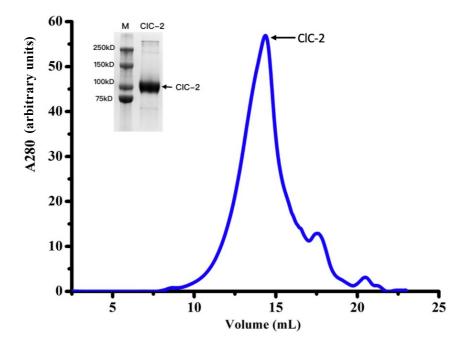
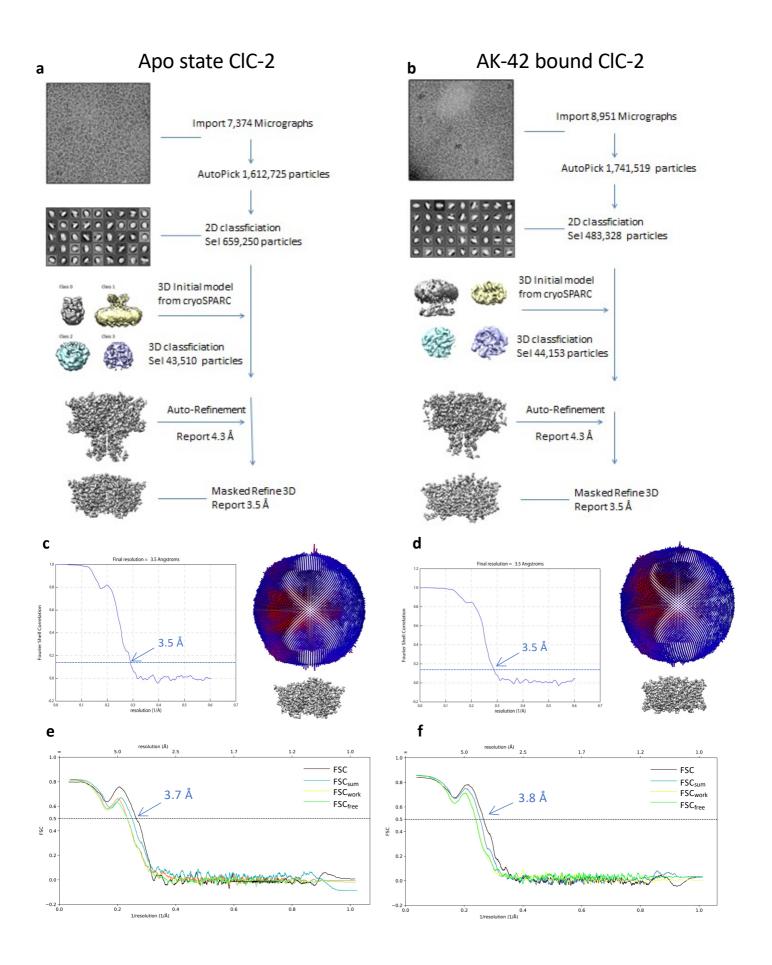
Supplementary Information for

Cryo-EM structures of ClC-2 chloride channel reveal the blocking mechanism of its specific inhibitor AK-42

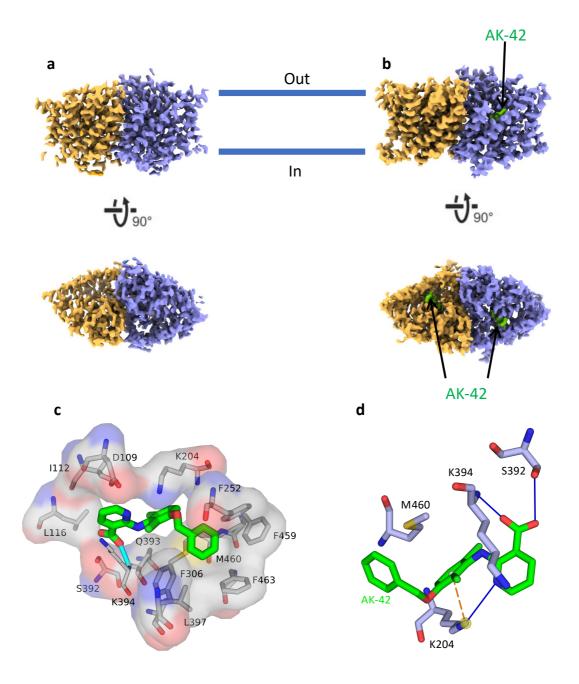
Tao Ma et al



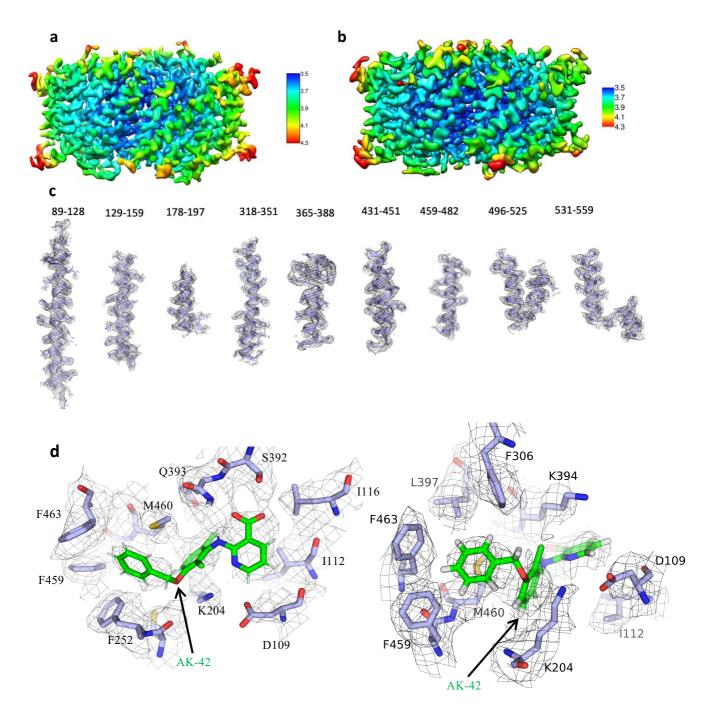
Supplementary Figure 1. Preparation of ClC-2 protein. ClC-2 was expressed using HEK293F cells and purified by affinity chromatography and size-exclusion chromatography. ClC-2 was eluted at about in 14.4 mL from Superose 6 column. Sodium dodecyl sulphate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis was used to confirm the presence and purity of ClC-2. M: Marker. The source data of size-exclusion chromatography profile and uncropped gel are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments have been repeated for three times with similar results.



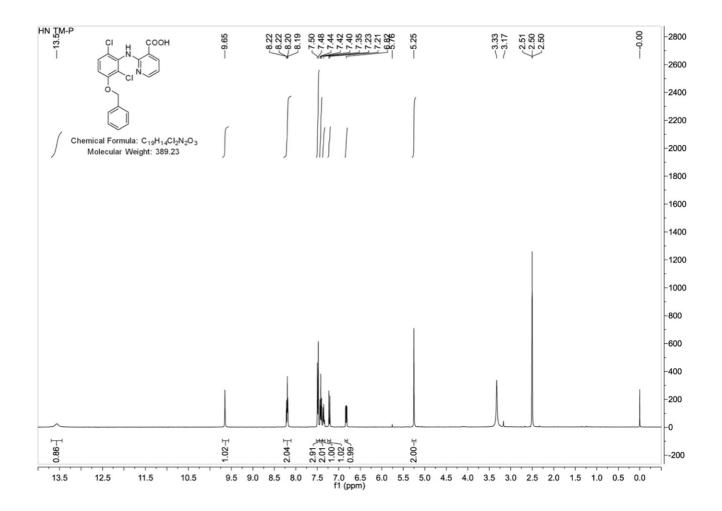
Supplementary Figure 2. Cryo-EM data processing of the apo ClC-2 and its complex with AK-42. Datasets for the ClC-2 apo form (a) and the AK-42 bound form (b) were imported into Relion for motion correction and Contrast Transfer Function (CTF) estimation. For apo state ClC-2, total 7374 micrographs were used. For AK-42 bound ClC-2, total 8951 micrographs were used. ClC-2 particles were auto-picked, extracted, and further subjected to 2D classification. Good 2D classes were selected and imported into cryoSPARC for initial model building and 3D classification. Non-uniform refinement and masked refinement were performed to improve the resolution of the final maps. The resolutions of the final refined maps were determined according to Fourier shell correlation (FSC) with a criterion of 0.143, the angular distributions were also shown (c, d). Final models were validated to prevent overfitting using the FSC between map and model with a criterion of 0.5 (e, f).



Supplementary Figure 3. Cryo-EM maps of the TMD domains of the apo CIC-2 and its complex with AK-42. (a) The front view and top view of the masked refined apo CIC-2 transmembrane domain (TMD). (b) The front view and top view of masked refined AK-42 (green density) bound CIC-2 TMD domain. Protomers are shown in brown and purple, respectively. (c) Surrounding residues around AK-42 inhibitor. AK-42 is shown in green. Surrounding residues are shown in stick and surface representation. Blue indicates positive potential and red indicates negative charge. (d) Structural analysis using PLIP (<u>https://plip-tool.biotec.tu-dresden.de/plip-web/plip/index</u>) identified potentials hydrogen bonds and π -cation interaction between AK-42 and K204, S392, K394. Blue lines represent hydrogen bonds.



Supplementary Figure 4. Local resolution of ClC-2 cryo-EM maps. Local resolution values were calculated in RELION using the relion_postprocess module, and the colored density maps were displayed in UCSF Chimera. Apo ClC-2 (**a**) and AK-42 bound ClC-2 (**b**) are shown. (**c**) Selected regions are shown to demonstrate the good fit between the model and maps of apo ClC-2. (**d**) Density of AK-42 and surrounding residues to show the map quality of AK-42 bound ClC-2. Two different views are shown.

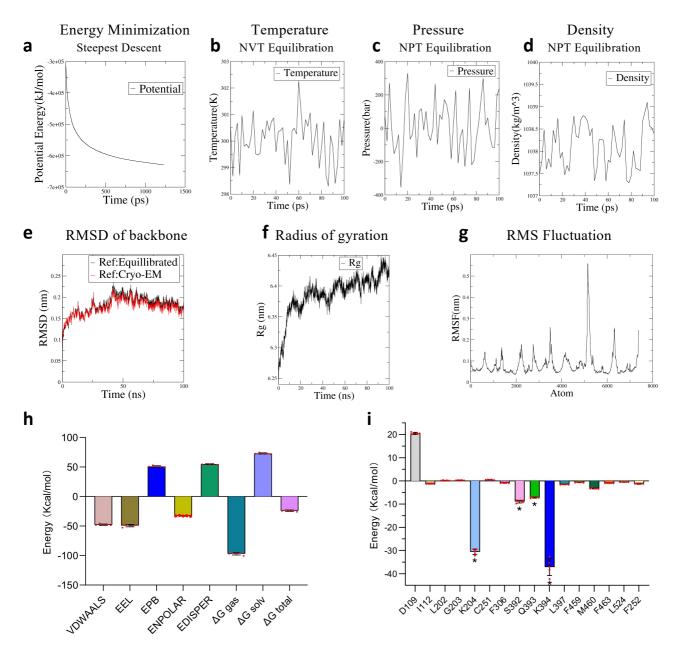


Supplementary Figure 5. Synthesis and confirmation of AK-42 by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy. The specific inhibitor AK-42 was synthesized as described in the section "*Chemical synthesis of* AK-42". The product was confirmed by ¹H-NMR.

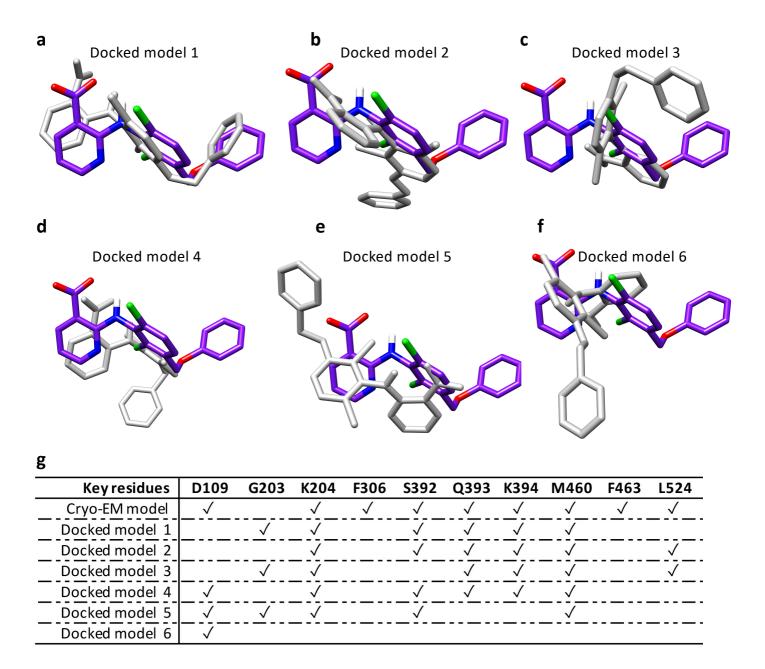
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sp P51788 C1C-2 sp P51800 C1C-Ka sp P51801 C1C-Kb sp P35523 C1C-1 sp P51790 C1C-3 sp P51795 C1C-5 sp P51795 C1C-6 sp P51798 C1C-7	CTFRDIRLAIHRTKGRMLAIVESPESMILLGSIERSQVVALLGAQLSPARRRQHMQERRATQT.SPLSDQ TPLEEVVKVVTS <mark>T</mark> DVTEYPLVESTESQILVGIVQRAQLVQALQAEPP.SRAPGHQQC
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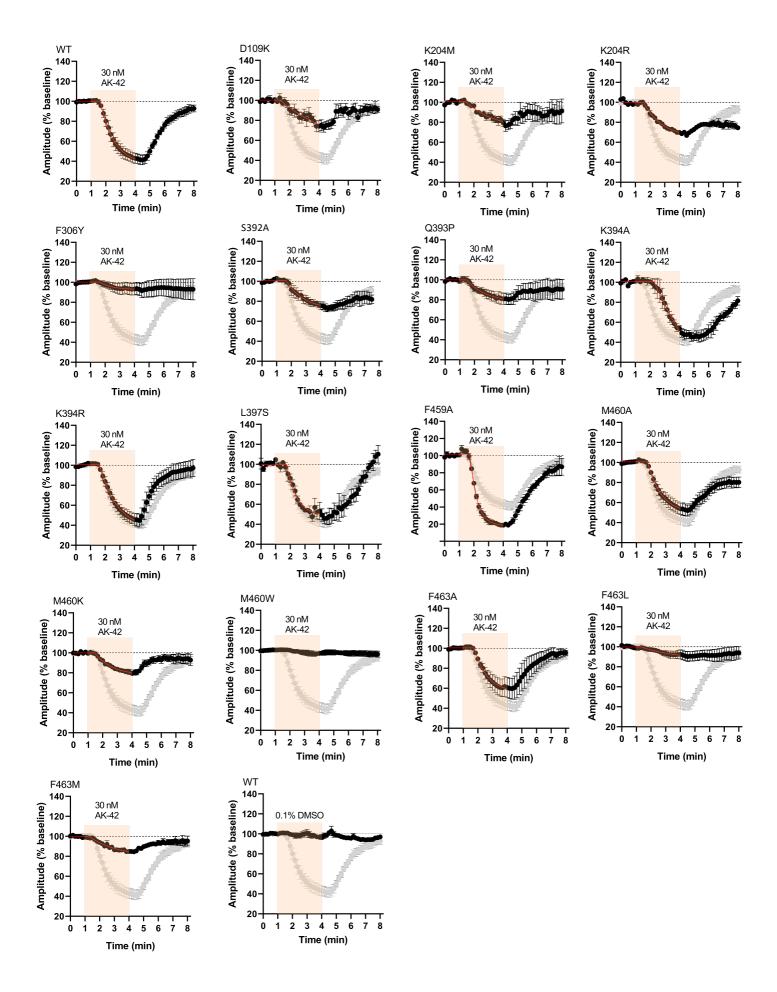
Supplementary Figure 6. Sequence alignment of human CIC family proteins. Human ClC-2, ClC-Ka, ClC-Kb, ClC-1, ClC-5, ClC-3, ClC-4, ClC-6 and ClC-7 were used for alignment. Conserved residues are indicated by blue boxes, and identical residues are highlighted in red. The secondary structure of ClC-2 is shown as a reference above the sequence alignment. 18 helices of human ClC-2 are labeled as α A to α R respectively.



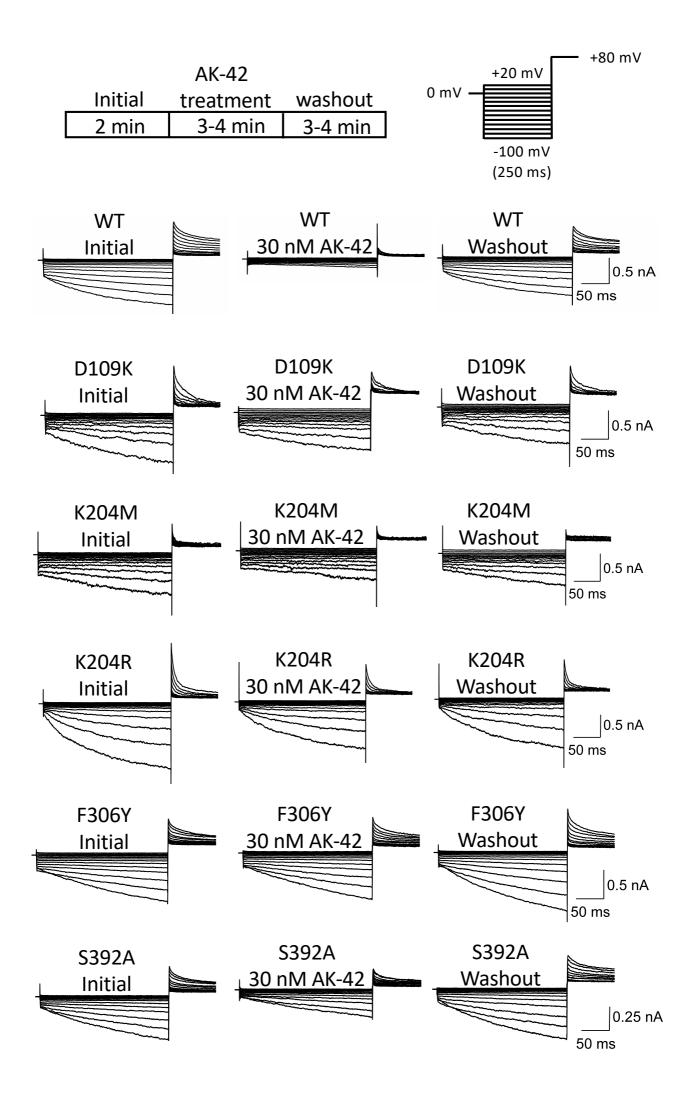
Supplementary Figure 7. Molecular dynamics simulations of CIC-2 bound with AK-42. Energy minimization (a), *NVT* equilibration (b), and *NPT* equilibration (c, d) were performed before the running of molecular dynamics simulations. The root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) (e), radius of gyration (f), and root mean square fluctuation (RMSF) (g) were analyzed after simulations. (h) The energy components for the interaction between CIC-2 and AK-42 were analyzed. (i) Per-residue energy decomposition of the residues in the CIC-2/AK-42 interface using the MM/PBSA method. * indicates the three most critical residues in the binding with AK-42. VDWAALS, van der Waals energy. EEL, electrostatic energy. ENPOLAR, nonpolar solvation energy. EDISPER, dispersion energy. ΔG_{gas} , relative gasphase Gibbs free energy. ΔG_{solv} , solvation free energy. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. Bars in h and i indicate means ± SEM (n = 5 independent MD runs used for MM/PBSA calculation).

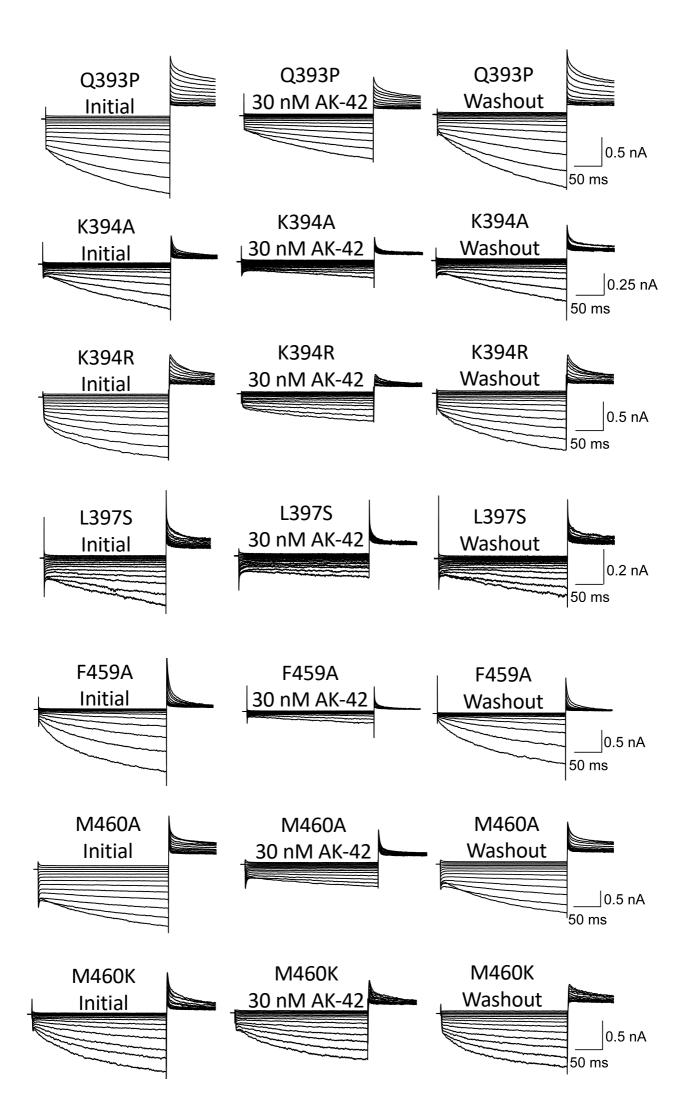


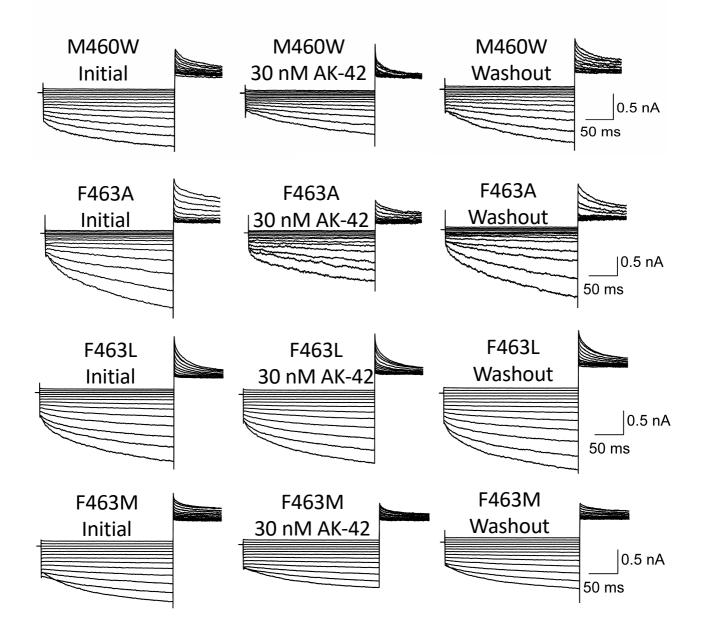
Supplementary Figure 8. Structural comparison between AK-42 from cryo-EM model and previous docked models. ClC-2 structures from cryo-EM and previous docked models¹ are aligned. AK-42 from cryo-EM model was shown in purple color. AK-42 from docked models is shown in gray color. ClC-2 models were not shown for simplification. Panel (**a-f**) demonstrate structural alignment between cryo-EM model with 6 docked models with top scores in the previous report. (**g**) Key residues confirmed by electrophysiological recordings in our studies were extracted and listed in the first row. For each model from cryo-EM models or docked models, tick mark " $\sqrt{}$ " under each residue indicate that this residue was identified by the specific model. Numbering for residues is according to human ClC-2. For D109, G203, K204, F306, S392, Q393, K394, M460, F463 and L524 from human ClC-2, the corresponding residues from docked rat ClC-2 models are D115, G209, K210, F312, S398, Q399, K400, M466, F469 and L530, respectively.



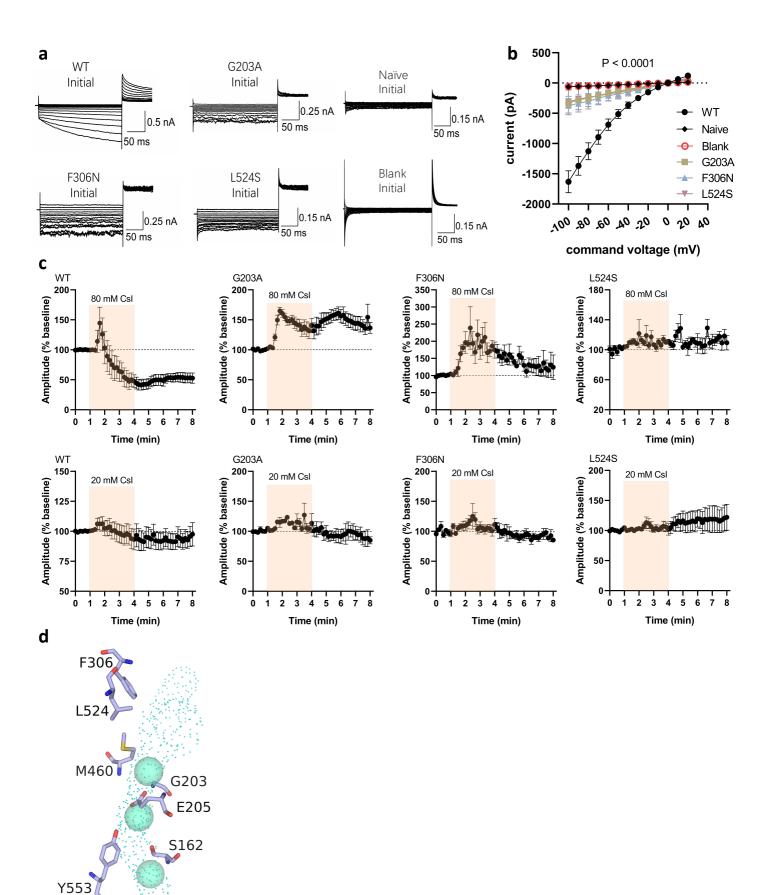
Supplementary Figure 9. Inhibition kinetics of AK-42 with a time course for wild-type CIC-2 and its mutants. The onset of AK-42 block was demonstrated by recording the current traces with a time course of 8 min. The baseline was recorded in 0-1 min just before the application of 30 nM AK-42. Then currents during the application of AK-42 were recorded in 1-4 min, as indicated by brown color. Currents during 4-8 min represent the washout of AK-42 inhibitor. For the data of each mutation in black color, the data of wild-type (WT) CIC-2 was shown in gray color for comparison. Red curves represent the fitting curves of the experiment data based on Supplementary Table 2. Total number of cells used for wild-type CIC-2 and each mutant can be found in Supplementary Table 2.



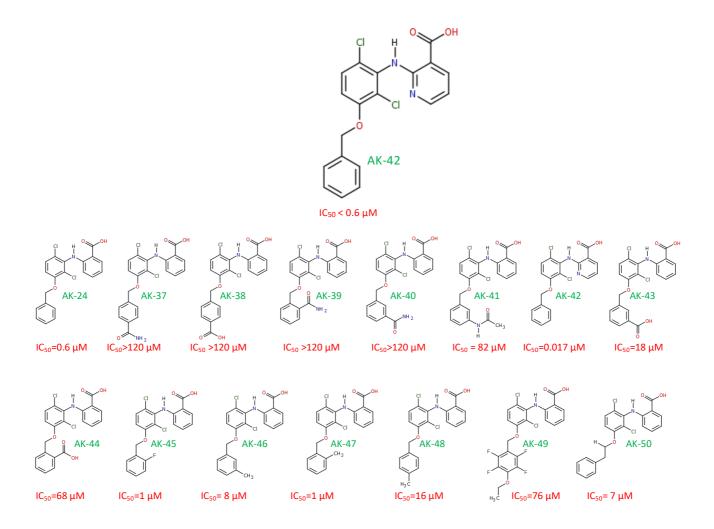




Supplementary Figure 10. Current traces for wild-type CIC-2 and its mutants. CIC-2 plasmids were transfected into CHO-K1 cells and whole-cell patch clamp experiments were performed to record currents across the membrane. For wild-type CIC-2 and each mutant, current traces before AK-42 treatment (initial), after treatment (30 nM AK-42) and after AK-42 washout (washout) were shown. Detailed protocol can be found in the Method section. Total number of cells used for wild-type CIC-2 and each mutant can be found in Supplementary Table 3.

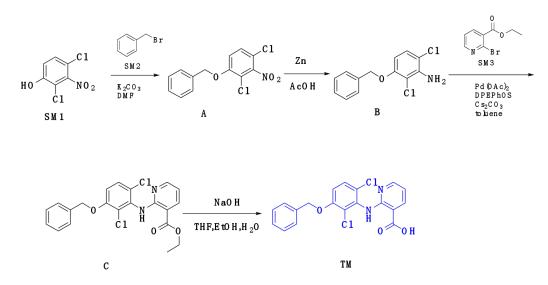


Supplementary Figure 11. Inhibition of hyperpolarization-induced currents in CHO-K1 cells transfected with ClC-2 wild-type or mutation plasmids. (a) Representative current traces of ClC-2 WT, G203A, F306N, L524S, un-transfected controls (Naive) and empty-vector transfected control (Blank) without AK-42 treatment (initial). (b) Whole-cell current-voltage (I-V) curves differed significantly among ClC-2 WT, G203A, F306N, L524S, un-transfected controls (Naive) and empty-vector transfected controls (Blank). N values represent biologically independent cells recorded. (n = 14 for WT, n = 5 for G203A and F306N, n = 3 for L524S, n = 3 for Naive, n = 3 for Blank. Two-way ANOVA with Dunnett's multiple comparisons test. Factor of command voltage x mutations, F (60,324) = 10.78, P < 0.0001; factor of command voltage, F (1.056, 28.52) = 19.26, P = 0.0001; factor of mutations, F (5, 27) = 9.255, P < 0.0001). Data are presented as the mean ± SEM. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. (c) Current traces with application of cesium iodide (CsI) in the who-cell patch clamp experiments. 80 mM and 20 mM CsI were used for wild-type ClC-2 and G203A, F306N and L524S mutants, respectively. CsI was applied during 1-4 min in the time course, as indicated by brown color. (n = 6 for WT + 80 mM CsI, n = 5 for WT + 20 mM CsI, n = 6 for G203A + 80mM CsI, n = 3 for G203A + 20 mM CsI, n = 4 for F306N + 80 mM CsI, n = 4 for F306N + 20 mM CsI, n = 3 for L524S + 80 mM CsI, n = 4 for L524S + 20 mM CsI). Data are presented as the mean \pm SEM. (d) Structure analysis shows that G203, F306N and L524S are close to the ClC-2 channel and might be involved in the channel regulation of ClC-2.

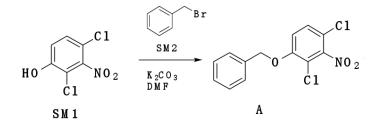


Supplementary Figure 12. Analysis of AK-42 derivatives and their half-maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) with respect to ClC-2. The main structural differences of AK-42 and its derivatives are highlighted. The IC₅₀ data were extracted from the previous report¹ and are shown under the corresponding derivatives.

Schematic diagram of 2-((3-(benzyloxy)-2,6-dichlorophenyl)amino)nicotinic acid synthesis

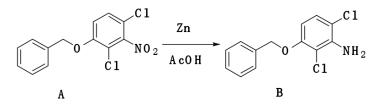


Step 1: 1-(benzyloxy)-2,4-dichloro-3-nitrobenzene



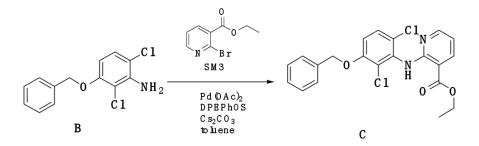
PhBr (SM2, 2.14 g, 12.5 mmol) was added to a mixture of 2,4-dichloro-3-nitrophenol (SM1, 2 g, 9.62 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (2.66 g, 19.24 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (160 mL) in an ice bath. The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. After decanting from this ice bath, the product was separated, filtered, and dried to afford the specified product (2.88 g, 98.0%) as a yellow solid. [M+1] = 298

Step 2: 3-(Benzyloxy)-2,6-dichloroaniline



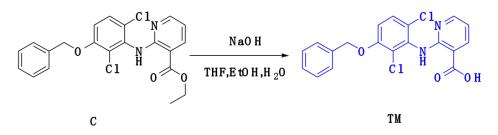
Zn (1.9 g, 29.51 mmol) was added to a mixture of 1-(benzyloxy)-2,4-dichloro-3-nitrobenzene (1.7 g, 5.7 mmol) and AcOH (1.77 g, 29.51 mmol) in anhydrous EtOH (200 mL). The reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. The organic layer was concentrated, extracted with ethyl acetate and H₂O, dried with anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered, and finally concentrated to afford the specified product (1.4 g, 91.5%) as a brown solid. [M+1] = 268.02.

Step 3: methyl 2-((3-(benzyloxy)-2,6-dichlorophenyl)amino)nicotinate



 $Pd(OAc)_2$ (33 mg, 0.12 mmol) was added to a mixture of 3-(benzyloxy)-2,6-dichloroaniline (1.0 g, 3.1 mmol), ethyl 2-bromonicotinate (670 mg, 3.1 mmol), DPEPhOS (120 mg, 0.21 mmol) and Cs₂CO₃ (1.3 g, 5.2 mmol) in anhydrous toluene (10 mL). This reaction was stirred for 24 h at 120°C under Ar. The organic layer was filtered, concentrated, and purified by column chromatography with silica gel petroleum ether:ethyl acetate = 8:1 to afford the product (1.2 g, 92.8%) as a white solid. [M+1] = 417.07.

Step 4: 2-((3-(benzyloxy)-2,6-dichlorophenyl)amino)nicotinic acid



NaOH (336 mg, 8.4 mmol) was added to a mixture of methyl 2-((3-(benzyloxy)-2,6-dichlorophenyl)amino)nicotinate (1.2 g, 2.8 mmol) in THF (5 mL), EtOH (5 mL) and H₂O (1 mL). This reaction was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. The organic layer was concentrated and purified by column

chromatography on silica gel petroleum ether/EA = 3:1 to afford the product (1.02 g, 93.5%) as a white solid. The product was further verified via NMR spectrometry. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 13.57 (s, 1H), 9.65 (s, 1H), 8.20 (m, 2H), 7.48 (m, 3H), 7.42 (m, 2H), 7.35 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (m, 1H), 5.25 (s, 2H). [M+1] = 389.04.

Supplementary Figure 13. Schematic of synthesis.

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of Cryo-EM data collection, data processing, and structure refinement. The hardware, software and parameters used are summarized in the table. The validation results are also included.

Data collection			
EM equipment	Titan Krios	(Thermo Fisher)	
Voltage (kV)	300		
Detector	Gatan K2 Summit		
Energy filter	Gatan GIF, 20 eV slit		
Pixel size (Å)	0.829		
Total electron dose (e ⁻ Å ⁻²)		50	
Defocus range (µm)	-1.	-1.0~-2.0	
3D Reconstruction			
Software	Relion-3.	0/cryoSPARC	
Data set	ClC-2(apo)	ClC-2(AK-42)	
Number of micrographs	7,374	8,951	
Final particles	43,510	44,153	
Symmetry	C2	C2	
Final resolution (Å)	3.5	3.5	
Map sharpening B-factor (Å ²)	-149	-95	
Refinement			
Software	Р	henix	
Model composition			
Protein residues	944	944	
Ligand	0	2	
R.M.S. deviations			
Bond lengths (Å)	0.002	0.002	
Bond angles (°)	0.542	0.579	
MolProbity score	1.45	1.59	
Clash score	8.32	8.53	
Rotamer outliers	0	0	
Ramachandran plot statistics (%)		•	
Preferred	98.09	97.34	
Allowed	1.91	2.66	
Outliers	0	0	

Supplementary Table 2. Inhibition kinetics of wild-type CIC-2 and its mutants by AK-42. %baseline represents the currents remained after 3-min application of 30 nM AK-42, with reference to that before application of AK-42. Data are presented as the mean \pm SEM. N values represent biologically independent cells recorded. For those responses remained less than 95% of baseline, τ of decay is calculated with single exponential function and represents the time constant of current change during application of AK-42. R-squared R² is the goodness-of-fit for the fitting between experimental data and fitting curve as shown in Supplementary Fig. 9.

CIC-2 plasmids	% baseline (30 nM AK-42)	τ of decay/R ²
WT	$42.966 \pm 5.076 \ (n = 6)$	0.9444/0.8407
D109K	$74.148 \pm 5.667 \ (n = 4)$	3.693/0.5442
K204M	$79.386 \pm 3.869 \ (n = 3)$	1.949/0.8002
K204R	$69.890 \pm 0.528 \; (n=3)$	1.285/0.9604
F306Y	$93.394 \pm 5.940 \ (n=4)$	0.8136/0.1650
S392A	$75.704 \pm 3.740 \ (n = 3)$	1.222/0.7956
Q393P	$80.994 \pm 5.580 \ (n = 3)$	1.255/0.6738
K394A	$53.917 \pm 2.613 \ (n = 3)$	4.771/0.8329
K394R	$45.652 \pm 5.943 \ (n=3)$	1.217/0.9414
L397S	$53.217 \pm 8.881 \ (n = 3)$	0.6740/0.9001
F459A	$18.768 \pm 2.172 \ (n = 3)$	0.4764/0.9861
M460A	$53.768 \pm 5.776 \ (n = 4)$	0.9606/0.8809
M460K	$79.383 \pm 2.164 \ (n = 4)$	1.215/0.8991
M460W	$96.945 \pm 1.874 \ (n = 4)$	-/-
F463A	$60.738 \pm 10.137 \ (n = 4)$	0.8627/0.7519
F463L	$92.465 \pm 4.515 \ (n = 4)$	2.379/0.3685
F463M	$84.893 \pm 1.484 \ (n=3)$	1.951/0.8703
WT+DMSO	$96.803 \pm 2.635 \ (n=5)$	-/-

Supplementary Table 3. Current inhibition induced by AK-42 (30 nM) treatment in CIC-2 wild-type and mutants. The percentage current inhibition was calculated as follows: percent inhibition = $(I_{initial} I_{AK})/I_{initial} X 100\%$, where $I_{initial}$ and I_{AK} are the currents measured before and after treatment with 30 nM AK-42, respectively, at -100 mV. Data are presented as the mean \pm SEM. Exact n values and P values are listed. N values represent biologically independent cells recorded. Statistical analyses of percent inhibition between WT and mutants were performed by two-tailed Student's t test. The data are plotted in Figure 3g.

ClC-2 plasmids	% inhibition (30 nM AK-42)	Student's t-test (with WT)
WT	61.68 ± 3.896 (n = 14)	
D109K	$32.09 \pm 7.026 \ (n = 6)$	P = 0.0009, t = 3.949
K204M	$18.83 \pm 5.293 \ (n=3)$	P = 0.0002, t = 4.818
K204R	$20.71 \pm 1.668 \ (n = 6)$	P < 0.0001, t = 6.676
F306Y	$2.335 \pm 0.8473 \ (n = 3)$	P < 0.0001, t = 6.868
S392A	$28.22 \pm 4.445 \ (n = 4)$	P = 0.0005, t = 4.310
Q393P	$32.32 \pm 5.164 \ (n = 7)$	P = 0.0003, t = 4.436
K394A	$56.19 \pm 2.743 \ (n = 5)$	P = 0.4325, t = 0.8040
K394R	$48.34 \pm 5.534 \ (n = 10)$	P = 0.0543, t = 2.033
L397S	$62.41 \pm 4.279 \ (n = 5)$	P = 0.9180, t = 0.1045
F459A	$75.19 \pm 3.453 \ (n = 6)$	P = 0.0497, t = 2.104
M460A	$52.30 \pm 7.118 \ (n = 6)$	P = 0.2287, t = 1.246
M460K	$32.58 \pm 8.185 \ (n = 5)$	P = 0.0022, t = 3.595
M460W	$17.94 \pm 4.528 \ (n = 5)$	P < 0.0001, t = 6.145
F463A	$43.16 \pm 4.581 \ (n = 5)$	P = 0.0188, t = 2.598
F463L	$5.983 \pm 1.994 \ (n = 4)$	P < 0.0001, t = 7.412
F463M	$20.55 \pm 5.162 \ (n = 6)$	P < 0.0001, t = 5.991

Supplementary	Table 4.	Primers	used in	this study.

D109KTGGGTCATGAAATATGCCATTAATGGCATATTTCATGACCG203AATGCCGCTTGCCAAAGAGGGCGCCCTCTTTGGCAAGCGGCK204MCTTGGCATGGAGGGGCCCTTTTAAAAGGGCCCTCCATGCCAK204RATGCCGCTTGGCAGAGAGGGCGCCCTCTCTGCCAAGCGGCF306NATTACAGCCCTCAACAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTTGAGGGGCTGF306YATTACAGCCCTCTACAAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTAGAGGGCTGCS392AGCTGGACAGCTCGCACAGAAAGAGCTCTTTCTGTGCGAGCTGTCC	CCA
K204MCTTGGCATGGAGGGGCCCTTTTAAAAGGGCCCTCCATGCCAK204RATGCCGCTTGGCAGAGAGGGGCGCCCTCTCTGCCAAGCGGCF306NATTACAGCCCTCAACAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTTGAGGGGCTGF306YATTACAGCCCTCTACAAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTAGAGGGCTG	
K204RATGCCGCTTGGCAGAGAGGGGCGCCCTCTCTGCCAAGCGGCF306NATTACAGCCCTCAACAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTTGAGGGGCTGF306YATTACAGCCCTCTACAAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTAGAGGGCTG	CAT
F306NATTACAGCCCTCAACAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTTGAGGGGCTGF306YATTACAGCCCTCTACAAAACCCGATCGGGTTTTGTAGAGGGCTG	AAG
F306Y ATTACAGCCCTCTACAAAACCCGA TCGGGTTTTGTAGAGGGCTG	CAT
	ТААТ
S392A GCTGGACAGCTCGCACAGAAAGAG CTCTTTCTGTGCGAGCTGTCC	TAAT
	CAGC
Q393P GACAGCTCTCACCAAAAGAGACGCTG CAGCGTCTCTTTTGGTGAGAG	CTGTC
K394A CAGCTCTCACAGGCAGAGACGCTG CAGCGTCTCTGCCTGTGAGAG	GCTG
K394R CAGCTCTCACAGAGAGAGAGACGCTG CAGCGTCTCTCTGTGAGAG	GCTG
L397S AAAGAGACGTCGGTCACCCTG CAGGGTGACCGACGTCTCT	ГТТ
F459A TGTGGGGCCGCAATGCCTGTCTTT AAAGACAGGCATTGCGGCCC	CACA
M460A GCCTTCGCACCTGTCTTTGTCATTG CAATGACAAAGACAGGTGCGA	AAGGC
M460K GCCTTCAAGCCTGTCTTTGTCATTG CAATGACAAAGACAGGCTTGA	AAGGC
M460W GCCTTCTGGCCTGTCTTTGTCATTG CAATGACAAGACAGGCCAGA	AAGGC
F463A TTCATGCCTGTCGCTGTCATTGGA TCCAATGACAGCGACAGGCA	TGAA
F463L TTCATGCCTGTCCTTGTCATTGGA TCCAATGACAAGGACAGGCA	TGAA
F463M TTCATGCCTGTCATGGTCATTGGA TCCAATGACCATGACAGGCA	TGAA
L524S ATCGTGTTCGAGTCCACAGGCCAG CTGGCCTGTGGACTCGAACA	COAT

Supplementary Table 5. Current inhibition induced by vehicle and AK-42 (30 nM) in wild-type ClC-

2. AK-42 was dissolved in and diluted to a final concentration of 30 nM in 0.1% DMSO in extracellular solution as a vehicle. Measurement of the percentage of current inhibition before and after treatment with 0.1% DMSO or 30 nM AK-42 at -100 mV. Data are presented as the mean \pm SEM.

ClC-2 WT	percent inhibition
+ vehicle (0.1% DMSO)	$2.909 \pm 1.441 \ (n = 4)$
+ AK-42 (30 nM)	$61.68 \pm 3.896 \ (n = 14)$

Supplementary References

1. Koster AK, *et al.* Development and validation of a potent and specific inhibitor for the ClC-2 chloride channel. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* **117**, 32711-32721 (2020).