

Supplemental Table S2: The axonal projection of various populations of primary sensory neurons to the conjunctiva, cornea and skin

Table 1: Mouse lines	Conjunctiva	Cornea	Back Skin
<i>Pirt</i> ^{GCaMP3/+}	+++++	+++++	+++++
<i>Nav1.8: Scn10a</i> ^{cre/+} ; <i>Rosa26</i> ^{tdT/+}	+++	+++++	++++
<i>Trpv1</i> ^{ALPP/+}	+++	++++	+++
<i>Trpm8</i> ^{gfp/+}	+	++++	++
<i>Mrgprd</i> ^{egfp/+}	+	absent	+++
<i>Mrgpra3</i> ^{cre/+} ; <i>Rosa26</i> ^{tdT/+}	+++	absent	+++
<i>Sst</i> ^{cre/+} ; <i>Rosa26</i> ^{tdT/+}	absent	absent	+++
<i>Vglut3: Slc17a8</i> ^{cre/+} ; <i>Rosa26</i> ^{tdT/+}	absent	++	+++
CGRP (immunofluorescence)	+++	++++	+++

Supplemental Figures

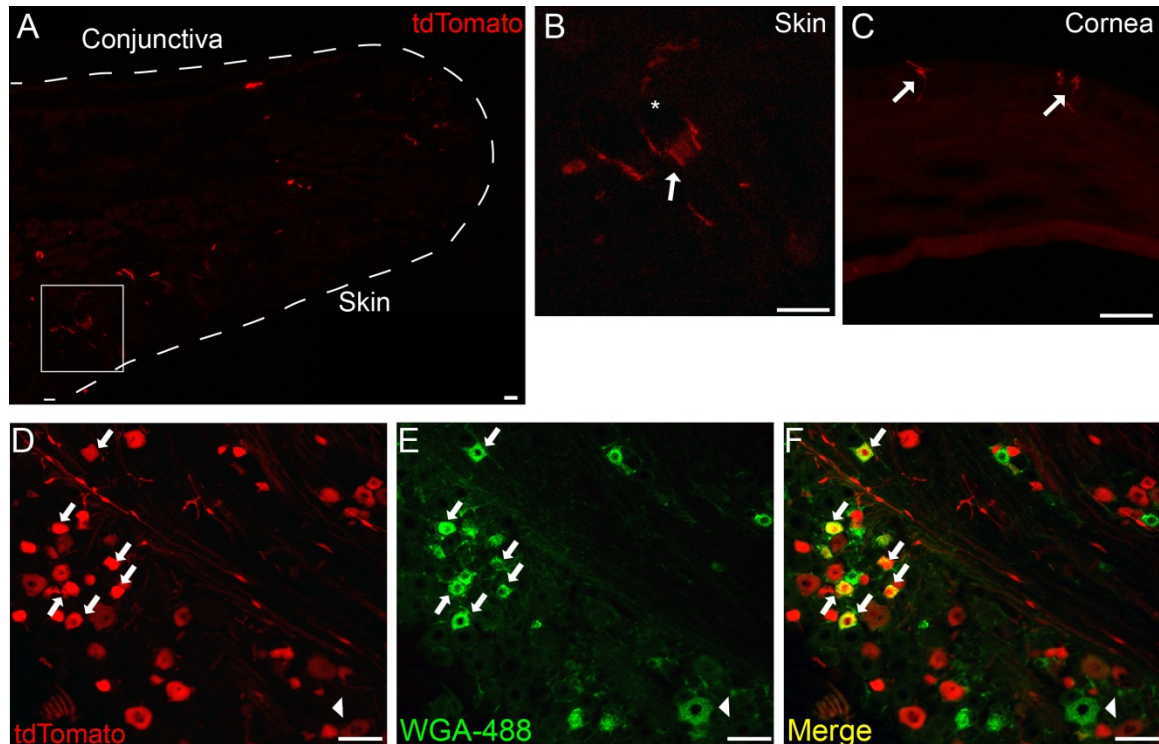


Fig. S1: Low-threshold mechanosensitive C fiber neurons that express vesicular glutamate transporter 3 (VGLUT3, gene *Slc17a8*) do not innervate the conjunctiva (A) *Slc17a8^{cre/+}; Rosa26^{tdTomato/+}* (*Slc17a8^{tdTomato/+}*) sensory fibers in a section of an eyelid. (B) High magnification view of boxed area in (A). Asterisk indicates a hair follicle. Arrow indicates *Slc17a8^{tdTomato/+}* sensory fibers (C) *Slc17a8^{tdTomato/+}* sensory fibers in a section of cornea. Arrows indicate VGLUT3⁺ sensory fibers. (D-F) WGA-mediated retrograde labeling of corneal afferent neurons in *Slc17a8^{tdTomato/+}* mice. Arrows indicate co-localization of tdTomato⁺ neurons (red) and WGA (green) in the section of trigeminal ganglion. Arrowhead indicates a large diameter neuron labelled only by WGA. Representative images shown were chosen from 3 trigeminal ganglia imaged from three mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m.

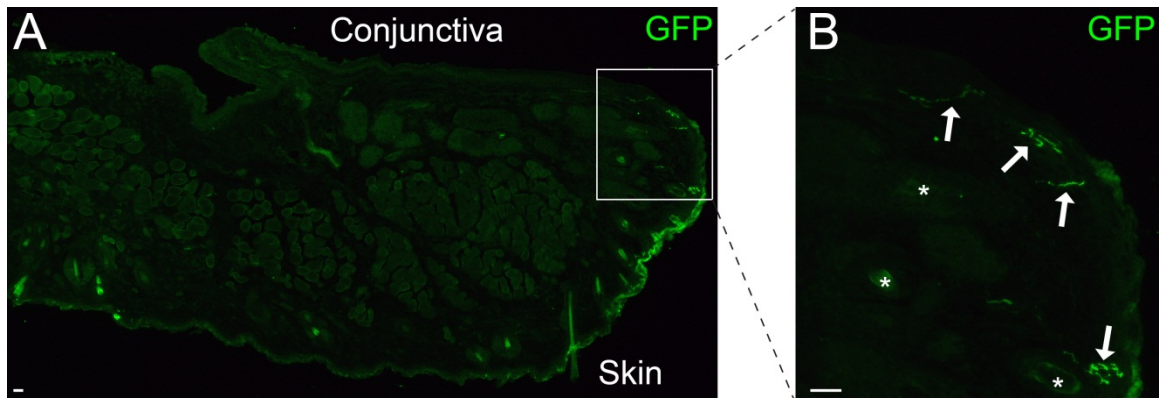


Fig. S2: Sparse innervation of TRPM8⁺ sensory fibers in the conjunctiva (A) *Trpm8*^{gfp/+} sensory fibers in a section of an eyelid. (B) High magnification view of boxed area in (A). Arrows indicate GFP⁺ fibers. Asterisks indicate hair follicles in the eyelid skin. Representative images were chosen from 6 conjunctivae imaged from three mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m.

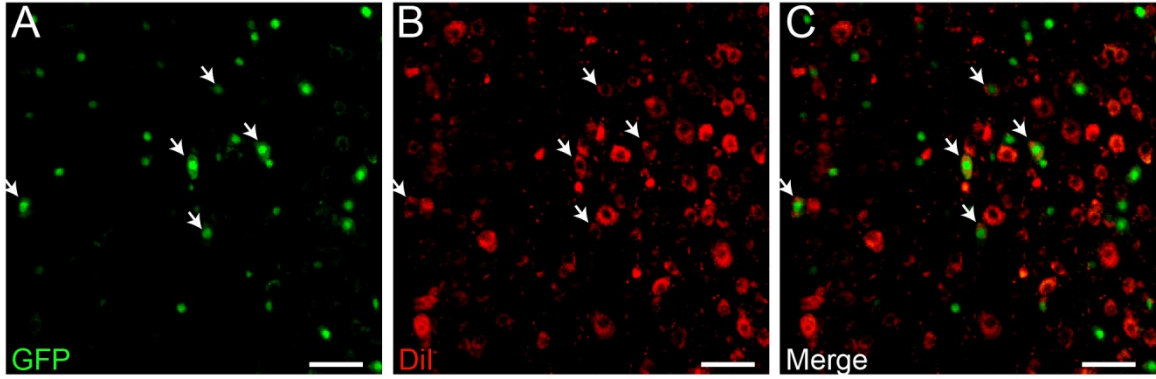


Fig. S3: A group of conjunctival afferent neurons express MrgprA3. **(A-C)** Dil-mediated retrograde labeling of conjunctival afferent neurons in *MrgprA3^{gfp-cre}* mice. Arrows indicate co-localization of GFP⁺ neurons (green) and Dil (red) in the section of trigeminal ganglion. Representative images shown were chosen from 3 trigeminal ganglia imaged from 3 mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m.

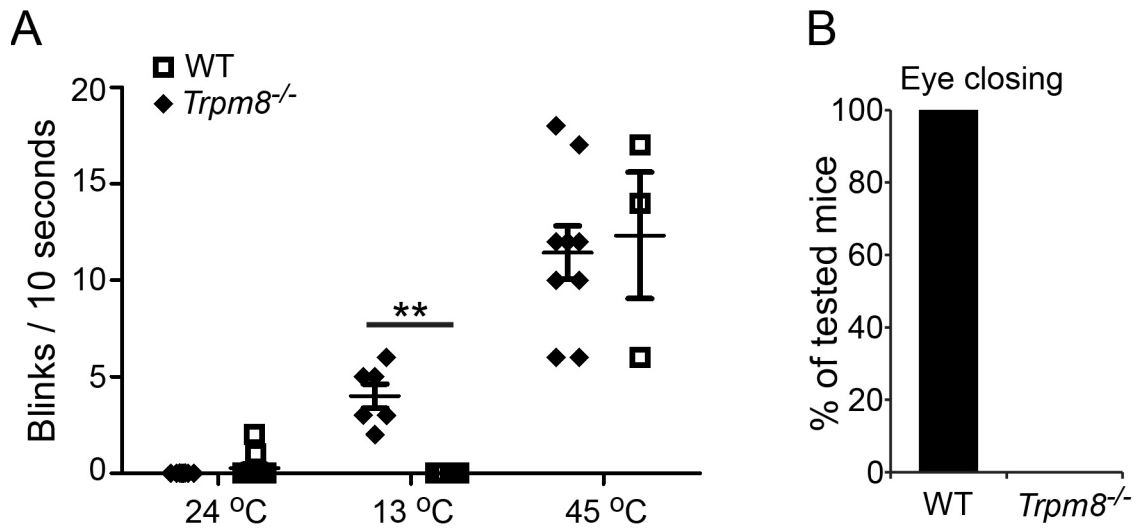


Fig. S4: TRPM8 mediates ocular pain induced by the cold temperature. **(A)** Blinking responses to air flow (0.5 L/min) at different temperatures in WT (n=11, 6, 9, respectively) and *Trpm8*^{-/-} mice (n=11, 8, 3, respectively). Data are expressed as mean±s.e.m. Statistical analysis by two tailed Student's t-test (**P=0.0015). **(B)** Eye-closing behavior to air flow (0.5 L/min) at different temperature in WT (n=6) and *Trpm8*^{-/-} mice (n=3).

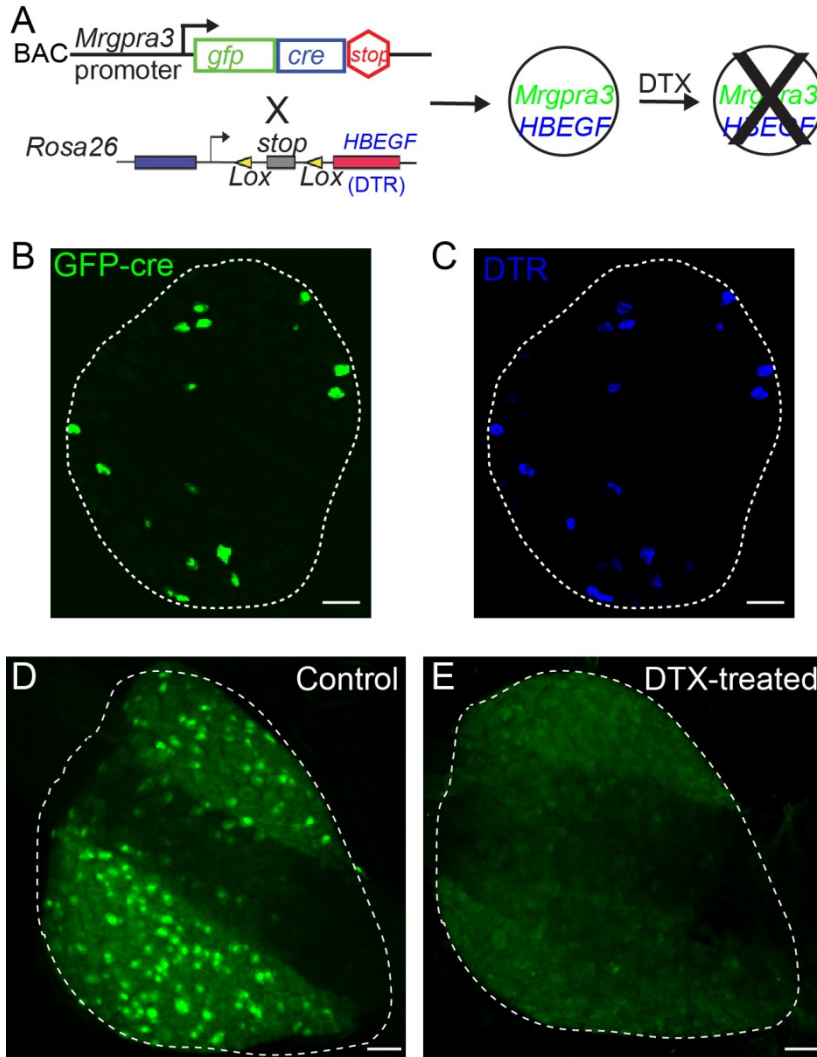


Fig. S5: Genetic- and temporal-specific ablation of MrgprA3⁺ neurons. **(A)** Combining Cre-Lox and diphtheria toxin receptor (DTR, gene *HBEGF*) approaches to ablate MrgprA3⁺ neurons. **(B-C)** All *Mrgpra3*^{gfp-cre} neurons (green) express DTR (blue). No ectopic DTR expression was detected. **(D-E)** Stacked confocal microscopy images of the whole DRG from *Mrgpra3*^{gfp-cre}; *Rosa*^{HBEGF/+} mice before **(D)** and after **(E)** diphtheria toxin treatment. Representative images were chosen from DRGs imaged from 3 mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m.

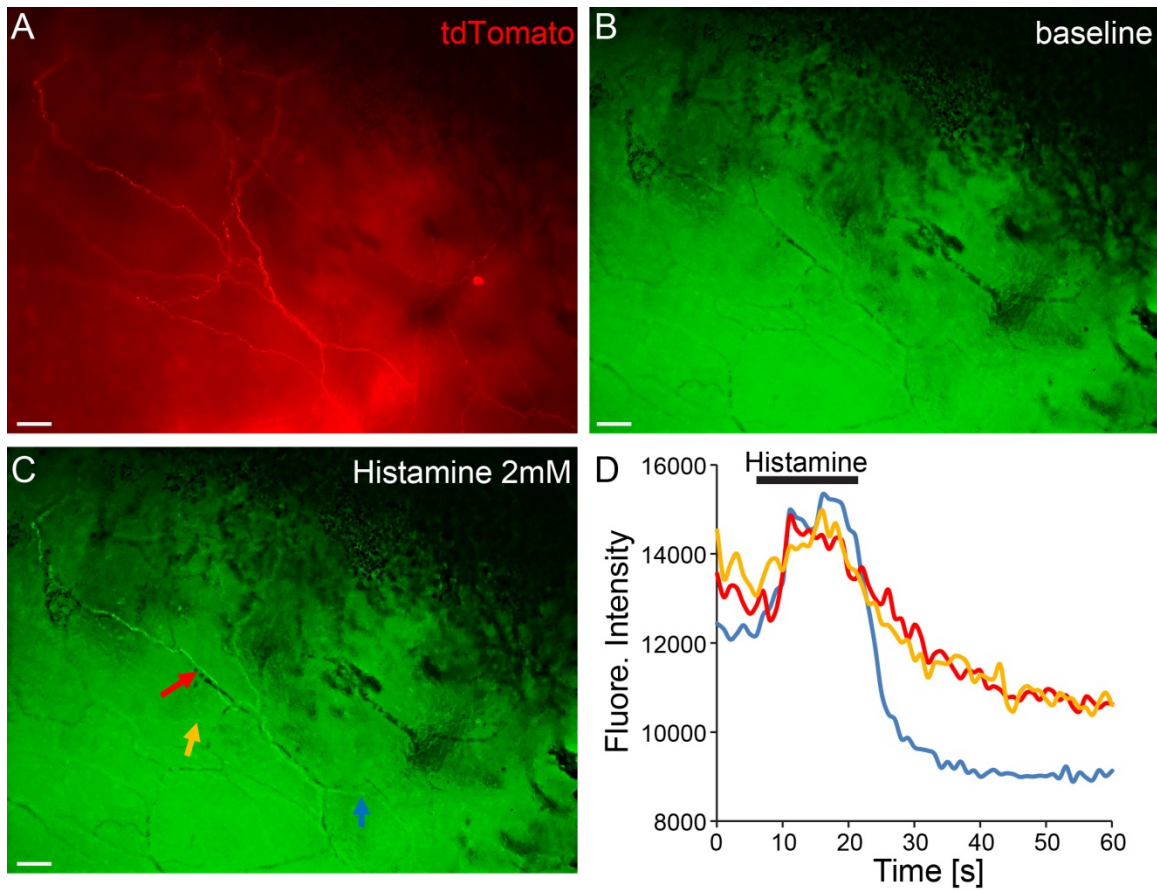


Fig. S6: MrgprA3⁺ conjunctival fibers response to histamine. (A) *Mrgpra3*^{gfp-cre/+}; *Rosa26*^{tdTomato/+}; *Pirt*^{GCaMP3/+} sensory fibers (red) in the conjunctiva. (B) Baseline of GCaMP3 fluorescence in the conjunctiva explant. (C) Increased GCaMP3 fluorescence upon 2 mM histamine stimulation. Arrows indicate activated MrgprA3⁺ sensory fibers. (D) Dynamics of GCaMP3 fluorescence upon histamine stimulation in MrgprA3⁺ sensory fibers from (C). Representative images were chosen from 5 conjunctival explants imaged from 3 mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m.

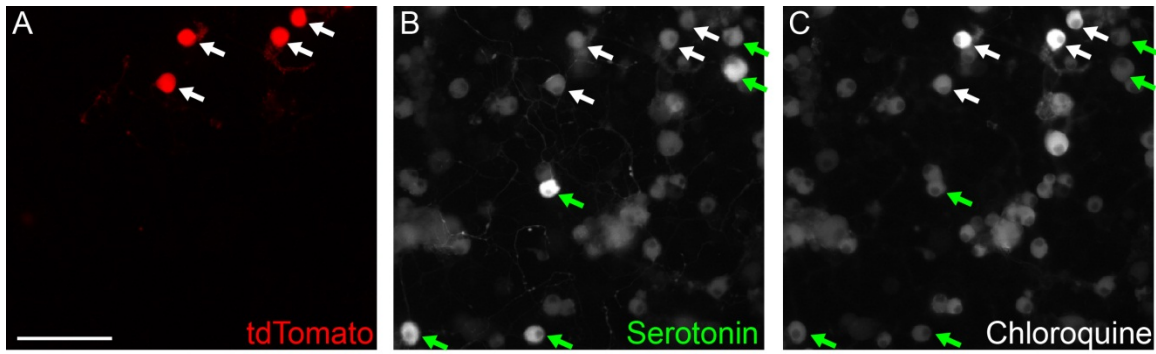


Fig. S7: $MrgprA3^+$ DRG neurons respond to chloroquine but not serotonin. (A) DRG neurons cultured from $Mrgpra3^{cre/+}$; $Rosa26^{tdTomato/+}$; $Pirt^{GCaMP3/+}$ mice. White arrows indicate $MrgprA3^+$ DRG neurons. (B) Increased GCaMP3 fluorescence upon 10 μ M serotonin stimulation. (C) Increased GCaMP3 fluorescence upon 1 mM chloroquine stimulation. Green arrows indicate serotonin-sensitive neurons, which do not express $MrgprA3$ and are insensitive to chloroquine. The experiment was repeated independently three times with similar results. Scale bars: 100 μ m.

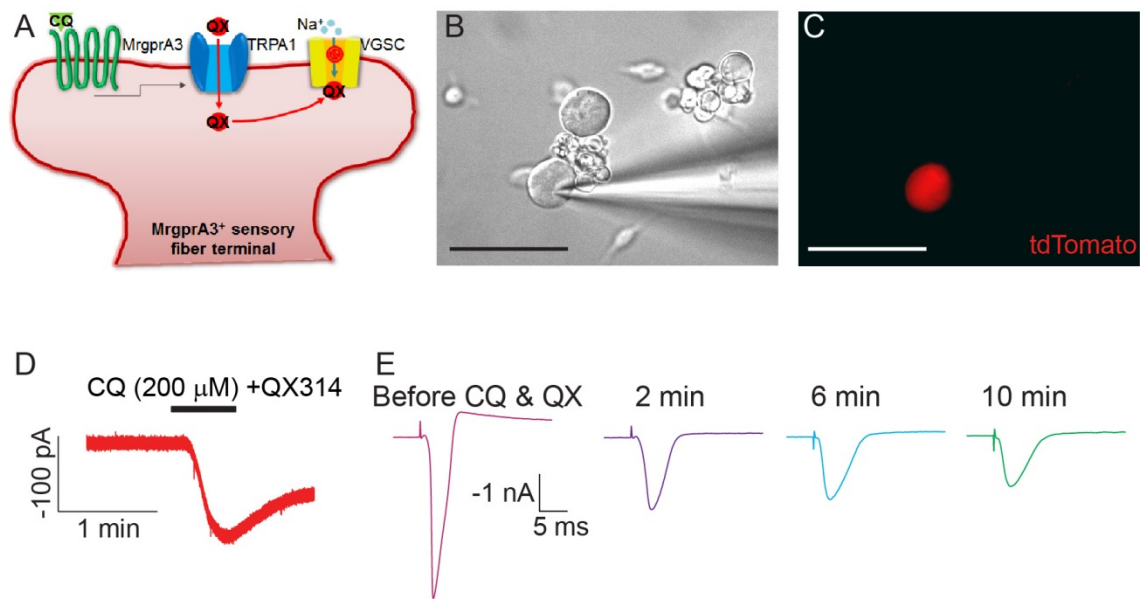


Fig. S8: Chloroquine-mediated entry of QX-314 decreases inward sodium current in MrgprA3⁺ neurons. **(A)** Diagram depicting the action model of QX-314 in MrgprA3⁺ neurons. **(B)** Representative photomicrograph of a recorded sensory neuron from *Mrgpra3*^{gfp-cre/+}; *Rosa26*^{tdTomato/+} (*Mrgpra3*^{tdTomato/+}) mice. **(C)** The presence of tdTomato (red) indicates that the recorded neuron is MrgprA3⁺. Scale bars: 100 μm. **(D)** Inward currents triggered by application of chloroquine and QX-314 **(E)** Representative traces of inward sodium current recorded before and after application of CQ and QX-314.

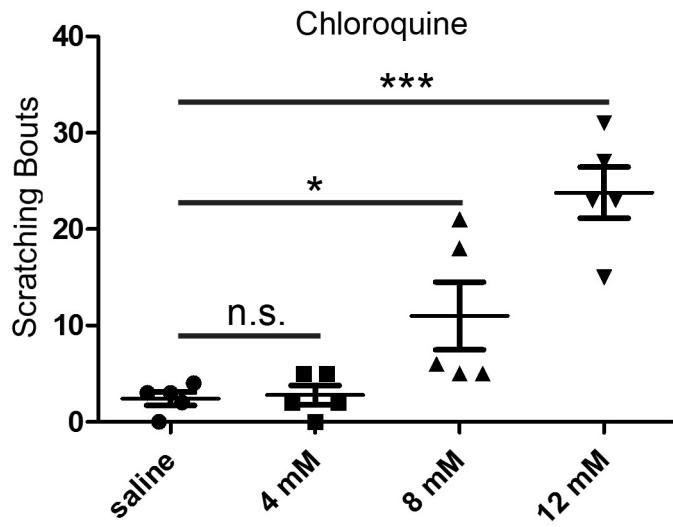


Fig. S9: Dose-dependent ocular scratching behavior evoked by topical chloroquine application in the conjunctiva sac of WT mice (n=5/group). All data are expressed as mean±s.e.m. Statistical analysis by two tailed Student's *t*-test (4 mM vs. saline, P=0.744; 8 mM vs. saline, *P=0.04; 12 mM vs. saline, ***P=0.0009).

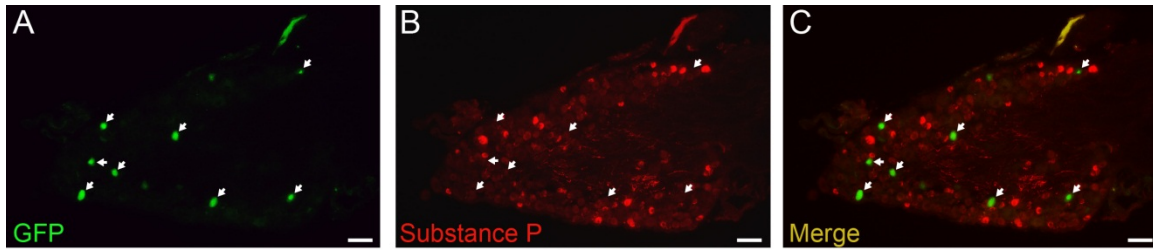


Fig. S10: MrgprA3⁺ neurons do not express substance P. **(A)** DRG section of *Mrgpra3^{gfp-cre/+}* mouse. **(B)** Immunofluorescence of substance P. **(C)** Merged image of **(A)** and **(B)**. Arrows indicate MrgprA3⁺ DRG neurons, which do not overlap with substance P immunofluorescence signals. Representative images were chosen from DRGs imaged from 3 mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m.