# Diverse Cell Type-Specific Mechanisms Localize G Protein-Coupled Receptors to Caenorhabditis elegans Sensory Cilia

Andrea G. Brear, Jason Yoon, Martin Wojtyniak,<sup>1</sup> and Piali Sengupta<sup>2</sup>

Department of Biology and National Center for Behavioral Genomics, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts 02454

ABSTRACT The localization of signaling molecules such as G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) to primary cilia is essential for correct signal transduction. Detailed studies over the past decade have begun to elucidate the diverse sequences and trafficking mechanisms that sort and transport GPCRs to the ciliary compartment. However, a systematic analysis of the pathways required for ciliary targeting of multiple GPCRs in different cell types in vivo has not been reported. Here we describe the sequences and proteins required to localize GPCRs to the cilia of the AWB and ASK sensory neuron types in Caenorhabditis elegans. We find that GPCRs expressed in AWB or ASK utilize conserved and novel sequences for ciliary localization, and that the requirement for a ciliary targeting sequence in a given GPCR is different in different neuron types. Consistent with the presence of multiple ciliary targeting sequences, we identify diverse proteins required for ciliary localization of individual GPCRs in AWB and ASK. In particular, we show that the [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) Tubby protein is required for ciliary localization of a subset of GPCRs, implying that defects in GPCR localization may be causal to the metabolic phenotypes of [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants. Together, our results describe a remarkable complexity of mechanisms that act in a protein- and cellspecific manner to localize GPCRs to cilia, and suggest that this diversity allows for precise regulation of GPCR-mediated signaling as a function of external and internal context.

SIGNALING molecules must be precisely localized to spe-**C** cific subcellular domains to optimize detection and transduction of external stimuli. G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) comprise a large family of transmembrane signaling proteins that directly bind and transduce a range of cues including photons, odorants, neurotransmitters, and peptides (Pierce et al. 2002; Kato and Touhara 2009; Demaria and Ngai 2010; Sung and Chuang 2010; Chamero et al. 2012; Frooninckx et al. 2012; Montell 2012; Bathgate et al. 2013). Regulation of GPCR function, including regulation of membrane targeting and trafficking to specific subcellular regions, is a major contributor to the tuning of signaling efficacy and fidelity (e.g., Deretic et al. 1995;

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Dwyer et al. 1998; Ango et al. 2000; Xia et al. 2003; Esseltine et al. 2012; Loktev and Jackson 2013). However, much remains to be understood regarding the mechanisms by which GPCR trafficking and membrane localization are regulated.

GPCR-mediated signal transduction in many cellular contexts requires these proteins to be localized to specialized microtubule-based primary cilia. For example, in photoreceptors and olfactory neurons, efficient sensory signal transduction is mediated via localization of rhodopsin and olfactory receptors, together with other signaling molecules, to photoreceptor outer segments and olfactory neuron cilia, respectively (Insinna and Besharse 2008; Berbari et al. 2009; Pifferi et al. 2010; Deretic and Wang 2012). Receptors in the Hedgehog (Hh) morphogen signaling pathway such as the Smoothened and Patched transmembrane proteins, and the Gpr161 putative GPCR, are dynamically localized in the cilium as a function of the presence or absence of the Hh cue; failure to correctly localize these receptors results in altered Hh signaling and severe developmental consequences (Goetz et al. 2009; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2013; Nozawa et al. 2013). However, within a given cell

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Present address: National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20814.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Corresponding author: Department of Biology, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham, MA 02454. E-mail: [sengupta@brandeis.edu](mailto:sengupta@brandeis.edu)

type, closely related members of a GPCR family can be differentially targeted to different cell compartment membranes. For instance, in mammalian neurons, only the somatostatin receptor subtype 3 (Sstr3) GPCR is localized to cilia, whereas the five related Sstr GPCRs are instead targeted to membranes of neuronal soma, axons, or dendrites (Handel et al. 1999; Schulz et al. 2000; Berbari et al. 2008a). Thus, ciliary localization of GPCRs is tightly regulated as a function of cell type, signaling conditions, as well as GPCR identity.

Mechanisms required for GPCR targeting to cilia have been studied intensively. Ciliary GPCRs contain sequences (termed ciliary targeting sequences, CTSs) that are recognized by specific adaptor proteins that promote trafficking to cilia (Rosenbaum and Witman 2002; Pazour and Bloodgood 2008; Emmer et al. 2010; Nachury et al. 2010; Loktev and Jackson 2013; Sung and Leroux 2013). Both CTSs and the required adaptor proteins are quite diverse. Sequences in the third intracellular loop, as well as in the C-terminal tail, have been implicated in ciliary targeting of individual GPCRs (Deretic et al. 1998; Tam et al. 2000; Dwyer et al. 2001; Corbit et al. 2005; Berbari et al. 2008a; Loktev and Jackson 2013; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2013). Similarly, multiple trafficking mechanisms including vesicle-mediated transport and lateral diffusion both to and within the cilium have been shown to play a role in regulating ciliary GPCR composition in different cell types (Pazour and Bloodgood 2008; Emmer et al. 2010; Nachury et al. 2010; Ye et al. 2013; Sung and Leroux 2013). These results imply that GPCR trafficking may employ both protein- and cell-specific mechanisms. Thus, a detailed analysis of GPCR ciliary trafficking within and across defined cell types in vivo may greatly inform our knowledge of the underlying pathways.

GPCR-mediated signaling also plays a critical role in the lifecycle of Caenorhabditis elegans. As in the corresponding mammalian chemosensory cells, GPCRs required for sensory signaling are concentrated in cilia present at the dendritic endings of a subset of sensory neurons in C. elegans (Troemel et al. 1995; Sengupta et al. 1996; Kim et al. 2009; McGrath et al. 2011; Park et al. 2012). In the head, 12 pairs of ciliated sensory neuron types are contained in the bilateral amphid organs (Ward et al. 1975; Perkins et al. 1986; Doroquez et al. 2014). Many of the amphid sensory neurons are multimodal; even within a modality such as chemosensation, each neuron responds to many chemicals (Bargmann and Horvitz 1991; Bargmann et al. 1993; Hart et al. 1995; Maricq et al. 1995; Wes and Bargmann 2001; Biron et al. 2008; Kuhara et al. 2008; Ortiz et al. 2009; Bretscher et al. 2011). Reflecting this diversity of function, each sensory neuron expresses multiple putative sensory GPCRs from different subfamilies (Troemel et al. 1995; Colosimo et al. 2004; McCarroll et al. 2005; Nokes et al. 2009), providing an excellent system in which to begin to describe the diversity of mechanisms by which defined subsets of GPCRs are localized to cilia in individual cell types.

Here we systematically characterize the cis- and transacting mechanisms required to localize GPCRs to the cilia of the AWB and ASK amphid chemosensory neuron types in C. elegans. We identify ciliary localized GPCRs in both neuron types and define conserved and new sequence motifs required for targeting these proteins to cilia. We show that different GPCRs use diverse sequences for ciliary localization within a given cell type, and that sequences within an individual GPCR mediate ciliary localization via different mechanisms across cell types. We further characterize the roles of multiple trafficking pathways in ciliary localization of GPCRs and uncover both receptor- and cell type-specific diversity in ciliary trafficking mechanisms. In particular, we find that the tubby-like protein [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) is required for correct ciliary localization of a subset of sensory GPCRs in AWB and ASK, possibly linking to its previously described metabolic and sensory phenotypes (Ashrafi et al. 2003; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005; Mak et al. 2006). Together, our results provide a detailed description of the range of mechanisms by which the appropriate set of GPCRs is localized to the cilia of individual cell types, thereby ensuring optimal cell-specific functions.

### Materials and Methods

#### Strains

Animals were grown on Escherichia coli [OP50](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=OP50;class=Strain) bacteria at 20. Transgenic strains were generated by microinjecting plasmids driving expression in AWB or ASK at 5 and 10 ng/ $\mu$ l, respectively, unless indicated otherwise. unc-122p:: dsRed or unc-122p:: gfp injected at 50 ng/ $\mu$ l was used as the co-injection marker. The presence of specific mutations in generated strains was verified by genotyping or visible phenotypes. Alleles analyzed in this study and associated references are provided in [Supporting Information](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-1.pdf), [Table S1.](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-6.pdf) A complete list of all strains used in this study is provided in [Table S2.](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-5.pdf)

#### Molecular biology

Cell-specific expression constructs were generated by fusing relevant cDNAs in frame to gfp containing either 2.1 kb [srbc-66](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srbc-66;class=Gene) (ASK specific) (Kim et al. 2009), or 3.0 kb [str-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-1;class=Gene) (AWB specific) (Troemel et al. 1995) upstream regulatory sequences. srbc-64::gfp (Kim et al. 2009) expression was driven under its own promoter. Truncated [str-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-163;class=Gene) and [srbc-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srbc-64;class=Gene) sequences were generated by PCR using iProof high-fidelity DNA polymerase (Bio-Rad). Point mutations were made using the QuikChange Lightning Site-Directed Mutagenesis kit (Agilent). All mutations were verified by sequencing.

#### **Microscopy**

Animals were mounted on 10% agarose pads set on microscope slides and anesthetized using 10 mM tetramisole. Imaging was performed on an inverted spinning disk microscope (Zeiss Axiovert with a Yokogawa CSU22 spinning disk confocal head). Optical sections were acquired at



Figure 1 Localization of GPCR::GFP fusion proteins in the AWB and ASK chemosensory neurons. (A) Cartoon of AWB and ASK sensory neurons in the head of C. elegans. Cell bodies are indicated in blue (ASK) or red (AWB). Shaded structure indicates the pharynx. Arrows indicate cilia. Only one of each bilateral pair of neurons is seen in this lateral view. Anterior is at left. (B–I) Representative examples of the localization pattern of indicated GPCR fusion proteins in AWB (left panels) or ASK (right panels) in adult hermaphrodites. Numbers in top left corners indicate the percentage of examined animals exhibiting the phenotype (see Table 1). White arrows indicate cilia; white arrowheads indicate dendrites and dendritic domains proximal to cilia; yellow arrowheads indicate cell bodies. Expression was driven in AWB and ASK under the str-1 and srbc-66 promoters, respectively. (B and G, right panels) Cilia were visualized via cell-specific

0.13- $\mu$ m intervals using a  $\times$  63 or  $\times$ 100 objective with Slide-Book 5.0 software (Intelligent Imaging Innovations, 3i). Images were z-projected at maximum intensity values. Images were linear adjusted for brightness and contrast using Photoshop (Adobe Systems) to optimize visualization of cilia. Animals from two independent lines were examined for each transgenic strain. Expression was quantified on at least two independent days for each data point.

#### Results

#### GPCRs are localized to sensory cilia in a cell-specific manner

The AWB and ASK amphid chemosensory neurons (Figure 1A) respond largely to volatile and aqueous compounds, including lipophilic pheromones, respectively (Bargmann and Horvitz 1991; Troemel et al. 1997; Kim et al. 2009; Macosko et al. 2009; Wakabayashi et al. 2009). We and others previously showed that the AWB neurons express a subset of predicted GPCRs encoded by the C. elegans genome (Troemel et al. 1995; Colosimo et al. 2004; Nokes et al. 2009; C. Bargmann, personal communication; [www.](http://www.wormbase.org) [wormbase.org\)](http://www.wormbase.org). Of these, [str-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-1;class=Gene) and [str-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-44;class=Gene) are expressed exclusively or primarily in AWB, whereas [srsx-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srsx-3;class=Gene), [srd-23](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srd-23;class=Gene), [sru-38](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=sru-38;class=Gene), [srab-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srab-16;class=Gene), and [str-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-163;class=Gene) are expressed in AWB as well as in additional chemosensory neurons (Troemel et al. 1995; Colosimo et al. 2004; Nokes et al. 2009; C. Bargmann, personal communication; [www.wormbase.org\)](http://www.wormbase.org). In particular, [srd-23](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srd-23;class=Gene) has been reported to be expressed in both the AWB and ASK chemosensory neuron types (Colosimo et al. 2004). Although fewer GPCRs expressed in ASK have been identified, this neuron type also expresses the [srbc-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srbc-64;class=Gene) and [srbc-66](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srbc-66;class=Gene) pheromone receptors (Kim et al. 2009). Only [STR-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-1;class=Gene), and the [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) and [SRBC-66](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-66;class=Gene) pheromone receptors, have been shown to be localized to the sensory cilia of AWB and ASK, respectively (Dwyer et al. 2001; Kim et al. 2009; Olivier-Mason et al. 2013). The characterized expression pattern of multiple receptors in these neuron types, together with our previous analyses showing distinct mechanisms of ciliary membrane protein localization in AWB and ASK (Wojtyniak et al. 2013), prompted us to analyze GPCR localization mechanisms in these two sensory neurons in detail.

We first investigated whether other identified AWBexpressed GPCRs also localize to sensory cilia. We found that similar to the localization pattern of [STR-1,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-1;class=Gene) five of six examined receptor proteins tagged with GFP were also restricted to, or enriched throughout, the cilia of the AWB neurons when expressed specifically in this cell type (Figure 1, B–G, Table 1). Although the ligands for these GPCRs are unknown, their ciliary localization pattern implies that these receptors may directly recognize environmental chemicals.

expression of CHE-13::TagRFP. Lateral views. Bars, 10  $\mu$ m (B-I, left panels and C–F, H, and I, right panels);  $5 \mu m$  (B and G right panels). (J) Summary of GPCR localization patterns in AWB and ASK. Horizontal lines indicate subcellular localization patterns of indicated fusion proteins.





Adult animals grown at 20° were examined;  $n = 30-75$  animals each.

<sup>a</sup> Fusion protein expression was enriched in the indicated subcellular locations, although weaker expression was occasionally detected elsewhere in the cell.

 $<sup>b</sup>$  Proteins were expressed in AWB under the str-1 promoter, and in ASK under the srbc-66 promoter with the exception of SRBC-64, which was expressed under its own</sup> promoter. Under endogenous conditions, str-1, srab-16, str-163, str-44, srsx-3, and sru-38 are expressed in AWB, srd-23 is expressed in AWB and ASK, and srbc-64 is expressed in ASK.

 $c$  Cilia in these strains were visualized via expression of srbc-66p::che-13::TagRFP.

 $d$  Weak expression was also observed in dendrites.

<sup>e</sup> Expression was also observed in axons.

In contrast, SRU-38::GFP expression was detected in the cilia as well as in the dendrites, cell bodies, and axons of the AWB neurons (Figure 1H, Table 1). The broader localization pattern of this protein was not simply an artifact of overexpression, since this fusion protein exhibited a similar localization pattern when expressed at low levels [\(Figure](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-7.pdf) [S1](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-7.pdf)). Similarly, the cilia-targeted STR-163::GFP fusion protein remained cilia-enriched when injected at high concentrations into wild-type animals ([Figure S1\)](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-7.pdf). In all cases, receptor::GFP localization was observed throughout the cilia in contrast to the ciliary subdomain-specific localization of molecules such as cyclic nucleotide-gated channels (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2008; Wojtyniak et al. 2013).

Since [SRD-23](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRD-23;class=Gene) is expressed both in AWB and ASK, we asked whether a SRD-23::GFP fusion protein also localized to the cilia of ASK; however, SRD-23::GFP was present largely in the cell bodies of the ASK neurons and was excluded from the ASK sensory cilia (Figure 1C, Table 1). This observation suggests that individual GPCRs may exhibit distinct subcellular localization patterns in expressing cells. To further examine this issue, we misexpressed AWB-expressed GPCRs in ASK and vice versa. We reasoned that although AWB (ASK)-expressed receptors are not endogenously expressed in ASK (AWB), these misexpression studies would nevertheless provide insights into GPCR-specific ciliary trafficking mechanisms employed by individual cell types. Indeed, similar approaches utilizing misexpressed GPCRs have been instrumental in the identification of required ciliary sorting and transport mechanisms in multiple experimental systems (Dwyer et al. 2001; Berbari et al. 2008a; Kaplan et al. 2010, 2012; Loktev and Jackson 2013).

A subset of AWB-expressed and ciliary localized GPCRs such as [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) retained ciliary localization in animals in which expression could be detected in ASK (Figure 1, D and E, Table 1); we did not observe expression of STR-44::GFP in ASK (Figure 1F, Table 1). However, STR-1::GFP and SRSX-3::GFP exhibited a distinct subcellular localization pattern upon misexpression in ASK, such that these fusion proteins accumulated in a distal dendritic domain corresponding to the periciliary membrane compartment (PCMC) (Kaplan et al. 2012) with weaker expression in the cilium (Figure 1, B and G, Table 1). Accumulation of these GPCR fusion proteins at the ciliary base was confirmed via coexpression with a CHE-13/ IFT57::TagRFP fusion protein, which is present in the ciliary shaft as well as in the putative basal body region (Williams et al. 2011; Kaplan et al. 2012) (Figure 1, B and G, Table 1). These observations suggest that while STR-1:: GFP and SRSX-3::GFP are sorted to the ciliary base, mechanisms required for ciliary membrane targeting or ciliary retention of these proteins are absent in ASK. Unexpectedly, although SRU-38::GFP was not cilia-enriched in AWB, this protein was primarily localized to the cilia of the ASK neurons (Figure 1H, Table 1). We also misexpressed the ASK-expressed [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) pheromone receptor in AWB. In ASK, SRBC-64::GFP was localized to the cilia with significant accumulation at the PCMC (Figure 1I, Table 1). However, in AWB, SRBC-64::GFP expression was observed in the cilia, dendrites, cell bodies, and axons (Figure 1I, Table 1). Together, these results (summarized in Figure 1J) indicate that distinct mechanisms operate in AWB and ASK to target individual GPCRs to sensory cilia.

A Hs Rhodopsin 312 OFRNCMLTTICCGKNPLGDDEASATVSKTETSQVAPA 348 Hs Smoothened 544 IWRRTWCRLTGOSDDEPKRIKKSKMIAKAFSKRHELL 580  $Ce$  STR-1 307 CYRKAVIKYLNILFSFCSNOPTIVTEOHSSTSYKCPAI 343  $Ce$  STR-44 308 EYKKALREVFHPILPKRVKVMSELTMPTGPTSTSRAI 344  $Ce$  STR-163 312 NYRDAVLEFLGCCNVNNRIGAEDEPTSVTRHVSNCS 347  $Ce$  SRSX-3 268 EYRIAFVEMWSFLGCVKSMKSKGWLEKTSKVTTAVSV 304  $Ce$  SRU-38 306 IFKKKQLNRVECESGQK 322 Hs Rhodopsin 333 SATVSKTETSQVAPA 348  $Ce$  SRD-23 289 HYWNFCIGKKYVAPANSSICGTSATCGSVEKKSVA 323 в AWB AWB 100% 97% ۲Ĵ C 100% AWB 100% AWE D  $00%$ **AWF** nn% **ASK**  $\overline{90\%}$ 

Figure 2 Conserved pair of hydrophobic/basic residues mediate ciliary targeting of a subset of GPCRs in AWB and ASK. (A) Alignment of C-terminal sequences of Rhodopsin and Smoothened with STR-1, STR-44, STR-163, SRSX-3, SRU-38, and SRD-23. The hydrophobic/basic residue pairs and the VxPx motif mutated to alanines are shaded. (B–E) Localization patterns of indicated GPCR:: GFP fusion proteins in AWB (B–D) or ASK (E). Note cell membrane localization of SRSX-3mut::GFP in D. White arrows indicate cilia; white arrowheads indicate dendrites; yellow arrowheads indicate cell bodies. Lateral views. Bar,  $10 \mu m$ .

#### Conserved C-terminal motifs are required for ciliary localization of a subset of GPCRs

Similar to other ciliary targeted transmembrane proteins, GPCRs contain specific CTSs that interact with adaptor or other trafficking proteins to ensure sorting and transport to cilia (Pazour and Bloodgood 2008; Emmer et al. 2010). To date, CTSs have been identified in the third intracellular loops of GPCRs, as well as in their C termini (C termini in this context include all sequences C terminal to the seventh transmembrane segment) (Olsson et al. 1992; Deretic et al. 1998; Tam et al. 2000; Corbit et al. 2005; Berbari et al. 2008a, b; Loktev and Jackson 2013; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2013). We examined the AWB- and ASK-expressed GPCRs to determine whether related sequences might mediate targeting of these proteins to cilia in C. elegans.

Previous work identified a C-terminal hydrophobic/basic residue pair required for ciliary localization of the rhodopsin GPCR and the Smoothened seven transmembrane protein in mammalian cells (Corbit et al. 2005; Wang et al. 2012) (Figure 2A), as well as the [ODR-10](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ODR-10;class=Gene) GPCR in C. elegans sensory neurons (Dwyer et al. 2001). A similar hydrophobic/

basic residue pair was also identified in the C terminus of STR-1 (Figure 2A) but its requirement for ciliary targeting has not been examined experimentally (Dwyer et al. 2001). We identified a hydrophobic/basic residue pair in the C termini of [STR-44,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene), [SRSX-3,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRSX-3;class=Gene) and [SRU-38](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRU-38;class=Gene) (Figure 2A), but not in [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene), [SRD-23,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRD-23;class=Gene) or [SRBC-64.](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) To determine whether these residues were required for ciliary localization, we mutated these residues to alanines and examined the subcellular localization of the corresponding mutant fusion proteins. Mutating the hydrophobic/basic residue pair resulted in altered subcellular localization of [STR-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=str-1;class=Gene), [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene)[44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene), and [SRSX-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRSX-3;class=Gene), but not [STR-163,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in AWB (Figure 2, B–D, Table 2). Mutating these residues also did not affect [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)[163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) localization in ASK (Table 2). In the cases of affected GPCRs, the proteins were mistargeted since we observed fusion proteins localized to the dendrites and cell bodies (Figure 2, B–D). In particular, we observed SRSX-3mut:: GFP localization to the AWB cell body membrane as well as in punctae in dendrites (Figure 2D) suggesting that this fusion protein was sorted to the membrane but not targeted to cilia. Despite containing a hydrophobic/basic residue pair

Table 2 C-terminal hydrophobic/basic residue pair is required for ciliary localization of a subset of GPCRs

Fusion protein <sup>b</sup>	Neuron	% localized to: <sup>a</sup>					
		Cilium	Dendrite, cell body	Cilium, dendrite, cell body, axons	Cell body	No expression	$P$ -value <sup>c</sup>
STR-1	AWB	100					
STR-1mut	AWB	0		97			< 0.001
STR-44	AWB	100					
STR-44mut	AWB	$\Omega$		100			< 0.001
STR-163	AWB	100					
STR-163mut	AWB	100					
STR-163	ASK	70				21	
STR-163mut	ASK	52			15	33	
SRSX-3	AWB	100					
SRSX-3mut	AWB	$\Omega$	100 <sup>d</sup>				< 0.001
<b>SRU-38</b>	ASK	81				16	
SRU-38mut	ASK	$\Omega$			90	10	< 0.001
SRD-23	AWB	100					
SRD-23mut	AWB	100					

Adult animals grown at 20° were examined;  $n > 30$  animals each.

<sup>a</sup> Fusion protein expression was enriched in the indicated subcellular locations, although weaker expression was occasionally detected elsewhere in the cell.

 $<sup>b</sup>$  See Figure 2A for sequences mutated in the corresponding receptor proteins.</sup>

<sup>c</sup> Differences among proportions in different categories were compared with respective wild-type values in the relevant neuron type for statistical significance. P-values were determined using a  $\chi^2$  test of independence. Only differences at  $P < 0.05$  or lower are indicated

 $d$  The fusion protein was localized to the membrane.

at the C terminus, [SRU-38](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRU-38;class=Gene) is localized to the cilia of ASK, but not AWB neurons (Figure 1H), indicating that these residues are not sufficient to drive ciliary localization of GPCRs in AWB. Replacing these residues with alanines resulted in loss of ciliary localization of [SRU-38](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRU-38;class=Gene) in ASK (Figure 2E, Table 2), indicating a requirement of this motif for ciliary localization of GPCRs in different cell types. Intriguingly, although the FR ciliary targeting motif in rhodopsin interacts directly with the ASAP1 Arf4 GAP protein (Wang et al. 2012), the C. elegans genome does not encode an ASAP1 ortholog, implying that this motif may also be recognized by alternate ciliary trafficking mechanisms.

In addition to the hydrophobic/basic residue, the C terminus of rhodopsin also contains a VxPx motif required for localization to the photoreceptor outer segment via interaction with the Arf GTPase (Deretic et al. 1998, 2005; Wang et al. 2012). A VxPx motif was identified in the C terminus of [SRD-23](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRD-23;class=Gene) (Figure 2A); however, mutating this motif did not affect [SRD-23](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRD-23;class=Gene) localization to the AWB cilia (Table 2). We did not identify a VxPx motif in the C termini of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) or [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene). We also did not detect CTSs found in the third intracellular loops of GPCRs such as Sstr3 and Mchr1 (melanin-concentrating hormone receptor 1) (Berbari et al. 2008a; Nagata et al. 2013), in equivalent domains of any of the examined GPCRs in C. elegans. However, we noted that the third intracellular loops of both [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) and [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) contain residues homologous to those shown to be necessary and/or sufficient for ciliary localization of the NPY2R neuropeptide receptor in mammalian hypothalamic neurons (Loktev and Jackson 2013) [\(Figure S2\)](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-4.pdf). Replacing these residues in [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) with alanines did not affect ciliary localization of this fusion protein in AWB (Figure 3A), indicating that these sequences are not necessary to target [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) to cilia in this neuron type. Since CTSs in this region can be

divergent (Loktev and Jackson 2013; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2013), we next asked whether these sequences are sufficient to target GPCRs to cilia. An [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene)/[SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) chimeric protein, in which all sequences including, and C-terminal to, the third intracellular loop of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) were replaced with sequences from [SRAB-16,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) remained localized throughout the AWB cell and its processes similar to the full-length SRBC-64::GFP fusion protein (Figure 3C), suggesting that the [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) sequences are not sufficient to target [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) to AWB cilia. Taken together, these results indicate that C. elegans may deploy both conserved and novel mechanisms to traffic GPCRs to cilia in specific cell types.

#### Novel C-terminal sequences are required for ciliary localization of STR-163 and SRBC-64 in AWB and ASK

We next performed deletion and mutagenesis experiments to identify sequences required for ciliary localization of [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)[163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) and [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) in AWB and ASK. We focused primarily on the C termini of these proteins since both the hydrophobic/ basic and VxPx CTSs are present in this region in other GPCRs, and sequences in this domain have been shown to be both necessary and sufficient to direct GPCRs to cilia (Deretic et al. 1998, 2005; Dwyer et al. 2001; Corbit et al. 2005; Wang et al. 2012; Loktev and Jackson 2013).

Deletion of the C-terminal 36 amino acids immediately following the last transmembrane domain ([STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) $\Delta$ 311– 347) resulted in mislocalization of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) to the membranes of all cellular compartments in AWB but to the cell bodies in ASK (Figure 3A). Thus, residues within this region are required for ciliary localization of this fusion protein although we cannot rule out effects on protein folding. Deletion of the C-terminal 18 amino acids ( $STR-163\Delta329 STR-163\Delta329-$ 347) also resulted in a similar mislocalization pattern in both neuron types, whereas deletion of the C-terminal 9



Figure 3 Identification of novel sequences required for ciliary localization of GPCRs in AWB or ASK. (A) Localization patterns of full-length and indicated mutant STR-163::GFP fusion proteins in AWB and ASK. The localization pattern of a SRBC-64/STR-163::GFP chimeric fusion protein in AWB is also shown. GFP coding sequences were fused to the C termini of the indicated proteins. Sequences mutated in the third intracellular loop are shown in [Figure S2.](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-4.pdf) \*, localization to the membranes of the indicated cellular compartments; vertical red lines, position of mutated residues; TM, transmembrane domain; den., dendrite; dis. den., (includes ciliary base) dendrite; PCMC, periciliary membrane compartment; no exp., no expression; n.d., not done; n/a, not applicable.  $n = 30-60$  animals each; two independent transgenic lines were examined for each construct. (B) Localization of mutant STR-163::GFP fusion proteins in AWB (left panel) and ASK (right panels). ASK cilia were visualized via cell-specific expression of CHE-13::TagRFP. White arrows indicate cilia; white arrowheads indicate dendritic domains/PCMC; yellow arrowheads indicate cell bodies. Bars, 10 µm (left panel), 5 µm (right panels). (C) Localization pattern of full-length, chimeric, and mutant SRAB-16::GFP in AWB. Vertical red lines indicate position of mutated residues.  $n = 20-35$ animals each; two independent transgenic lines were examined for each construct. (D) Localization of full-length and mutant SRBC-64::GFP fusion proteins in ASK. Vertical red lines indicate position of mutated residues. #, weak expression.  $n = 20-35$  animals each; two independent transgenic lines were examined for each construct.

 $\blacksquare$ 

 $\pmb{0}$ 

46

31

23

 $< 0.001$ 

amino acids ([STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) $\Delta$ 339–347) did not affect ciliary localization (Figure 3A). We note that the conserved YR residues in the C terminus of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) (Figure 2A) are retained in  $STR-163\Delta329-347$  $STR-163\Delta329-347$ , further confirming that this motif is neither necessary nor sufficient to localize [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) to cilia. Deletion of residues 329–338 in an otherwise wild-type pro-tein ([STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) $\Delta$ 329–338) disrupted ciliary localization in both neuron types (Figure 3A), supporting the notion that residues within this region are necessary for ciliary localization in both AWB and ASK. However, these sequences are not sufficient for ciliary restriction since a chimeric [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) fusion protein containing the C-terminal 36 amino acids of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) was not restricted to the cilia of AWB neurons (Figure 3A).

To further identify the required residues within amino acids 329–338 of [STR-163,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) we replaced residues with alanines in a pairwise manner and examined the localization of the corresponding fusion proteins. We found that mutating R329 and I330, but not T337 and S338, to alanines affected ciliary localization of STR-163::GFP in both neuron types (Figure 3, A and B). Interestingly, the mislocalization pattern was distinct in AWB and ASK. In AWB, [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)(R329A I330A)::GFP was mislocalized to the AWB cell membrane similar to the mislocalization pattern of the [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) $\Delta$ 329– 338 fusion protein (Figure 3, A and B). In contrast, [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)[163\(](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)R329A I330A)::GFP accumulated at the PCMC region in ASK (Figure 3, A and B). Thus, in AWB, the RI motif is required to restrict [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) to the cilia; in the absence of this motif, the fusion protein is localized at the cell membrane perhaps via unmasking of a nonciliary membrane targeting signal as described previously in rhodopsin (Lodowski et al. 2013). However, in ASK, the RI motif may specifically mediate trafficking of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) into the cilium from the ciliary base or be required to retain [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) within the cilium, while additional sequences within the 329–338 region of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) may enable membrane targeting of [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)[163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) as well as trafficking to the ASK ciliary base. We asked whether a similar RI motif is required to target other GPCRs to cilia in C. elegans. We did not identify an RI sequence in [SRD-23](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRD-23;class=Gene) or [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene), but noted an RI sequence in the C terminus of [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) (R299 I300). Mutating this residue pair did not affect localization of [SRAB-16](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRAB-16;class=Gene) in AWB (Figure 3C), indicating that alternative sequences or context are important for ciliary trafficking of this GPCR.

We performed similar truncation and mutational analyses to identify sequences required for ciliary targeting of the [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) pheromone receptor in ASK. Required sequences are likely present within amino acids 271–278 in the C ter-minus of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) since, while a SRBC-64 $\Delta$ 271–290 fusion protein was mislocalized, a [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) $\Delta$ 279–290 fusion protein was localized to the cilia in ASK neurons (Figure 3D). To further identify required sequences, we replaced residues within amino acids 271–278 of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) with alanines. We found that mutating several residues within this region in a pairwise manner did not affect [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) ciliary localization in ASK (Figure 3D). However, although [SRBC-64\(](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene)N275A G276A)::GFP continued to be localized to ASK cilia, expression of this fusion protein was decreased, and a significantly larger fraction of animals failed to exhibit GFP expression (Figure 3D). Effects on ciliary localization were also observed upon mutating the I277 and G278 residues; localization of the [SRBC-64\(](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene)I277A G278A) fusion protein was restricted to the ASK ciliary base in a significant percentage of animals (Figure 3D). We conclude that multiple residues within amino acids 271–278 of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) contribute to correct ciliary localization of this GPCR in ASK.

Since sequences in the C termini of GPCRs can interact with G proteins (Oldham and Hamm 2006; Qin et al. 2011), we asked whether mutations or truncation of these C-terminal residues alter ciliary localization indirectly via altered coupling to G proteins. We previously showed that [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) acts via the [GPA-2](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=GPA-2;class=Gene) and [GPA-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=GPA-3;class=Gene)  $Ga$  subunits to transduce pheromone signals in the ASK neurons (Kim et al. 2009). We found that SRBC-64::GFP localization was unaltered in [gpa-2](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=gpa-2;class=Gene) [gpa-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=gpa-3;class=Gene) double mutants [\(Figure S3\)](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-3.pdf), suggesting that association with these  $G\alpha$  proteins is not necessary for localization of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) to cilia. However, since each sensory neuron type in C. elegans expresses multiple  $G\alpha$  protein subunits Jansen et al. 1999 we cannot exclude the possibility that association with other G $\alpha$  proteins contributes to ciliary targeting of GPCRs.

#### Distinct trans-acting mechanisms act in a cell- and receptor-specific manner to localize GPCRs to sensory cilia

The observation that the requirement of the RI motif in localizing [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) to the cilia is distinct in AWB and ASK provided us with an opportunity to compare ciliary trafficking mechanisms of an individual GPCR across two distinct sensory neuron types. Moreover, since distinct motifs are required for ciliary localization of [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in AWB, and similarly, distinct residues are employed for ciliary localization of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) and [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) in ASK, we reasoned that comparison of the trans-acting mechanisms required for ciliary localization of different GPCRs within a given cell type would also allow us to describe the diversity of required mechanisms that act in a GPCR- and cell-specific manner to traffic and localize these proteins to cilia. We examined whether pathways and molecules previously shown to be required for ciliary localization of subsets of GPCRs and other ciliary transmembrane molecules in both C. elegans and mammals also operate to localize [STR-44,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) [STR-163,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) and [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) to the cilia of AWB and/or ASK.

Vesicular transport pathways: BBS proteins comprising the BBSome have been implicated in the ciliary localization of GPCRs including Sstr3, MchR1, rhodopsin, and the neuropeptide receptor NPY2R in mammalian cells (Nishimura et al. 2004; Abd-El-Barr et al. 2007; Berbari et al. 2008b; Jin et al. 2010; Domire et al. 2011; Loktev and Jackson 2013). However, [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) retained ciliary localization in AWB, and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) remained localized to the cilia of both





Adult animals grown at 20° were examined.  $n \ge 20$  animals. Expression from the same array was examined in wild-type and mutant strains.

<sup>a</sup> Localization patterns were examined in animals exhibiting relatively wild-type ciliary morphology with the exception of unc-101 mutants. AWB and ASK cilia were either truncated or lacked a cilium in AWB in the majority of animals in unc-101 mutants (Dwyer et al. 2001; Kaplan et al. 2010).

 $<sup>b</sup>$  Mutant strains were examined together with wild type in each experiment.</sup>

<sup>c</sup> Differences among proportions in different categories were compared with respective wild-type values in the relevant neuron type for statistical significance. P-values were determined using a  $x^2$  test of independence. Only differences at  $P < 0.05$  or lower are indicated.

<sup>d</sup> Cilia in these strains were visualized via expression of str-1p::mCherry (AWB) or srbc-66p::mCherry (ASK).

<sup>e</sup> Expression was weak.

AWB and ASK in [bbs-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=bbs-1;class=Gene) and [bbs-8](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=bbs-8;class=Gene) mutants (Table 3), indicating that ciliary localization of these GPCRs is independent of the two examined BBSome components in AWB and ASK.

The Rab8 small GTPase has been shown to be required for docking and fusion of rhodopsin-containing post-Golgi vesicles at the base of the photoreceptor outer segment and is also required for ciliary localization of other GPCRs (Deretic et al. 1995; Moritz et al. 2001; Kaplan et al. 2010; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2010). Similarly, the Arl13 and Arl3 Arf-family small GTPases (Zhang et al. 2013) play roles in ciliary transmembrane protein targeting and localization in C. elegans sensory neurons and in mammalian cells (Schrick et al. 2006; Cevik et al. 2010; Larkins et al. 2011; Humbert et al. 2012; Li et al. 2012; Schwarz et al. 2012). No effects were found on [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) or [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) localization in [rab-8](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=rab-8;class=Gene) mutants in either AWB or ASK (Table 3). Similarly, we did not observe an effect of loss of [arl-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=arl-3;class=Gene) function on the localization of these proteins in either cell type (Table 3). However, mutations in [arl-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=arl-13;class=Gene) affected ciliary localization of [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)[163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) only in ASK such that the STR-163::GFP fusion protein exhibited increased accumulation at the ASK ciliary base and distal dendrite with reduced expression in the cilium



Figure 4 ARL-13 and MKS-5 are required for ciliary localization of GPCRs in AWB and ASK. (A–C) Localization patterns of GPCR::GFP fusion proteins in ASK (A) or AWB (B and C) in the indicated genetic backgrounds. Numbers in top left corners indicate the percentage of examined animals exhibiting the phenotype (see Table 3 and Table 4). Wild-type mks-5 sequences were expressed specifically in AWB under the str-1 promoter to assess rescue of the STR-44::GFP localization and ciliary morphological defects (B). White arrows indicate cilia; white arrowheads indicate dendritic domains. ASK cilia and dendrites were visualized via expression of mCherry under the srbc-66 promoter (A). Alleles used here were arl-13  $(tm2322)$  and  $mks-5(tm3100)$ . Bar, 5  $\mu$ m.

as compared to the wild-type expression pattern (Figure 4A, Table 3). However, SRBC-64::GFP localization in ASK was unaffected in [arl-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=arl-13;class=Gene) mutants (Table 3), indicating that [ARL-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ARL-13;class=Gene) does not regulate ciliary localization of all ASK-expressed GPCRs.

Chaperone/adaptor proteins: Ciliary trafficking and localization of subsets of odorant receptors in a subset of C. elegans sensory neurons including the AWB neurons require chap-erones such as [ODR-4](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ODR-4;class=Gene), the [UNC-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=UNC-101;class=Gene), and [APS-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=APS-1;class=Gene)  $\mu$ - and  $\sigma$ 1-subunits of the AP1 clathrin adaptor complex and the [CHC-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=CHC-1;class=Gene) clathrin heavy chain (Dwyer et al. 1998, 2001; Kaplan et al. 2010). We found that [ODR-4](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ODR-4;class=Gene) and [UNC-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=UNC-101;class=Gene) regulate ciliary localization of different GPCRs in a cellspecific manner. Specifically, in AWB, ciliary localization of [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) required [ODR-4](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ODR-4;class=Gene) and [UNC-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=UNC-101;class=Gene), whereas neither protein is required for ciliary localization of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in this

neuron type (Table 3). In contrast, in ASK, ciliary localization of both [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) and [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) require [UNC-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=UNC-101;class=Gene) but not [ODR-4](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ODR-4;class=Gene) (Table 3). Only a small number of animals expressed STR-163::GFP in the ASK cell bodies in [unc-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=unc-101;class=Gene) mutants (Table 3). We confirmed that expression driven by the [srbc-66](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=srbc-66;class=Gene) promoter used to misexpress STR-163::GFP in ASK was not affected by mutations in *[unc-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=unc-101;class=Gene)* ([Figure S4](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-2.pdf)), suggesting that the protein may be instead degraded upon mistargeting and/or mislocalization.

We and others have shown that the [DAF-25](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=DAF-25;class=Gene) Ankmy2 protein is required for ciliary trafficking of proteins such as receptor guanylyl cyclases and cyclic nucleotide-gated channels implicated in sensory signal transduction in C. elegans sensory cilia (Fujiwara et al. 2010; Jensen et al. 2010; Wojtyniak et al. 2013). We examined whether this protein also regulates ciliary localization of GPCRs. In [daf-25](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=daf-25;class=Gene) mutants, all examined GPCRs were mislocalized and/or failed to be expressed in both AWB and ASK (Table 3). Although a fraction of STR-163::GFP fusion proteins retained ciliary localization in AWB in [daf-25](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=daf-25;class=Gene) mutants, expression levels were markedly decreased (Table 3). Thus, [DAF-25](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=DAF-25;class=Gene) regulates the trafficking of multiple GPCRs in different cell types.

Transition zone proteins: The transition zone at the base of the cilium is thought to comprise a ciliary gate restricting access of nonciliary proteins to the cilium proper (Nachury et al. 2010; Garcia-Gonzalo et al. 2011; Hu and Nelson 2011; Czarnecki and Shah 2012; Reiter et al. 2012; Shiba and Yokoyama 2012; Szymanska and Johnson 2012). This gate is composed of a large multiprotein complex including MKS and NPHP protein modules, which interact genetically and physically, although the exact interactions may be organism and/or cell type-specific (Jauregui and Barr 2005; Bialas et al. 2009; Hu et al. 2010; Sang et al. 2011; Williams et al. 2011; Chih et al. 2012). Mutations in one or more of these proteins can result in defects in ciliary membrane protein composition (McEwen et al. 2007; Craige et al. 2010; Williams et al. 2011; Chih et al. 2012; Lechtreck et al. 2013). We found that loss of multiple components of the MKS module in  $mks-1$ ;  $mksr-2$ ;  $mksr-1$  triple mutants did not affect GPCR localization in either AWB or ASK (Table 4). We also did not observe effects on GPCR localization in [nphp-4](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=nphp-4;class=Gene) mutants in either cell type (Table 4).

[MKS-5](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=MKS-5;class=Gene) has been suggested to act as a scaffold for the placement of MKS and NPHP proteins at ciliary transition zones in C. elegans, such that localization of components of these modules are altered in  $mks-5$  mutants (Williams et al. 2011). We found that loss of [MKS-5](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=MKS-5;class=Gene) altered GPCR localization specifically in AWB (Figure 4, B and C, Table 4). STR-44::GFP and STR-163::GFP accumulated both in the cilia as well as at the ciliary base of AWB (Figure 4, B and C, Table 4); both cilia morphological and STR-44::GFP localization defects were rescued upon cell-specific expression of wildtype [mks-5](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=mks-5;class=Gene) (Figure 4B, Table 4). Since AWB, but not ASK cilia, are significantly truncated in  $mks-5$  mutants (Figure 4,





Adult animals grown at 20° were examined.  $n \ge 20$  animals each. Expression from the same array was examined in wild-type and mutant strains except for the mks-1; mksr-2; mksr-1 triple mutant strain, which was injected with the indicated fusion constructs. TZ, transition zone.

<sup>a</sup> Localization patterns were examined in animals exhibiting relatively wild-type ciliary morphology with the exception of mks-5, tub-1, daf-10, and osm-3 mutants. AWB cilia are truncated in mks-5 and tub-1 mutants; AWB and ASK cilia are truncated in daf-10 mutants; ASK cilia are truncated in osm-3 mutants.

 $<sup>b</sup>$  Mutant strains were examined together with wild type in each experiment.</sup>

<sup>c</sup> Weak expression was observed in cilia.

 $^d$  Differences among proportions in different categories were compared with respective wild-type values unless indicated otherwise in the relevant neuron type for statistical significance. P-values were determined using a  $x^2$  test of independence. Only differences at  $P < 0.05$  or lower are indicated.

e Cilia in these strains were visualized via expression of str-1p::mCherry (AWB) or srbc-66p::che-13::TagRFP (ASK).

 $f$  As compared to values in mks-5 mutants. The AWB ciliary morphological defects were also rescued (see Figure 4B).

B and C, [Figure S5](http://www.genetics.org/lookup/suppl/doi:10.1534/genetics.114.161349/-/DC1/genetics.114.161349-8.pdf)), it is possible that the GPCR localization defect is a secondary consequence of the ciliary morphological defect. [NPHP-2](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=NPHP-2;class=Gene)/Inversin is localized to a restricted proximal ciliary domain and required for correct transition zone placement in C. elegans cilia (Warburton-Pitt et al. 2012). Mutations in [nphp-2](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=nphp-2;class=Gene) alter ciliary localization of different cyclic nucleotide-gated channel subunits in AWB and ASK (Wojtyniak et al. 2013). However, mutations in [NPHP-2](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=NPHP-2;class=Gene) did

not affect ciliary localization of any examined GPCR in either AWB or ASK (Table 4). Thus, loss of specific transition zone and associated proteins affect ciliary localization of GPCRs differentially in AWB and ASK.

IFT motor proteins: In vertebrates, members of the kinesin 2 family of anterograde IFT motors regulate the transport of opsin to the photoreceptor outer segments, and are also required for movement of activated Smoothened receptor to cilia (Marszalek et al. 2000; Jimeno et al. 2006; Kovacs et al. 2008; Avasthi et al. 2009; Trivedi et al. 2012). We asked whether anterograde kinesin motors play a role in regulating ciliary trafficking of GPCRs in AWB and ASK. Mutations in either the [osm-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=osm-3;class=Gene) homodimeric kinesin or the [kap-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=WBGene00002182;class=Gene) kinesin II subunit had no effect on localization of [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) and [STR-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene)[163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in either AWB or ASK cilia (Table 4), although as expected, ASK cilia were truncated in [osm-3](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=osm-3;class=Gene) mutants (Perkins et al. 1986; Snow et al. 2004). Taken together, these observations indicate that multiple pathways regulate ciliary trafficking and/or localization of examined GPCRs in AWB and ASK in both a cell- and receptor-specific manner (see Figure 5E for a summary).

#### Tubby-like proteins and the IFT-A complex are required for ciliary localization of GPCRs in AWB and ASK neurons

Tubby-like proteins are instrumental in trafficking GPCRs in the cilium in part by acting as a bridge between the GPCR molecule and the IFT-A complex (Hagstrom et al. 2001; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2010; Sun et al. 2012; Loktev and Jackson 2013). The C. elegans genome encodes a single tubby-like protein [TUB-1,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) which has been shown to move in both sensory neuron dendrites and cilia; [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) has been suggested, but not demonstrated, to play a role in GPCR recycling (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005, 2007a; Mak et al. 2006). We found that ciliary localization of [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in AWB, and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in ASK, was altered in [tub-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene)[1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants (Figure 5, A–C, Table 4). STR-44::GFP accumulated at the ciliary base and distal dendritic region of AWB in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutant animals (Figure 5A, Table 4). Similar accumulation of STR-163::GFP at the ciliary base and distal dendritic region in both AWB and ASK was also observed in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) animals (Figure 5, B and C, Table 4). AWB, but not ASK cilia, were severely truncated in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants (Figure 5, A–D), suggesting that the altered localization pattern in AWB may not simply be a secondary effect of the cilia structural defects. However, loss of [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) function had little effect on localization of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) in ASK (Figure 5D, Table 4). These results indicate that [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) regulates ciliary localization of subsets of GPCRs in both AWB and ASK.

The Tubby-like protein TULP3 has been shown to interact directly with core components of the IFT-A complex to mediate ciliary trafficking of GPCRs (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2010). Thus, mutations in IFT-A proteins also result in defects in ciliary localization of GPCRs such as Sstr3 (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2010). Although many of the N-terminal residues required for TULP3 interaction with IFT-A components are not conserved in C. elegans [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2010), we asked whether IFT-A core proteins such as [DAF-10/](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=DAF-10;class=Gene)IFT122 play a role in regulating GPCR ciliary localization in C. elegans. We found that in AWB, [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) fusion proteins exhibited a localization pattern in [daf-10](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=daf-10;class=Gene) mutants that resembled the pattern observed in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutant animals (Figure 5, A and B, Table 4); both fusion



Figure 5 The TUB-1 Tubby homolog regulates ciliary localization of GPCRs. (A–D) Localization patterns of STR-44::GFP (A), STR-163::GFP (B and C), and SRBC-64::GFP (D) fusion proteins in AWB and/or ASK in the indicated genetic backgrounds. Numbers in top left corners indicate the percentage of examined animals exhibiting the phenotype (see Table 4). White arrows indicate cilia; white arrowheads indicate dendritic domains. AWB cilia are truncated in tub-1 and daf-10 mutants (A and B); ASK cilia are truncated in daf-10 mutants (D). ASK cilia were visualized via cellspecific expression of CHE-13::TagRFP (C). Bar, 5  $\mu$ m. (E) Cartoon summarizing effects of mutations in the indicated trafficking proteins on ciliary localization of STR-44 in AWB, STR-163 in AWB and ASK, and SRBC-64 in ASK. Horizontal lines above or below protein names indicate the site of GPCR mislocalization in the relevant mutant background.

proteins accumulated in the cilia and the distal dendritic region in AWB (Figure 5, A and B, Table 4). However, [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) and [DAF-10](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=DAF-10;class=Gene) regulate ciliary localization of different GPCRs in ASK, such that [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) but not [DAF-10](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=DAF-10;class=Gene) was required for ciliary localization of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) (Figure 5C, Table 4), whereas the converse was true for ciliary localization of [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) (Figure 5D, Table 4). These results suggest that [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) and IFT-A complex proteins may act in the same pathway to localize a subset of GPCRs to cilia in AWB, but that these proteins act in distinct pathways for ciliary localization of GPCRs in ASK (summarized in Figure 5E).

#### **Discussion**

Our results indicate that C. elegans sensory neurons employ a remarkable diversity of cis-acting sequences and transacting mechanisms to localize GPCRs to their cilia. We find that multiple mechanisms operate to not only target different GPCRs to cilia within an individual cell type, but to also mediate ciliary targeting of a specific GPCR across cell types. These mechanisms could operate at different levels including regulation of protein sorting, dendritic or ciliary trafficking, and/or tethering to localize GPCRs to cilia. Our observations demonstrate that ciliary localization of GPCRs is a highly regulated process that likely ensures the generation of defined cellular responses to external cues in a context-dependent manner.

A conclusion both from this work, as well as from previous studies, is that C. elegans sensory neurons do not appear to contain a mechanism that acts generally and broadly to sort all cilia-destined membrane proteins (e.g., Dwyer et al. 1998, 2001; Bae et al. 2006; Cevik et al. 2010; Jensen et al. 2010; Wojtyniak et al. 2013). For instance, although the [DAF-25](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=DAF-25;class=Gene) Ankmy2 protein regulates ciliary localization of all GPCRs examined in this work, previous studies have shown that mutations in [daf-25](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=daf-25;class=Gene) affect localization of only a subset of other ciliary membrane proteins, including GPCRs, in different cell types (Fujiwara et al. 2010; Jensen et al. 2010; Wojtyniak et al. 2013). The clathrin adaptor AP-1 complex has been suggested to act broadly to retrieve cilia-targeted membrane proteins from a default trafficking pathway that would otherwise sort these proteins to the general cellular membrane compartment (Kaplan et al. 2010). Indeed, in AP-1 complex mutants, multiple ciliary membrane proteins including channels and GPCRs are mistargeted to the nonciliary plasma membrane (Dwyer et al. 2001; Bae et al. 2006; Kaplan et al. 2010). However, our results indicate that the AP-1 complex acts in a protein- and cell-specific manner to target GPCRs to cilia such that localization of [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene), but not [STR-163,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) to AWB cilia is affected in [unc-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=unc-101;class=Gene) mutants, whereas [UNC-101](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=UNC-101;class=Gene) is required for ciliary localization of both [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) and [SRBC-64](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=SRBC-64;class=Gene) in ASK. Since the AP-1 complex acts in the trans-Golgi network and endosomes to mediate early steps in protein sorting (Folsch et al. 2001; Owen et al. 2004; Robinson 2004), these observations suggest that diverse mechanisms operate even at these early steps to target GPCRs to cilia. Consistent with this hypothesis, distinct cisacting residues are also required to localize the examined GPCRs both within and across cell types.

We speculate that differences in cilia structure may in part contribute to the observed diversity in protein trafficking and localization pathways. As an example, mutations in the [mks-5](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=mks-5;class=Gene) TZ gene affect cilia structure (Williams et al. 2011) as well as both [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) ciliary localization in AWB, but have no effect in ASK. [MKS-5](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=MKS-5;class=Gene) may play a more critical role in regulating TZ structure and/or function in AWB than in ASK. In turn, defects in ciliary gate function of the TZ in AWB may alter ciliary transport of [STR-44](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-44;class=Gene) and [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) into or out of the AWB cilia leading to protein accumulation at the ciliary base. Conversely, mutations in the [arl-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=arl-13;class=Gene) small GTPase gene result in accumulation of [STR-163](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=STR-163;class=Gene) in the distal dendrites of ASK, but have no effect on ciliary localization of examined GPCRs in AWB. Loss of [arl-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=arl-13;class=Gene) function also leads to abnormal accumulation of other ciliary proteins in either the distal dendritic regions or in the cilium proper in cell types other than AWB (Cevik et al. 2010; Li et al. 2012). Interestingly, although [ARL-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ARL-13;class=Gene) localization is restricted to the membrane of only the proximal ciliary domain in the majority of examined cilia (Cevik et al. 2010; Li et al. 2012), [ARL-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ARL-13;class=Gene) is present throughout the cilia in AWB (Cevik et al. 2010). The cell-specific subciliary localization pattern of [ARL-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ARL-13;class=Gene) may reflect distinct membrane composition of AWB and ASK cilia, leading in turn to different effects of [ARL-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ARL-13;class=Gene) on ciliary GPCR localization. Alternatively, since [ARL-13](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=ARL-13;class=Gene) has been shown to coordinate the IFT-A and IFT-B complexes in C. elegans cilia (Cevik et al. 2010; Li et al. 2010), the cell-specific roles of this protein in localizing GPCRs in AWB and ASK cilia may be a consequence of the cell-specific IFT mechanisms reported in these neuron types (Snow et al. 2004; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2007b).

A particularly intriguing observation was our finding that mutations in the [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) tubby-like gene result in defects in GPCR localization in both AWB and ASK such that proteins accumulate at the ciliary base and distal dendrite. Loss of [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) function results in metabolic defects and increased fat storage in C. elegans similar to phenotypes observed in tubby mice (Coleman and Eicher 1990; Ashrafi et al. 2003; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005, 2007a; Mak et al. 2006; Wang et al. 2006). Moreover, [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutant worms exhibit chemosensory deficits and extended lifespan (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005, 2007a). Taken together with the observation that [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) is expressed in chemosensory neurons and is present in their dendrites and cilia (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005; Mak et al. 2006), these results have led to the hypothesis that the metabolic defects in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants arise from defective endocrine signaling as a consequence of sensory deficits (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005, 2007a; Mak et al. 2006). Tubby and Tubby-like proteins have previously been shown to be required to traffic GPCRs and channels to cilia in mammals and Drosophila (Hagstrom et al. 2001; Mukhopadhyay et al.

2010, 2013; Sun et al. 2012; Loktev and Jackson 2013; Park et al. 2013). In tubby mutant mice, defects in ciliary localization of the anorexigenic NPY2R GPCR in arcuate nucleus neurons of the hypothalamus have been suggested to partly underlie the metabolic defects in these animals (Loktev and Jackson 2013). Our results suggest that defects in ciliary localization of specific sensory GPCRs may also be a major underlying cause of the sensory and metabolic deficits in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants in C. elegans.

How does [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) facilitate ciliary GPCR localization? Although the residues required for interaction of Tubby with IFT-A proteins are not present in C. elegans [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) (Mukhopadhyay and Jackson 2011), mutations in the [daf-10](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=daf-10;class=Gene)/ IFT122 IFT-A protein result in GPCR mislocalization phenotypes in AWB, similar to those in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants. However, phenotypes in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) and [daf-10](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=daf-10;class=Gene) mutants are distinct in ASK, suggesting that possible interactions between [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) and IFT-A proteins may be complex and cell specific. Interaction of Tubby proteins with phosphoinositides via highly conserved KR residues is also important for ciliary membrane protein trafficking (Santagata et al. 2001; Mukhopadhyay et al. 2010; Park et al. 2013). The KR motif is conserved in [TUB-1,](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) suggesting that interaction with membrane lipids may represent a conserved mechanism by which [TUB-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) localizes transmembrane proteins to cilia. Tubby proteins may also regulate endocytosis of signaling proteins (Mukhopadhyay et al. 2005, 2007a; Chen et al. 2012). We and others previously showed that defects in endocytosis result in ciliary protein localization defects as well as characteristic ciliary morphological defects (Hu et al. 2007; Kaplan et al. 2012). Although phenotypes in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants are not identical to those in endocytic mutants, we cannot exclude the possibility that the GPCR mislocalization phenotypes in [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants arise from defects in endocytosis. In the future, it will be important to further define the mechanisms by which [TUB-](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene)[1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=TUB-1;class=Gene) localizes GPCRs to the cilia of specific sensory neuron types in C. elegans and determine whether mislocalization of ciliary signaling proteins is causal to the metabolic phenotypes of [tub-1](http://www.wormbase.org/db/get?name=tub-1;class=Gene) mutants.

Finally, it is interesting to speculate on the necessity for the observed diversity in GPCR ciliary localization mechanisms in C. elegans sensory neurons. Each C. elegans sensory neuron expresses multiple sensory GPCRs, likely allowing the neuron to respond to a range of sensory cues (Troemel et al. 1995; Bargmann 2006). Coordinated regulation of all neuron-specific GPCRs would, therefore, coordinately alter responses to all cues sensed by that neuron type. Instead, we and others have previously shown that the expression of different GPCRs in a neuron type is regulated by distinct mechanisms under different external and internal conditions, allowing animals to more precisely modulate their sensory behaviors (Troemel et al. 1999; Peckol et al. 2001; Lanjuin and Sengupta 2002; Nolan et al. 2002; Van Der Linden et al. 2007). Diversity and cell specificity in ciliary localization mechanisms may represent yet another layer by which GPCR function and neuronal sensory responses are regulated in C. elegans. Diversity in trans-acting factors predicts that the sequences in GPCRs that these proteins interact with are also diverse (Emmer et al. 2010). Indeed, our results indicate that different residues are required for correct ciliary trafficking of GPCRs both within, as well as between, AWB and ASK. Related systematic studies in other organisms may uncover a similarly broad range of mechanisms that ensure that the correct complement of GPCRs is localized to the cilia of specific cell types as a function of internal and external conditions.

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# GENETICS

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# Diverse Cell Type-Specific Mechanisms Localize G Protein-Coupled Receptors to Caenorhabditis elegans Sensory Cilia

Andrea G. Brear, Jason Yoon, Martin Wojtyniak, and Piali Sengupta



# B



**Figure S1** Changes in expression levels do not affect localization pattern of GPCRs.

**A‐B)** The subcellular localization patterns of STR‐163::GFP **(A)** and SRU‐38::GFP **(B)** in AWB are unaltered when expressed at higher or lower concentrations, respectively (compare with Figures 1E and 1H). Yellow and white arrowheads indicate cell bodies and dendrites; white arrows indicate cilia. Numbers in top left corners indicate the percentage of examined animals exhibiting the phenotype. n= >30 animals each. Scale bar: 10 µm.



**Figure S2** A subset of GPCRs contain conserved ciliary targeting sequences in their third intracellular loops. Alignment of sequences in the third intracellular loops of NPY2R, STR‐163 and SRAB‐16. Conserved residues shown to be necessary and/or sufficient for ciliary targeting in NPY2R (Loktev and Jackson, 2013) are shaded.



**Figure S3** Ciliary localization of SRBC‐64::GFP is unaltered in *gpa‐2 gpa‐3* mutants. Shown is the localization pattern of SRBC‐64::GFP in the ASK neurons of wild‐type animals, or animals doubly mutant for the *gpa‐2* and *gpa‐3* G protein subunit genes. Alleles used were *gpa‐2(pk16)* and *gpa‐3(pk35)*. Number in top left corner indicates the percentage of animals exhibiting the shown phenotype. n≥30 each. Scale bar: 5 µm.



**Figure S4** Mutations in *unc‐101* do not affect expression driven under the *srbc‐66* promoter. Shown is the expression of *srbc‐66*p*::mCherry* in ASK in wild‐type and *unc‐101(m1)* mutants. White and yellow arrowheads indicate dendrites and cell bodies; white arrows indicate cilia. The upstream regulatory sequences of *srbc‐66* were also used to misexpress *str*-163 in ASK. n= 30 each. Scale bar: 10 μm.



**Figure S5** AWB, but not ASK, cilia are truncated in *mks‐5(tm3100)* mutants. Shown are the morphologies of AWB and ASK cilia visualized in the indicated genetic backgrounds using *str‐1*p*::gfp* and *srbc‐66*p*::gfp* transcriptional reporter fusions, respectively. Numbers in top left corner indicate percentage of examined animals exhibiting the phenotype. Arrows and arrowheads indicate cilia and dendrites, respectively. n= 30 each. Scale bar: 5 µm.

## **Table S1 Alleles examined in this study.**



<sup>a</sup>Information from Wormbase (www.wormbase.org) or from indicated references.

## **Table S2 Strains used in this work.**







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