



**Figure S4. Experimental current tracings of  $I_{K1}$  from five cells and an example of extrapolated  $I_{K1}$  at the voltage step ( $V_s$ ) +10 mV averaged from these five cells.** The data for *Cell 1-4* are unpublished data provided by Knock G & Aaronson P (personal communication); data for the fifth cell is from Knock *et al.*, [19].  $I_{K1}$  currents were induced in these cells during a 10 s voltage-clamp at different  $V_s$  from a holding potential ( $V_h$ ) of  $-80$  mV. The membrane potentials were increment every 10 mV steps from  $-100$  mV to:  $+40$  mV (*Cell 1*),  $+30$  mV (*Cell 2*),  $+50$  mV (*Cell 3*, *Cell 4*), and from  $-40$  mV to  $+10$  mV in Knock *et al.*, [19]; each  $V_s$  is separated by a different shade of gray. The steps taken to produce the averaged current tracings for  $I_{K1}$  from  $-40$  mV to  $+30$  mV were as follows. For each current tracing in *Cell 1-5*, the values are first offset to zero (so that the current tracing is at zero during  $V_h$ ), then normalized to the peak value at  $V_s = +10$  mV. At each  $V_s$ , the current values at each time instant from different cells were summed and divided by the total number of cells (for  $-40$  mV to  $+10$  mV,  $n=5$ ; for  $+20$  mV to  $+30$  mV,  $n=4$ ); this gave an averaged current tracing for a specific  $V_s$ . The example shows an extrapolated  $I_{K1}$  at  $V_s = +10$  mV (green), superimposed with the tracings from the five cells at the same  $V_s$  (different shade of gray). The averaged current tracings were used for extracting activation and inactivation time constants and for validation of  $I_{K1}$  under voltage-clamp conditions.