

Supplementary Materials for
**Identification of an ionic mechanism for ER α -mediated rapid excitation
in neurons**

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The PDF file includes:

Figs. S1 to S5
Legend for table S1

Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:

Table S1

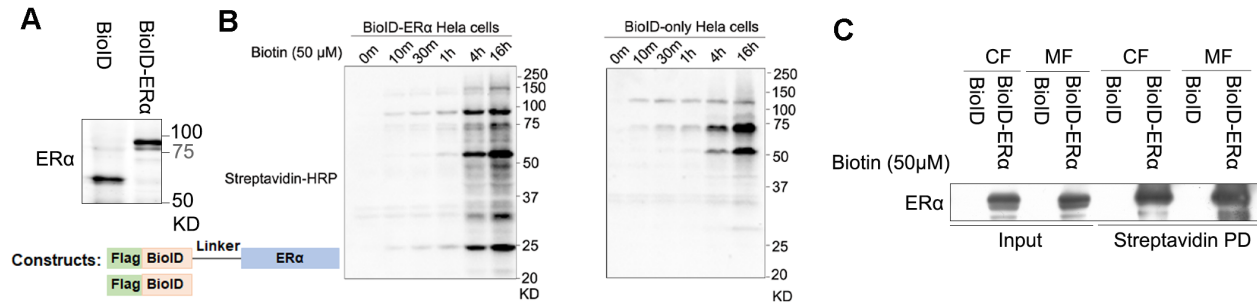


Figure S1. BioID to identify ER α -interacting proteins. (A) Validation of stable HeLa cell lines expressing BioID-ER α (or BioID only). HeLa cells expressing BioID-ER α (or BioID only) were harvested and lysed. Western blotting was employed to determine ER α expression in the stable cells with ER α antibody. (B) In vitro biotinylation at variable biotin treatment time. HeLa cells expressing BioID-ER α (or BioID only) were treated with 50 μ M biotin for variable time. Biotinylation levels were determined by Western blotting with an HRP-conjugated streptavidin antibody. (C) Streptavidin pulling down biotinylated proteins in HeLa cell lines expressing BioID-ER α (or BioID only). Biotin was administered to stable HeLa cells for 16 hours, and subsequent separation of cytoplasmic and membrane fractions was performed. Biotinylated proteins in the subcellular fractions were affinity purified using streptavidin magnetic beads. ER α expression in the pull-down samples was assessed by Western blotting.

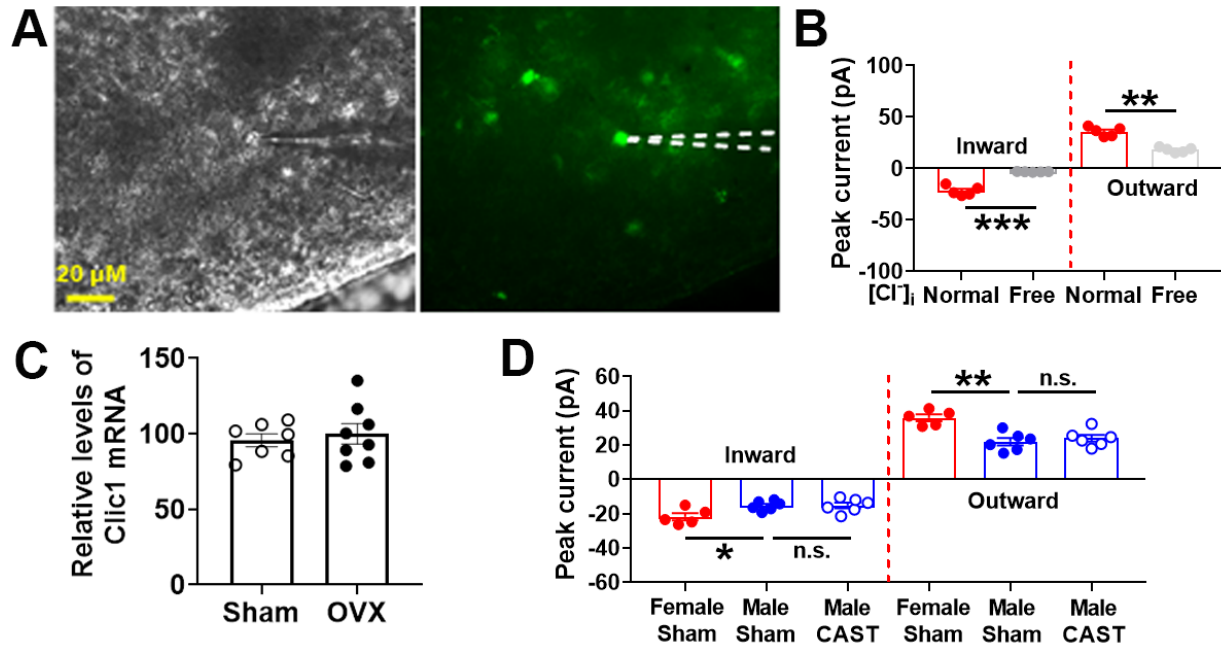


Figure S2. Clic1 currents in ER α^{vVMH} neurons. (A) Representative bright field and green fluorescent microscopic images showing patch clamp recording of an ER α^{vVMH} neuron in the brain slice from a female ER α -ZsGreen mouse. (B) Peak inward and outward IAA-94-sensitive currents measured in ER α^{vVMH} neurons with free intracellular [Cl]⁻. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N = 5 neurons from 3 different mice per group. **, P < 0.01; ***, P < 0.001 in two-sided unpaired t-tests. (C) Relative levels of Clic1 mRNA in the mediobasal hypothalamus from sham or OVX female mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N = 7 or 8 mice per group. (D) Peak inward and outward IAA-94-sensitive currents measured in ER α^{vVMH} neurons from sham female, sham male or castrated (CAST) male mice. Note that data from sham female group were the same as those presented in Figure 2B. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N = 5 or 6 neurons from 3 different mice per group. *, P < 0.05; **, P < 0.01 in one-way ANOVA analysis followed by Tukey comparisons.

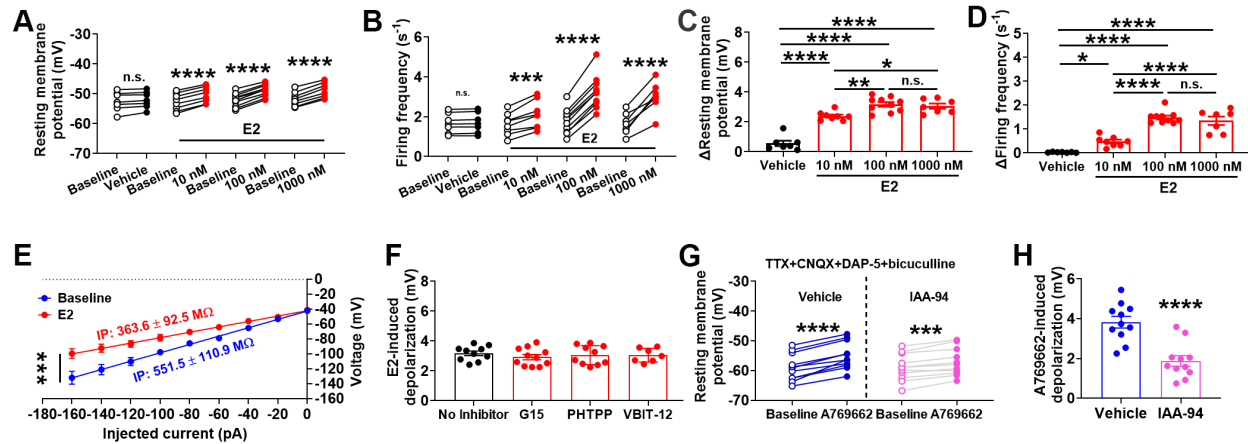


Figure S3. E2 activates ER α^{VIMH} neurons. (A-B) Resting membrane potential (A) and firing frequency (B) of ER α^{VIMH} neurons at the baseline and after E2 treatment (10, 100 or 1000 nM, 100 μ M). Data are presented as individual data points. N =7, 8 or 10 neurons from 3 different mice per group. ***, P < 0.001; ****, P < 0.0001 in two-way ANOVA analysis followed by Sidak comparisons. (C-D) Changes in resting membrane potential (C) and firing frequency (D) calculated from (A-B) respectively. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N =7, 8 or 10 neurons from 3 different mice per group. *, P < 0.05; **, P < 0.01; ****, P < 0.0001 in one-way ANOVA analysis followed by Tukey comparisons. (E) I/V curves measured in ER α^{VIMH} neurons at the baseline and after E2 treatment (100 nM) with input resistance (IP) calculated. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. N =6 neurons from 3 different mice per group. ***, P < 0.001 in two-way ANOVA analysis. (F) Depolarization induced by 100 nM E2 in ER α^{VIMH} neurons in the absence or presence of various inhibitors, including G15 (10 μ M, a GPER inhibitor), PHTPP (50 μ M, an ER β inhibitor), and VBIT-12 (20 μ M, a VDAC1 inhibitor). Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N =10, 11 or 13 neurons from 3 different mice per group. (G) Resting membrane potential of ER α^{VIMH} neurons at the baseline and after A769662 treatment (10 μ M, an AMPK activator) in the presence or absence of IAA-94 (100 μ M), with TTX (1 μ M), CNQX (30 μ M), D-AP5 (30 μ M) and bicuculline (50 μ M) in the perfusion buffer. Data are presented as individual data points. N =11 neurons from 3 different mice per group. ***, P < 0.001; ****, P < 0.0001 in two-way ANOVA analysis followed by Sidak comparisons. (H) Depolarization induced by 10 μ M A769662 in ER α^{VIMH} neurons in the absence or presence of IAA-94 (100 μ M). N =11 neurons from 3 different mice per group. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. ****, P < 0.0001 in two-sided unpaired t-tests.

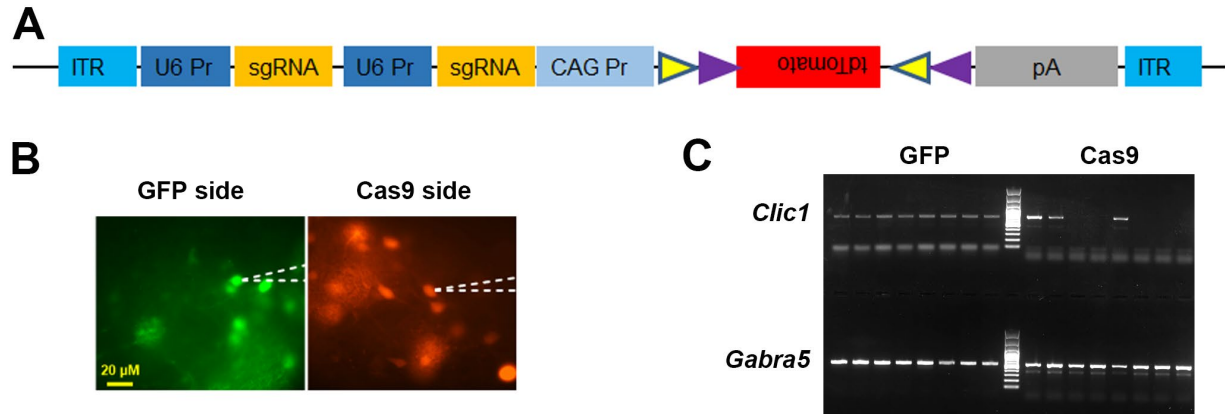


Figure S4. Cas9-mediated *Clic1* disruption. (A) The schematic illustration of the AAV-*Clic1*/sgRNAs-FLEX-tdTOMATO construct. (B) Representative fluorescent microscopic images showing patch clamp recording of a control ER α^{vVMH} neuron (GFP side) and an ER α^{vVMH} neuron with *Clic1* deleted (Cas9 side). (C) Two-step touchdown PCR detecting *Clic1* and *Gabra5* genomic sequences from single ER α^{vVMH} neuron samples collected from the GFP or Cas9 side.

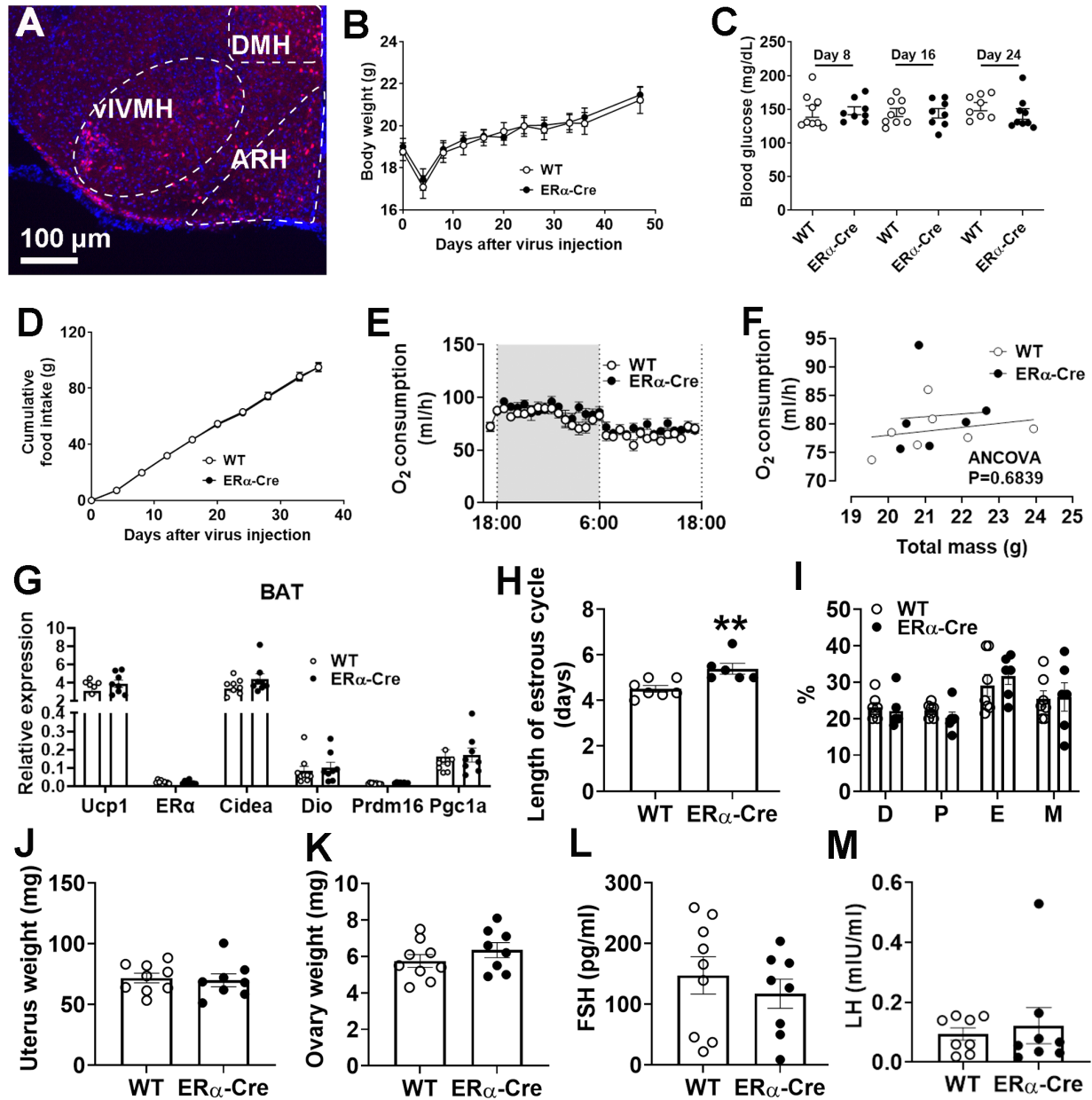


Figure S5. Phenotypes of chow-fed female mice lacking *Clic1* in $ER\alpha^{vVMH}$ and $ER\alpha^{ARH}$ neurons. (A) A representative microscopic image showing distribution of tdTomato (red) and DAPI (blue) in the mediobasal hypothalamus in $ER\alpha$ -Cre female mice receiving stereotaxic injections. ARH, arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus; DMH, dorsomedial hypothalamus (DMH); vVMH, ventrolateral subdivision of ventromedial hypothalamic nucleus. (B) Temporal changes in body weight in chow-fed WT and $ER\alpha$ -Cre female mice after stereotaxic injections of viruses. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. N = 8 or 9 mice per group. (C) Blood glucose of chow-fed WT and $ER\alpha$ -Cre female mice measured at day 8, 16 and 24 after stereotaxic injections of viruses. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N = 8 or 9 mice per group. (D) Cumulative food intake in chow-fed WT and $ER\alpha$ -Cre female mice after stereotaxic injections of viruses. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. N = 8 or 9 mice per group. (E) O_2 consumption of

chow-fed WT and ER α -Cre female mice during the dark and light cycles. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. N =6 or 7 mice per group. (F) ANCOVA analysis of O₂ consumption with total body mass as a covariate. Data are presented as individual data points. N =6 or 7 mice per group. (G) Relative mRNA levels of indicated genes in BAT from chow-fed WT and ER α -Cre female mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual data points. N =8 or 9 mice per group. (H) Length of estrous cycle of chow-fed WT and ER α -Cre female mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual time points. N =6 or 7 mice per group. **, P < 0.01 in two-sided unpaired t-tests. (I) Length of diestrus (D), proestrus (P), estrus (E) and metestrus (M) as percentage of the estrous cycle of chow-fed WT and ER α -Cre female mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual time points. N =6 or 7 mice per group. (J-K) Weights of uterus (J) and ovaries (K) of chow-fed WT and ER α -Cre female mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual time points. N =8 or 9 mice per group. (L-M) Blood FSH (L) and LH (M) of chow-fed WT and ER α -Cre female mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM with individual time points. N =8 or 9 mice per group.

Table S1. Protein candidates binding to ER α -WT by BioID-MS. Proteins candidates within the BioID-ER α group were selected based on a sum intensity threshold exceeding 20 times that of the control group (BioID group). These chosen proteins were considered as potential candidates for binding with ER α . Subsequently, all identified protein candidates from BioID-MS underwent further analysis using the David Bioinformatics database (<https://david.ncifcrf.gov/summary.jsp>). This analysis aimed to categorize membrane proteins based on their cellular component annotations within the database.