominantly inherited skeletal phenotypes: autosomal-dominant brachyolmia, spondylometaphyseal dysplasia Kozlowski type, and metatropic dysplasia (Rock et al., 2008; Krakow et al., 2009). TRPV4 mutations have also been linked to patients with congenital distal spinomuscular atrophy, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease type 2C, and scapuloperoneal spinal muscular atrophy (Auer-Grumbach et al., 2010; Deng et al., 2010; Landouré et al., 2010).

B. Transient Receptor Potential V5/V6 Subgroup

TRPV5 and TRPV6 are highly homologous proteins, sharing 74% identity (Clapham, 2003). Like other TRPV family members, they form Ca^{2+}-permeable inwardly rectifying cation channels; unlike other TRPV family

members, however, they are highly Ca^{2+} selective ($P_{Ca}/P_{Na} > 100$) and are not heat-sensitive (Vennekens et al., 2000; Yue et al., 2001). Rather, they tend to be active at low Ca^{2+} concentrations and physiological membrane potentials. Both TRPV5 and TRPV6 inactivate to prevent Ca^{2+} overload, although with different kinetics (Suzuki et al., 2000; Hoenderop et al., 2001; Nilius et al., 2002). TRPV5 has a 100-fold higher affinity for the nonspecific blocker ruthenium red (IC_{50}, 121 nM) than does TRPV6 (IC_{50}, 9 μM) (Hoenderop et al., 2001; Voets et al., 2001).

The activity of TRPV5 and TRPV6 at the plasma membrane is regulated by a variety of second messengers, including Ca^{2+}, CaM, Mg^{2+}, ATP, PIP_2, and protein kinases. Ca^{2+} acts as a negative feedback regulator of channel activity and contributes to channel inactivation (Vennekens et al., 2000; Hoenderop et al., 2001; Nilius et al., 2001; Yue et al., 2001). CaM interacts with TRPV5 and TRPV6 in a Ca^{2+}-dependent manner (Lambers et al., 2004) and was proposed to mediate the slow component of Ca^{2+}-dependent inactivation (Niemeyer et al., 2001). Intracellular Mg^{2+} causes a fast voltage-dependent block as well as a slower inhibition of TRPV5 and TRPV6 current (Nilius et al., 2000; Voets et al., 2003; Lee et al., 2005b). ATP binding sites have been identified within the ankyrin repeat domain, and the C terminus of TRPV6 and intracellular ATP stabilizes TRPV5 and TRPV6 currents (Hoenderop et al., 2001; Al-Ansary et al., 2010). PIP_2 binding to the TRP box potentiates TRPV5 and TRPV6, and its depletion in the membrane via Ca^{2+}-dependent activation of PLC contributes to channel inactivation (Rohács et al., 2005; Thyagarajan et al., 2008; Thyagarajan et al., 2009). A variety of other regulatory molecules may modulate its activity or membrane expression. Ca^{2+} binding proteins 80K-H/PRKCSH/hepatocystin and Calbindin-D_{28K} tether to TRPV5 and prevent negative feedback of Ca^{2+} on the channels (Gkika et al., 2004; Lambers et al., 2006). B-box and SPRY-domain containing protein interacts with TRPV5 and decreases channel activity (van de Graaf et al., 2006), whereas RGS2 (Schoeber et al., 2006) and Nipsnap1 (Schoeber et al., 2008) bind to TRPV6 and inhibit the channel's activity.

TRPV5 is expressed in a number of tissues. In the kidney, TRPV5 is predominantly expressed in the distal convoluted and connecting tubule where it is important for transcellular transport and active reabsorption of Ca^{2+} in the kidney (Hoenderop et al., 1999). Indeed, ablation of the TRPV5 results in impaired Ca^{2+} resorption in the distal convoluted and connecting tubule; TRPV5(−/−) mice excrete approximately six times more Ca^{2+} in their urine and display compensatory increases in vitamin D levels and intestinal hyperabsorption of Ca^{2+}. In addition, they display polyuria with significantly more acidic urine than that of wild-type mice (Hoenderop et al., 2003). TRPV5(−/−) mice also display bone abnormalities, including reduced trabecular and cortical bone thickness (Hoenderop et al., 2003) and increased osteoclast number and size (van der Eerden et al., 2005). Yet TRPV5(−/−) mice had low serum deoxypyridinoline levels, indicating decreased rate of bone breakdown and, unlike other mouse models with decreased osteoclast function, showed decreased bone thickness without osteopetrosis (van der Eerden et al., 2005).

TRPV6 is more widely distributed than TRPV5 (Peng et al., 2000; Hoenderop et al., 2001; Hirnet et al., 2003). In the intestine, TRPV6 localizes to the brush border membrane of enterocytes, where it is proposed to mediate transcellular Ca^{2+} entry (Peng et al., 1999; Zhuang et al., 2002). Indeed, TRPV6(−/−) mice that were fed a low Ca^{2+} diet exhibited decreased Ca^{2+} absorption and serum Ca^{2+} levels compared with wild-type mice; however, a disruption of closely adjacent *EphB6* gene in the TRPV6(−/−) mice may complicate the interpretation of this phenotype (Bianco et al., 2007; Benn et al., 2008). In the kidney, TRPV6 is expressed in the convoluted tubules, connecting tubules, and cortical and medullary collecting ducts of the nephron, where it helps resorb Ca^{2+} (Nijenhuis et al., 2003). In the placental trophoblast, TRPV6 contributes to the transfer of Ca^{2+} from mother to fetus (Moreau et al., 2002; Suzuki et al., 2008) and may contribute to the reduced litter size of TRPV6(−/−) mice (Bianco et al., 2007).

IV. The Transient Receptor Potential (Melastatin) Family

The mammalian TRPM subfamily has eight members (Fig. 3) and is divided into three main groups based on similarities in amino acid sequence: TRPM1/M3, TRPM4/M5, and TRPM6/M7; TRPM2 and TRPM8 exhibit low sequence homology and therefore do not seem to warrant grouping. TRPM proteins have a TRP domain C-terminal to the transmembrane segments but lack ankyrin repeats in the N terminus. The N-terminal part of TRPM proteins is considerably longer than the corresponding regions in TRPC and TRPV members. The N terminus contains a large TRPM homology region (around 700 amino acids), which bears no homology to other known molecules. The biological significance of this region is still unknown. The C terminus can be divided into two regions, a coiled-coil domain and a second variable region. TRPM2, TRPM6, and TRPM7 are unique among known ion channels in that they encode enzymatically active protein domains in their C termini.

A. Transient Receptor Potential M1/M3 Subgroup

TRPM1, the founding member of the TRPM subfamily, was discovered in a melanoma screen as a transcript that had decreased expression in highly metastatic, compared with less metastatic melanoma cells (Duncan et al., 1998). A recent analysis of mRNA

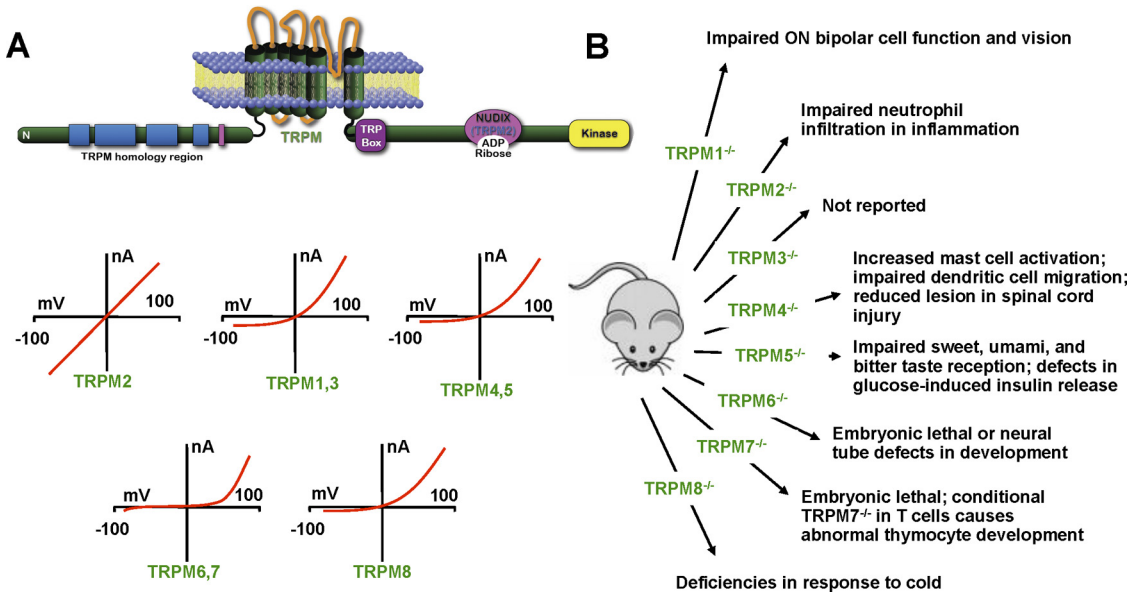

FIG. 3. TRPM (melastatin) family. A, molecular domains of TRPM channels and their current-voltage relationships. NUDIX is a phosphohydrolase family homologous region in TRPM2 that binds ADP ribose. TRM6 and TRPM7 possess a C-terminal serine/threonine kinase that is similar in structure to protein kinase A. B, results of genetic deletion experiments.

showed that at least five human ion-channel–forming isoforms of TRPM1 could be detected in melanocytes, melanoma, brain, and retina (Oancea et al., 2009). In melanoma cells, TRPM1 is prevalent in highly dynamic intracellular vesicular structures. Total internal reflection fluorescent imaging of HEK cells expressing the GFP-*TRPM1* splice variants suggests that the GFP-tagged isoforms did not reach the plasma membrane (Oancea et al., 2009). When expressed in SK-Mel22a melanoma cells, TRPM1 channels show a nonselective, outwardly rectifying current, which suggests that TRPM1 function as plasma membrane channels might depend on melanocyte-specific trafficking. Intriguingly, TRPM1 expression correlates with melanin content in neonatal human epidermal melanocytes, but how TRPM1 might regulate melanin is not known (Oancea et al., 2009).

Several independent studies have found that TRPM1 has a critical role in synaptic function in ON bipolar cells in the retina. Mutations in TRPM1 may contribute to congenital stationary night blindness (CSNB), a nonprogressive dark-adapted visual deficit (Morgans et al., 2009; Shen et al., 2009; Koike et al., 2010). TRPM1 is activated by the mGluR6 signaling cascade and thus is required for the depolarizing light response in ON bipolar cells. Consistent with the phenotype found in CSNB-affected humans, TRPM1(−/−) mice lack the b-wave normally recorded in electroretinograms. (Morgans et al., 2009; Shen et al., 2009; Koike et al., 2010). Additional support for TRPM1 in retinal function stems from human genetic studies by three independent groups, which showed that mutations in TRPM1 are associated with CSNB (Audo et al., 2009; Li et al., 2009; van Genderen et al., 2009).

TRPM3 is most closely related to TRPM1. TRPM3 forms a constitutively active, Ca^{2+}-permeable, nonselective cation channel with a reported near linear current-voltage relationship in heterologous expression systems (Grimm et al., 2003). TRPM3 is alternatively spliced; TRPM3α1 and TRPM3α2, which differ only in the presumed pore region, show significant differences in their channel properties (Oberwinkler et al., 2005): TRPM3α1 channels are poorly permeable to divalent cations, whereas TRPM3α2 channels conduct Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+}. In addition, extracellular Na^+ inhibits TRPM3α2 but not TRPM3α1 channels. Both variants exhibit constitutively active, outwardly rectifying currents that are blocked by intracellular Mg^{2+}, similar to TRPM6 and TRPM7 channels. Another short variant, $TRPM3_{1325}$ (shorter carboxyl terminus), mediates a spontaneous, nonselective cation current with P_{Ca}/P_{Na} = 1.6 and detectable Mg^{2+} permeability. The single-channel conductance of $TRPM3_{1325}$ is ~80 and 65 pS in the presence of extracellular Na^+ and Ca^{2+}, respectively. Their activities could be suppressed by 100 μM Gd^{3+} and La^{3+} and increased by hypotonicity or D-*erythro*-sphingosine, a metabolite of cellular sphingolipids (Grimm et al., 2003, 2005).

TRPM3 is most prominent in kidney, brain, and pituitary. However, the function of TRPM3 is poorly characterized, probably because of the existence of multiple variants with different properties. A TRPM3(−/−) mouse has not been reported to date. A recent report suggests that the steroid hormone pregnenolone sulfate can act as endogenous ligand for TRPM3 (Wagner et al., 2008). TRPM3 protein is expressed in pancreatic β cells, and pregnenolone could augment glucose-

induced insulin secretion from pancreatic islets by activating TRPM3 (Wagner et al., 2008). High-resolution oligonucleotide arrays were used to suggest that *TrpM3* is a candidate gene for the Kabuki syndrome, a congenital mental retardation syndrome (Kuniba et al., 2009).

B. Transient Receptor Potential M2

TRPM2 contains a C-terminal nudix hydrolase domain that is highly homologous to the ADP pyrophosphatase NUDT9. This domain binds ADP ribose (EC_{50}, ~100 μM) in a cleft in the NUDT9 domain of TRPM2 (Perraud et al., 2005) and hydrolyzes it (Perraud et al., 2001; Sano et al., 2001). ADP ribose arises from breakdown of β-NAD, CD38, or other enzymes acting on cyclic ADP ribose and hydrolysis of ADP polymers by poly-ADP ribose glycohydrolase. TRPM2 is also activated by oxidative or nitrosative stress (e.g., H_2O_2) (Hara et al., 2002), perhaps mediated by mitochondrial ADP-ribose (Perraud et al., 2005). High levels of intracellular Ca^{2+} have been proposed to activate TRPM2 (>10 μM) (Kraft and Harteneck, 2005; Du et al., 2009).

TRPM2 is a nonselective cation channel with a near-linear current-voltage relationship and has a single-channel conductance of ~62 pS. TRPM2 current was insensitive to 100 μM La^{3+} but was inhibited by non-specific channel blockers such as flufenamic acid or the antifungal agents clotrimazole or econazole (Hill et al., 2004). It is noteworthy that TRPM2 may function as a lysosomal Ca^{2+}-release channel activated by intracellular ADP-ribose in addition to its role as a plasma membrane channel (Lange et al., 2009).

TRPM2 is highly expressed in cells of monocytic lineage. Because TRPM2 is regulated by signaling pathways responsive to oxidative stress and tumor necrosis factor-α, it has been assumed to be a sensor for intracellular oxidation (Hara et al., 2002; Kaneko et al., 2006). TRPM2 is proposed to function in monocyte chemotaxis, which is known to be regulated by ADP-ribose (Massullo et al., 2006). Functional TRPM2 has been reported in neurons, where it may be involved in H_2O_2-induced neuronal death (Kaneko et al., 2006; Olah et al., 2009), and in pancreatic β cells, where it may regulate insulin secretion (Togashi et al., 2006). Studies using TRPM2(−/−) mice suggest that the channel controls reactive oxygen species-induced chemokine production in monocytes and neutrophil infiltration in a mouse model of inflammation (Yamamoto et al., 2008). Human genetics studies indicate the potential involvement of TRPM2 in bipolar disorders (McQuillin et al., 2006). In addition, an inactivating proline-to-leucine substitution at position 1018 in TRPM2 is found in two related neurodegenerative disorders, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and Parkinsonism/dementia complex, that have a high incidence on the Pacific Islands of Guam and Rota (Hermosura et al., 2008).

C. Transient Receptor Potential M4/M5 Subgroup

TRPM4 and TRPM5 are the only monovalent-selective ion channels of the TRP family (Launay et al., 2002; Hofmann et al., 2003; Liu and Liman, 2003; Prawitt et al., 2003). TRPM4 and TRPM5 have ~40% sequence identity and exhibit similar channel properties. TRPM4 is expressed as two splice variants, TRPM4a (nonfunctional channel) and TRPM4b (functional channel) (Xu et al., 2001; Launay et al., 2002; Nilius et al., 2003). Both TRPM4b and TRPM5 channels have a single-channel conductance of ~25 pS, their whole-cell currents are strongly outwardly rectified (Launay et al., 2002), and they are blocked by intracellular flufenamic acid and spermine (Ullrich et al., 2005). A short stretch of six acidic amino acids in the pore loop determines their monovalent selectivity (Nilius et al., 2003). Both are activated by relatively high Ca^{2+} levels in the cytosol (~500 and 80 μM for TRPM4 and TRPM5, respectively) (Hofmann et al., 2003; Liu and Liman, 2003; Ullrich et al., 2005), and PIP_2 reverses their Ca^{2+}-dependent desensitization (Zhang et al., 2005; Nilius et al., 2006). Both TRPM4 and TRPM5 have been proposed to be preferentially sensitive to temperature in the range of 15 to 35°C (Talavera et al., 2005). TRPM4, but not TRPM5, is inhibited by intracellular ATP, whereas TRPM5 is inhibited by intracellular acidic pH (Nilius et al., 2004; Liu et al., 2005). TRPM5 activates and inactivates more rapidly than TRPM4. TRPM4 is also modulated by protein kinase C (PKC) phosphorylation, which enhances its sensitivity to intracellular Ca^{2+} (Nilius et al., 2005).

TRPM4 and TRPM5 probably underlie the often observed Ca^{2+}-activated monovalent-selective cation current, and thus have attracted interest for their possible involvement in membrane potential oscillations (Launay et al., 2002; Prawitt et al., 2003). TRPM4 is ubiquitous, with highest expression in kidney and brain. Knockdown of TRPM4 decreases cerebral artery myogenic constrictions and thus may contribute to cerebral blood flow regulation (Reading and Brayden, 2007). Gain-of-function mutation of TRPM4 (E7K) causes impaired endocytosis and may be associated with human progressive familial heart block type 1 (Kruse et al., 2009). TRPM4(−/−) mice exhibit increased IgE-dependent mast cell activation and anaphylactic responses (Vennekens et al., 2007). Moreover, chemokine-dependent dendritic cell migration is considerably impaired in TRPM4(−/−) mice (Barbet et al., 2008). In a spinal cord injury model, TRPM4(−/−) mice were relatively protected compared with wild-type mice, and their neurological function improved more readily after injury (Gerzanich et al., 2009).

TRPM5 is expressed in taste receptor cells (Pérez et al., 2002), and sweet, umami, and bitter taste reception were

reportedly abolished in TRPM5(−/−) mice, whereas sour or salty taste sensation was preserved (Zhang et al., 2003). The G protein PLCβ2-coupled receptors T1R and T2R may activate TRPM5 to produce these sensations (Zhang et al., 2003). Another group found markedly impaired but not complete absence of responses to bitter, sweet, and umami compounds (Damak et al., 2006). TRPM5 is expressed in pancreatic β-cells, where it may affect insulin release through PLC-dependent pathways (Gilon and Henquin, 2001). Indeed, recent studies from independent groups found defective glucose-induced insulin release in TRPM5(−/−) mice (Brixel et al., 2010; Colsoul et al., 2010). TRPM5 immunoreactivity was also seen in other chemosensory organs—the main olfactory epithelium and the vomeronasal organ, hinting at its potential functions in chemosensation (Kaske et al., 2007). Using TRPM5-GFP transgenic and TRPM5(−/−) mice, a recent study showed that TRPM5 is expressed in solitary enteroendocrine chemosensory cells in mouse duodenum and may be essential for the release of the endogenous opioids β-endorphin and Met-enkephalin and the release of uroguanylin from these cells (Kokrashvili et al., 2009b). It is noteworthy that some enteroendocrine cells express signaling elements involved in taste transduction (the gut's luminal glucose sensor), initiating the incretin response to elicit the release of glucagon-like peptide 1 (Kokrashvili et al., 2009a). Therefore, TRPM5's presence in these gut "taste cells" as well as in pancreatic β-cells will be interesting to explore in diabetes and obesity.

D. Transient Receptor Potential M6/M7 Subgroup

TRPM6 and TRPM7 are unique among ion channels because they possess both ion channel and protein kinase activities. TRPM6 and TRPM7 serine/threonine kinase domains are located at the extreme C terminus, and the catalytic core of the kinase domain is similar to that of other eukaryotic protein kinases and to enzymes with "ATP-grasp" domains. High-resolution structure of the M7 kinase alone demonstrates marked similarities to protein kinase A (Yamaguchi et al., 2001). The kinase domain does not seem to affect channel activity in any direct manner. Both proteins also share similar biophysical properties; these channels allow Mg^{2+} and Ca^{2+} into the cell (albeit at very low conductances) and allow primarily monovalent K^+ out of the cell. They are strongly outwardly rectifying under physiological conditions. In the absence of divalent cations, their current-voltage relations are practically linear, indicating that divalent ions bind the pore to regulate conductance. At positive voltages, TRPM6 and TRPM7 have single-channel conductances of 84 and 105 pS, respectively. Both channels are inhibited by intracellular Mg^{2+} (0.3–1.0 mM) (Nadler et al., 2001; Voets et al., 2004b), but the inward current is strongly potentiated by extracellular acidic pH selectively (Jiang et al., 2005). However, homomeric TRPM6 and TRPM7 channels can be distinguished pharmacologically. For example, micromolar levels of 2-APB increase TRPM6 but inhibit TRPM7 channel activities, whereas millimolar concentrations of 2-APB potentiate TRPM7 channel activities (Li et al., 2006).

TRPM6 is primarily expressed in kidney and intestine, where it has been suggested to be responsible for epithelial Mg^{2+} reabsorption, based largely on the identification of TRPM6 mutants in a hereditary disease called hypomagnesemia with secondary hypocalcemia (Schlingmann et al., 2002; Walder et al., 2002). The symptom of the disease could be alleviated significantly by dietary supplements of high-dose Mg^{2+} (Schlingmann and Gudermann, 2005). TRPM6(−/−) mice were generated, but many of them died by embryonic day 12.5. These mice had neural tube defects with exencephaly and spina bifida occulta. Feeding dams a high-Mg^{2+} diet improved offspring survival. These results indicate a critical role for TRPM6 in neural tube closure in development (Walder et al., 2009).

TRPM7 is a large protein (1863 amino acids), identified in a yeast two-hybrid screen as a protein interacting with PLCβ1 (Runnels et al., 2001). In contrast to other GPCR-activated TRP channels, TRPM7 current increases slowly under whole-cell recording conditions and is inactivated by PIP_2 hydrolysis by PLCβ or PLCγ (Runnels et al., 2002). TRPM7 autophosphorylates (Matsushita et al., 2005) and can phosphorylate proteins such as annexin 2 (Dorovkov and Ryazanov, 2004) and myosin IIA heavy chain (Clark et al., 2006), but its native substrates have not been identified.

Native activation of the TRPM7 channel is, as for most TRP channels, an unsolved mystery. Upon break-in during whole-cell recording, TRPM7 currents continually increase over time until they are quite large. This increase does not occur under perforated-patch conditions, in which intracellular perfusion is restricted to ions, suggesting that an intracellular inhibitor (in addition to Mg^{2+}) normally limits its current (L. J. Wu, B. Navarro, and D. E. Clapham, unpublished observations). TRPM7 expressed in a vascular smooth muscle cell line is subtly increased by shear stress apparently via insertion of additional TRPM7 into the plasma membrane (Oancea et al., 2006), but TRPM7 is not in any traditional sense a mechanosensitive channel. In addition to Mg^{2+} and Ca^{2+}, TRPM7 is permeable to Zn^{2+}, Co^{2+}, and Mn^{2+}, providing a potential ion channel mechanism for cellular entry of trace metal ions (Monteilh-Zoller et al., 2003).

TRPM7 is ubiquitously expressed but the expression level is low in most tissues. Suppression of TRPM7 expression reduced Ca^{2+}-dependent anoxic death in neuronal culture, as well as in mice with stroke (Aarts et al., 2003; Sun et al., 2009). TRPM7 was proposed, based on knockout of TRPM7, in DT-40 chicken B-lymphocyte cell lines, to be important for Mg^{2+} homeostasis (Schmitz et al., 2003). Genetic deletion of *TrpM7* is lethal before embryonic day 7.5, suggesting that TRPM7 is essential for embryonic development (Jin et al., 2008). Tissue-

specific deletion of TRPM7 in the T-cell lineage results in a developmental block of thymocytes at the double-negative stage. Careful quantitation of intracellular Mg^{2+} changes in response to rapid changes in external Mg^{2+} levels did not alter global intracellular Mg^{2+}. In addition, total Mg^{2+} levels in cells did not differ between T cells in wild-type and conditional TRPM7(−/−) mice (Jin et al., 2008). Thus, TRPM7 does not have an important function in Mg^{2+} homeostasis in T cells, although localized changes in intracellular Mg^{2+} may be relevant to its function. These findings also raise questions regarding the mechanism of hypomagnesemia (in hypomagnesemia with secondary hypocalcemia) that can be resolved by mutation of TRPM6 in animal models. A report that mutations in TRPM7 (threonine-to-isoleucine substitution at position 1482) in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis–Parkinsonism/dementia complex (Hermosura et al., 2005) has been challenged by a recent linkage study (Hara et al., 2010).

It is noteworthy that TRPM7 is localized to a distinct set of vesicles in some cells. TRPM7 resides in the membrane of synaptic vesicles of sympathetic neurons, forms molecular complexes with the synaptic vesicle proteins synapsin I and synaptotagmin I, and directly interacts with synaptic vesicular snapin. In sympathetic neurons, changes in TRPM7 levels and channel activity alter acetylcholine release. Thus, vesicular TRPM7 channel activity is critical to neurotransmitter release in sympathetic neurons (Krapivinsky et al., 2006). How would vesicle-localized TRPM7 mediate fusion? First, remember that ion channels being trafficked to the plasma membrane are assembled with the outer vestibule of the pore facing the inside of the vesicle. The cytoplasmic domains remain cytoplasmic before and after fusion. When TRPM7 is vesicular, its "outer" surface faces high potentiating (Li et al., 2007) pH. Vesicular membranes typically lack PIP_2 in contrast to the PIP_2-rich plasma membrane, and TRPM7 should be closed under this condition. When the vesicle approaches the membrane, its cytoplasmic domains are exposed to the high PIP_2 levels of the plasma membrane, and the channel should open in its high divalent conductance state (low intravesicular pH). In this model, TRPM7 acts as a coincidence detector, opening only when vesicular pH is low, and PIP_2 in the plasma membrane binds cytoplasmic domains of TRPM7. TRPM7 opening at this point would allow ion exchange between the vesicular and cytoplasmic spaces (Montell, 2006; Brauchi et al., 2008).

E. Transient Receptor Potential M8

Like TRPM1, TRPM8 was originally identified in a screen of cancer-related genes (Tsavaler et al., 2001). TRPM8 is permeant to Ca^{2+} (P_{Ca}/P_{Na} ~1–3) and has a single-channel conductance of ~80 pS. Its sensory role was recognized when it was isolated by expression cloning of a menthol receptor from trigeminal neurons (McKemy et al., 2002) and by bioinformatics approaches using TRP channel sequence homology (Peier et al., 2002a). It can be activated by cold (8–28°C) and enhanced by cooling compounds such as menthol and icilin (McKemy et al., 2002; Peier et al., 2002a). Temperature modulates the voltage dependence of the channel, menthol and icilin mimicking this effect (Voets et al., 2004a). However, menthol and icilin may activate the TRPM8 through distinct mechanisms. For example, menthol activation is unaffected by intracellular pH and is inhibited by intracellular Ca^{2+}, whereas icilin activation is inhibited by low pH and by the absence of intracellular Ca^{2+} (Andersson et al., 2004; Chuang et al., 2004). Mutational analyses indicate that residues in the S1 and S2 transmembrane segments are required for TRPM8 activation by menthol and icilin (Chuang et al., 2004; Bandell et al., 2006), whereas S4 and the S4–S5 linker of TRPM8 may mediate voltage sensing and some aspect of menthol binding (Voets et al., 2007).

TRPM8 is widely expressed, but its most clear-cut function is as a cold sensor in $TrkA^+$ small-diameter primary sensory neurons. Indeed, three independent studies showed that TRPM8(−/−) mice have remarkable deficiencies to a range of cold responses (Bautista et al., 2007; Colburn et al., 2007; Dhaka et al., 2007). This suggests that TRPM8 is the predominant detector of cold temperatures in vivo, which has implication for somatosensation, nociception, and the development of analgesia. TRPM8 is also identified in other tissues; for example, the prostate epithelium (Tsavaler et al., 2001), where it may act as an androgen-responsive channel (Zhang and Barritt, 2004), and in arterial vascular smooth muscle, where it may regulate vascular tone (Johnson et al., 2009). High concentrations of menthol were used to argue that TRPM8 is also expressed in human sperm to regulate the acrosome reaction (De Blas et al., 2009), but TRPM8(−/−) fertility is normal (Bautista et al., 2007; Colburn et al., 2007; Dhaka et al., 2007).

V. The Transient Receptor Potential (Ankyrin) Family

TRPA1 (Fig. 4) is the only member of the mammalian family, but it seems to have arisen from larger families in insects that critically depend on chemosensation. The "A" in TRPA1 stands for ankyrin, because the protein contains at least 14 ankyrin repeats in its N terminus. These repeats are hypothesized to interact with cytoskeletal components (Howard and Bechstedt, 2004; Sotomayor et al., 2005) or to modulate ligand binding (Lishko et al., 2007). TRPA1 also contains an N-terminal Ca^{2+} binding EF hand domain. TRPA1 is selectively expressed in a subpopulation of neurons in the dorsal root, trigeminal, and nodose ganglia (Story et al., 2003; Diogenes et al., 2007; Brierley et al., 2009), as well as in hair and skin cells (Corey et al., 2004; Atoyan et al., 2009; Kwan et al., 2009). There it primarily acts as a

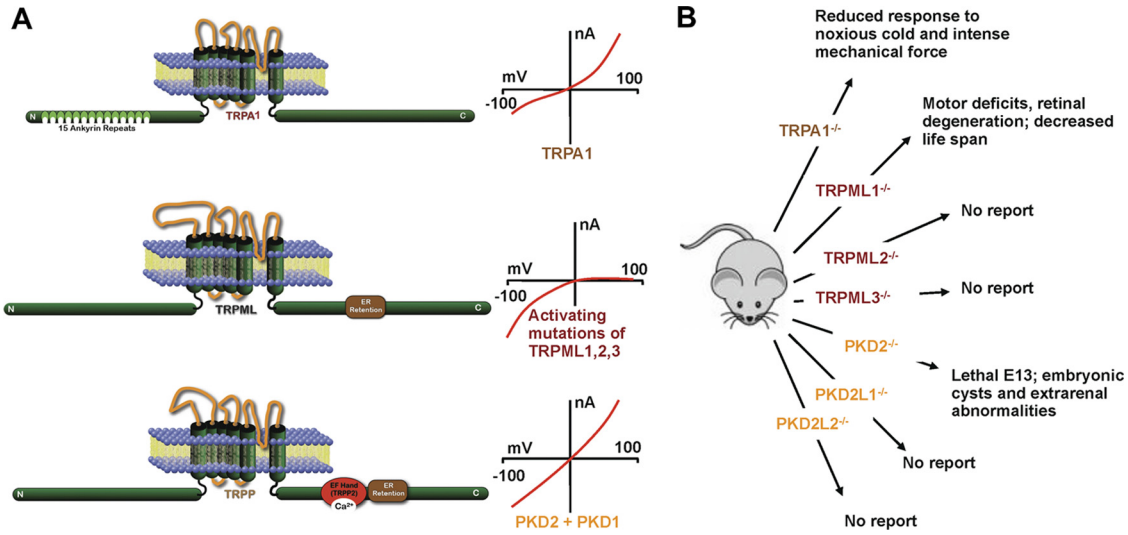

FIG. 4. TRPA1 (ankyrin repeat), TRPML (mucolipin) and TRPP [polycystic kidney disease 2 (PKD2), also called polycystin 2 (PC2)] channels. A, "distal" TRP molecular domains and their current-voltage relationships. The ER retention signal is a small domain that presumably maintains the channel in the endoplasmic reticulum. Note that the current-voltage relationship for TRPA1 shows decay at positive potentials in most whole-cell recordings and is linear with electrophilic agonist. B, major phenotypes in "distal" TRP channel knockout mice. Note: the PKD1 refers to the 11-TM domain-containing protein of the polycystin 1 family. TRPP (PKD2, polycystin 2, PC2) refers to the 6-TM family of proteins.

chemosensor and, in some cases, may amplify Ca^{2+}-entry through other channels (Jordt et al., 2004; Bautista et al., 2005; Zurborg et al., 2007). A recent study found that a gain-of-function mutation (N855S) in the S4 transmembrane segment of TRPA1 causes familial episodic pain syndrome, providing the first example of a human pain-associated TRP channelopathy (Kremeyer et al., 2010).

TRPA1 is activated by a variety of chemicals, including cinnamaldehyde (in cinnamon) (Bandell et al., 2004), allicin, and diallyl disulfide (in garlic) (Bautista et al., 2005; Macpherson et al., 2005), isothiocyanates (in mustard oil, wasabi, and horseradish) (Bandell et al., 2004; Jordt et al., 2004), methyl salicylate (in winter green oil) (Bandell et al., 2004), acrolein (in smoke) (Bautista et al., 2006), and Δ^9-tetrahydrocannabinol (in marijuana) (Jordt et al., 2004). In addition, the well known TRPM8 agonist menthol has a bimodal effect: it activates TRPA1 at low concentrations and inhibits it at high concentrations (Macpherson et al., 2006; Karashima et al., 2007). More recently, the endogenous compounds 4-hydroxynonenal and 15-deoxy-$\Delta^{12,14}$-prostaglandin J2, which can be released in response to tissue injury, inflammation, and oxidative stress were reported to be activators of TRPA1 (Macpherson et al., 2007b; Trevisani et al., 2007; Taylor-Clark et al., 2008). Many of the TRPA1 agonists are thiol-reactive electrophiles that activate TRPA1 through covalent interactions with cysteine residues in the channel N terminus, although other modifications are likely (Hinman et al., 2006; Macpherson et al., 2007a). Schmidt et al. (2009) recently reported that TRPA1 activation by mustard oil may be the result of increased protein kinase A/PLC-mediated trafficking to the membrane (Schmidt et al., 2009). TRPA1 activity is potentiated and subsequently inactivated by extracellular Ca^{2+}. This modulation is indirect and attributed to Ca^{2+}entry through TRPA1; the intracellular Ca^{2+}-binding EF-hand motif is apparently not required (Wang et al., 2008).

In addition to chemical activation, it has been proposed that TRPA1 is directly activated by noxious cold (<17°C); however, the thermosensitivity of TRPA1 is debated. Numerous groups have reported that heterologously expressed TRPA1 is activated by noxious cold (Story et al., 2003; Bandell et al., 2004; Sawada et al., 2007; Karashima et al., 2009); however, other groups found no direct cold activation (Jordt et al., 2004; Nagata et al., 2005; Zurborg et al., 2007). Initial reports after the generation of two independent TRPA1(−/−) mice only contributed to the controversy. Whereas one study reported mild and sex-dependent alterations in the behavioral response to prolonged exposure to noxious cold in TRPA1(−/−) mice (Kwan et al., 2006), the second study found no sign of altered cold sensitivity in these mice (Bautista et al., 2006). A recent study identified a specific subset of cold-sensitive trigeminal ganglion neurons that is absent in TRPA1(−/−) mice and suggested that although TRPA1 is not required for sensing acute cold stimuli, it is required for behavioral responses to prolonged noxious cold (Karashima et al., 2009). The marked Ca^{2+} regulation of this channel under different conditions, strain differences, or the degree to which mice were back-crossed onto a common background, may underlie some of these discrepancies. It is noteworthy that TRPA1 orthologs from pit-bearing snakes are demonstrated to be the most heat-sensitive vertebrate ion channels and may play a role in detecting infrared radiation (Gracheva et al., 2010).

Detection of TRPA1 in hair cells in the ear (Corey et al., 2004; Nagata et al., 2005) led to the proposal that it forms the auditory mechanotransduction channel (Corey et al., 2004). However, heterologously expressed TRPA1 channels have not been shown to be mechanosensitive, and hair cells do not respond to mustard oil or other TRPA1 agonists (Corey, 2006). In addition, TRPA1(−/−) mice exhibit no overt vestibular defects, and their auditory responses are completely normal (Bautista et al., 2006; Kwan et al., 2006). In summary, there is no convincing evidence that TRPA1 itself is a mechanosensor in any cell type.

VI. The Transient Receptor Potential (Mucolipin) Family

The mucolipin TRP (TRPML; Fig. 4) proteins are primarily intracellular and are likely to be important for compartment trafficking and/or function (Bargal and Bach, 1997; Chen et al., 1998; Kim et al., 2009; Cheng et al., 2010b).

The founding member of the TRPML family, TRPML1, was first identified in linkage studies as the gene mutated in humans in Mucolipidosis type IV (MLIV), a progressive neurodegenerative disease of young children (Bargal et al., 2000; Bassi et al., 2000; Sun et al., 2000). MLIV is characterized clinically by severe motor deficits, mental retardation, retinal degeneration, iron-deficiency anemia, and elevated gastrin levels as a result of achlorhydria (Slaugenhaupt, 2002). At the cellular level, various materials [such as sphingolipids (mostly gangliosides), phospholipids, and acid mucopolysaccharides] accumulate in the lysosomes of patients with MLIV and appear as membrane-bound granular inclusions or lamellar concentric bodies. In contrast with other lysosomal storage diseases, the accumulation of heterogeneous storage material in MLIV lysosomes does not result from a block in catabolic pathways—lysosomal hydrolases are functional and correctly transported to the lysosomes; rather, it probably results from an ill-defined sorting, transport, or functional defect along the late endocytic pathway (Bargal and Bach, 1988; Chen et al., 1998).

Congruent with the ubiquitous lysosomal phenotype of MLIV patients, TRPML1 is expressed in cells of every tissue and localizes primarily to the lysosomal and late endosomal compartments (Manzoni et al., 2004; Kiselyov et al., 2005). TRPML1 contains two di-leucine motifs, one on its C terminus and one on its N terminus, that are likely to restrict its localization. In addition, TRPML1 has a large intraluminal loop between its first and second transmembrane domains that contains a putative serine-lipase site, a proline-rich domain, and a proteolytic cleavage site (Slaugenhaupt, 2002). This loop may interact with chaperone-mediated autophagy-related proteins, heat shock cognate protein of 70 kDa, and the 40-kDa heat shock protein (Venugopal et al., 2009). Currents recorded from late endosomes and lysosomes suggest that TRPML1 forms an inwardly rectifying, proton-impermeable, cation-selective channel with permeability to both Ca^{2+} and Fe^{2+}. This permeability is potentiated by low luminal pH (Xu et al., 2007; Dong et al., 2008, 2009).

The inward rectification of TRPML1 indicates that when present in lysosomes, TRPML1 would primarily move cations out of the lysosomal lumen, depending on the translysosomal voltage and concentration gradients. This suggests that TRPML1 could function as a Ca^{2+} or Fe^{2+} release channel (Dong et al., 2008). Supporting this view, release of iron from late endosomes and lysosomes into the cytosol is essential for cellular iron metabolism and TRPML1(−/−) cells show altered iron homeostasis (Dong et al., 2008). Exocytosis from lysosomes are Ca^{2+}-regulated, and one of the major sources of Ca^{2+} for this process is the lysosome itself (Peters and Mayer, 1998). Constitutively active TRPML1 mutants exhibit significant expression at the plasma membrane, whereas wild-type TRPML1 and non–gain-of-function mutants localize exclusively to the late endosomes and lysosomes (Dong et al., 2009). Consistent with a role for TRPML1 in Ca^{2+}-dependent lysosomal exocytosis, surface staining of lysosomal-associated membrane protein type 1, a lysosomal marker, is dramatically increased in cells expressing constitutive active TRPML1 (Dong et al., 2009). In chaperone-mediated autophagy, proteins are directly transported through the lysosomal membrane, recognized by heat shock cognate protein of 70 kDa, and bound to the lysosomal membrane through interaction with LAMP-2A (Chiang et al., 1989; Cuervo and Dice, 1996). It is noteworthy that overexpression of the mammalian homolog of HSC70 in a fly model of MLIV rescued the motor deficits associated with TRPML1 deficiency (Venkatachalam et al., 2008). TRPML1(−/−) mice have been generated, and they largely recapitulated the phenotypes displayed in humans with MLIV, showing motor deficits, central nervous system inclusions, retinal degeneration, elevated plasma gastrin, and decreased life span (Venugopal et al., 2007).

Like TRPML1, TRPML2 is an inwardly rectifying Ca^{2+}- and Fe^{2+}-permeable cation-selective channel potentiated by low pH (Dong et al., 2008; Samie et al., 2009). TRPML2 is expressed in cells of all tissues, where it localizes primarily to intracellular compartments (Xu et al., 2007; Samie et al., 2009; Zeevi et al., 2009). Knockdown of endogenous TRPML2 expression in HEK293 cells leads to lysosomal storage and mitochondrial abnormalities (Zeevi et al., 2009). Functional studies suggest that TRPML2 may regulate the trafficking between recycling endosomes and the cell surface through an Arf6 clathrin-independent pathway (Karacsonyi et al., 2007). Generation of TRPML2(−/−) mice may help to elucidate the role of TRPML2 in vivo.

TRPML3 is an inwardly rectifying cation-selective channel that is regulated by extracellular/luminal pH (Grimm et al., 2007; Xu et al., 2007; Kim et al., 2008b). TRPML3 was discovered by positional cloning as the channel mutated in varitint-waddler mice, which are

characterized by a variegated/dilute coat color owing to pigmentation defects, hearing loss, circling behavior caused by vestibular defects, hyperactivity, and embryonic lethality (Cable and Steel, 1998; Di Palma et al., 2002; Xu et al., 2007). The varitint-waddler phenotype is caused by the gain-of-function mutation (A419P) in the S6 of TRPML3 (Grimm et al., 2007; Kim et al., 2007; Xu et al., 2007). This mutation is a helix-breaking proline substitution that creates a constitutively active channel and eliminates regulation of the channel by extracytosolic cations (Grimm et al., 2007; Kim et al., 2007). Constitutive activation of the channel leads to increased Ca^{2+} influx and cell death (Xu et al., 2007); the loss of melanocytes in the cochlea and vestibulum probably underlies the deafness and the circling behavior of varitint-waddler mice (Cable and Steel, 1998; Xu et al., 2007). However, other than constitutive activation of the helix-break mutants, wild-type TRPML3 activation is not well understood. TRPML3 can be activated by preincubation in low-Na^+ medium (Kim et al., 2008b). A recent report using a high-throughput chemical screen has identified a plethora of TRPML3 activators that will hopefully serve as useful tools (Grimm et al., 2010).

Mirroring its functional deficits, TRPML3 expression has been reported in the hair cells of the cochlea and the vestibulum, as well as in the melanocytes in skin hair follicles (Di Palma et al., 2002; van Aken et al., 2008). At the cellular level, TRPML3 can be detected in intracellular vesicular compartments and in the plasma membrane. Knockdown of TRPML3 expression or expression of a dominant-negative version of the channel stimulated endocytosis of transferrin and EGF/EGFR, whereas overexpression of TRPML3 inhibited these same processes (Kim et al., 2009). Knockdown of endogenous TRPML3 causes lysosomal storage and mitochondrial abnormalities (Zeevi et al., 2009).

VII. The Transient Receptor Potential (Polycystin)/Polycystic Kidney Disease 2 Family

TRPP refers to the polycystic kidney disease 2 (PKD2; Fig. 4) subset of the polycystins. Polycystins include putative 11-TM (PKD1, also called the PC1 family) and 6-TM subfamilies (PKD2, also called the PC2 family). The TRPP family nomenclature is confused by the previous inclusion of the 11-TM subfamily. Because there is little support for the 11TM group forming functional channels, we will only discuss the 6TM (PKD2, PC2) family. To avoid confusion, we use the PKD2 nomenclature but provide previous names associated with each.

Increasing evidence suggests that PKD1 subgroup members associate with PKD2 members to form heterocomplexes (Qian et al., 1997; Tsiokas et al., 1997) and that they share a notable number of physiological functions (Hanaoka et al., 2000; McGrath et al., 2003; LopezJimenez et al., 2006; Vogel et al., 2010). The PKD2 subgroup consists of three members, PKD2, PKD2L1, and PKD2L2, all of which have 6 TM-spanning domains and intracellular N and C termini. Based on their homology to other TRP family members, they are expected to assemble in a tetrameric structure to form Ca^{2+} permeable nonselective cation channels.

PKD2 (TRPP1, also called PC2, and TRPP2 in older nomenclature) was originally identified in linkage studies for autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD) (Peters et al., 1993; Mochizuki et al., 1996). ADPKD is characterized by the progressive development of multiple fluid-filled cysts in the kidney, pancreas, and liver and an increased prevalence of cardiovascular abnormalities such as hypertension, mitral valve prolapse, and intracranial aneurysm (Gabow, 1993; Torra et al., 2000). Approximately 15% of clinical cases of ADPKD present with mutations in the *PKD2* gene loci (Peters et al., 1993). The cystic phenotype and extrarenal abnormalities are largely recapitulated in PKD2(−/−) mice, and the mice die in utero between embryonic day 13.5 and parturition (Wu et al., 2000).

PKD2 is reported to form a Ca^{2+}-permeable nonselective cation channel that can be activated by downstream of G protein-coupled receptor and/or receptor-tyrosine kinase at the cell surface (Ma et al., 2005; Bai et al., 2008b) and is regulated by phosphoinositides (Ma et al., 2005), Ca^{2+} (Vassilev et al., 2001; Koulen et al., 2002), and pH (Gonzalez-Perrett et al., 2002). Controversy surrounds PKD2 currents, because in most cell-based systems, PKD2 does not traffic to the plasma membrane and is retained in endoplasmic reticulum (Hanaoka et al., 2000; Vassilev et al., 2001; Koulen et al., 2002). There is good agreement, however, that PKD2 associates with PKD1 through its C-terminal coiled-coil domain (Bai et al., 2008a; Celić et al., 2008; Yu et al., 2009). The functional importance of the coiled-coil domain is underscored by the many naturally occurring ADPKD pathogenic truncations, including R742X, R807X, E837X, and R872X, in PKD2 (Sharif-Naeini et al., 2009), which eliminate the coiled-coil domain or the downstream open region and abolish the assembly of the PKD1-PKD2 complex.

PKD2 is widely expressed in both fetal and adult tissues. A pool of PKD2 has been proposed to localize to cilia through a motif in its N terminus (Geng et al., 2006). In the primary cilia of renal epithelial cells and vascular endothelial cells, PKD2, in conjunction with PKD1, may be required for transduction of extracellular shear stress induced by blood or urine flow into intracellular Ca^{2+} signals (Nauli et al., 2008; AbouAlaiwi et al., 2009). Thus, it was proposed that PKD2, perhaps in association with PKD1 and/or TRPV4, is a mechanosensitive channel. There is, however, very little direct support for this idea, and a recent study suggests that PKD2 is not itself a mechanosensitive channel but instead regulates mechanosensory channels (Sharif-Naeini et al., 2009), perhaps through the numerous reported interactions with the actin filament associated proteins. PKD2 is also expressed in nodal cilia, where it is re-

quired for the development of left-right asymmetry of the thoracic and visceral organs (McGrath et al., 2003).

PKD2 is present in the endoplasmic reticulum. The C terminus of PKD2 may bind PACS and PRKCSH/80K-H, which retain proteins in the endoplasmic reticulum (Köttgen et al., 2005) and protect it from homocysteine-induced endoplasmic reticulum protein–mediated degradation (Gao et al., 2010), respectively. In the endoplasmic reticulum, it has been proposed that PKD2 forms a Ca^{2+} release channel and modulates release of intracellular Ca^{2+} (Koulen et al., 2002; Geng et al., 2008). To reconcile disparate findings, an appealing model is one in which PKD1 on the plasma membrane interacts with PKD2 in the endoplasmic reticulum.

PKD2L1 (TRPP2, also called TRPP3 in older nomenclature) is reported to form an inwardly rectifying Ca^{2+}-permeable nonselective cation channel with a large single channel conductance modulated by pH (Huang et al., 2006; Ishimaru et al., 2006; Shimizu et al., 2009). Concrete evidence that these currents are mediated by the PKD2L1 alone is lacking. The expression pattern of PKD2L1 is also debated. At both the mRNA and protein levels, PKD2L1 has been reported in multiple tissues, including the kidney, retina, liver, pancreas, heart, spleen, and brain (Nomura et al., 1998; Basora et al., 2002). More recently, the expression pattern of PKD2L1 seems to be restricted to testis, taste tissue, and in a specific subset of neurons surrounding the central canal of spinal cord (Huang et al., 2006; Ishimaru et al., 2006). In taste tissue, PKD2L1 colocalizes with PKD1L3 in a subpopulation of taste receptor cells, where they may function as sour (H^+) receptors (LopezJimenez et al., 2006). In support of this idea, mice lacking PKD2L1-expressing cells, as a result of diphtheria toxin-mediated ablation, exhibit no gustatory nerve response to acidic stimuli in the chorda tympani nerves (Huang et al., 2006). However, in vivo behavior analyses revealed that PKD2L1(−/−) mice retain normal sensation to sour as well as sweet, bitter, and salty tastes (L. Guo and J. Zhou, unpublished observations). After PKD2L1 expression in a subset of pH-sensitive neurons surrounding the central canal of the spinal cord, it has also been proposed to serve as a chemosensor sensing the internal state of spinal fluid (Huang et al., 2006).

PKD2L2 (TRPP3, also called TRPP5 in older literature) is the least well understood member of the TRP family. Although PKD2L2 is expected to form a Ca^{2+}-permeable nonselective cation channel (Guo et al., 2000), only limited support for this hypothesis exists. Overexpression of PKD2L2 in Madin-Darby canine kidney cells resulted in elevated levels of intracellular Ca^{2+} (Chen et al., 2008b), and outside-out patches from PKD2L2-transfected HEK293 cells revealed a channel with a single 25-pS conductance state that could not be measured in control cells (Sutton et al., 2006). Northern blot analysis indicates that PKD2L2 is expressed in mouse heart and testis, whereas reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction analysis showed that in humans, PKD2L2 is expressed in brain, kidney, and testis (Guo et al., 2000). Immunohistochemical staining detects PKD2L2 in the plasma membrane of spermatocytes and round spermatids (Chen et al., 2008b), suggesting its potential role in spermatogenesis.

VIII. Summary

In this review, we have attempted to capture the current state of understanding of the function of the large class of mammalian TRP channels. The TRP literature has become so large that many works in the area could not be credited adequately. The TRP channels currently seem to have arisen in eukaryotes to fulfill cellular sensing in response to diverse environmental stimuli by reducing transmembrane (both intracellular and plasma membrane) voltages and often permeating divalent cations. The most common features are their weak voltage sensitivities, potentiation by phospholipase C-linked receptors, and modulation by positively charged intracellular divalent ions and the negatively charged molecules Ca^{2+}/CaM and PIP_2. One unusual features of this class of channels are their (often) dual functional relevance in both intracellular compartments and on the plasma membrane in response to extracellular stimuli, perhaps serving to deliver themselves to the plasma membrane by providing Ca^{2+} to intracellular synaptotagmins required for fusion. Another unusual feature is that several are permeant to Mg^{2+} and other divalent ions that are much too large (because of their large dehydration energies) to permeate other ion channels. The most significant development in the field is that knockout mice are now available for practically all TRP channels, which will enable more exacting determination of function and proper characterization of antibodies used in localization studies.

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