Supplementary material

Tmc proteins are essential for zebrafish hearing where

Tmc1 is not obligatory

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1

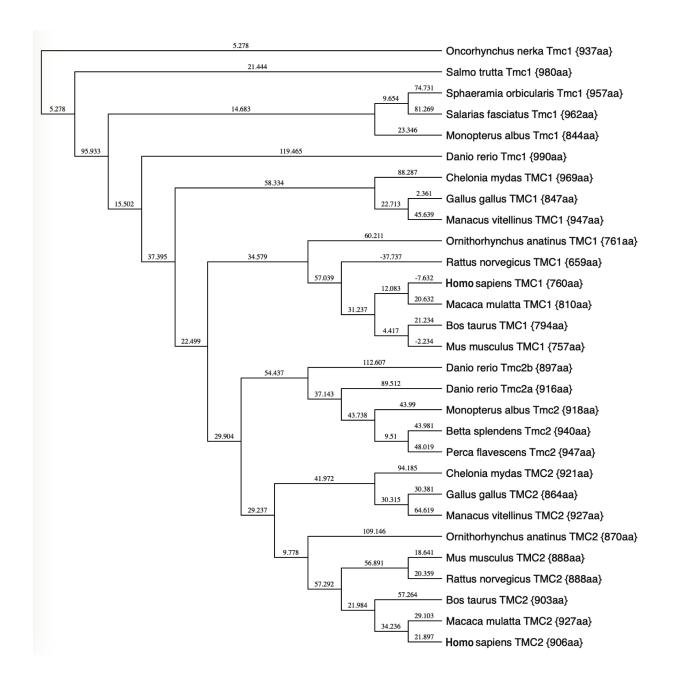


Fig. S1. A phylogenetic tree of zebrafish Tmc1, Tmc2a, Tmc2b, and other relevant vertebrate orthologous proteins using ClustalW (neighbor joining tree with absolute number difference). GenBank accession numbers are as follows: zebrafish (*Danio rerio*: Tmc1, NP_001299610.1; Tmc2a, NP_001289166.1; Tmc2b, NP_001289152.1), mouse (*Mus musculus*: TMC1, NP_083229.1; TMC2, NP_619596.1),

human (*Homo sapiens*: TMC1, NP_619636.2; TMC2, NP_542789.2), cattle (*Bos taurus*: TMC1, XP_024851786.1; TMC2, NP_001107238.1), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*: TMC1, XP_007065675.1; TMC2, XP_007070749.2), chicken (*Gallus gallus*: TMC1, NP_001006580.1; TMC2, NP_001034413.1), rhesus macaque (*Macaca mulatta*: TMC1, XP_014973432.1; TMC2, XP_015004873.2), golden-collared manakin (*Manacus vitellinus*: TMC1, XP_017941330.1; TMC2, XP_017930609.2), swamp eel (*Monopterus albus*: Tmc1, XP_020446228.1; Tmc2, XP_020470803.1), platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*: TMC1, XP_028911690.1; TMC2, XP_028927221.1), rat (*Rattus norvegicus*: TMC1, NP_001101991.1; TMC2, NP_001099980.1), sockeye salmon (*Oncorhynchus nerka*: Tmc1, XP_029534853.1), brown trout (*Salmo trutta*: Tmc1, XP_029617773.1), blenny (*Salarias fasciatus*: Tmc1, XP_0299960010.1), cardinalfish (*Sphaeramia orbicularis*: Tmc1, XP_029999672.1), yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*: Tmc2, XP_028457984.1), and Siamese fighting fish (*Betta splendens*: Tmc2, XP_029025885.1).

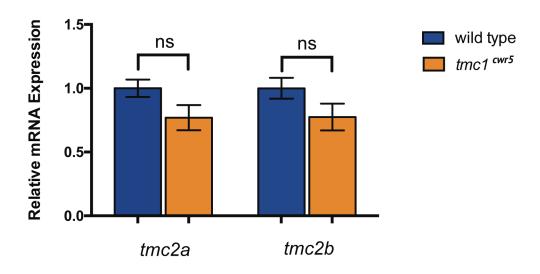


Fig. S2. Relative tmc2a and tmc2b mRNA levels in the tmc1 cwr5 mutant. Quantitative RT-PCR analyses for tmc2a and tmc2b mRNAs from 6-dpf larvae. Unpaired Student's t-test, P = 0.096 and 0.13 for tmc2a mRNA and tmc2b mRNA, respectively (n = 5).

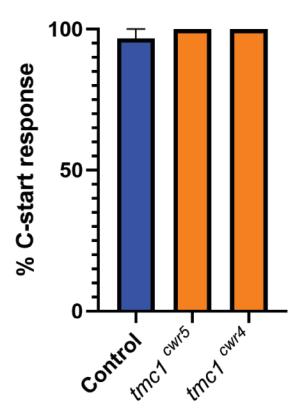


Fig. S3. Graph of the mean percentages of adult zebrafish that exhibit a C-start response when presented with vibrational stimuli \pm SEM. Each fish was presented with 10 vibrational stimuli. All mutants responded to all stimuli. $n_{control\ (wild\ type)} = 3$, $n_{tmc1}^{cwr5} = 5$, $n_{tmc1}^{cwr4} = 1$; n = number of fish.

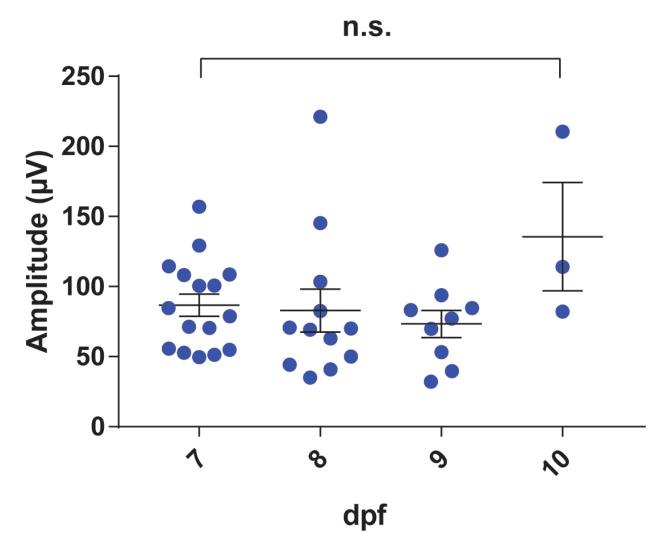


Fig. S4. Mean microphonic potential amplitudes of wild-type fish by age of fish. The mean amplitudes of microphonic potentials \pm SEM are $86.8 \pm 7.8 \mu V$ for fish at 7 dpf (n = 16), $83.0 \pm 15.3 \mu V$ for fish at 8 dpf (n = 12), $73.3 \pm 9.6 \mu V$ for fish at 9 dpf (n = 9), and $135 \pm 38.6 \mu V$ for fish at 10 dpf (n = 3). One-way ANOVA, P = 0.18.

Movie descriptions:

- Movie 1. Startle reflex of a tmc1 cwr5 larva.
- Movie 2. Startle reflex of a tmc1 cwr5/+ control larva.
- Movie 3. Startle reflex of a *tmc1* cwr4 larva.
- Movie 4. Startle reflex of a wild-type control adult.
- Movie 5. Startle reflex of a *tmc1* cwr4 adult.
- Movie 6. Startle reflex of a *tmc2b* ^{cwr2} *tmc2a* ^{cwr3} double-mutant larva with no response to a stimulus.
- Movie 7. A tmc2b cwr2 tmc2a cwr3 double-mutant larva with a response to a stimulus.

The same fish from **Movie 6** was used in this movie, demonstrating the inconsistency in responses of the double mutant to provided stimuli.

Movie 8. A *tmc2b* cwr8 *tmc1* cwr4 *tmc2a* cwr6 triple-mutant larva lacks a response to a stimulus.