

# Tübingen Hearing Research Centre



University of Tübingen

*Mol Aspects of Hearing*

*NeuroSensory Curriculum*  
*2009/2010*

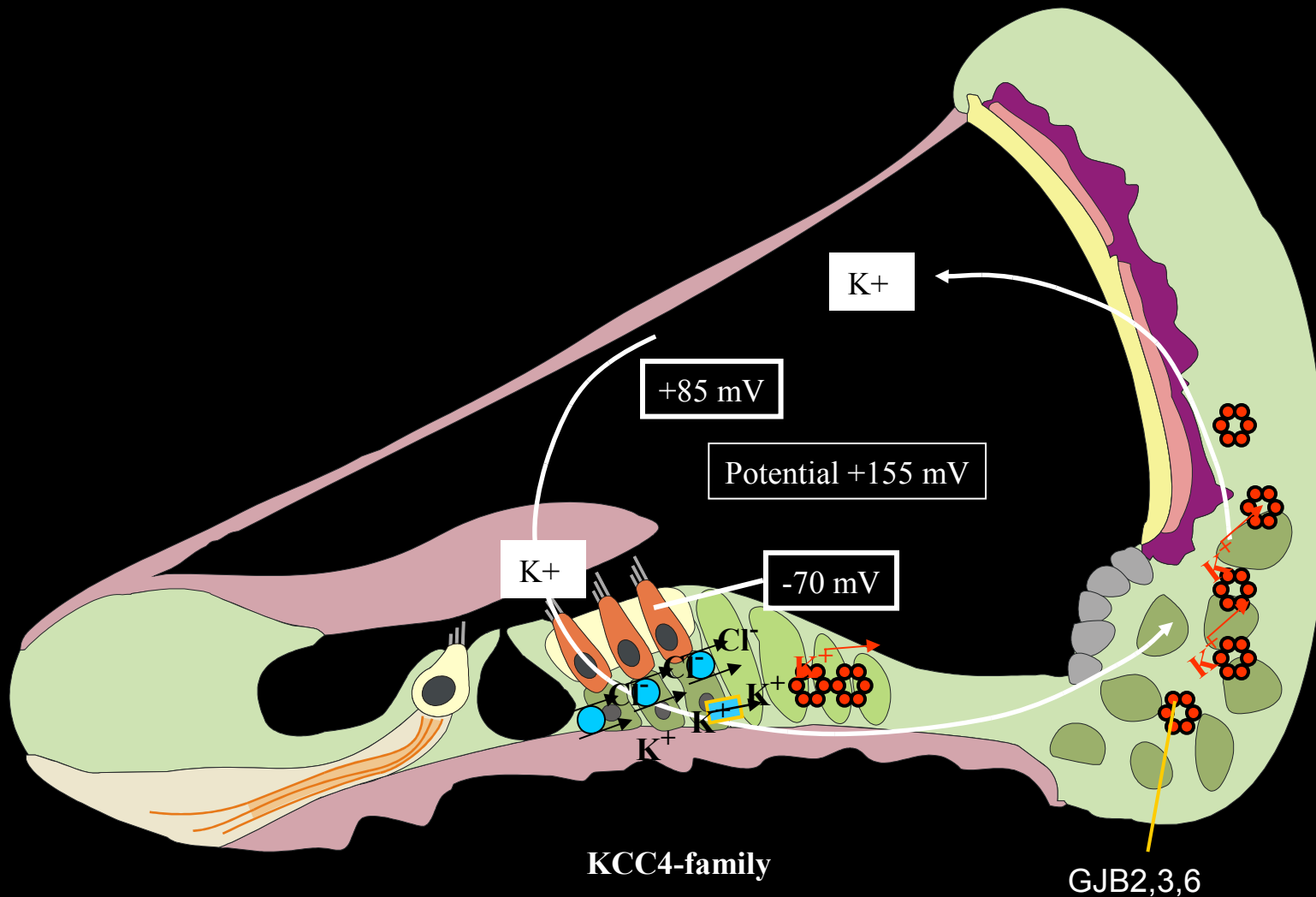


**Singularity** of our human being is not due to the individuality or higher number of genes

**Singularity** is the result from the tremendous possibilities to combine different genes, their subtypes and their splice variants

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	<b>Genomsize</b>	<b>Coding Genes</b>	<b>Genes per MB</b>
<b>Human</b>	<b>2724 MB</b>	<b>31.780</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>C elegans</b>		<b>19.099</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Drosophila</b>	<b>116 MB</b>	<b>13.601</b>	<b>117</b>
<b>Plant</b> <i>Arabidopsisthaliana</i>		<b>25.498</b>	<b>221</b>



**K<sup>+</sup>- Cl<sup>-</sup> Cotransport →**

→ Deafness in mice mutants (Jentsch. ZMNH Hamburg. 2002)

Non-syndromal deafness in heterozygous and homozygous patients

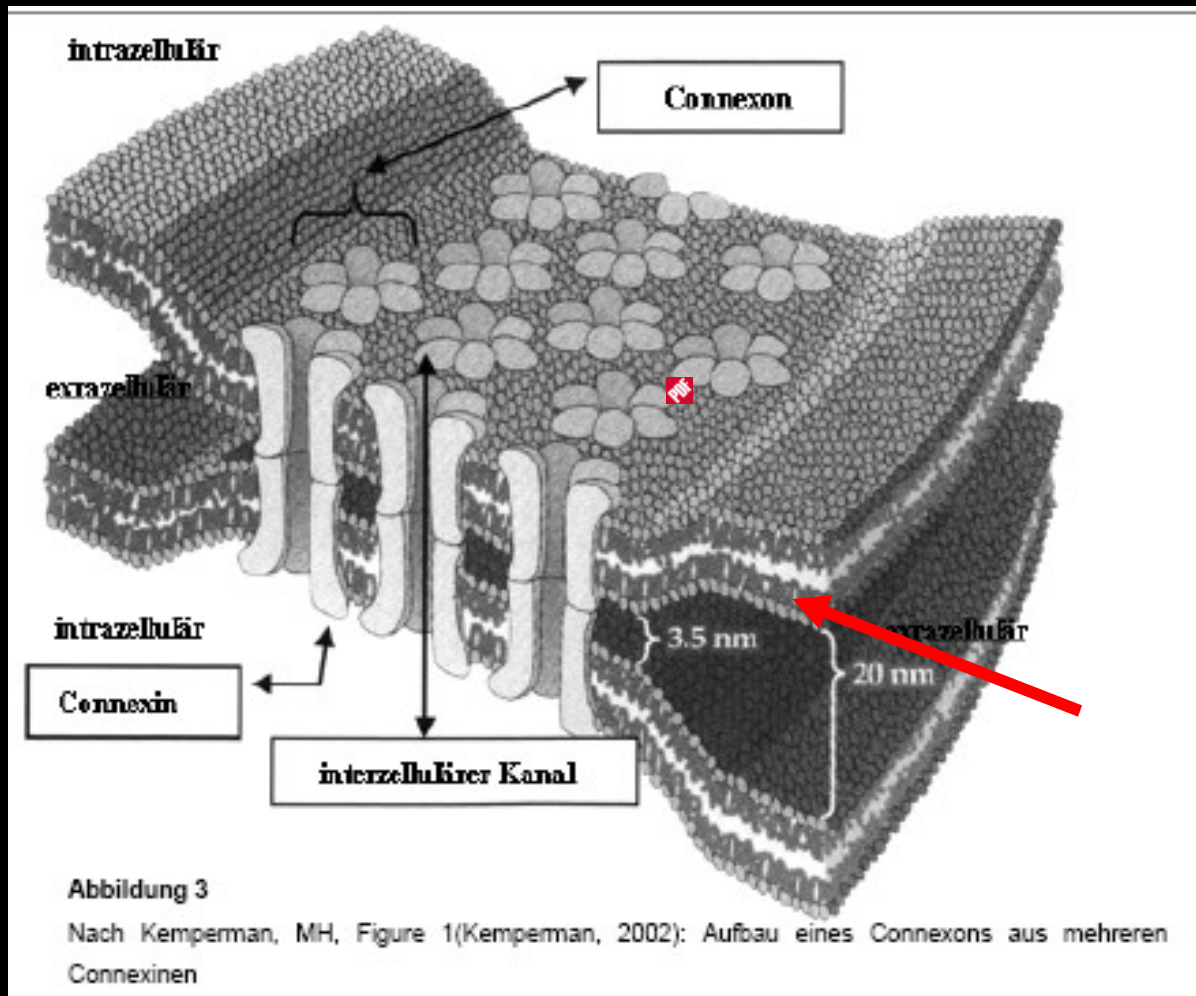
Connexin 31 (GJB3) → Chromosome 1p34 → DFNA2 locus ?? Cochlea; auditory nerve

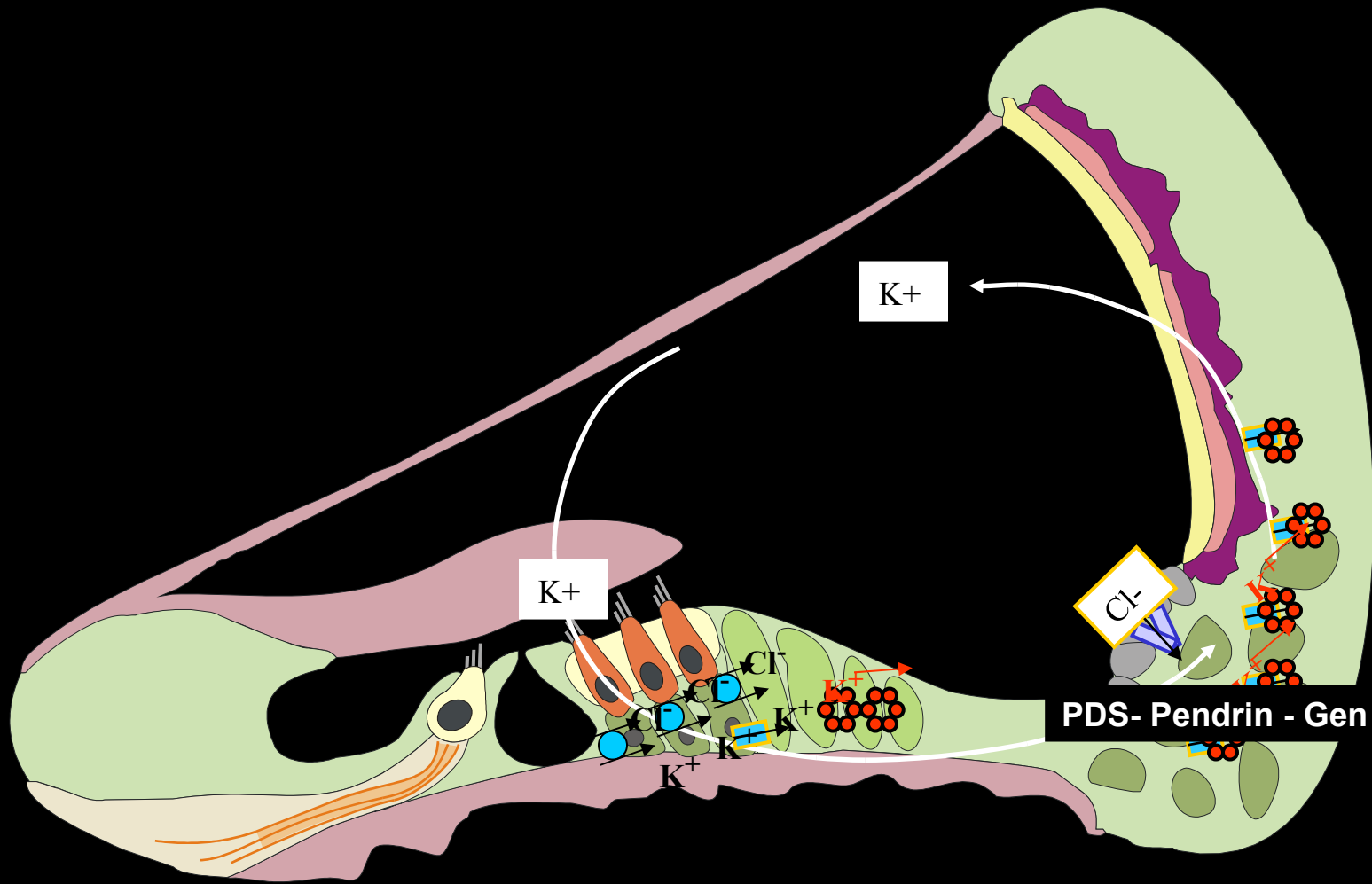
Connexin 26 (GJB2) → Chromosome 13q12 → DFNB1 locus spiral ligament; supporting cell

Connexin 30 (GJB6) → Chromosome 13q12 → DFNA3 locus spiral ligament; supporting cell

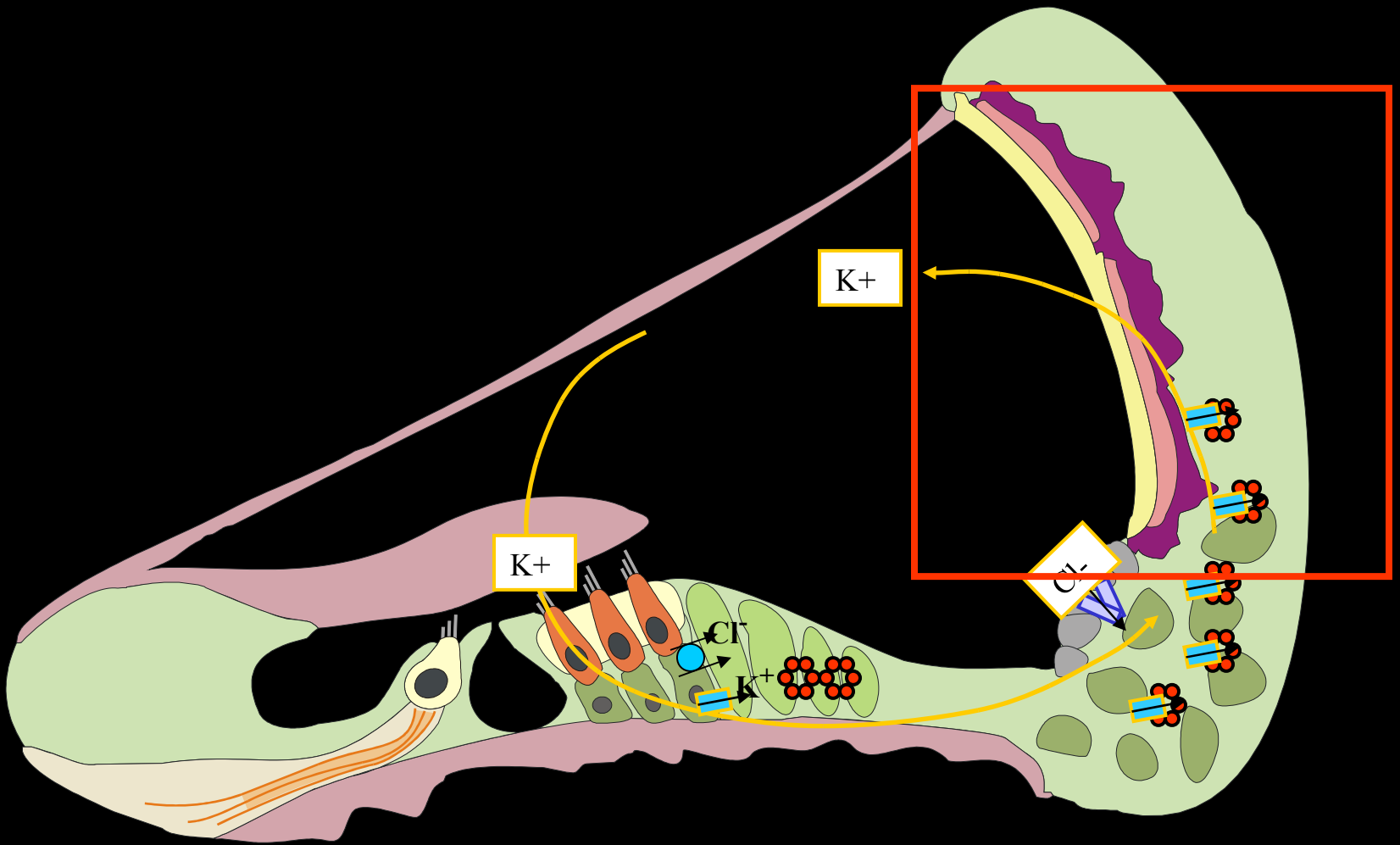
GJB = Connexin – Cx = 49% aller nicht-syndromalen Hördefekte → Connexin

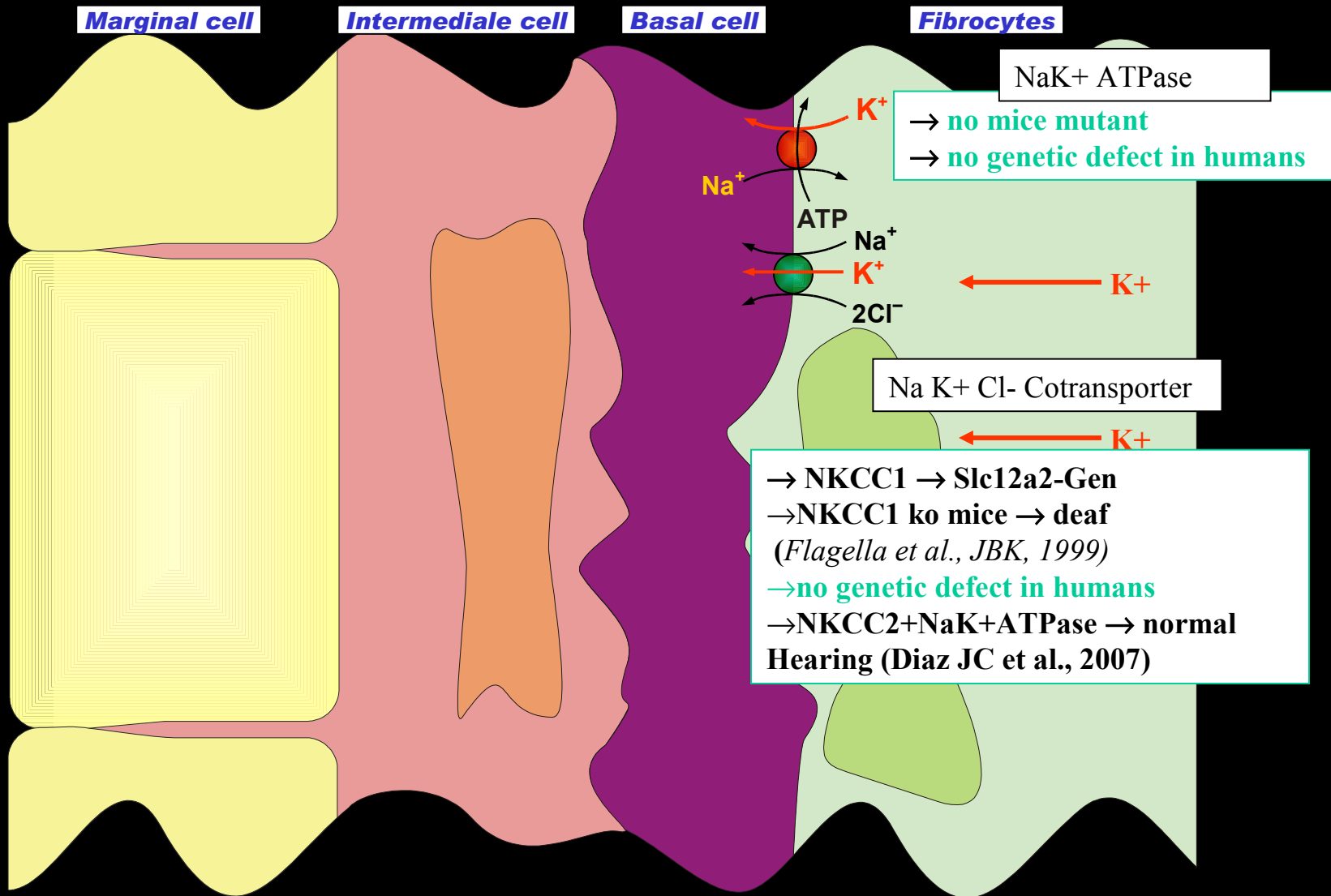
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PDS → Pendred-Syndrom → Anion/Jodid Transport → Homeostase? Chromosome 7q31 → DFNA4 locus  
 → *autosomal recessive deafness in patients with Pendred Syndrome (Everett, 1997; Li et al., 1998)*  
 → *Mice mutants → Deaf → (Everett et al., 2001; Novartis, 2006)*





Marginal cell

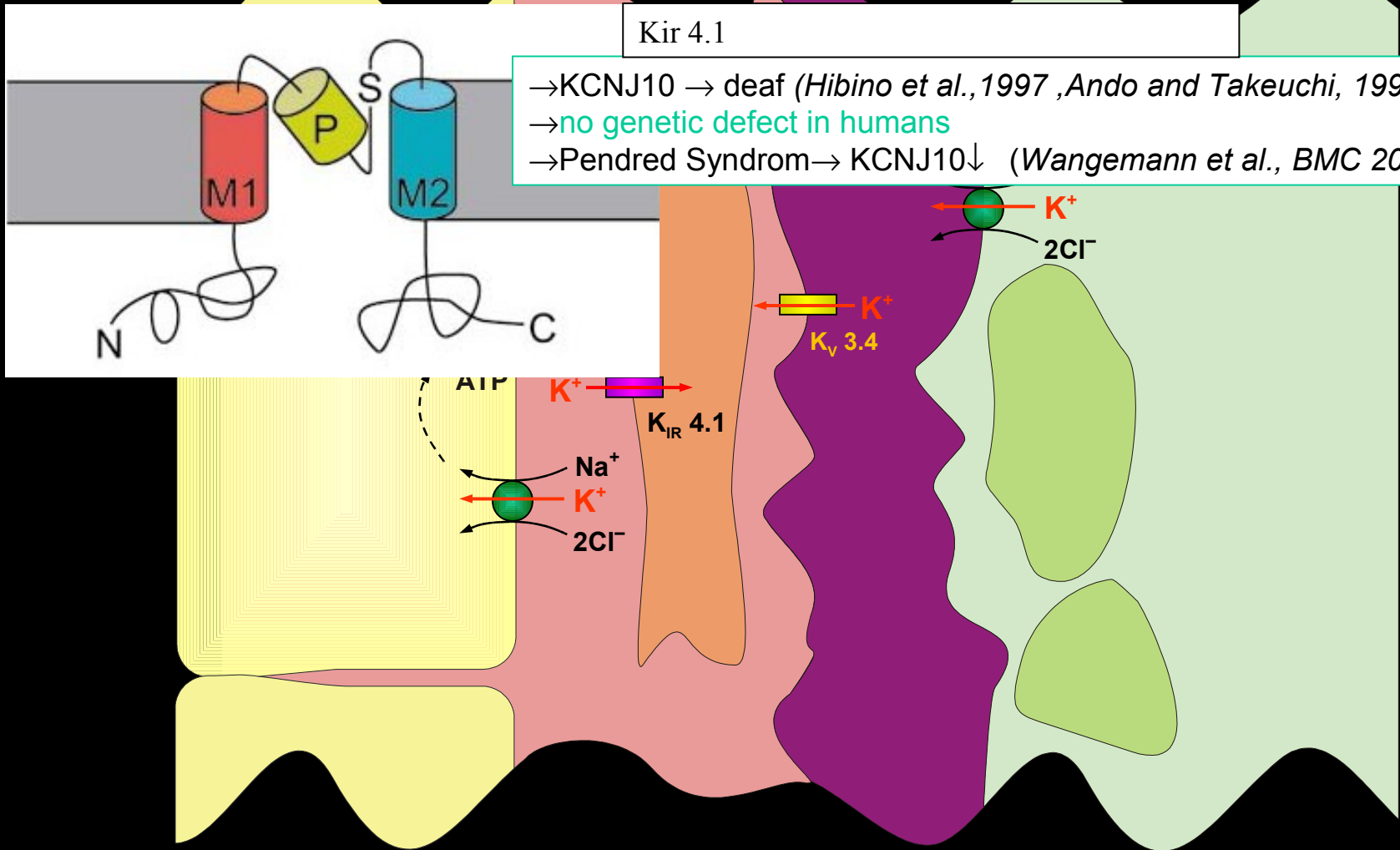
Intermediale cell

Basal cell

Fibrocytes

Kir 4.1

- KCNJ10 → deaf (*Hibino et al., 1997, Ando and Takeuchi, 1999*)
- no genetic defect in humans
- Pendred Syndrom → KCNJ10↓ (*Wangemann et al., BMC 2004*)





**Marginal cell**

**Intermediale cell**

**Basal cell**

**Fibrocytes**

KCNE1

- deafness in Jervell & Lange-Nielsen Syndrom, (Lets et al., 2000, Mamm. Genom.)
- Mice mutant is deaf (Vetter et al., 1996)

KCNE1

KCNQ1

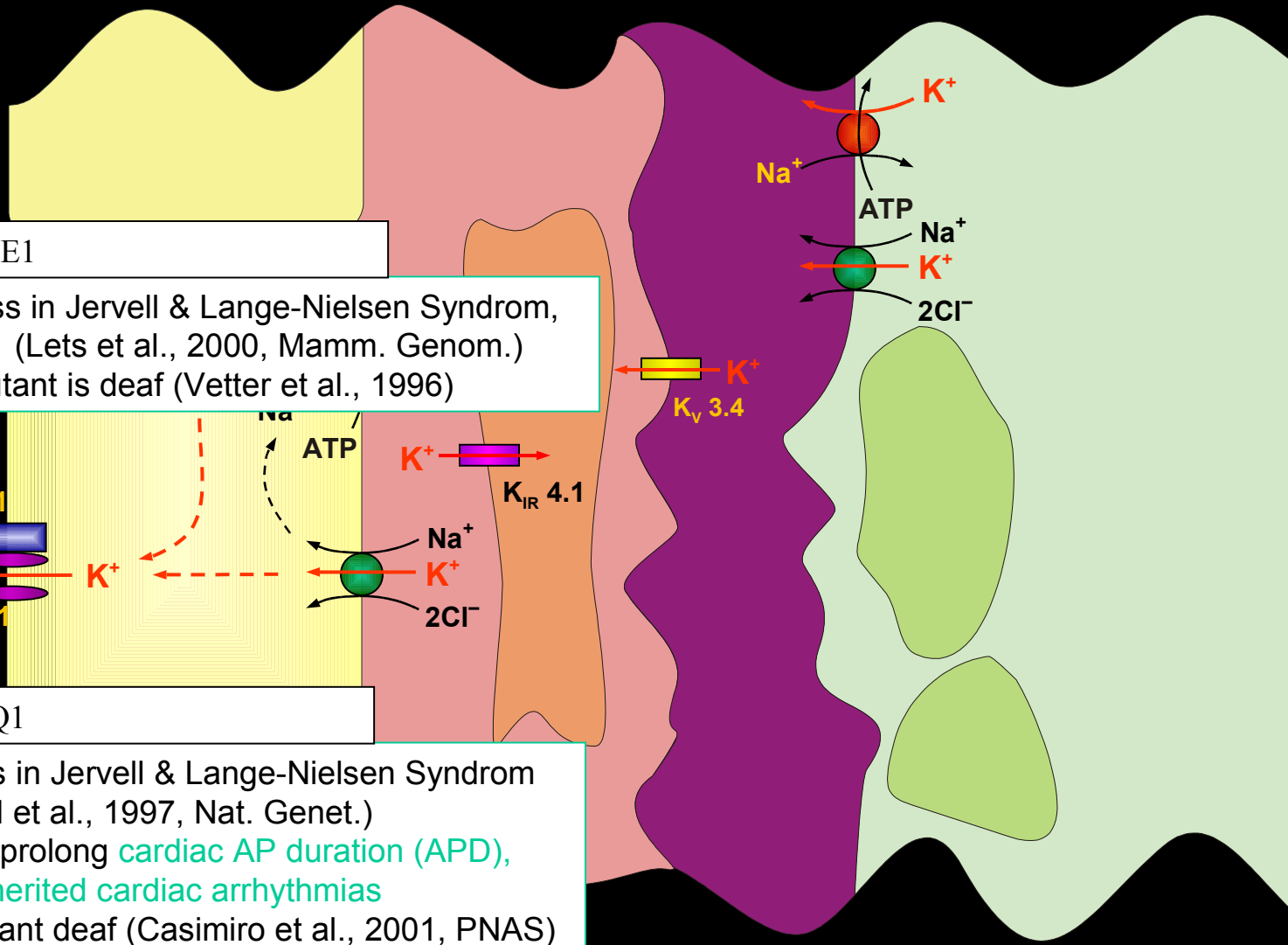
KCNQ1

ATP  
 $K^+$   
 $Na^+$   
 $K^+$   
 $2Cl^-$   
 $K_{IR} 4.1$

$K^+$   
 $K_v 3.4$

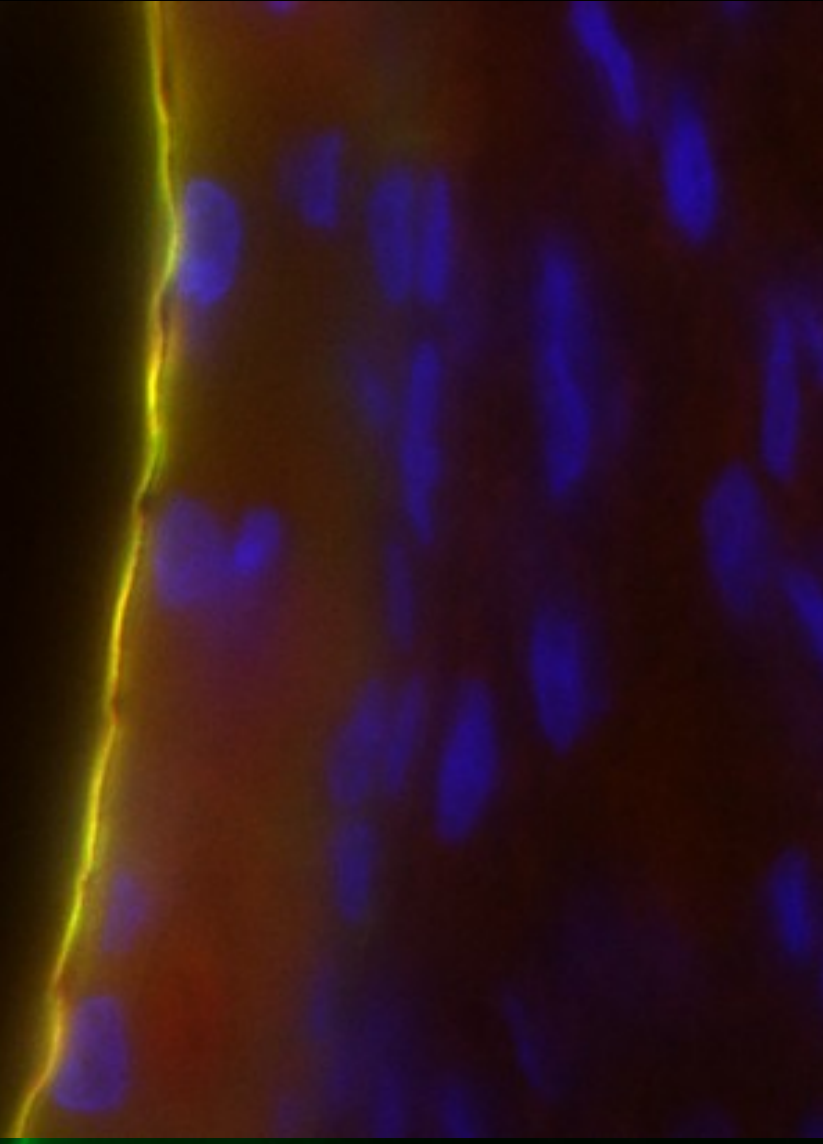
$K^+$   
 $Na^+$   
ATP  
 $Na^+$   
 $K^+$   
 $2Cl^-$

- deafness in Jervell & Lange-Nielsen Syndrom (Neyroud et al., 1997, Nat. Genet.)
- Mutation prolong cardiac AP duration (APD),
- cause inherited cardiac arrhythmias
- Mice mutant deaf (Casimiro et al., 2001, PNAS)



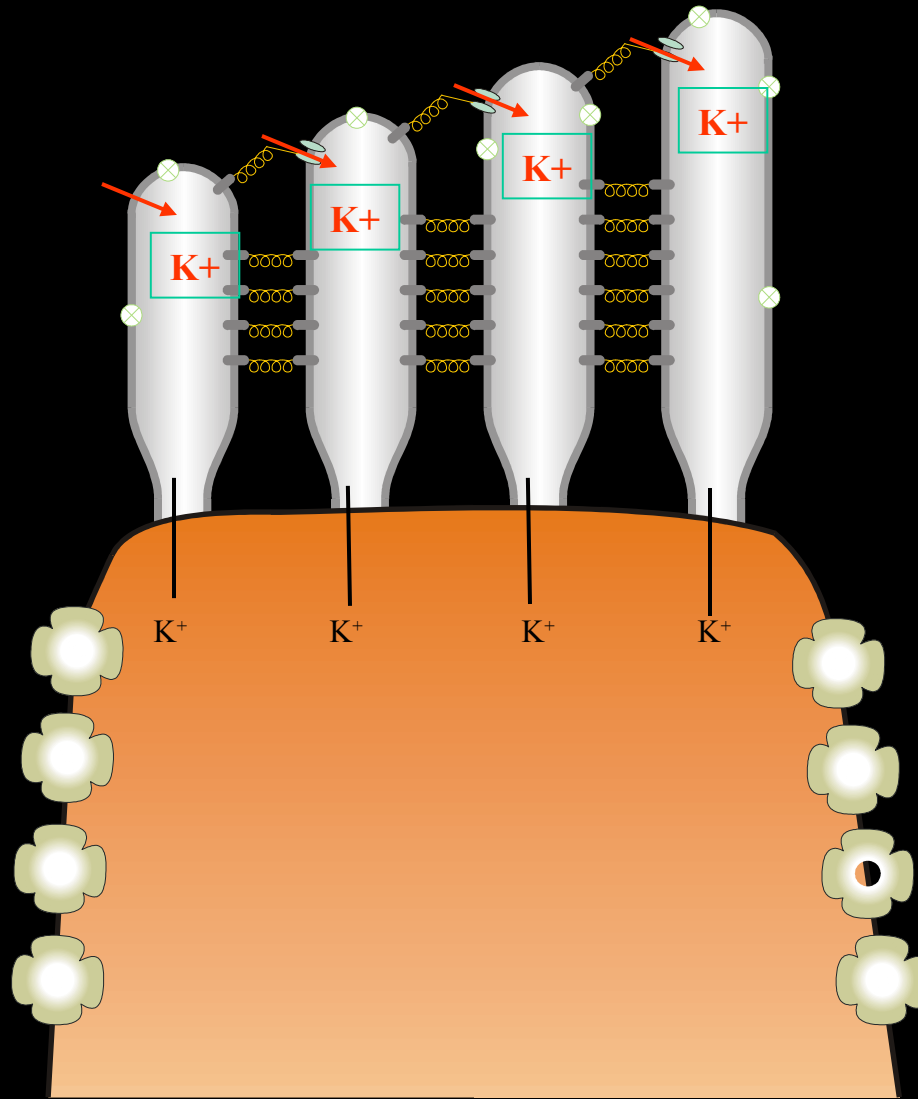
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KCNQ1 and Megalin





Mechanotransducer has not been found yet!



NOMPC/TRPN

→ Zebrafish (*Sidi et al., 2003, Science 301, 96-98.*)

Mucolipin-3/TRP

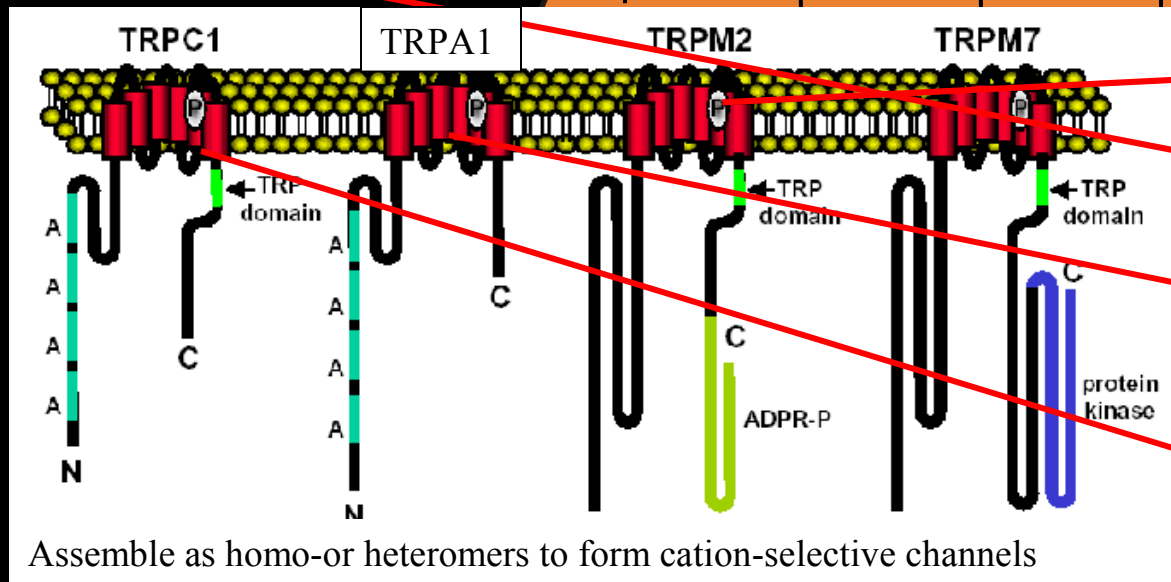
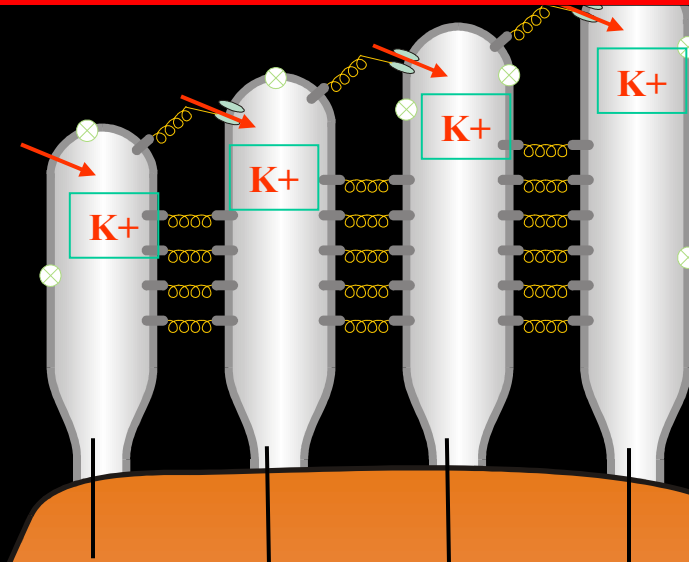
→ Mice (*DiPalma et al., 2002, PNAS, 99, 14613-14815*)

TRPA1 (ANKTM1)

→ Mice (*Corey et al., 2004, Nature*)

TRPA1

→ Zebrafish Chemosensor **not** Mechanotransducer!! (*Prober et al., J Neurosc 2008*)



Assemble as homo- or heteromers to form cation-selective channels

TRPV4- Mechano-Sensation  
Suzuki et al., JBC, 2003

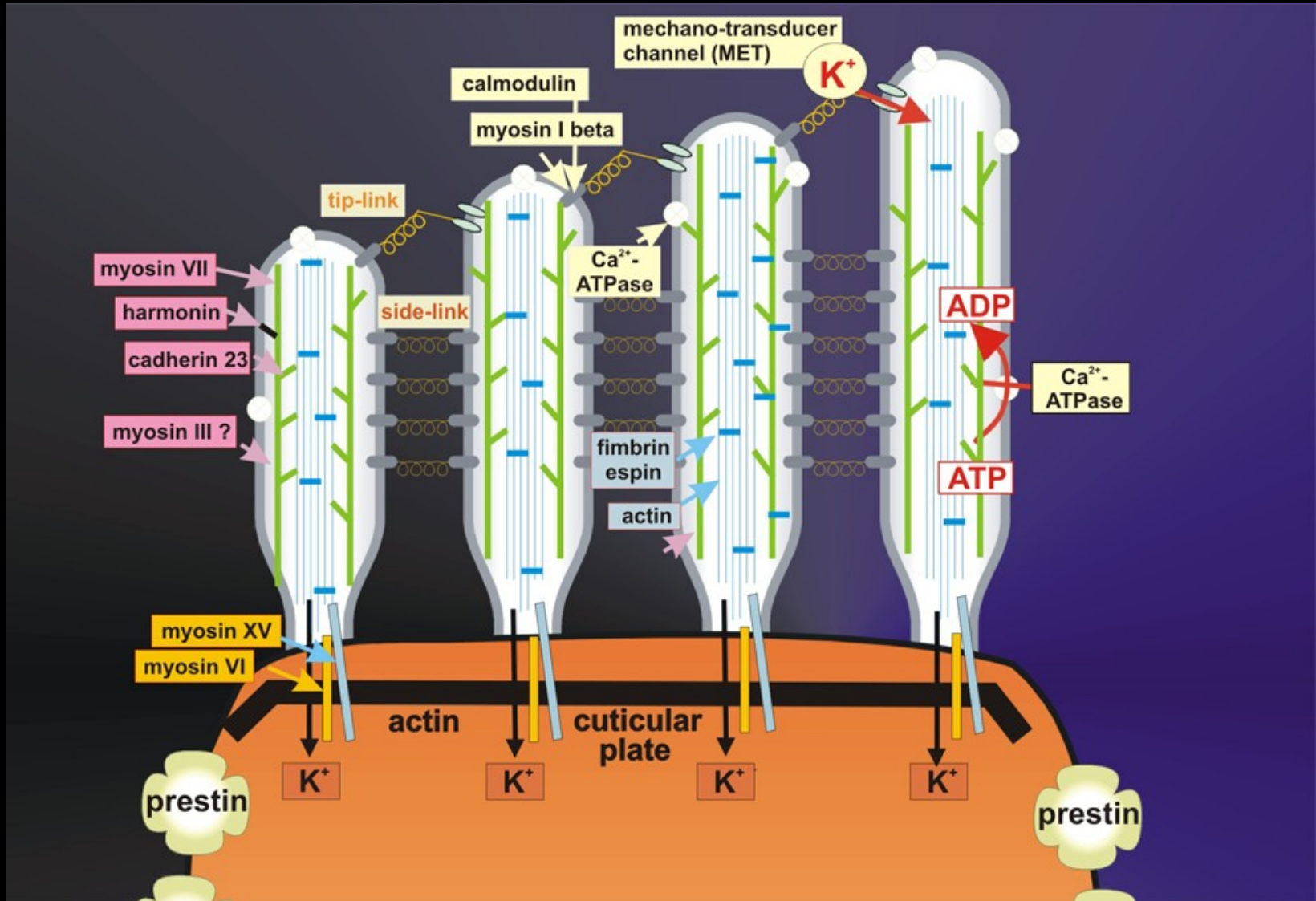
TRPM5- Taste  
Zhang et al., Cell, 2003

**TRPA1-McMahon 2006,  
no temperature sensitive  
but pain inflammation  
(gas, garlic)**

TRPV3- Heat temperature  
Moqrich et al. Science 2005

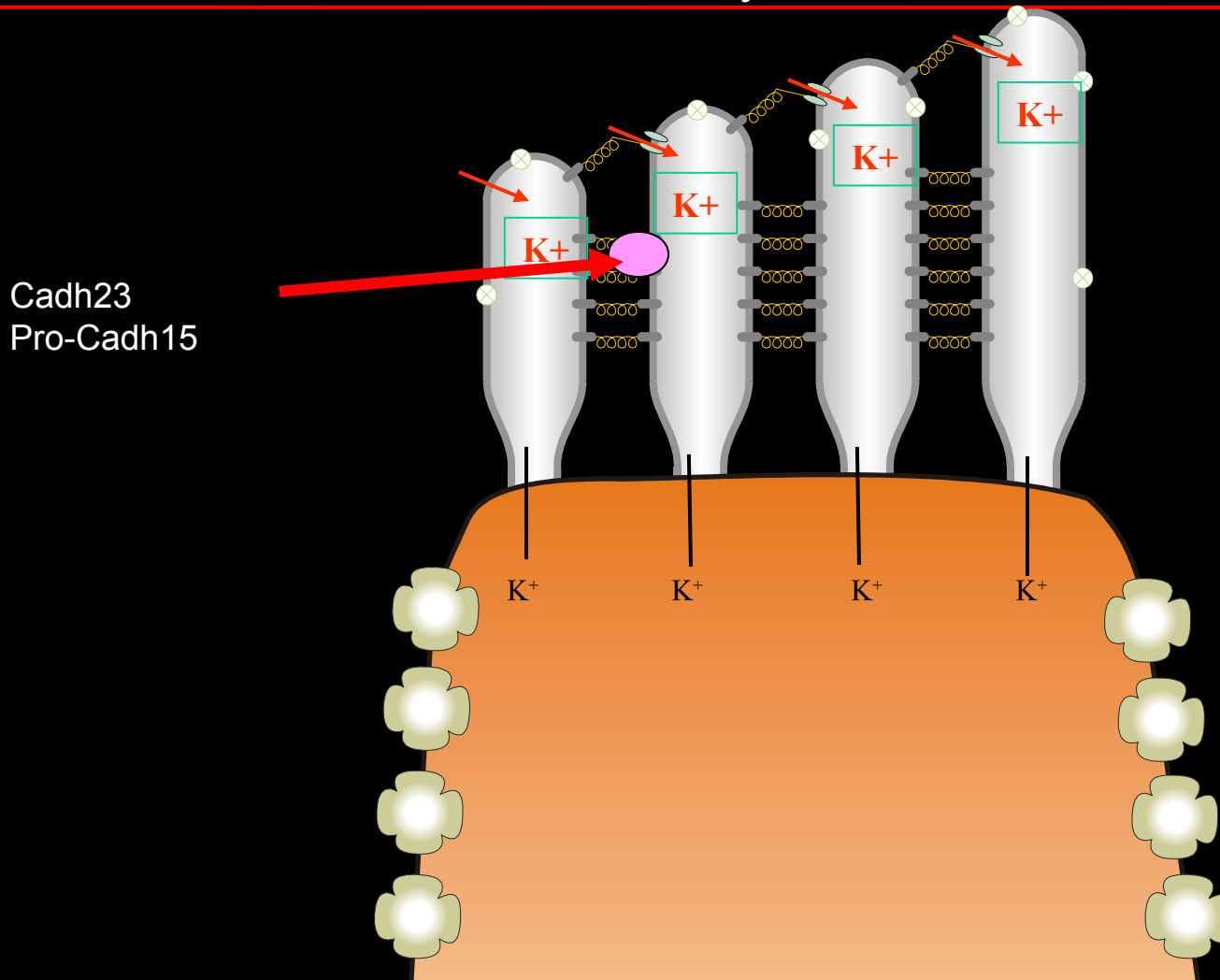
TRPC1- Axon guidance  
Wang & Poo, Nature 2005

# USHER Proteins Induce Hearing Loss and Blindness



Cadherin 23 → 20% of Usher 1D have Cad23 mutations  
→ Usher 1D = RP early adolescence

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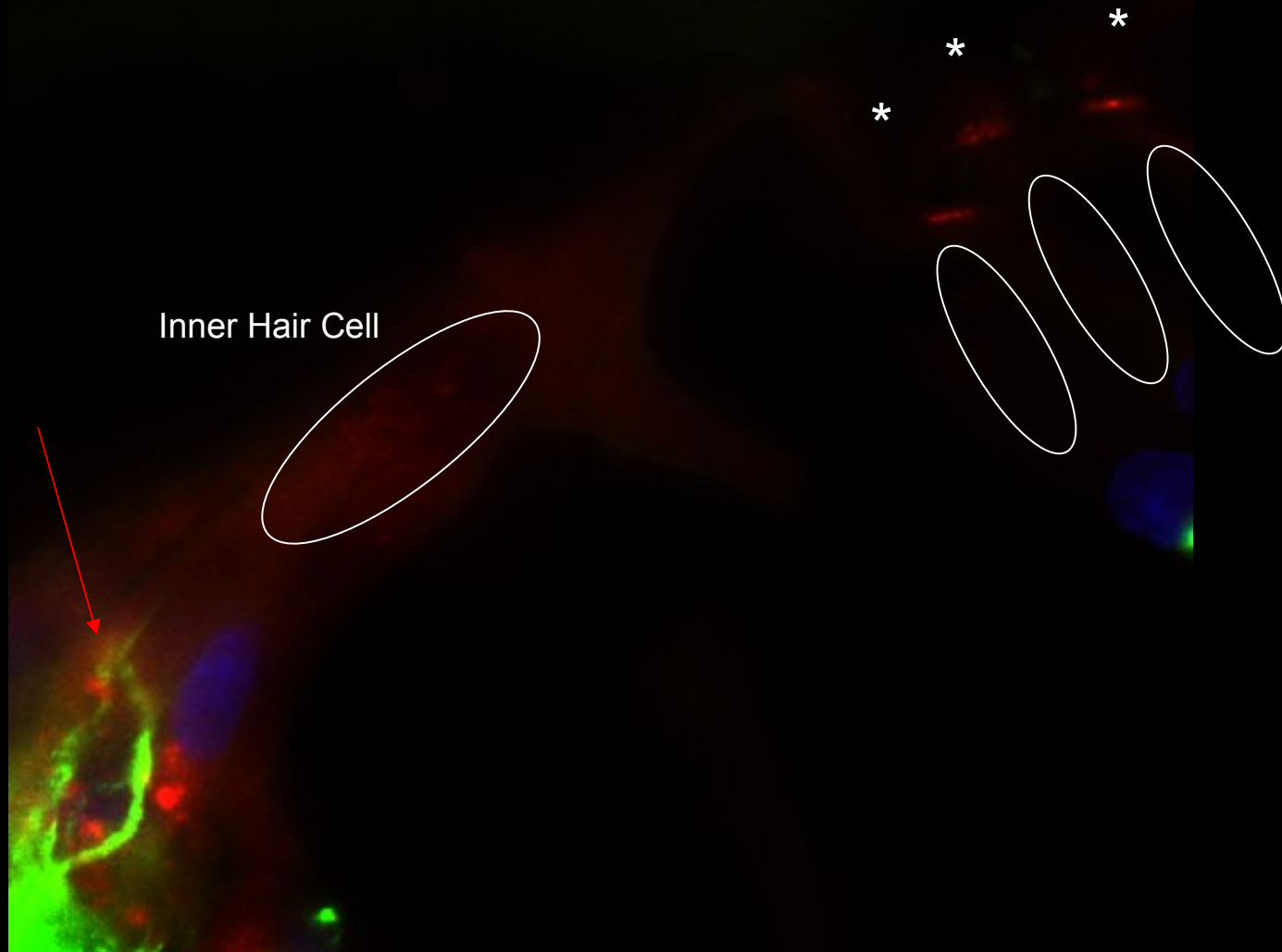


→(CDH23) and Procadherin 15 (PCH15) interact through N-terminal part and Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependent ( Mueller et al., Kachar, 2008)

→ Oshima et al., Kimberling, 2008

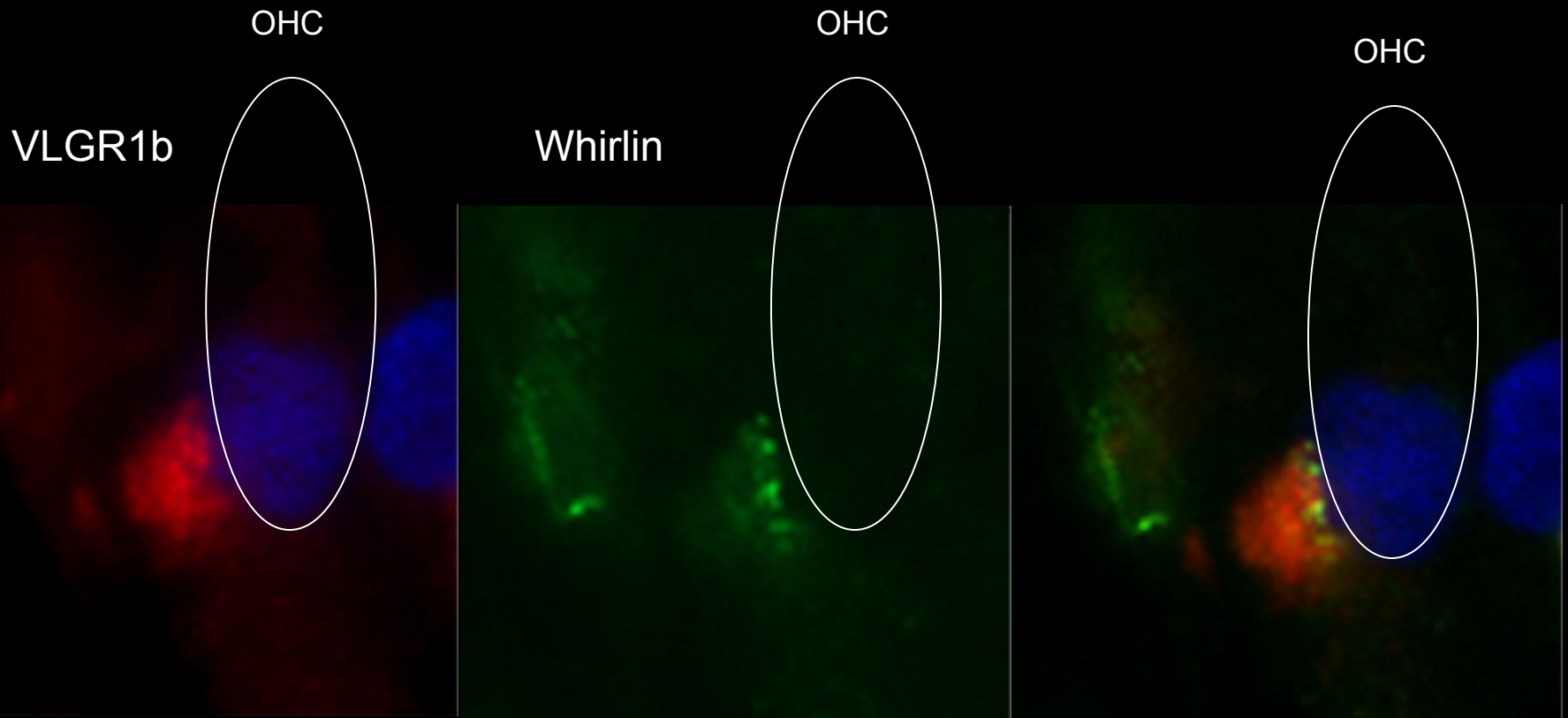
# USH2C (VLGR1b) in IHC Synapse

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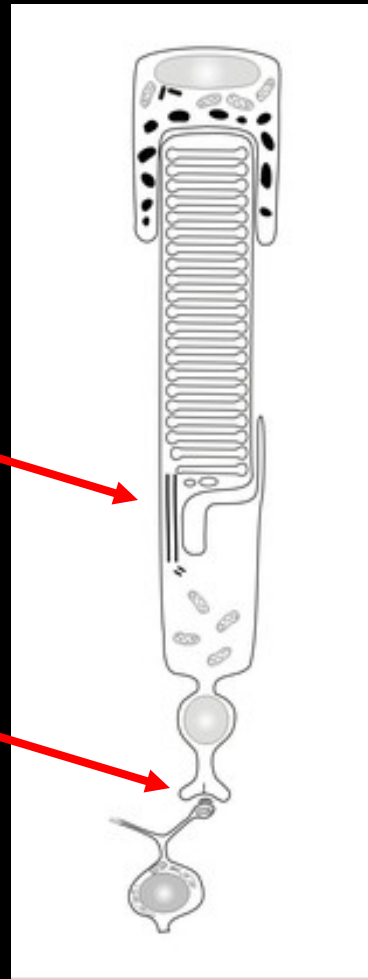
# USH2D (Whirlin) and USH2C (VLGR1b) in OHC Synapse



# USH2D (Whirlin) colocalizes with Cav1.3 in photoreceptor cells

Cav1.3/Whirlin

Cav1.3/Whirlin



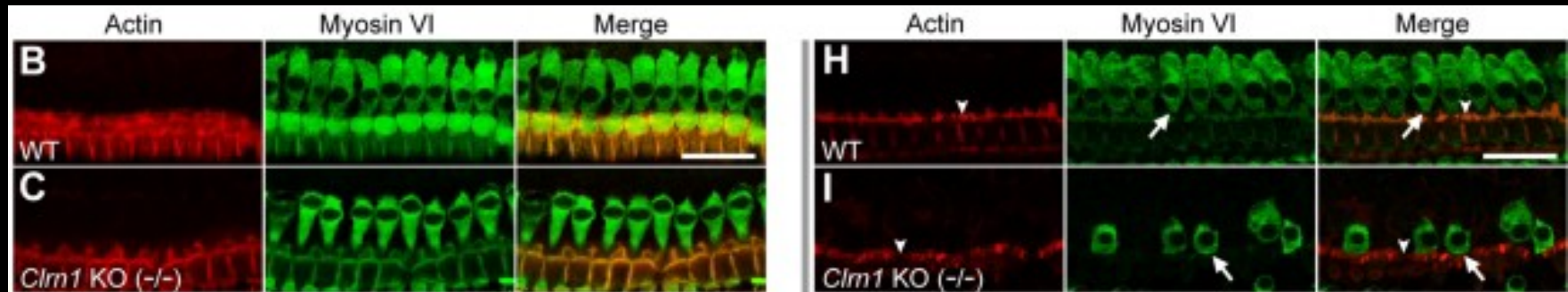
*Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2009 ; **Whirlin associates with the Cav1.3 ( $\alpha$ 1D) channels in photoreceptors, defining a novel member of the Usher protein network.**

*Kersten et al. Kremer H.*

USH3A (Clarín) → blindness in humans due to Müller Cell Dysfunction  
→ progressive hearing loss → Ribbons?

P15

P120



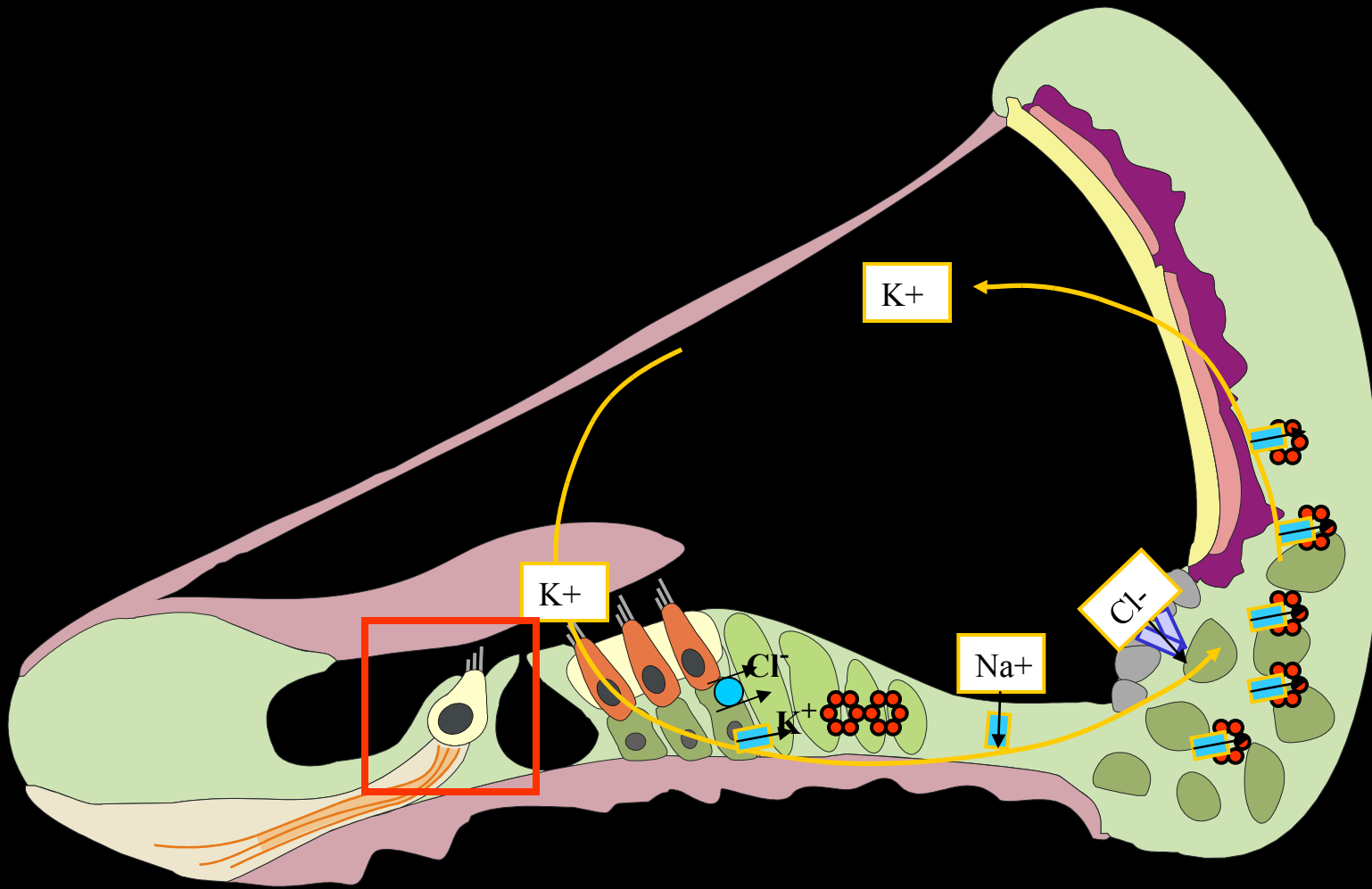
Zalocchi M, Meehan DT, Delimont D, Askew C, Garige S, Gratton MA, Rothermund-Franklin CA, Cosgrove D. *Hear Res.* 2009

*CLRN1* is nonessential in the mouse retina but is required for cochlear hair cell development. Geller SF, et al. *Flannery JG.PLoS Genet.* 2009.

## Summary I

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- Multiple Genes participate to the generation of the EP and cause deafness
- GJB 26, 30, 31 = 49 % of hereditary deafness
- PDS = Pendred Syndrom → Deafness (Cl- Transport, Kir4.1)
- KCNQ1/ KCNE1= Jervell-Lange-Nielsen Syndrom, progressive Hearing loss
- TRP-protein = candidate Mechanotransducer= not found
- Cadherin 23 = 20% of Usher 1D
- USHC (VLGR1), USHD (Wirlin) and USH3A in Synapses or Ribbons

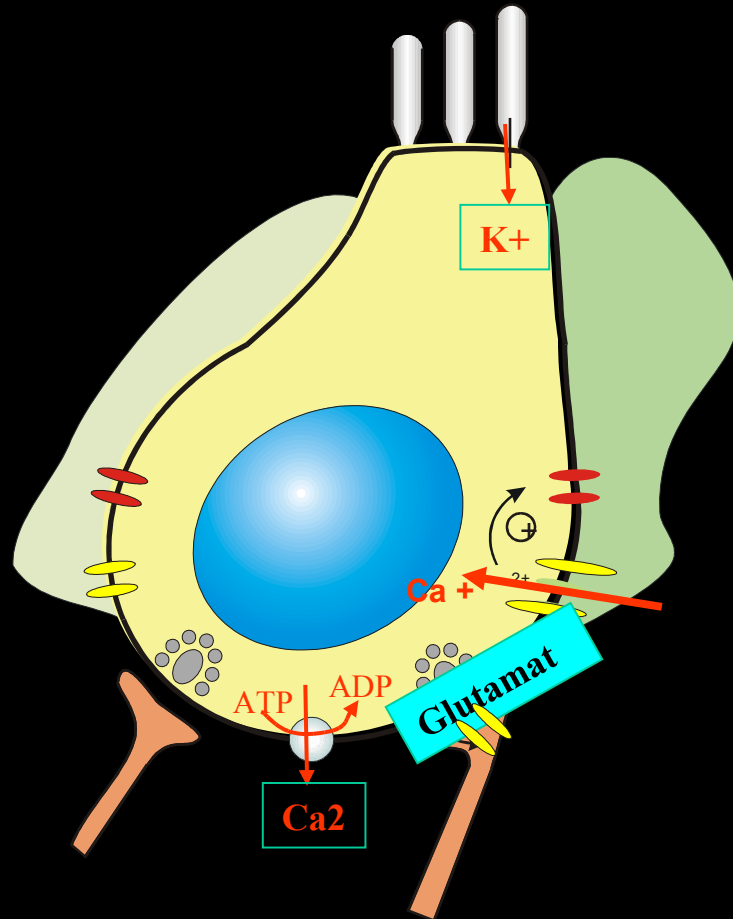


# Spontaneous spike activity

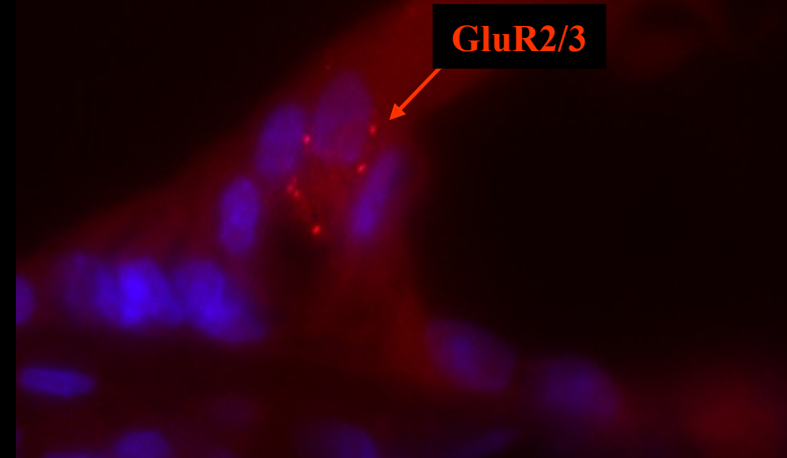
P0

P0

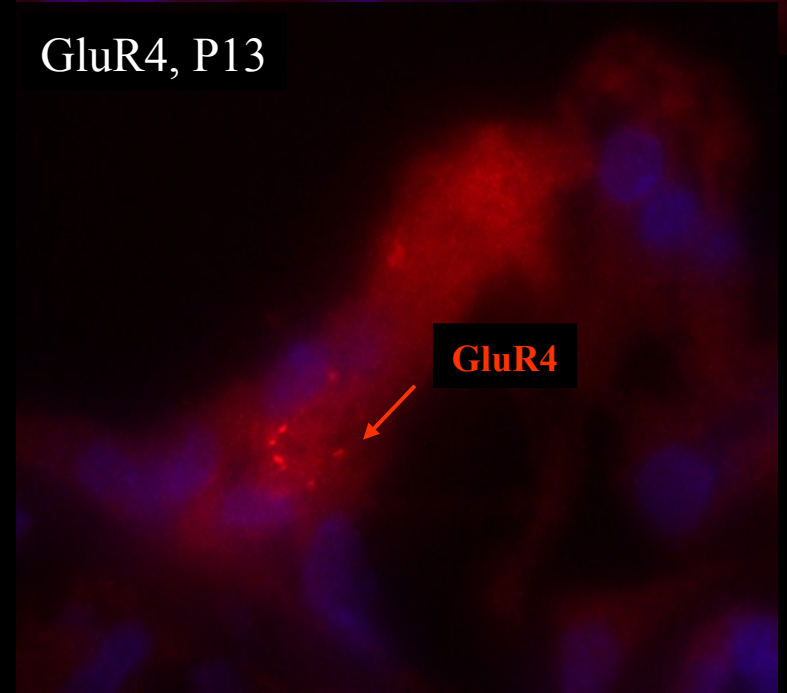
P6



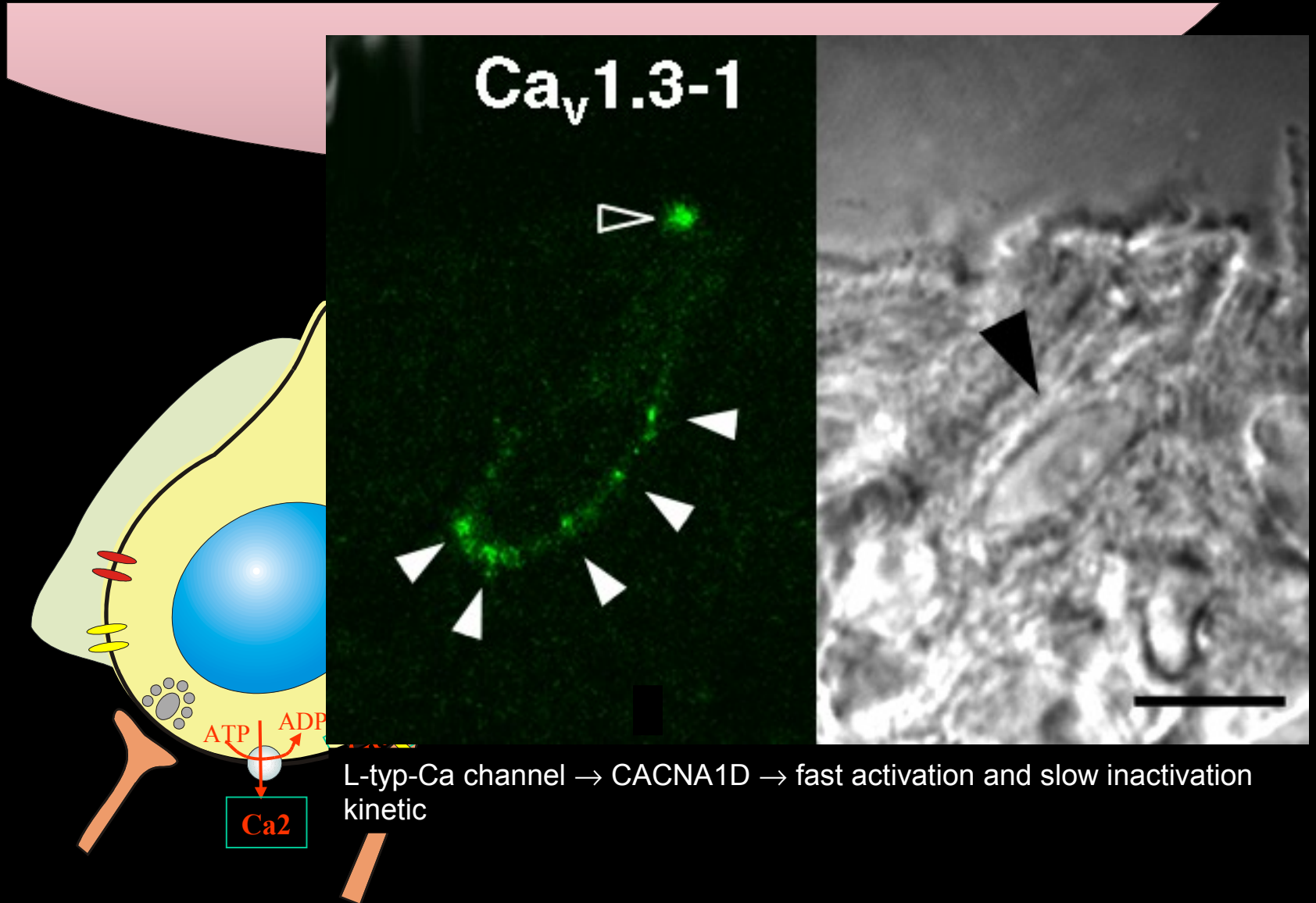
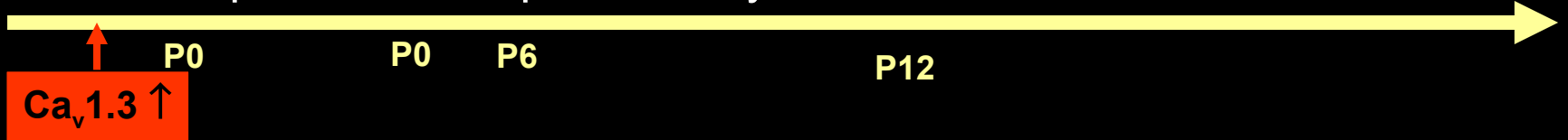
GluR2/3, P13



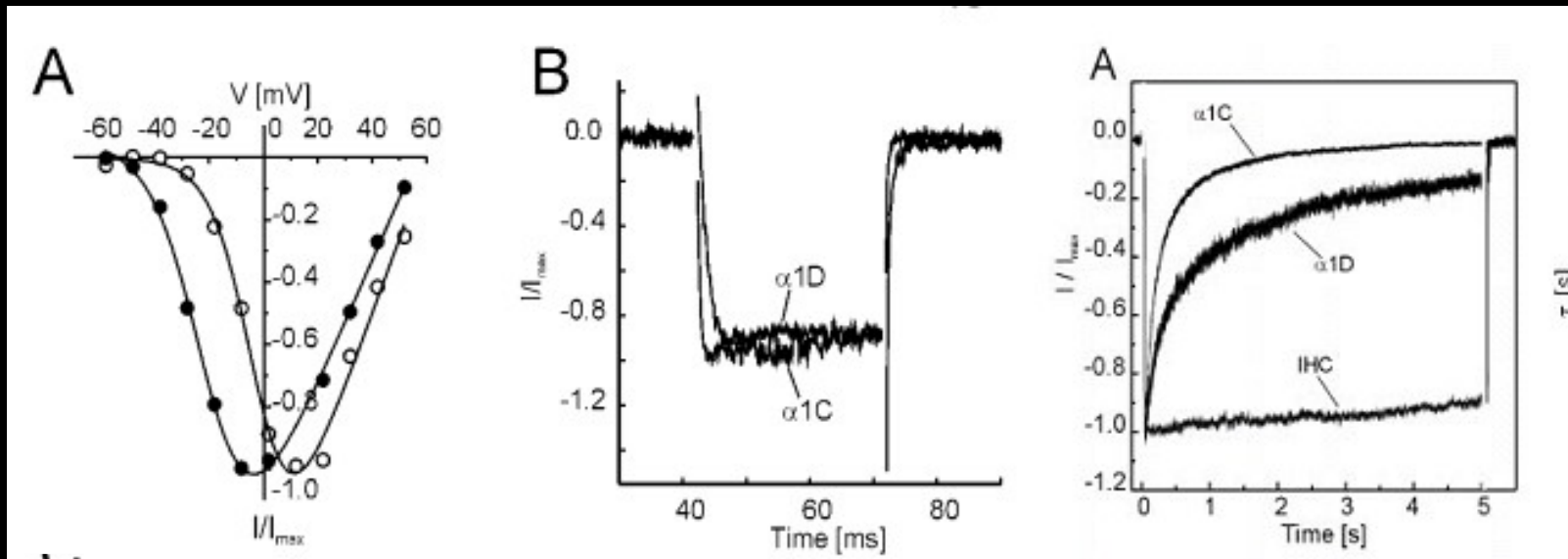
GluR4, P13



# Spontaneous spike activity



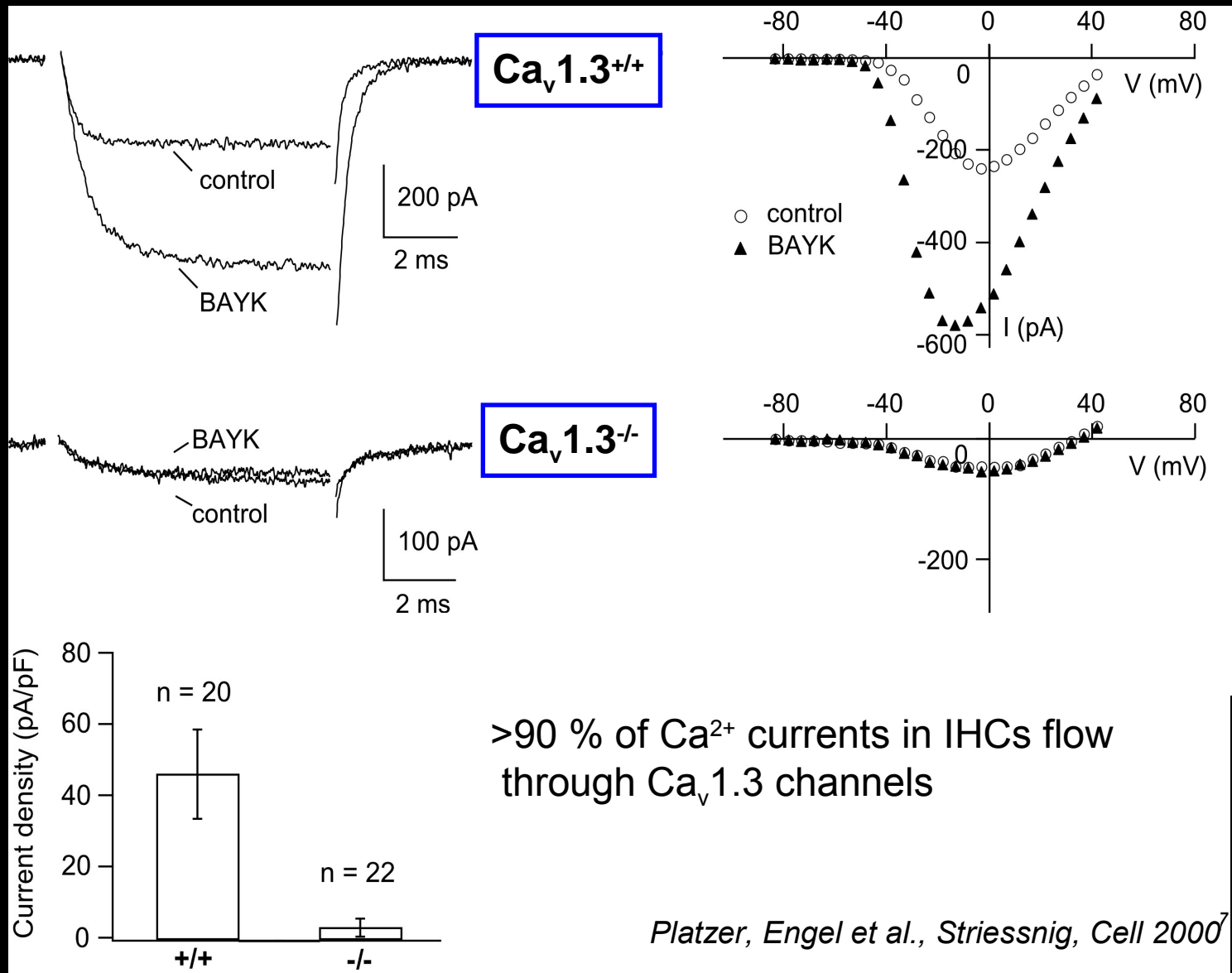
# Cav1.3 exhibit negativ & fast activation and slow inactivation kinetic



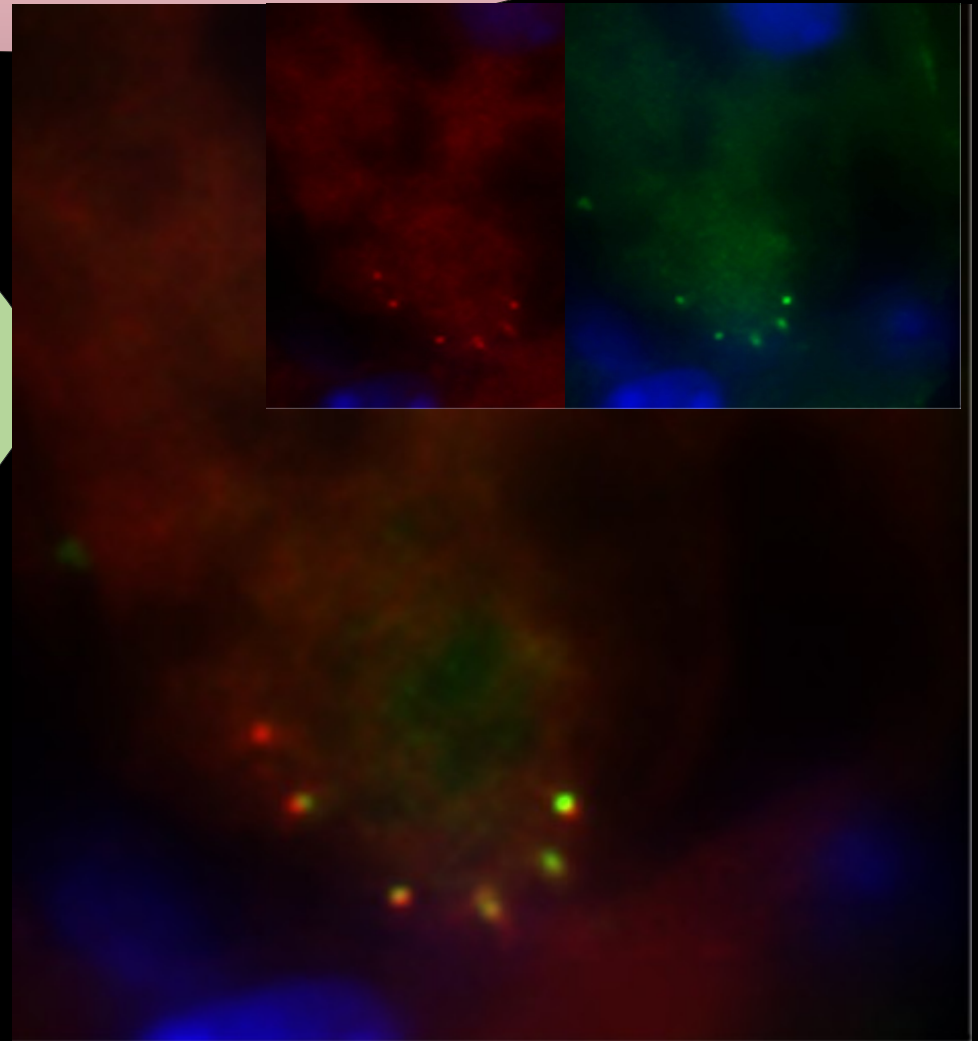
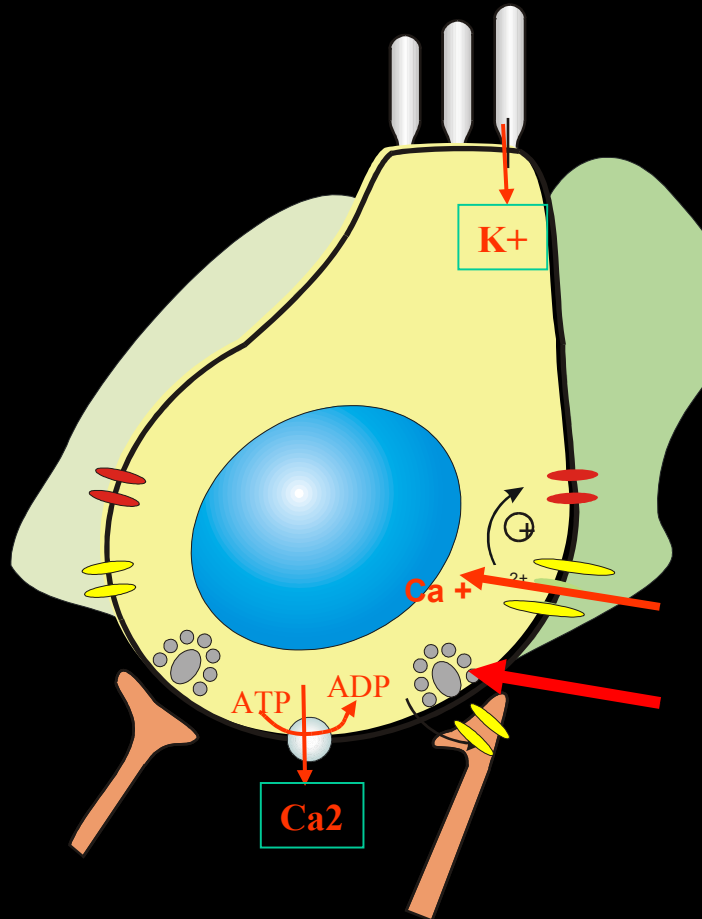
Koschak et al., Striessnig, 2001, JBC



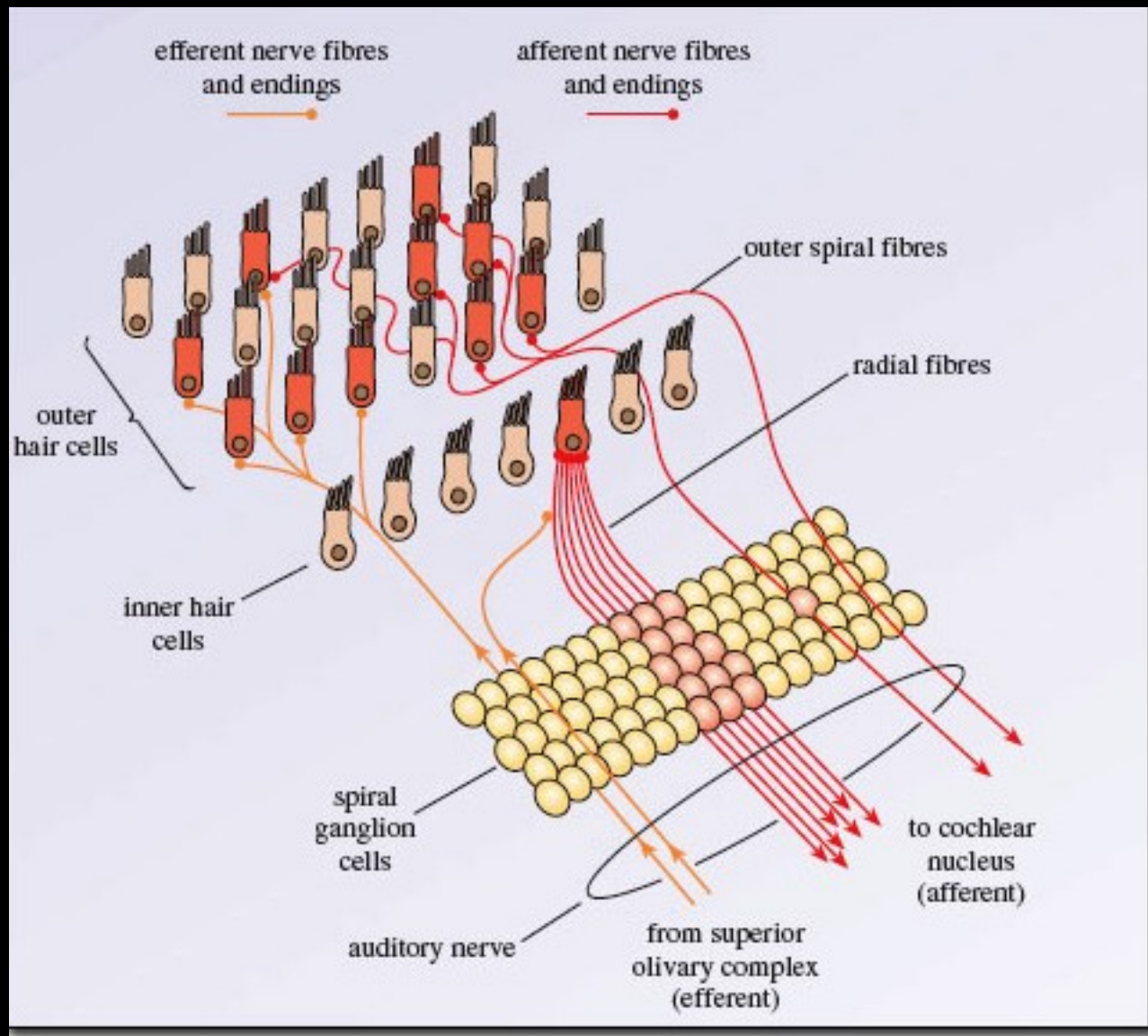
# Cav1.3 Knockout Mice Mutants are Deaf



# Cav1.3/ Ribbon (CtBP2)

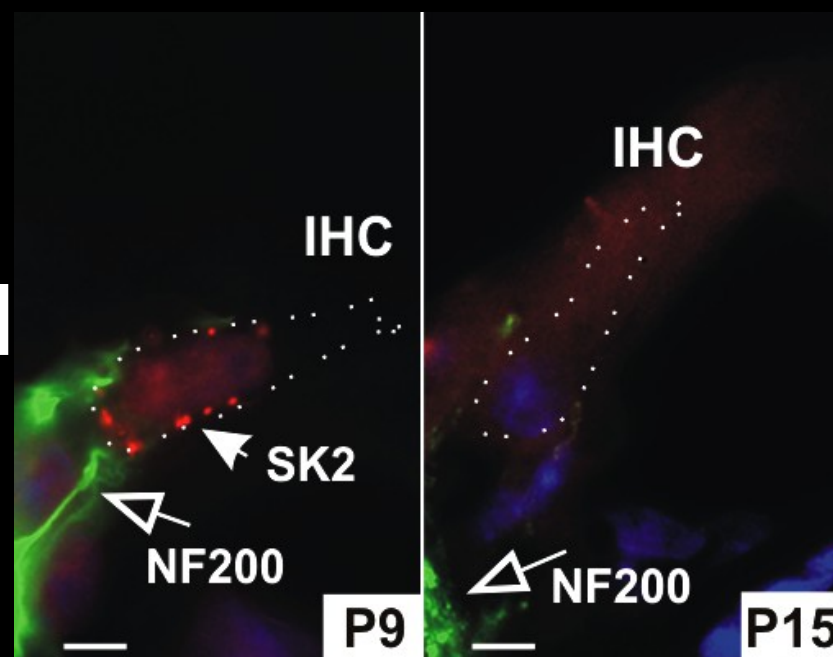
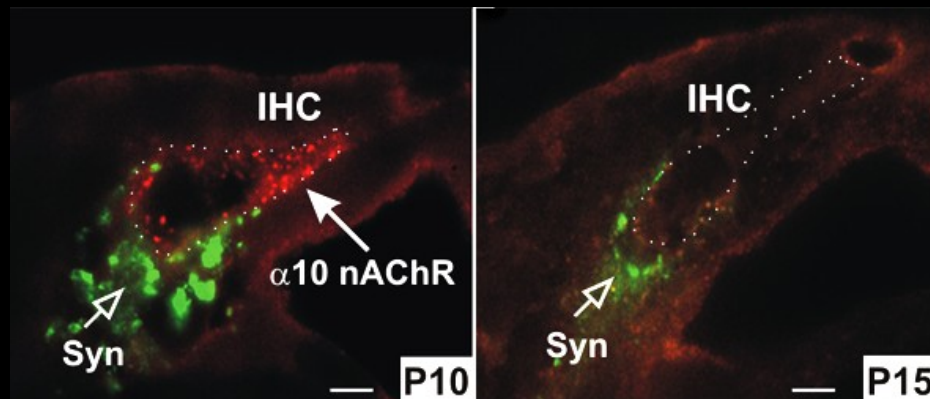
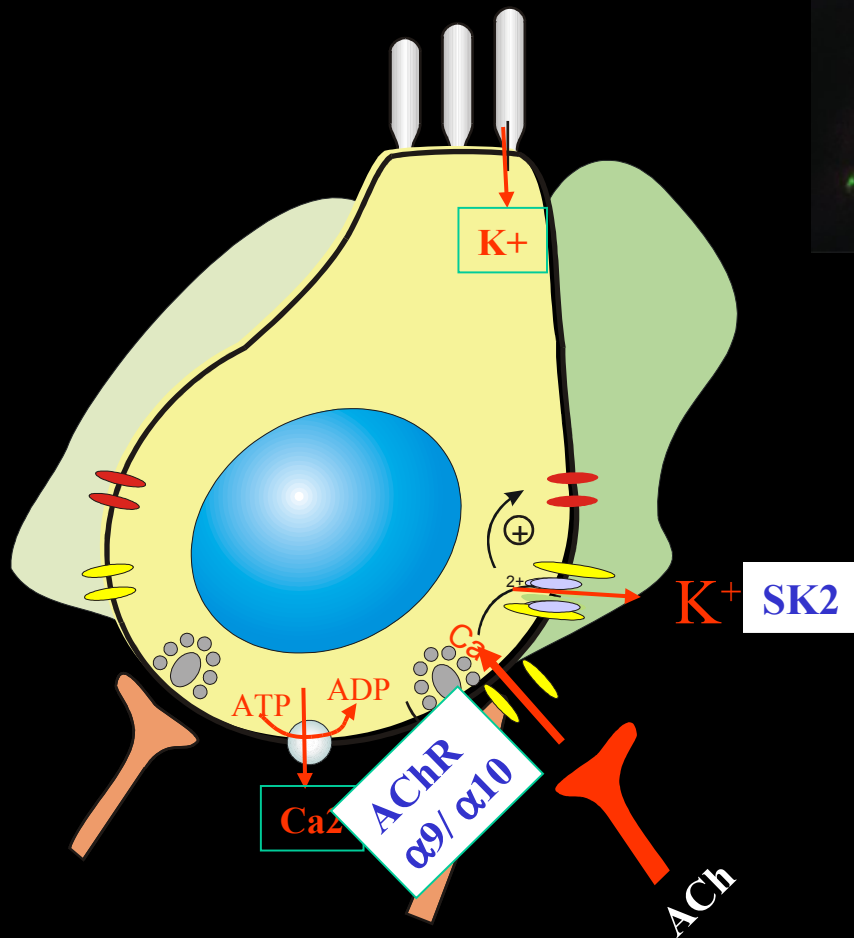


Around 8-30 **ribbons** correlate to 8-30 fibers that innervate a single IHC

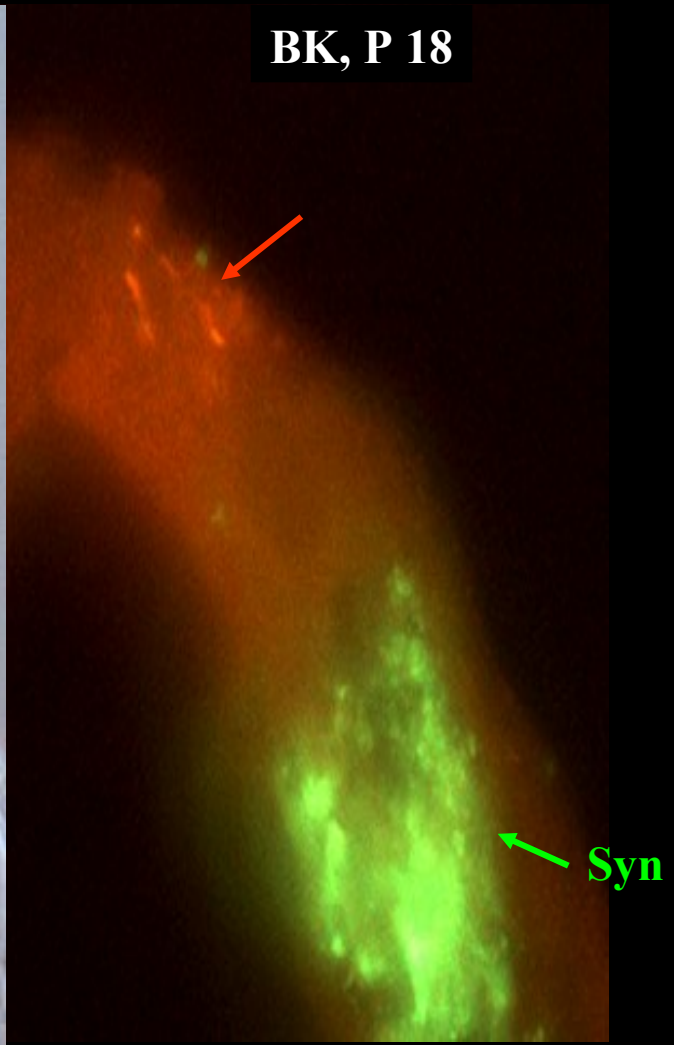
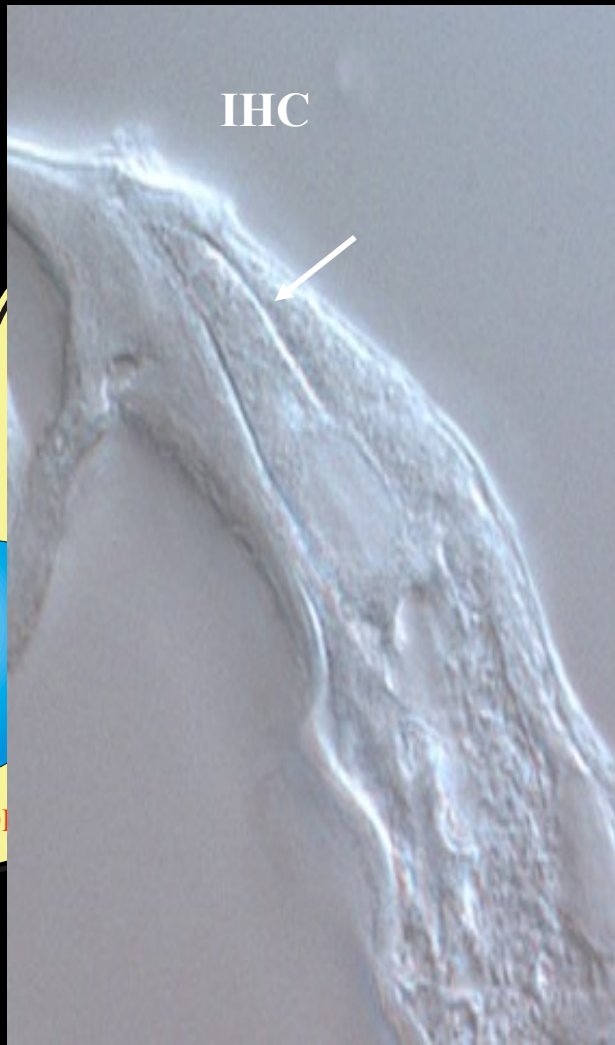
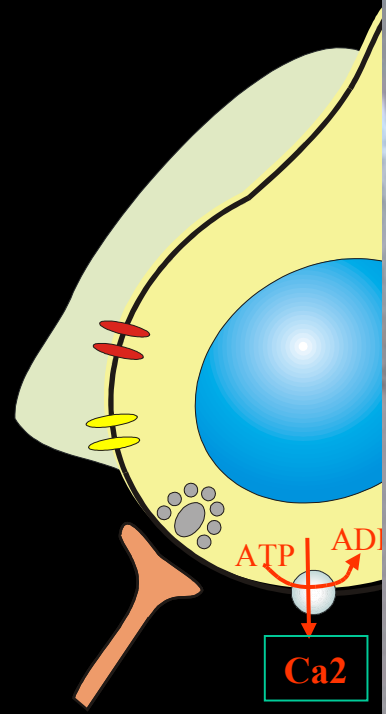
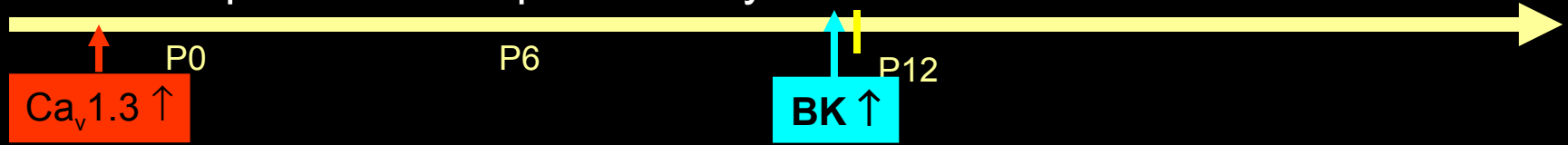


Spontaneous spike activity

Onset of hearing

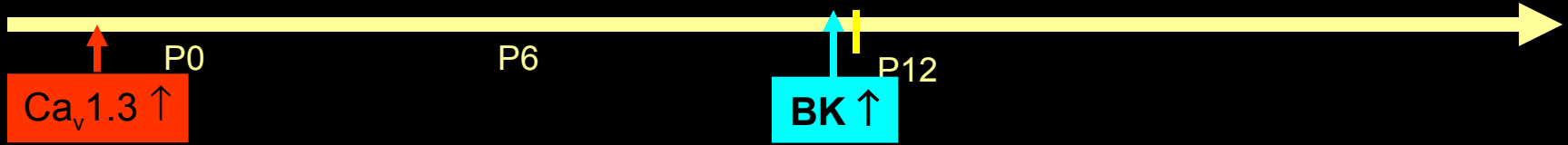


# Spontaneous spike activity

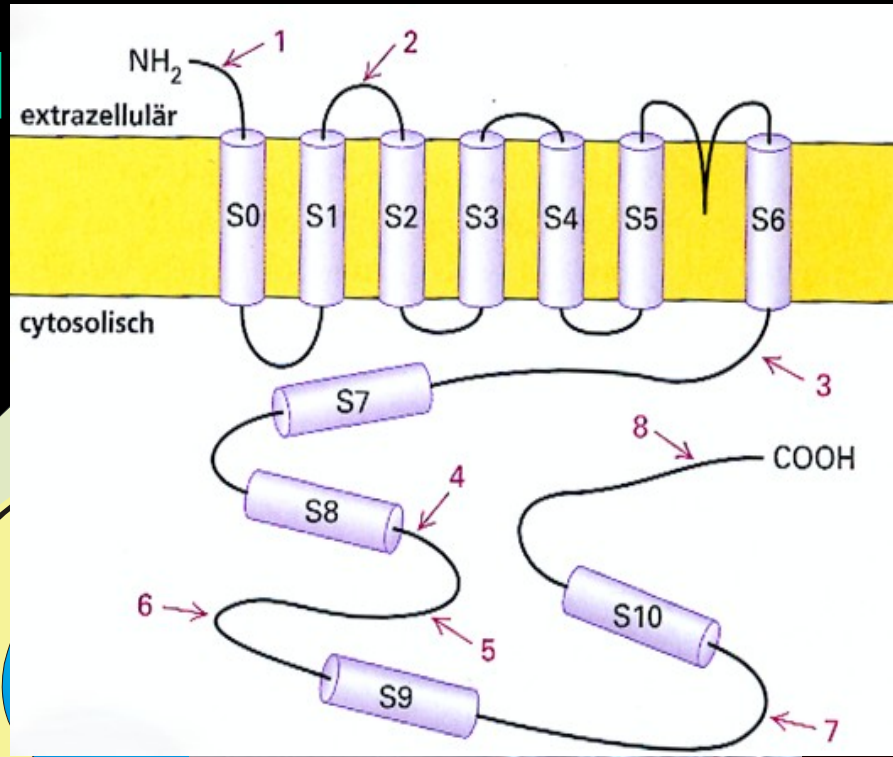
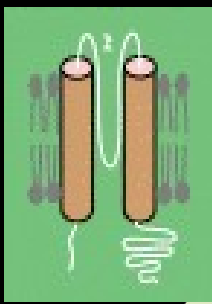




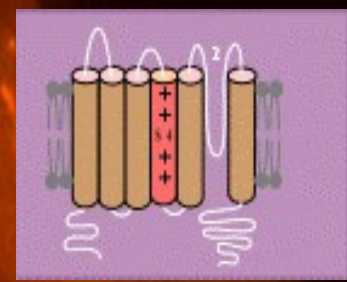
# Onset of hearing



**BK  $\beta$  subunit**



**BK slo alpha subunits**

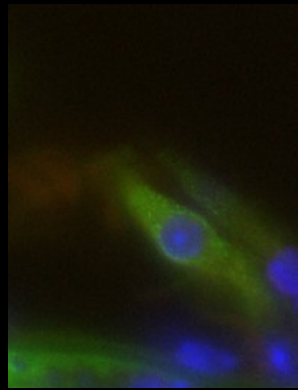


Ca<sup>2+</sup> BK channel → KCNMA 1 (slo  $\alpha$  or BK or maxi K channel Gen) →  
 → fast  $I_{K,f}$  outward current of IHCs → causes transmitter release to be phase-locked (Kros et al., 1998)

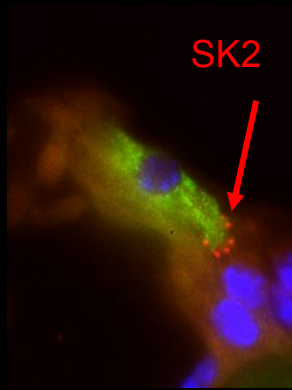
- multiply splicing
- forms heterooligomeric complexes with KCNMB1-B4 → slo $\beta$
- electrical tuning in lower vertebrates

# Maturation of IHCs (normal hearing) requires BK ↑ SK2 ↓

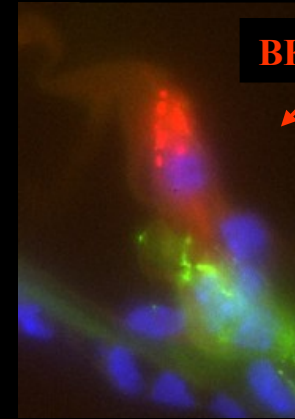
Cav1.3 wt,



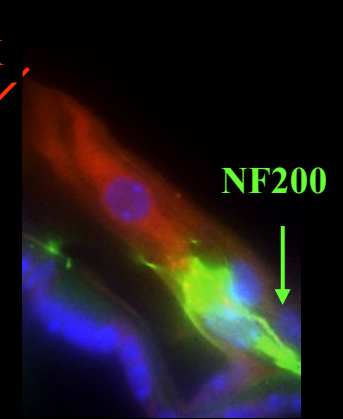
Cav1.3 ko



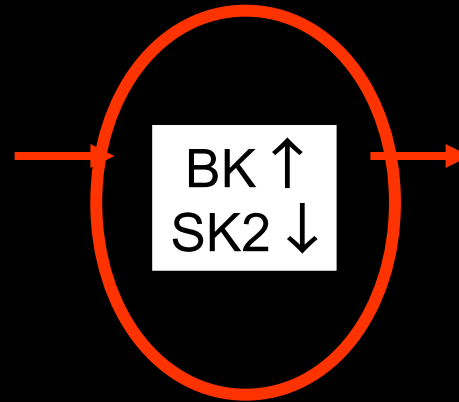
Cav1.3 wt,



Cav1.3 ko



**Cav1.3 ↑**  
↓  
Spontaneous and  
Depolarization-Induced  
Ca<sup>2+</sup> Action Potentials  
↓  
**Normal Synapse**  
Formation in the Central  
Auditory System

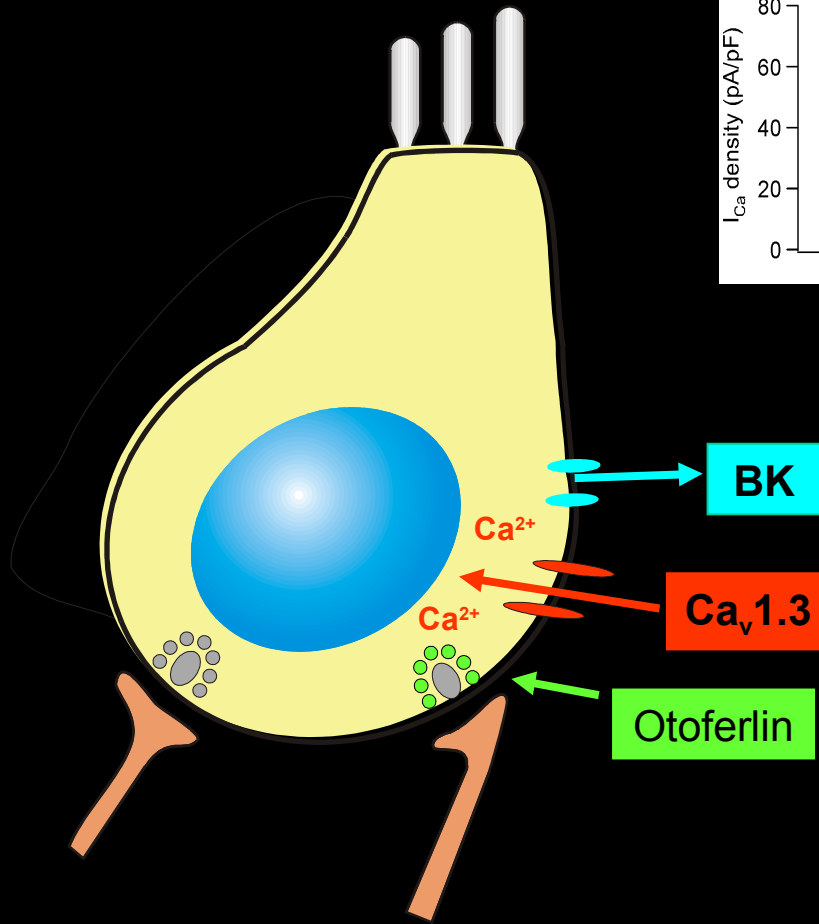
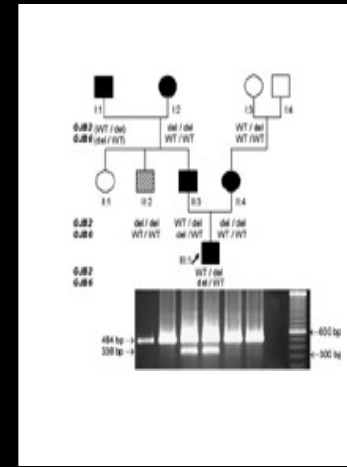
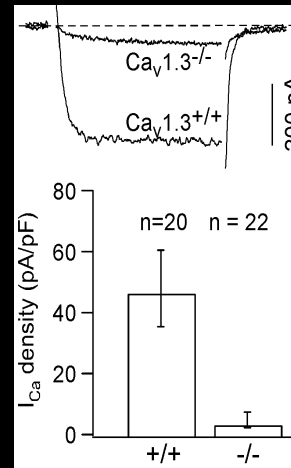
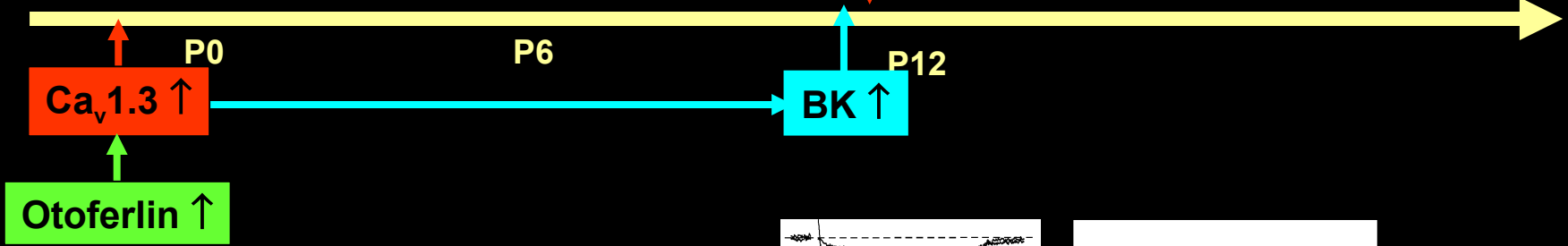


Stimulated Graded  
Receptor Potentials

↓  
**Normal Hearing**

Spontaneous spike activity

Hearing onset



Progradient Hearing Loss in BK Channel Deficient Mice (Rüttiger et al., Knipper (2004) PNAS)

Congenital Deafness in Cav1.3 Deficient Mice Platzer, Engel et al. (2000) Cell

Otofelin Missense Mutation in Deaf Patients Mirghomizadeh et al., Pfister, Blin (2002) Neurobiol Disease



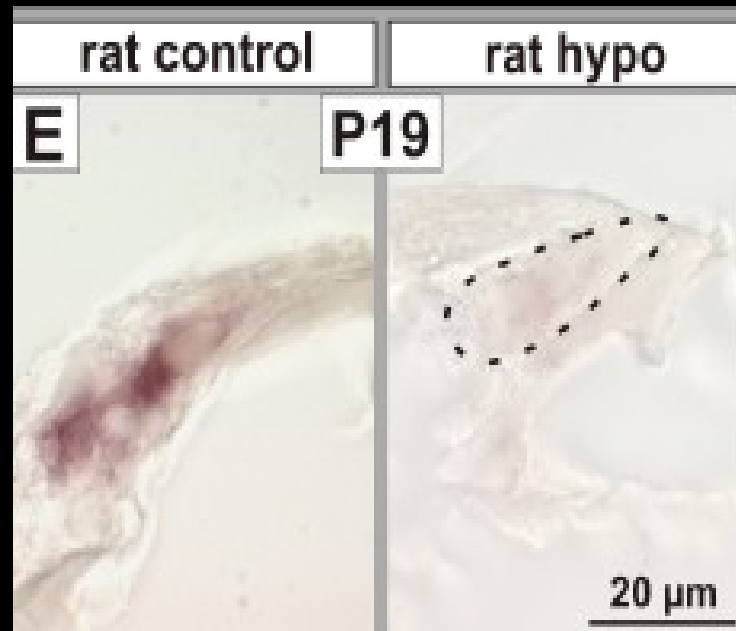
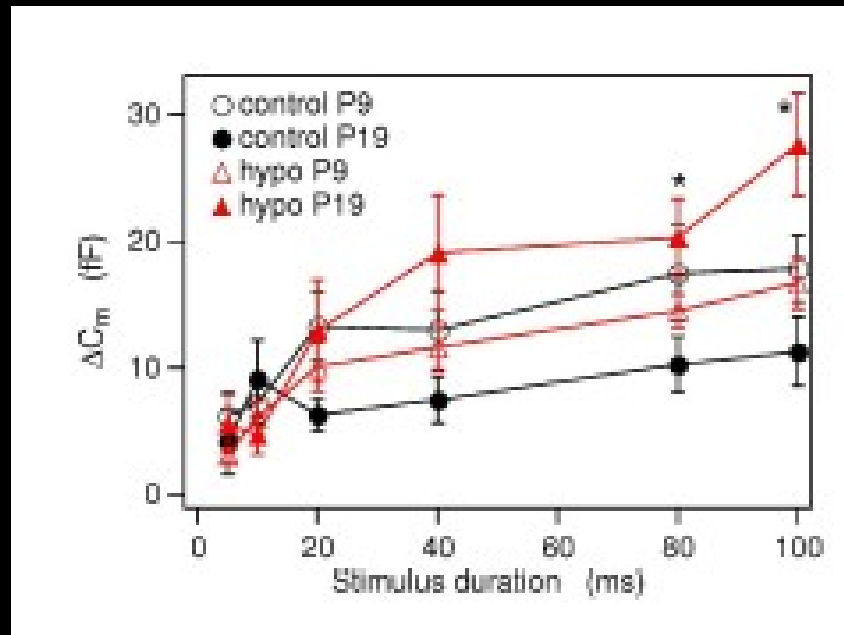
**Otoferlin, a protein essential for exocytosis at the auditory ribbon synapse**

**Cell, 2006 Oct 20;127(2):277-89.**

**Otoferlin, defective in a human deafness form, is essential for exocytosis at the auditory ribbon synapse.**

- Roux I, Safieddine S, Nouvian R, Grati M, Simmler MC,**
- Bahloul A, Perfettini I, Le Gall M, Rostaing P, Hamard G, Triller A,**
- Avan P, Moser T, Petit C.**

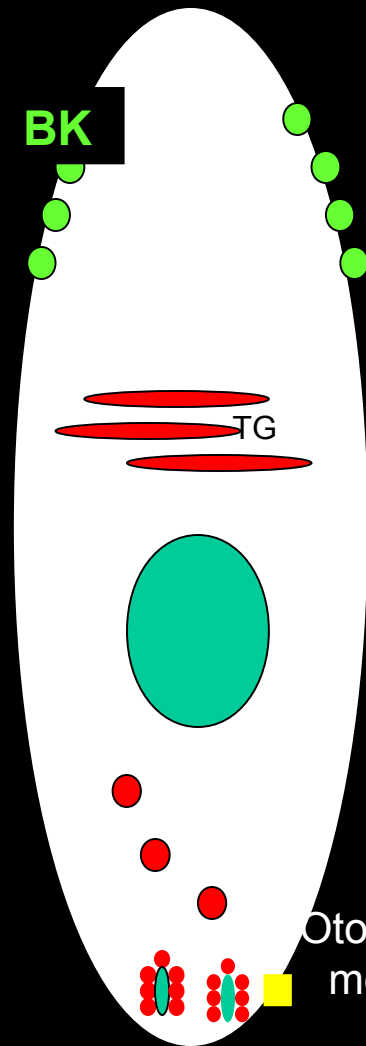
# In Contrast: Without Otoferlin exocytosis can still occur in IHCs



Brandt et al., Engel, 2007,  
*J Neurosci*  
Heidrych et al. Knipper, 2009,  
*Hum Genet*

# Otoferlin: Candidate gene for replenishment of vesicles/priming acting with MyosinVI

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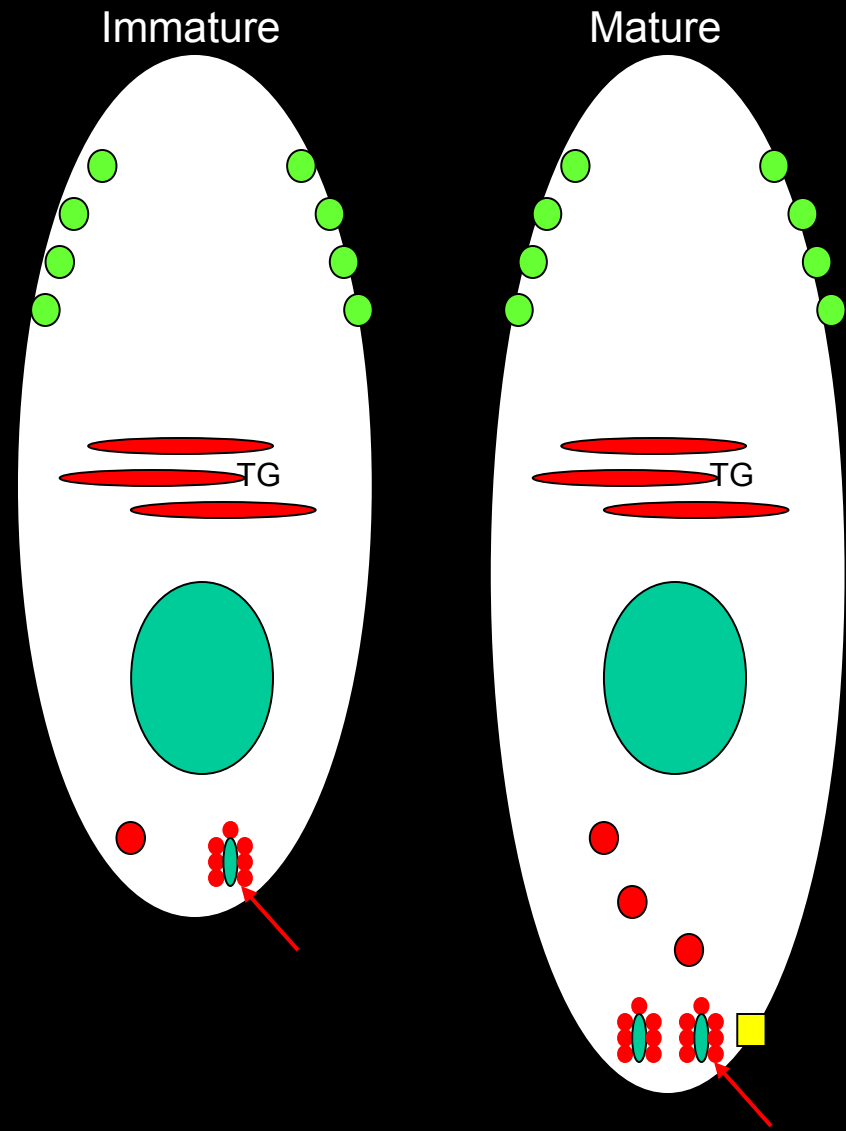


Myosin VI independent of otoferlin  
→ Targeting of BK to TG

Otoferlin & Myosin VI (SI-NI)  
→ Targeting of endocytotic compartments to TG

Otoferlin independent of myosin VI → Positioning of  
molecular primed vesicles to ribbons: Exocytosis

# Synaptotagmin I, II and IV are expressed in IHCs



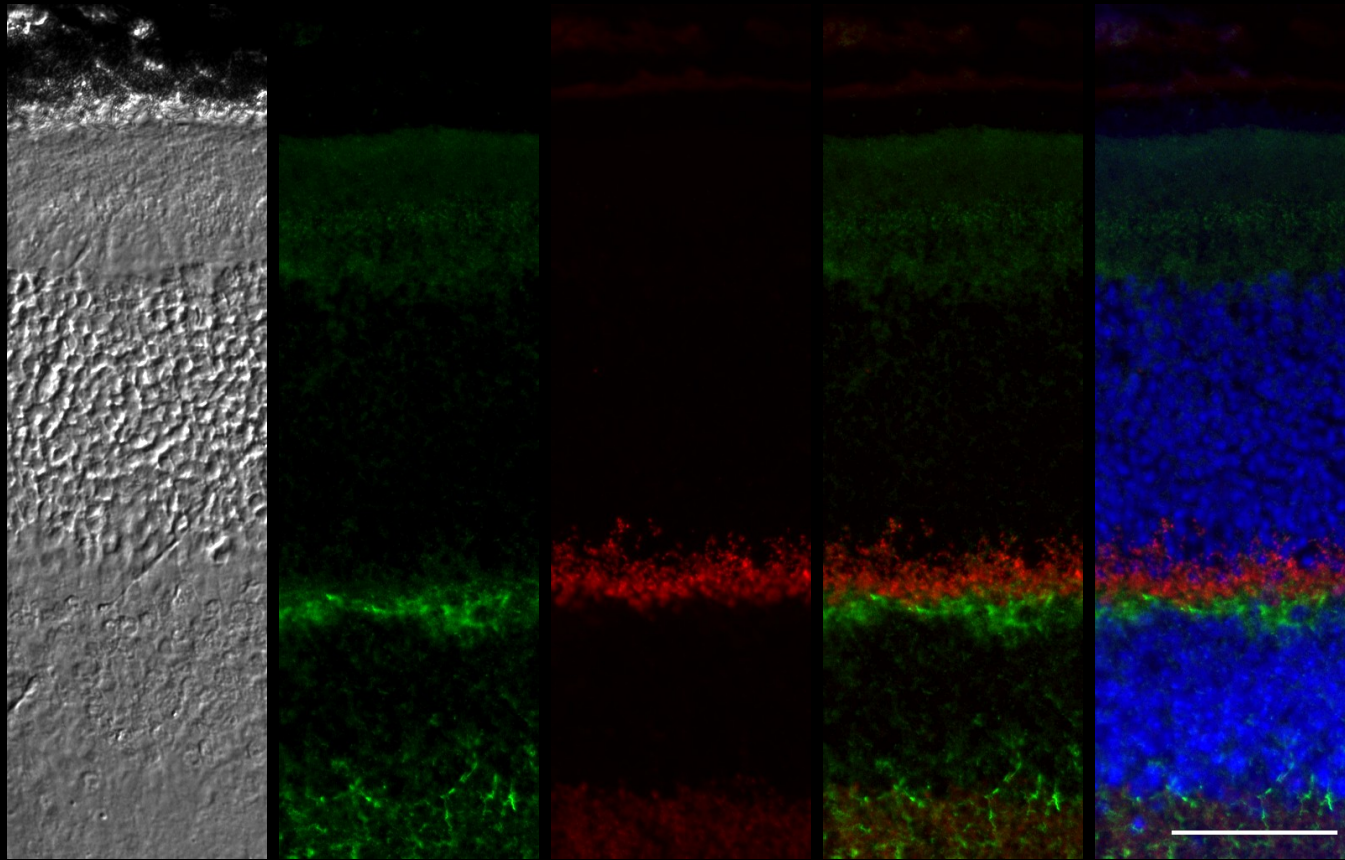
Synaptotagmin I

Synaptotagmin II and IV

Johnson, Franz et al.,  
Knipper, Marcotti, Nat  
Neurosc 2009

# Otoferlin: in the Retina

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DIC

otoferlin

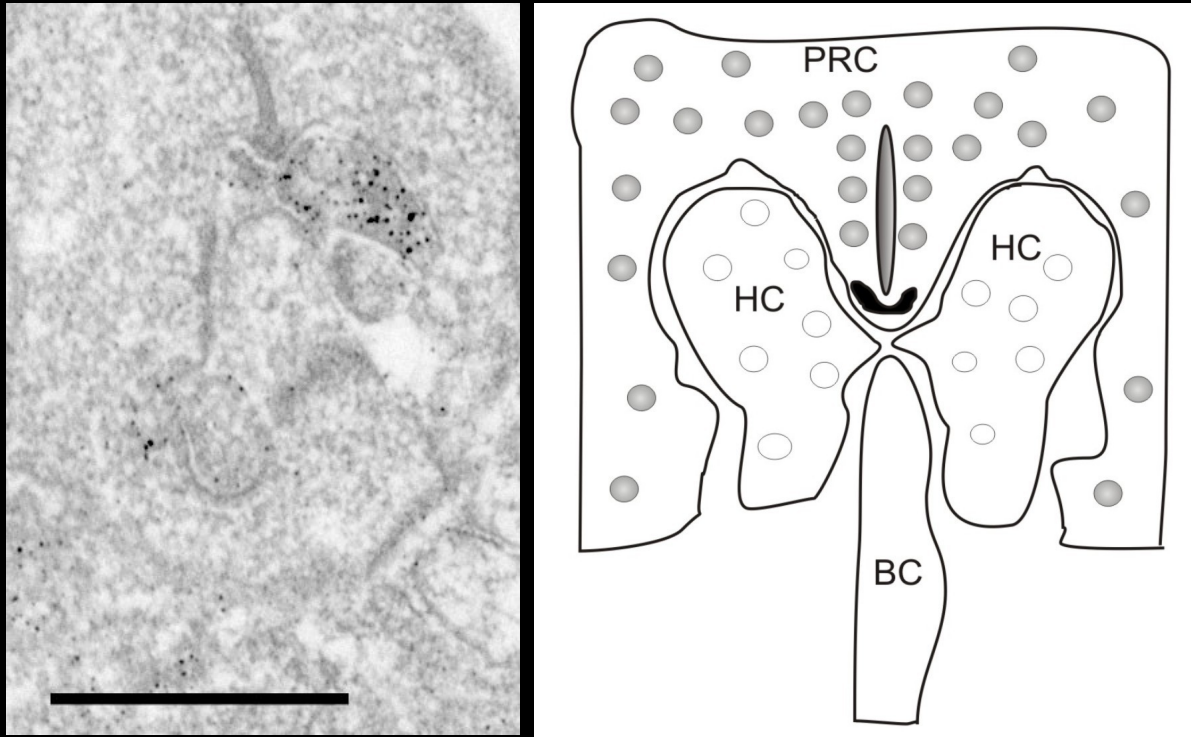
Ribeye

otoferlin  
Ribeye

otoferlin  
Ribeye  
DAPI

*Wolfrum, Franz et al. Knipper, in preparation*

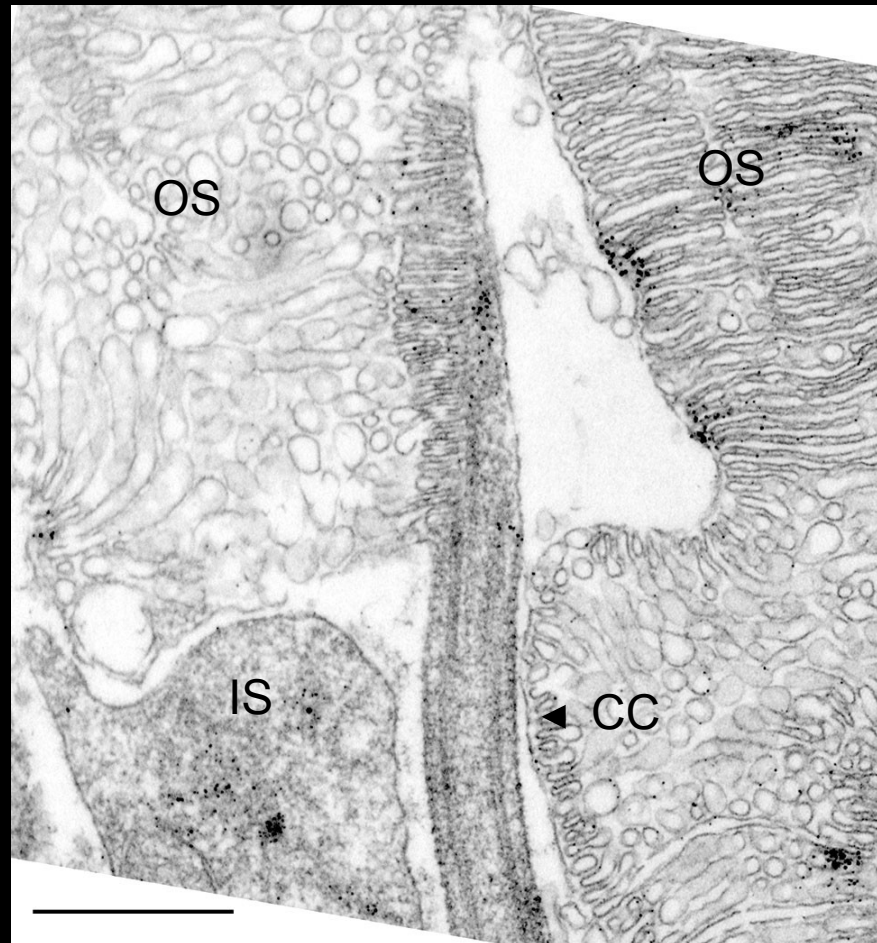
# Otoferlin: in the Retina



*Wolfrum, Franz et al. Knipper, in preparation*

# Otoferlin: in the Retina

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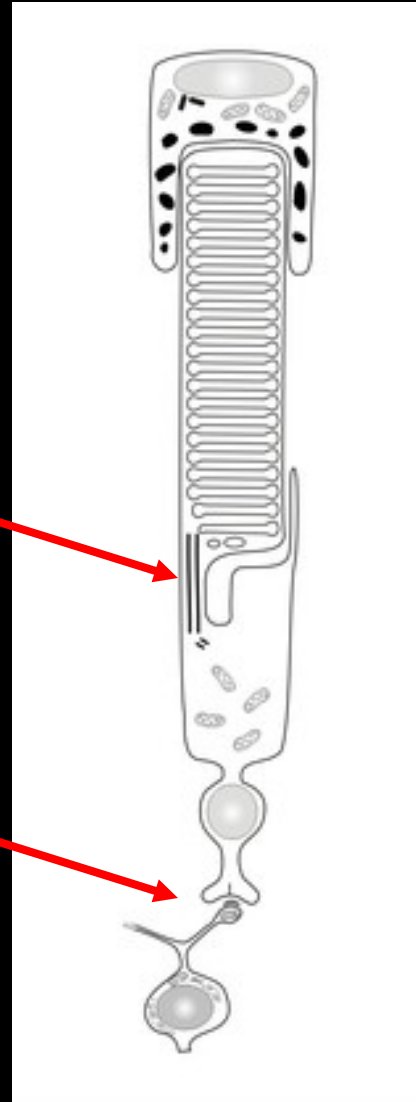
*Wolfrum, Franz et al. Knipper, in preparation*

# Otoferlin: in the Retina

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Otoferlin

Otoferlin

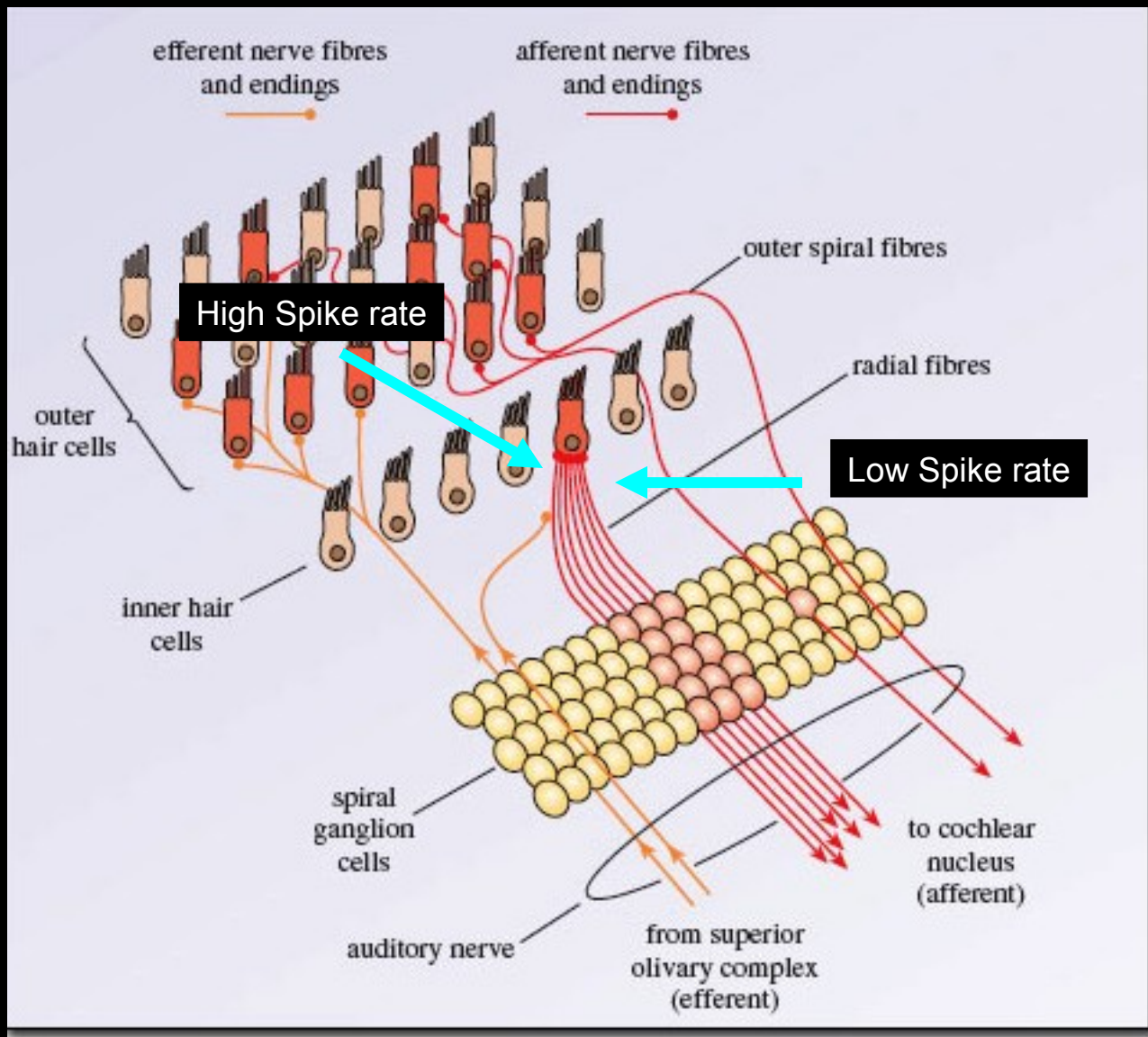


Preliminary data:  
*In preparation*

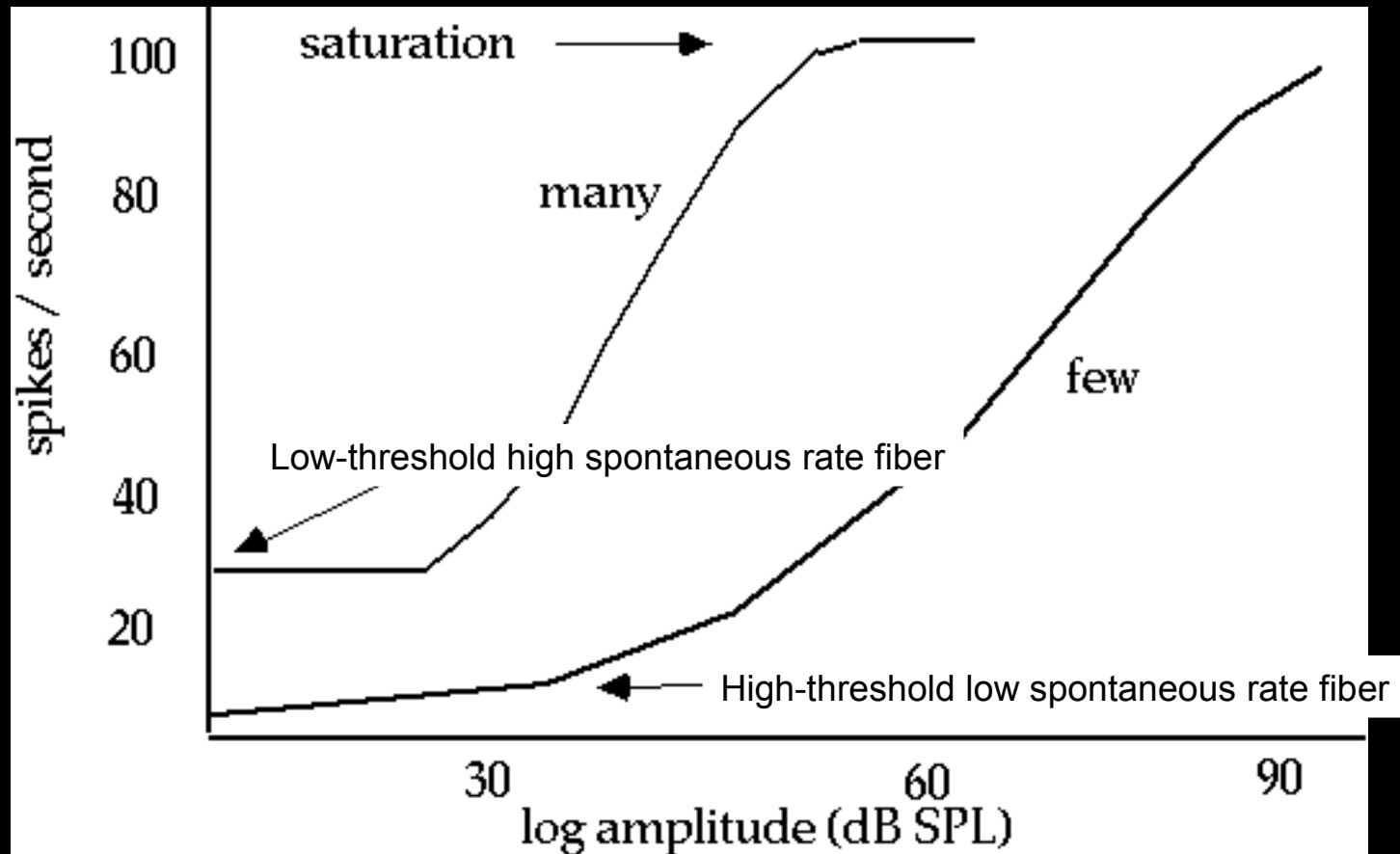
*Wolfrum, Franz et al. Knipper,  
in preparation*



# Spontaneous Spike Rate of AN fibers differs



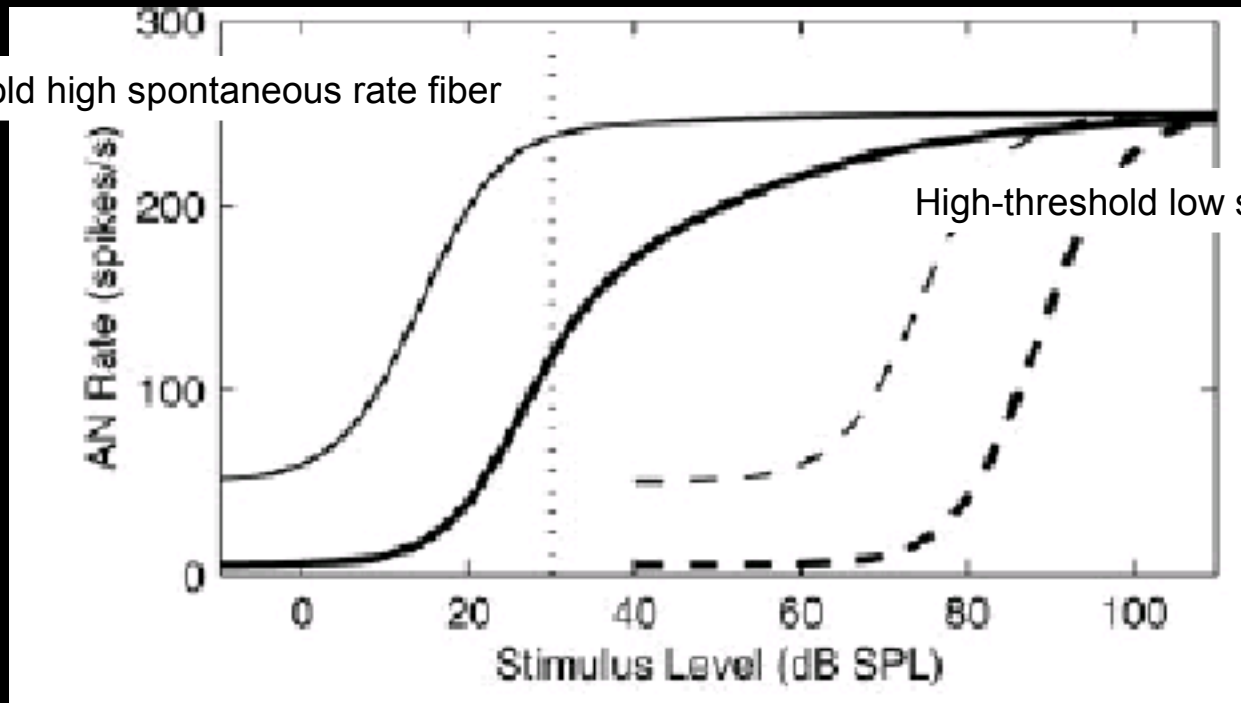
# The sensitivity of AN fibers for SPL- levels decreases with spike rate



Low spike rate = High Sound Threshold = unsensitive  
High spike rate = Low Sound Threshold = sensitive

# Middle – low SR fibers but not High SR participate to Loudness Sensation

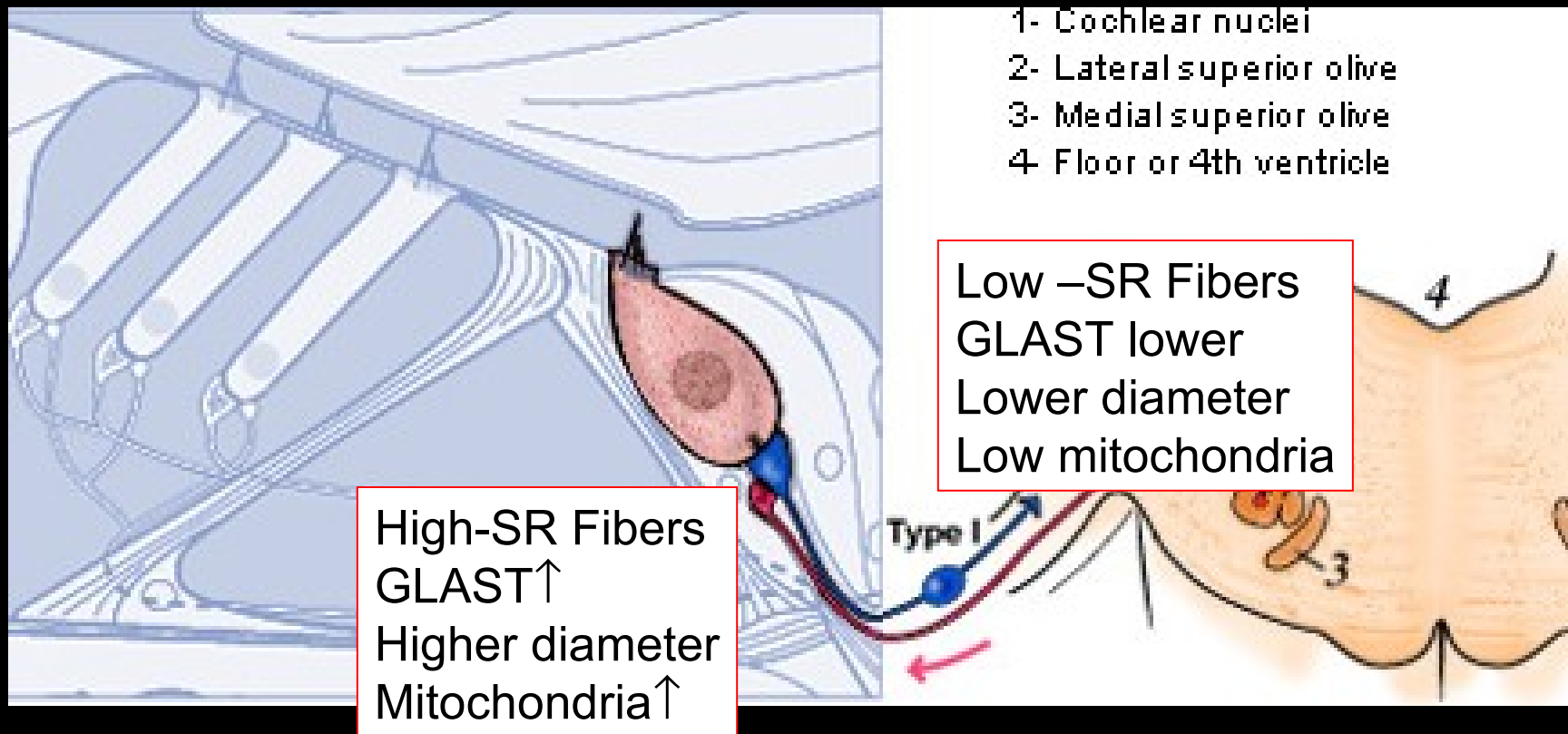
Low-threshold high spontaneous rate fiber



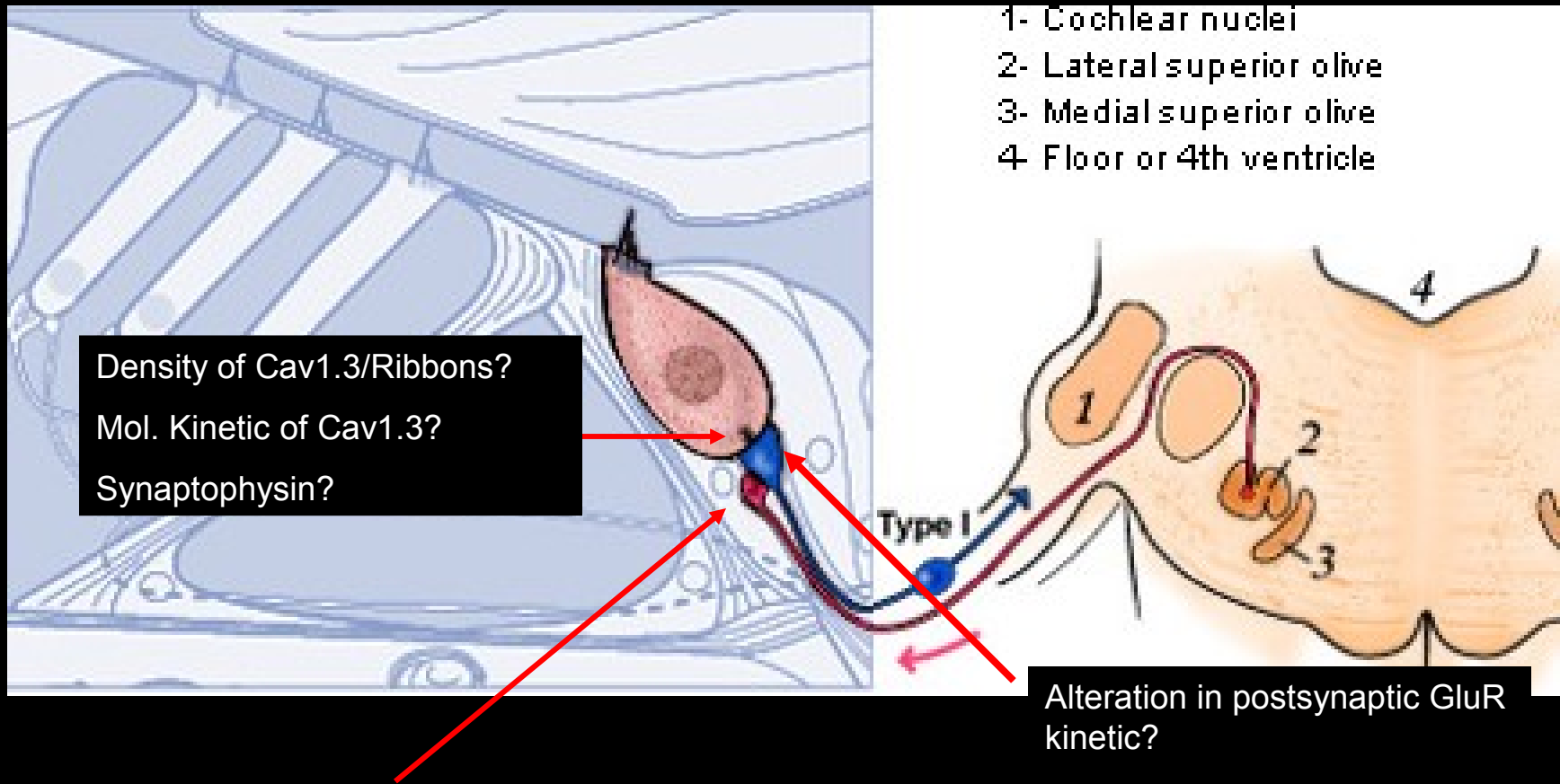
High-threshold low spontaneous rate fiber

Low spike rate = High Sound Threshold = insensitive  
High spike rate = Low Sound Threshold = sensitive

Middle / Low SR- = Modiolar Side; High – SR = Pillar Side



# What defines Spike Rate is elusive (Pre-Postsynapse or Efferents?)



LOC-Fibers: GABA, ACh, Dopamine, CGRP, Opiate

## Summary II

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- Glutamate Receptors GluR2/3 and GluR4 trigger postsynaptic TM release at the base of IHCs
- Cav1.3 triggers spontaneous TM release prior to hearing function
- Cav1.3 carries 90% of Ca-current in IHCs
- Cav1.3 is characterized by neg. fast activation and slow inactivation kinetic
- Cav1.3 triggers maturation of inner hair cells by BK  $\uparrow$  and SK2  $\downarrow$
- ~8-20 Ribbons (Ribeye positive) correlate 1:1 to 8-20 auditory fibers
- Auditory fibers exhibit different spike rates (5-100 )
- Auditory fibers exhibit different sensitivity for sound thresholds (different dynamic ranges)
- Low spikeing are insensitive (ca 40 dB), low GLAST, low mitochondria
- High spikeing are sensitive (ca 10 dB), high GLAST, high mitochondria