

# Supporting Information

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## SI Materials and Methods

**Chemical Synthesis.** All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich or Alfa Aesar in analytical grade. An Agilent 6975 MSD was used for electrospray ionization (ESI) analysis.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  and  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  were run at 300 or 400 and 75 or 100 MHz, respectively. Coupling constants ( $J$ ) are quoted in hertz (Hz) and chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in parts per million (ppm) using the residue solvent peaks as reference relative to tetramethylsilane (TMS); s is singlet, d is doublet, t is triplet, q is quadruplet, m is multiplet. A Beta-Basic  $\text{C}^{18}$  column from Thermo Scientific (10  $\times$  250 mm) was used for HPLC semipreparative purifications. Synthesis of maleimide ethylene azobenzene trimethyl ammonium (MEA-TMA), maleimide ethylene azobenzene triethyl ammonium (MEA-TEA), maleimide azobenzene quaternary ammonium (MAQ), MEA- $\text{SO}_3$ , and MEA-OMe was carried out as follows.

(*E*)-*N*-(4-((4-aminophenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)-3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)propanamide **S1a**: O-Benzotriazole-*N,N,N'*-tetramethyl-uronium-hexafluoro-phosphate (HBTU) (893 mg, 2.36 mmol) was added to a solution of (3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)propanoic acid (399 mg, 2.36 mmol), which was obtained as described previously (1), 4-[(*E*)-2-(4-aminophenyl)diazanyl]aniline (417 mg, 1.96 mmol) and triethylamine (0.327 mL, 238 mg, 2.36 mmol) in 10 mL of MeCN. The reaction was carried out for 19 h under argon atmosphere at room temperature. The solution was concentrated in vacuo, dissolved in AcOEt (150 mL), quenched with 150 mL of saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ aq, then extracted with AcOEt (2  $\times$  150 mL). The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica (heptane/EtOAc, 1/1–2/8 in vol), resulting in the desired orange solid (392 mg, 1.08 mmol, 55%). TLC (EtOAc/heptane, 7/3):  $R_f = 0.34$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz, DMSO -  $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  10.23 (s, H), 7.70 (s, 2H), 7.62 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 4H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 6.67 (d,  $J = 8.7$  Hz, 2H), 6.02 (s, 2H), 3.74 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H), 2.63 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (100 MHz, Acetone -  $d_6$ ):  $\delta = 171.38, 169.37, 155.63, 152.86, 149.72, 145.08, 135.26, 125.65, 123.52, 120.30, 114.65, 42.07, 41.34$ ; MS (ESI) ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$  364.14; found, 364.2.

(*E*)-*N*-(4-((4-aminophenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)-2-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)acetamide **S1b**: The **S1b** orange solid (480 mg, 1.37 mmol, 70%) was obtained from 2-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)acetic acid (365 mg, 2.36 mmol), which was obtained as described previously (1), using the same method as with **S1a**. TLC (EtOAc/heptane, 7/3):  $R_f = 0.35$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz, Acetone -  $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.77 (s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 4H), 7.72 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.00 (s, 2H), 6.79 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 4.40 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  (100 MHz, DMSO -  $d_6$ ):  $\delta$  171.16, 165.08, 153.02, 148.84, 143.32, 140.07, 135.47, 125.37, 123.05, 119.94, 113.90, 38.73; MS (ESI) ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_5\text{O}_3$  350.12; found, 350.

(*E*)-2-((4-((4-(3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)propanamido)phenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)amino)-*N,N,N*-trimethyl-2-oxoethanaminium 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate **MEA-TMA (1a)**: 1-carboxy-*N,N,N*-trimethylmethanaminium chloride (74 mg, 0.48 mmol) was dissolved in 10 mL of anhydrous DMF. Then, oxalyle chloride (35 mL, 0.48 mmol) was added under argon atmosphere at room temperature. After 2 h, at this temperature, a solution of **S1a** (106 mg, 0.29 mmol) and DIPEA (0.153 mL, 0.88 mmol) in 10 mL of anhydrous DMF was added. The mixture was allowed to stir 19 h at room temperature. Concentration in vacuo afforded a thick orange solid, which was diluted with water (50 mL) and then washed with AcOEt (3  $\times$  50 mL). The aqueous phase was concentrated and purified by semipreparative reverse-phase HPLC using an isocratic

elution mode of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (with 0.1% TFA)/MeCN, 75/25 (vol/vol) resulting in the desired orange solid (retention time 10.3 min, 113 mg, 0.196 mmol, 67%).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ):  $\delta$  10.91 (s, 1H), 10.40 (s, 1H), 7.86 (m, 8H), 7.04 (s, 2H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 3.74 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 3.31 (s, 9H), 2.67 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H). MS (ESI) ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}]^+$  calcd for  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_6\text{O}_4$  463.21; found, 463.20; UV/Vis:  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  365 nm.

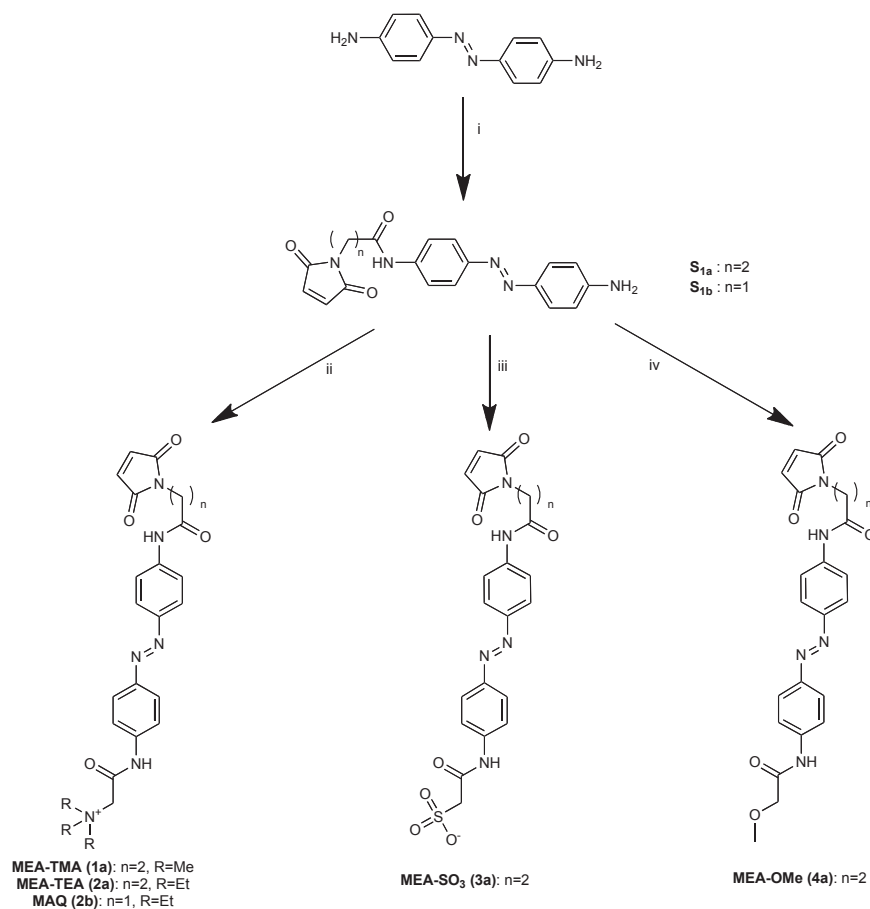
(*E*)-2-((4-((4-(3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)propanamido)phenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)amino)-*N,N,N*-triethyl-2-oxoethanaminium 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate **MEA-TEA, 2a**: The **2a** orange solid (51.1 mg, 0.083 mmol, 49%) was obtained after semipreparative reverse-phase HPLC using an isocratic elution mode of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (with 0.1% TFA)/MeCN, 68/32 (vol/vol) (retention time 9.3 min) with *N*-(carboxymethyl)-*N*-ethyl-*N*-methylethanaminium bromide (2) (75 mg, 0.33 mmol), oxalyle chloride (29  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.33 mmol), **S1a** (60 mg, 0.165 mmol), and DIPEA (110  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.66 mmol) using the same method as with **1a**.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz, MeOD -  $d_4$ ):  $\delta$  7.92 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d,  $J = 9.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 6.83 (s, 2H), 4.20 (s, 2H), 3.69 (q,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 6H), 3.65 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 2.71 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H), 1.40 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 9H). MS (ESI) ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_6\text{O}_4$  505.26; found, 505.2; UV/Vis:  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  365 nm.

(*E*)-2-((4-((4-(2-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)acetamido)phenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)amino)-*N,N,N*-triethyl-2-oxoethanaminium 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate **MAQ (2b)**: The **2b** orange solid (39 mg, 0.065 mmol, 32%) was obtained after semipreparative reverse-phase HPLC using an isocratic elution mode of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (with 0.1% TFA)/MeCN, 68/32 (vol/vol) (retention time 8.6 min) with *N*-(carboxymethyl)-*N*-ethyl-*N*-methylethanaminium bromide (2) (90 mg, 0.40 mmol), oxalyle chloride (34  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.40 mmol), **S1b** (70 mg, 0.20 mmol), and DIPEA (140  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.80 mmol) using the same method as with **1a**.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz, MeOD -  $d_4$ ):  $\delta$  7.90 (m, 4H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 6.94 (s, 2H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 4.19 (s, 2H), 3.68 (q,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 6H), 1.39 (t,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, 9H). MS (ESI) ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}]^+$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{31}\text{N}_6\text{O}_4$  491.24; found, 491.2; UV/Vis:  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  365 nm.

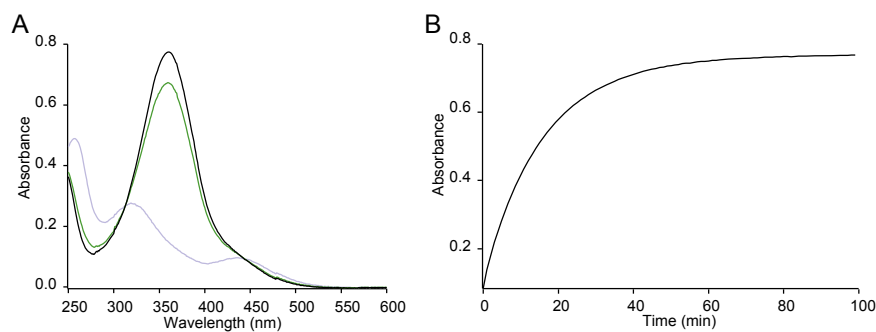
(*E*)-2-((4-((4-(3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)propanamido)phenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)amino)-2-oxoethanesulfonate **MEA-SO<sub>3</sub> (3a)**: **S1a** (135 mg, 0.365 mmol), 2-sulfoacetic acid (56 mg, 0.40 mmol) benzotriazol-1-yl-oxytripyrrolidinophosphonium hexafluorophosphate (PyBOP) (228 mg, 0.438 mmol) and DIPEA (178  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.023 mmol) were dissolved in 10 mL of anhydrous DMF under argon atmosphere at room temperature. The mixture was allowed to stir 19 h at room temperature. Concentration in vacuo afforded a thick orange solid, which was diluted with water (50 mL) and then washed with AcOEt (3  $\times$  50 mL). The aqueous phase was concentrated and purified by semipreparative reverse-phase HPLC using an isocratic elution mode of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (with 0.1% TFA)/MeCN, 80/20 (vol/vol) resulting in the desired orange solid (retention time 14.2 min, 120 mg, 0.247 mmol, 68%).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (400 MHz, MeOD -  $d_4$ ):  $\delta$  7.86 (m, 4H), 7.79 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d,  $J = 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 6.83 (s, 2H), 3.89 (m, 4H), 2.70 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H). MS (ESI) ( $m/z$ ):  $[\text{M}]^-$  calculated for  $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_5\text{O}_5\text{S}$  484.09; found, 484.0; UV/Vis:  $\lambda_{\text{max}}$  365 nm.

(*E*)-3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-1-yl)-*N*-(4-((4-(2-methoxyacetamido)phenyl)diazanyl)phenyl)propanamide **MEA-OMe (4a)**: **S1a** (32 mg, 0.089 mmol), methoxyacetic acid (9  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.116 mmol) HBTU (40 mg, 0.107 mmol) and triethylamine (15  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.107 mmol) were dissolved in 10 mL of anhydrous acetonitrile under argon atmosphere at room temperature. The mixture was allowed to stir 19 h at room temperature. The solution was concentrated in vacuo, dissolved in AcOEt (150 mL), quenched with 150 mL of saturated  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ aq, then extracted with AcOEt (2  $\times$  150 mL). The crude





**Fig. S1.** Synthesis of MEA-TMA, MEA-TEA, MAQ, MEA-SO<sub>3</sub> and MEA-OMe. (i) HBTU, Et<sub>3</sub>N, (3-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-1-yl)propanoic acid or 2-(2,5-dioxo-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-1-yl)acetic acid, MeCN, 19 h, room temperature,  $\rho = 55\text{--}70\%$ ; (ii) 1-carboxy-*N,N,N*-trimethylmethanaminium chloride or *N*-(carboxymethyl)-*N*-ethyl-*N*-methylethanaminium bromide, oxalyle chloride, DMF, 2 h, room temperature; **S1a** or **S1b**, DIPEA, DMF, 19 h, room temperature,  $\rho = 32\text{--}67\%$ ; (iii) 2-sulfoacetic acid, PyBOP, DIPEA, DMF, 19 h, room temperature,  $\rho = 68\%$ ; (iv) methoxyacetic acid, HBTU, Et<sub>3</sub>N, MeCN, 19 h, room temperature,  $\rho = 90\%$ .



**Fig. S2.** Kinetics of azobenzene isomerization measured in free solution. (A) Absorbance spectra of MEA-TMA recorded: (i) in standard extracellular solution in the dark (black trace), (ii) following 365-nm light illumination for 3 min (violet trace), and (iii) after 525-nm irradiation for 3 min (green trace). (B) Thermal relaxation, recorded at 360 nm, of *cis*-MEA-TMA in standard extracellular solution fitted with a single exponential decay function ( $\tau = 16.3 \pm 0.9$  min,  $n = 3$ , mean  $\pm$  SEM).





**Table S1. Characterization and screening of P2X2 single cysteine mutants with MEA-TMA**

Constructs	ATP EC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	n <sub>H</sub>	Dark (pA/pF)	365 nm (pA/pF)	525 nm (pA/pF)	τ <sub>365 nm</sub> (s)	τ <sub>525 nm</sub> (s)
P2X2-3T	15.0 ± 2.0	2.9 ± 0.5	-5.0 ± 1.8	-5.8 ± 1.9	-5.9 ± 1.9	—	—
F44C	1.1 ± 0.4	1.3 ± 0.2	-21.1 ± 4.5	-22.3 ± 4.6	-22.9 ± 4.8	—	—
V45C	9.7 ± 0.8	1.6 ± 0.4	-3.6 ± 0.5	-4.0 ± 0.6	-4.5 ± 0.5	—	—
W46C	12.4 ± 3.1	1.8 ± 0.4	-4.2 ± 1.6	-4.9 ± 1.7	-5.4 ± 1.8	—	—
Y47C	2.5 ± 0.9	1.1 ± 0.1	-17.0 ± 2.9	-13.0 ± 2.1	-18.4 ± 3.0	0.253 ± 0.027	2.774 ± 0.115
V48C	9.4 ± 4.7	1.6 ± 0	-47.0 ± 5.6	-116.7 ± 13.9	-47.3 ± 5.6	0.335 ± 0.037	3.127 ± 0.200
F49C	6.8 ± 0.9	1.6 ± 0.3	-4.8 ± 0.7	-5.1 ± 0.6	-5.5 ± 0.6	—	—
I50C	15.6 ± 2.6	1.8 ± 0.4	-14.1 ± 5.7	-14.8 ± 5.8	-15.5 ± 5.6	—	—
V51C	32.8 ± 6.6	1.5 ± 0.2	-3.4 ± 0.7	-4.3 ± 0.8	-4.2 ± 0.8	—	—
Q52C	93.9 ± 13.8	1.7 ± 0.1	-7.7 ± 1.2	-4.7 ± 0.8	-8.6 ± 1.3	0.323 ± 0.067	12.302 ± 3.230
K53C	19.3 ± 9.0	1.8 ± 0.6	-3.9 ± 0.8	-4.5 ± 0.8	-4.5 ± 0.8	—	—
I328C	5.1 ± 0.9	1.3 ± 0.1	-67.8 ± 6.7	-20.7 ± 2.7	-69.1 ± 6.8	0.095 ± 0.004	4.986 ± 0.426
P329C	7.2 ± 1.0	0.9 ± 0.1	-11.7 ± 1.1	-18.5 ± 1.9	-13.2 ± 1.2	0.109 ± 0.017	3.946 ± 0.579
T330C	10.2 ± 1.6	1.5 ± 0.2	-9.9 ± 2.2	-10.2 ± 2.2	-10.9 ± 2.3	—	—
I331C	19.8 ± 3.8	1.8 ± 0.2	-8.9 ± 0.8	-9.1 ± 0.8	-9.7 ± 0.8	—	—
I332C	9.6 ± 3.0	1.0 ± 0.1	-36.1 ± 11.3	-30.8 ± 9.7	-37.3 ± 11.5	0.180 ± 0.023	1.382 ± 0.248
N333C	9.2 ± 4.2	2.2 ± 1.0	-16.7 ± 2.8	-33 ± 8.3	-17.5 ± 2.9	0.191 ± 0.008	3.861 ± 0.740
L334C	9.8 ± 3.2	1.4 ± 0.3	-4.0 ± 0.9	-4.1 ± 0.9	-4.8 ± 0.9	—	—
A335C	12.1 ± 2.8	1.7 ± 0.1	-4.8 ± 1.0	-5.2 ± 1.1	-6.4 ± 1.4	—	—
T336C	25.7 ± 8.8	1.2 ± 0.2	-18.1 ± 2.5	-12.6 ± 1.7	-19.4 ± 2.5	0.090 ± 0.003	5.581 ± 0.295

All photoactive mutants were labeled in the absence of ATP, except for V48C, Q52C, K53C, N333C, and T336C, in which labeling was performed in the presence of ATP (EC<sub>50</sub>). All data are mean ± SEM, n = 3–7 from at least two transfections. τ is the time constant determined at the indicated wavelength.

**Table S2. Relative ion permeability for chloride**

Constructs	Light-gated				ATP-gated			
	E <sub>rev</sub> NaCl (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> Man (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> Na-Ise (mV)	P <sub>Cl</sub> /P <sub>Na</sub>	E <sub>rev</sub> NaCl (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> Man (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> Na-Ise (mV)	P <sub>Cl</sub> /P <sub>Na</sub>
P2X2-3T	—	—	—	—	-4.3 ± 5.4	-32.5 ± 9.4	1.2 ± 5.9	0.10 ± 0.14
I328C	-1.0 ± 7.8	-38.1 ± 6.9	-2.4 ± 7.4	0 ± 0	-2.5 ± 5.9	-29.0 ± 6.1	-0.5 ± 4.6	0.09 ± 0.04
K69A/I328C	-11.8 ± 8.7	-49.0 ± 7.1	-12.9 ± 7.4	0 ± 0	—	—	—	—

Data represent mean ± SEM, n = 4–6 cells from at least two transfections. For the P2X2-3T receptor and the I328C mutant, ATP concentration was, respectively, 10 and 3 μM.

**Table S3. Relative ion permeability for calcium**

Constructs	Light-gated			ATP-gated		
	E <sub>rev</sub> NaCl (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> Ca (mV)	P <sub>Ca</sub> /P <sub>Na</sub>	E <sub>rev</sub> NaCl (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> Ca (mV)	P <sub>Ca</sub> /P <sub>Na</sub>
P2X2-3T	—	—	—	7.7 ± 3.6	9.2 ± 2.8	2.08 ± 0.22
I328C	-7.1 ± 3.2	-29.6 ± 1.9	0.56 ± 0.09	-7.2 ± 3.3	-17.9 ± 2.3	1.04 ± 0.13
K69A/I328C	0.7 ± 1.4	-27.0 ± 5.2	0.43 ± 0.09	—	—	—

Data represent mean ± SEM, n = 4–6 cells from at least two transfections. For P2X2-3T receptor and I328C mutant, ATP concentration was, respectively, 10 and 3 μM in NaCl solution. For Ca solution ATP concentration was 300 μM for both constructs.

**Table S4. Relative ion permeability for NMDG**

Constructs	E <sub>rev</sub> NaCl (mV)	E <sub>rev</sub> NMDG (mV)			P <sub>NMDG</sub> /P <sub>CS</sub>		
		3 s	30 s	60 s	3 s	30 s	60 s
ATP-gated							
P2X2-3T	-9.8 ± 5.7	-73.7 ± 5.5	-60.7 ± 10.0	-49.1 ± 10.5	0.07 ± 0.01	0.12 ± 0.03	0.20 ± 0.06
Light-gated							
I328C	-5.5 ± 1.0	-58.2 ± 3.5	-50.8 ± 6.0	-54.9 ± 3.4	0.13 ± 0.02	0.17 ± 0.05	0.13 ± 0.02
K69A/I328C	1.5 ± 5.8	-52.0 ± 8.2	-56.9 ± 8.3	-59.8 ± 7.6	0.14 ± 0.01	0.12 ± 0.02	0.11 ± 0.02

Data represent mean ± SEM, n = 3–4 cells from at least two transfections. ATP concentration was 100 μM for P2X2-3T.