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## Modulation of Fast and Slow Inactivation in Two Cardiac NAv Channel Isoforms by SDZ 211-939

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**MODULATION OF FAST AND SLOW INACTIVATION IN  
TWO CARDIAC  $Na_v$  CHANNEL ISOFORMS BY SDZ 211-939**

by

**Tyce Jeffrey Kearnl**

**Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for the degree**

of

**HONORS IN UNIVERSITY STUDIES  
WITH DEPARTMENT HONORS**

in

**Biology**

**Approved:**

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**UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY  
Logan, UT**

**2006**

## **Bachelor's Thesis**

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### **Modulation of fast and slow inactivation in two cardiac Na<sub>v</sub> channel isoforms by SDZ 211-939**

#### **Abstract**

Here we report a hitherto unknown effect of a synthetic inactivation inhibitor on inactivation in cardiac sodium channels (Na<sub>v</sub>1.5) from two different species: human and bovine. SDZ 211-939 stabilized the slow inactivated-state in both channels as seen by an increased steady-state probability of slow inactivation. SDZ also destabilized the fast-inactivated state and increased the amplitude of persistent currents. SDZ modulated conductance parameters, open-state fast inactivation time constants, and activation kinetics of hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5, but not bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5. These findings will aid future studies designed to elucidate the binding site and molecular mechanisms of inactivation inhibitors such as SDZ 211-939.

## 1. Introduction

Cardiac voltage-gated sodium channels ( $\text{Na}_v1.5$ ) are responsible for the influx of ionic current that initiates myocardial action potentials. From the membrane resting potential, depolarization causes the channel to go from a closed (deactivated) state to an open (activated) state. Channels inactivate through two distinct mechanisms: fast and slow inactivation. Membrane excitability, and therefore action potentials, is regulated by the likelihood of a channel being in an inactivated state. The type of inactivation, fast or slow, differentially regulates membrane excitability. Cellular modification of both types of inactivation allows excitable membrane activity to be controlled. Such modification also suggests a convenient method of pharmacological intervention in diseased and/or mutant cells.

The importance of properly functioning inactivation may be seen by the conditions associated with abnormal inactivation activity. Fast [1,2] and slow inactivation [3] in  $\text{Na}_v1.5$  have both been shown to cause life-threatening arrhythmias such as Brugada syndrome and chromosome 3-linked congenital long-QT syndrome. Another factor pointing to the importance of slow inactivation regulation in  $\text{Na}_v1.5$  is the drastic reduction of slow inactivation in cardiac channels compared to skeletal channels. Approximately 20% of cardiac channels are slow-inactivated in steady-state protocols [4] versus 80% in skeletal muscle channels [5]. If cardiac channels were slow-inactivated to the same extent as in the skeletal muscle isoform, myocardial tissue would quickly cease to conduct action potentials.

Fast inactivation occurs rapidly via structural components on the intracellular side of the sodium channel [6], with onset and recovery time constants on the order of milliseconds. Slow inactivation, however, has time constants on the order of seconds and is homologous with

cumulative inactivation [7]. Whereas fast inactivation-kinetics allow membrane excitability to be regulated over the course of an action potential, slow inactivation requires sustained or repeated depolarizations for its effects to become physiologically relevant. Interestingly, the two states are “reciprocally interactive” [8], the probability of one having an inverse relationship with that of the other [6,9,10].

SDZ 211-939 (SDZ) belongs to a family of membrane permeable synthetic inactivation inhibitors typified by DPI 201-106 (DPI) [11]. SDZ acts as a positive inotropic agent by prolonging the open-state of  $\text{Na}_v1.5$  channels through inhibition of fast inactivation [12]. The prolonged time spent in the open-state lengthens the duration of the action potential and increases the intracellular  $\text{Na}^+$  concentration. This lessens the concentration gradient driving the  $\text{Na}^+/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -exchanger and results in a stronger force of contraction in myocardial tissue due to increased intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -availability to contractile proteins [13]. Because of increased contractility, DPI and other synthetic modifiers have been clinically studied to determine their therapeutic usefulness in cases of cardiac failure [14,15,16].

Neither the binding site nor the mechanism of action for this family of compounds has been identified. Researchers found [17], cloned, and characterized via heterologous expression [12] a bovine cardiac sodium channel with drastically reduced sensitivity to DPI and its derivative SDZ. The bovine cardiac channel ( $\text{bNa}_v1.5$ ) is 92% homologous to the human cardiac channel ( $\text{hNa}_v1.5$ ). Both the amount of similarity between the two channels and the unique effect of SDZ on the bovine channel make these two channels well suited to studies seeking to determine the mechanism and binding site of this family of inactivation inhibitors.

The main focus of our study was to ascertain the amount (if any) by which SDZ affects the steady-state probability of slow inactivation in cardiac channels. Since the probability of a

channel being in the slow-inactivated state is a determinant of myocardial excitability modulation of slow inactivation presents a convenient way by which cell excitability may be pharmacologically altered. In general, we sought in this study to characterize and compare the effects of SDZ on hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 and bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 in an effort to better understand the structure/function relationship of Na<sub>v</sub>1.5.

## **2. Materials and Methods**

### *2.1. Cell Culture*

The cDNA for the  $\alpha$ -subunit of either hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 or bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 (subcloned into pRc/CMV vector, Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) was transfected into a human embryonic kidney cell line (HEK293, ATCC number CRL-1573) using Polyfect Transfection Reagent (Qiagen, Valencia, CA). The cDNA for either the CD8 antigen or EGFP (subcloned into pEGFP-C1 vector, Clontech, Palo Alto, CA) was co-transfected in some experiments to aid with identification by Dynabeads (M-450 CD8, Dynal, Oslo, Norway) or fluorescence. 24-36 hours after transfection and 24 hours before patch clamping, cells were plated onto glass cover slips. Cells were maintained at 37°C in a humidified atmosphere with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

### *2.2. Electrophysiology*

Sodium currents were recorded using the whole-cell patch clamp technique. All recordings were done in a chamber containing (in mM): NaCl 140, KCl 4, CaCl<sub>2</sub> 2, MgCl<sub>2</sub> 1, HEPES 10, pH 7.4. After fabrication (P-57, Sutter Instruments, Novato, CA), borosilicate patch electrodes were coated with dental wax to reduce capacitance. Electrode resistance in the bath

solution prior to attachment to the cell was between 1 and 3 M $\Omega$ . Prior to recordings, the electrodes were thermally polished and filled with (in mM): CsCl 130, NaCl 10, EGTA 10, Mg-ATP 4, Li-GTP 0.4, HEPES 10, pH 7.4. Temperature was maintained at  $22 \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$  by a Peltier device regulated by a temperature controller (HCC-100A, Dagan, Minneapolis, MN). Data were obtained with an EPC-9 amplifier (HEKA, Lambrecht, Germany) and were software-low-pass-filtered at 5 kHz. Sampling frequency was 50 kHz for slow inactivation protocols and 200 kHz for all  $I/V$  protocols. Pulse software (HEKA) run on a G4 Macintosh was used to control both voltage clamping and pulse protocols. After formation of a  $\geq 1$  giga-Ohm seal, the seal was allowed to stabilize for 30 s. A patch of membrane was excised via intra-electrode suction to allow for whole-cell access. No recordings were done until peak current elicited by test pulses remained steady (approximately two minutes). Leak subtraction was performed automatically by a p/4 procedure before each pulse protocol. Fast and series resistance were automatically compensated such that series resistance was  $< 10$  M $\Omega$ . Holding potential was maintained at  $-100$  mV between pulse protocols. Data sets with current rundown of greater than 10% were discarded.

Steady-state slow inactivation data were obtained from the following pulse protocol. Membrane potential was held at  $-130$  mV for 20 s to recover channels from previously induced slow inactivation. A 60 s prepulse ranging from  $-130$  to  $-10$  mV was then delivered. Prepulse potentials were alternated between high and low sweeps ( $-130$ ,  $-10$ ,  $-120$ ,  $-20$ , etc.) to avoid accumulation of slow inactivation during the experiment. After the prepulse, the channels recovered from fast inactivation during a 20 ms pulse at  $-130$  mV before a test pulse of 20 ms at  $-10$  mV.

Conductance data were obtained as follows. Membrane potential was held at  $-130$  mV for 200 ms to insure that the channels were deactivated, stepped to a test pulse voltage ( $-90$  to  $40$  mV in  $10$  mV increments) for 20 ms, and then returned to  $-130$  mV for the next sweep. The test pulse voltage was sufficiently long to observe activating and fast-inactivating sodium current.

After collection of control data, two mL of  $2.5$  or  $25$   $\mu$ M SDZ (from where?, dissolved in DMSO) were perfused into the recording chamber. SDZ data were not obtained during the two minutes after perfusion, to allow for diffusion of SDZ and its association with the channels.

### 2.3. Data Analysis

Data were analyzed in PulseFit (HEKA) and IgorPro (Wavemetrics, Lake Oswego, OR) software. Steady-state slow inactivation curves were obtained from normalized data averaged and fitted with the modified Boltzmann equation:

$$I/I_{\max} = (I_1 - I_2) / [1 + \exp(-ze_0(V_m - V_{1/2}) / (kT))] + I_2 \quad (1)$$

where  $I_{\max}$  is the maximum peak current measured,  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are respectively the maximum and minimum values fitted,  $z$  is the apparent valence (slope factor),  $e_0$  is the elementary charge,  $V_m$  is the prepulse potential,  $V_{1/2}$  is the midpoint potential,  $k$  is the Boltzmann constant, and  $T$  is the absolute temperature. The maximum probability of steady-state slow inactivation was reported as  $I/I_{\max}$  at the most depolarized voltage of the curve and will be referred to as 'probability of slow inactivation'.

Conductance data were obtained from  $I/V$  curves using the equation:

$$G = I_{\max} / (V_m - E_{\text{rev}}) \quad (2)$$



where  $G$  is conductance,  $E_{rev}$  is the reversal potential derived from minimizing error in  $G$ , and other variables as stated above. Normalized conductance curves were then averaged and fitted with the modified Boltzmann equation:

$$I / I_{max} = I_1 / [1 + \exp(-ze_0(V_m - V_{1/2}) / (kT))] \quad (3)$$

where the variables are the same as those for equation 1 with the exception of  $V_m$  being the test pulse potential.

Open-state fast inactivation time constants were obtained by fitting the current decay portion of the  $I/V$  curves to the single exponential equation:

$$I(t) = I_p + a_1 \exp(-t/\tau) \quad (4)$$

where  $I(t)$  is current amplitude as a function of  $t$  (time),  $I_p$  is the plateau amplitude,  $a_1$  is the amplitude at  $t = 0$  (time of peak current), and  $\tau$  is the time constant.

$I_{plateau}:I_{peak}$  ratios were analyzed as follows:  $I_{peak}$  (peak current amplitude) was fit with a 6<sup>th</sup> order polynomial function.  $I_{plateau}$  (plateau current amplitude) was derived by fitting the sustained current amplitude with a horizontal line. The sustained current amplitude was defined by the current after 15-20 ms of the 20 ms test pulse; by 15 ms, current amplitudes in all experiments had reached a plateau and remained steady to the end of the test pulse.

$I_{plateau}:I_{peak}$  ratios and fast inactivation time constants were graphed using Excel (Microsoft, Redmond, WA). All other graphs were made in IgorPro.

All statistical values were obtained using the Student's  $t$ -test, or, when indicated by a significant difference is standard deviations, Welch's alternate  $t$ -test using InStat software (GraphPad Software, Inc., San Diego, CA). Two-tailed  $p$ -values are reported. Significant difference was accepted at  $p < 0.05$ . Statistical values are given as mean  $\pm$  standard error of the mean (SEM). Throughout the text,  $n$  refers to the number of experiments.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. SDZ affects plateau current in *hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5* and *bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5*

The primary effect of synthetic inactivation inhibitors, such as SDZ appears to be to destabilize the fast-inactivated state and thus create a plateau (or persistent) current. A greater amount of destabilization results in an increased plateau current.

To determine the effect of SDZ on plateau (or persistent) current, we measured the  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratio at the end of a depolarizing test pulse. A 20 ms test pulse to  $-10$  mV elicited currents after a conditioning pulse at  $-130$  mV for 200 ms. This protocol was sufficiently long to display both peak and plateau currents.

As shown in Figure 1, *hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5* and *bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5* had similar  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratios in the absence of SDZ ( $p < 0.57$ ). Application of  $2.5$   $\mu\text{M}$  and  $25$   $\mu\text{M}$  SDZ resulted in a concentration-dependent increase of  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratios for both channel isoforms, although there was virtually no difference in response to SDZ between the two isoforms.

#### 3.2. SDZ modulates open-state fast inactivation time constants and activation kinetics of *hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5* but not *bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5*

Open-state fast inactivation time constants are illustrated in Figure 2 for voltages at which large sodium currents were observed ( $-20$  mV to  $40$  mV). Although SDZ affected *bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5* by either increasing ( $25$   $\mu\text{M}$ ) or decreasing ( $2.5$   $\mu\text{M}$ ) the time constants, the effect was not

significant at either concentration. For hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5, however, a significant increase was seen at the voltages 0, 10, 20, and 30 mV following the perfusion of 25 μM SDZ.

Activation kinetics (data not shown) were obtained by measuring the current rise time (defined as the rising portion of the current trace between 10% and 90% of the peak current amplitude) during test pulses to -10 mV.

2.5 μM SDZ significantly decreased the activation time constants (dT) of hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 from  $397 \pm 26 \mu\text{s}$  (15) to  $301 \pm 22 \mu\text{s}$  (10) ( $p < 0.02$ ). The application of 25 μM SDZ to hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 slightly increased dT to  $435 \pm 50 \mu\text{s}$  (15); however, the increase in dT was not statistically significant ( $p < 0.51$ ). The dT of bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 followed the same trends as hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 in that 2.5 μM SDZ decreased dT from  $378 \pm 26 \mu\text{s}$  (18) to  $314 \pm 40 \mu\text{s}$  (6) and 25 μM SDZ increased dT to  $438 \pm 34 \mu\text{s}$  (6). These changes in dT were not statistically significant, ( $p < 0.22$  and 0.18, respectively).

### 3.3. SDZ differentially modulates conductance parameters

The most visible example of differential modulation by SDZ is seen by the effect of the compound on the voltage-dependence of the channels (see conductance curves in Figure 3). SDZ caused large, significant shifts to more hyperpolarized potentials in hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5, whereas such shifts in activation voltage-dependence were not seen for bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5.

The midpoint potential ( $V_{1/2}$ ) of hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 was shifted -22.0 mV by 2.5 μM SDZ ( $p < 0.0001$ ). No additional increase in this effect was seen at the higher concentration of SDZ (25 μM) where  $V_{1/2}$  was shifted -13.6 mV ( $p < 0.003$ ). The effect on  $V_{1/2}$  was not concentration-dependent in isoforms from both species as the effects on  $V_{1/2}$  by the two concentrations were

not significantly different ( $p < 0.051$ ). Additionally, the control  $V_{1/2}$  measurements from each isoform were very different with  $bNa_v1.5$  having a  $V_{1/2}$  28.9 mV more hyperpolarized than  $hNa_v1.5$ .

### 3.4. SDZ increases the steady-state probability of slow inactivation of $hNa_v1.5$ and $bNa_v1.5$

Previous studies using SDZ did not examine its effects on slow inactivation. Due to the large effect of SDZ on fast inactivation [12] and the coupling between fast and slow inactivation [5], we sought to determine the extent to which SDZ might affect the probability of slow inactivation in  $Na_v1.5$ . The channel isoforms  $hNa_v1.5$  and  $bNa_v1.5$  were used for two reasons. First, slow inactivation parameters of  $hNa_v1.5$  have been previously studied and abnormal slow inactivation function implicated in several medical conditions [22,23]. Second,  $bNa_v1.5$  has been shown to be minimally affected by SDZ compared to this channel isoform in other species [12,17]; differential effects between the two isoforms might thus reveal important information about the mechanisms and structures underlying the effects of SDZ.

Figure 4 shows the steady-state slow inactivation curves for both channel types. The maximum probability of slow inactivation for both  $hNa_v1.5$  and  $bNa_v1.5$  was significantly increased by application of 25  $\mu$ M SDZ ( $p < 0.0003$  and  $p < 0.04$ , respectively). Data showing the effect of SDZ on the midpoint ( $V_{1/2}$ ) and the apparent valence ( $z$ ) were also measured and are summarized in Table 1. Interestingly, although SDZ affected the probability of slow inactivation, no significant effects were observed for  $V_{1/2}$ , and the apparent valence was affected by SDZ only in  $bNa_v1.5$  ( $p < 0.01$ ).

#### 4. Discussion

Our data demonstrate that, besides the well-studied effect of synthetic modifiers such as DPI on the stability of fast inactivation [18,19,20], one member of this class of drugs, SDZ, also affects the stability and probability of slow inactivation. We have additionally shown that SDZ differentially modulates the conductance parameters and open-state fast inactivation time constants  $hNa_v1.5$  and  $bNa_v1.5$ .

Single channel recordings show that fast-inactivated channels undergo “bursting” during prolonged depolarizations. Bursting activity occurs when channels briefly recover from fast inactivation, allowing conductance of sodium current as the channels are in the activated open-state, and then re-enter the fast-inactivated open-state [21]. The  $I_{plateau}:I_{peak}$  ratios we observed are likely due to bursting channels. Bursting activity represents the relative stability of the fast inactivated-state; bursting increases as the stability of the fast-inactivated state decreases. Because our pulse protocols ensured nearly complete fast inactivation (verified by control data), the SDZ-induced increase in  $I_{plateau}:I_{peak}$  ratio represents a decrease in stability of the fast inactivated-state. For our control experiments,  $I_{plateau}$  values are two orders of magnitude smaller than  $I_{peak}$ . With the addition of 25  $\mu$ M SDZ,  $I_{plateau}$  values increased by an order of magnitude compared to  $I_{peak}$ .

Understanding SDZ modulation of slow inactivation is difficult since the underlying mechanisms by which channels slow inactivate are poorly understood [22,23]. However, several studies have shown an inverse relationship between the probabilities of fast and slow inactivation [4,9,10]. Given our results showing a decrease of fast inactivation stability and an increase of

slow inactivation stability, it appears that SDZ may exert its effects on the two types of inactivation via their intrinsic coupling.

Previous studies have shown 1) that of swine, goat, and cattle, only cattle exhibited reduced sensitivity to SDZ [17], and 2) that SDZ is markedly less effective in  $bNa_v1.5$  compared to  $rNa_v1.5$  [12]. Based on these studies we hypothesized that the primary effect of SDZ, inactivation inhibition, on  $hNa_v1.5$  would be more similar to  $rNa_v1.5$  than  $bNa_v1.5$  (which had been the only identified channel with reduced sensitivity to SDZ). Our plateau current results show that SDZ destabilizes inactivation in  $hNa_v1.5$  and  $bNa_v1.5$  to the same extent and contradict the hypothesis. However, Denac *et al.* (2002) expressed  $bNa_v1.5$  and  $rNa_v1.5$  in *Xenopus* oocytes, whereas we expressed our channels in HEK293 cells. Different expression systems have been shown to affect the biophysical properties of sodium channels and it is possible that the inactivation destabilization effect of SDZ is altered by the expression system [24].

The main area of structural difference between  $bNa_v1.5$  and other channel-isoforms lies in the cytoplasmic linker connecting domains II and III. Although the bovine and human isoforms have DII-DIII linkers of the same length, the amount of conserved primary sequence is only 82% in the DII-DIII linker compared with 92% for the entire sequence. Interestingly, mutations found in the human DII-DIII linker have effects similar to those of SDZ on persistent currents although the wildtype sequence at these amino acids is conserved between the bovine and human isoform. The polymorphism S1103Y has been correlated with an increased risk of cardiac arrhythmias and was identified in 13.2% of African-Americans [25] and in a white family [26]. A997S, associated with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, also displays increased  $I_{plateau}$  [27].

The bovine amino acid residue corresponding to position 1103 in hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 is conserved, but the residue corresponding to position 997 in hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 is not conserved. The residue at this position (1002) is serine, corresponding to the  $I_{\text{plateau}}$ -altering human polymorphism A997S. However, this does not imply that a serine at the position universally increases  $I_{\text{plateau}}$  or is involved in SDZ binding. In addition to demonstrating similar  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratio responses to SDZ when compared with hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5, bnav1.5 still displays the low level of  $I_{\text{plateau}}$  characteristic of wild-type cardiac channels and not the increased level observed for A997S [27]. Further studies are needed to elucidate the role of that position on inactivation stability.

The mechanism by which SDZ affects sodium channels is unclear. Considering the increased plateau current amplitudes in S1103Y and A997S, and hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + SDZ compared to the wild-type isoform, it appears that SDZ might destabilize fast inactivation by inducing a conformational change. These factors also lead to the hypotheses that the DII-DIII linker is involved in fast-inactivation stability, and that the linker may be the binding site for SDZ and related compounds. Whether SDZ modulates slow inactivation directly or via a fast-slow inactivation coupling remains to be determined. The DII-DIII linker has not, however, been previously associated with the control of slow inactivation, suggesting an indirect effect of SDZ on slow inactivation. Thus, the stabilization of slow inactivation, as suggested by the increase in its maximum probability (Fig. 4), may be an indirect consequence of the destabilization of fast inactivation, as suggested by the increase in time constants of hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 (Fig. 2) and the increase in persistent current in both isoforms (Fig. 1).

In summary, we have shown that SDZ differentially affects hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 and bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5, and that an inactivation inhibitor not only modulated fast inactivation but also the probability of slow inactivation. These results may serve as a basis for future studies aimed at elucidating the

molecular mechanism of SDZ and the structure/function relationships of sodium channels. Importantly, an understanding of the molecular mechanisms of both inactivation inhibitors and sodium channel activity will aid the rational design of novel drugs for chronic cardiac failure, a possibility that has not been adequately explored [16,12]. In light of recent studies showing the expression of “neuronal” sodium channel isoforms in the heart [28,29], it will also be important to study the effects of SDZ on these isoforms to gain a complete understanding of the compound’s effects on cardiac function.

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**Table 1 Slow Inactivation, Conductance, and  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  data**

| channel              | SDZ application | <i>slow inactivation</i> |                             |                              | <i>conductance</i>          |                               | $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$ |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                      |                 | level (%)                | apparent valence (z)        | $V_{1/2}$ (mV)               | apparent valence (z)        | $V_{1/2}$ (mV)                |                                      |
| hNa <sub>v</sub> 1.5 | none (control)  | 70 ± 2 (8)               | -2.5 ± 0.2 (8)              | -80.9 ± 2.1 (8)              | 3.3 ± 0.3 (15)              | -18.5 ± 2.0 (15)              | 0.042 ± 0.012 (15)                   |
|                      | 2.5 μM SDZ      | —                        | —                           | —                            | 4.6 ± 0.5 (10) <sup>a</sup> | -40.5 ± 1.8 (10) <sup>a</sup> | 0.120 ± 0.024 (10) <sup>a</sup>      |
|                      | 25 μM SDZ       | 85 ± 2 (7) <sup>a</sup>  | -2.5 ± 0.2 (7)              | -77.4 ± 4.0 (7)              | 4.3 ± 0.5 (15)              | -32.1 ± 3.6 (15) <sup>a</sup> | 0.496 ± 0.046 (15) <sup>a</sup>      |
| bNa <sub>v</sub> 1.5 | none (control)  | 78 ± 3 (5)               | -3.6 ± 0.2 (5) <sup>a</sup> | -91.0 ± 4.7 (5) <sup>a</sup> | 3.5 ± 0.3 (18)              | -47.4 ± 3.1 (18) <sup>a</sup> | 0.034 ± 0.008 (18)                   |
|                      | 2.5 μM SDZ      | —                        | —                           | —                            | 3.1 ± 0.2 (6)               | -50.3 ± 4.6 (6)               | 0.093 ± 0.021 (6) <sup>b</sup>       |
|                      | 25 μM SDZ       | 88 ± 1 (4) <sup>b</sup>  | -2.5 ± 0.2 (4) <sup>b</sup> | -83.9 ± 2.6 (4)              | 4.5 ± 0.5 (9)               | -48.2 ± 2.4 (9)               | 0.449 ± 0.073 (9) <sup>b</sup>       |

All slow inactivation and conductance values were obtained from Boltzmann fits to individual data sets (as described in Materials and Methods). Data are presented as means ± SEM (n). <sup>a</sup> $P < 0.05$  versus hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 control. <sup>b</sup> $P < 0.05$  versus bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 control.

**Fig. 1. A.** Sodium current traces showing the effect of SDZ on plateau current and an illustration of the pulse protocol used to obtain  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratios and conductance data (presented in Table 1). **B.** Graph and table of  $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratios for hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 and bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 with and without SDZ. Obtained from the protocol described in Figure 2. <sup>a</sup> $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratios of hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 significantly increased with 2.5 and 25 μM SDZ ( $p < 0.004, 0.0001$ ). <sup>b</sup> $I_{\text{plateau}}:I_{\text{peak}}$  ratios of bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 increased similarly upon application of 2.5 and 25 μM SDZ ( $p < 0.004, 0.0005$ ).

**Fig. 2.** The time constant of fast inactivation in hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 is differentially affected by SDZ. Panel A shows the time constants of fast inactivation, derived from an exponential function fit to the decay of current during a test pulse to the voltages shown on the X-axis, in hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 in the absence (light gray circles) and presence of SDZ (2.5 μM; dark gray triangles, and 25 μM; black squares). Panel B shows the time constants of fast inactivation in bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 in the absence (light gray circles) and presence of SDZ (2.5 μM; dark gray triangles, and 25 μM; black squares).

**Fig. 3. A.** Conductance curves (obtained from the protocol illustrated in Fig. 1) for hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 (light gray), hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + 2.5 μM SDZ (medium gray), and hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + 25 μM SDZ (black). **B.** Conductance curves for bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 (light gray), bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + 2.5 μM SDZ (medium gray), and bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + 25 μM SDZ (black). Conductance curves shown above were fitted with a modified Boltzmann equation (see Materials and Methods). <sup>a</sup> $P < 0.05$  versus hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 control midpoint. <sup>b</sup> $P < 0.05$  versus hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 apparent valence. No

significant differences were seen for SDZ-perfused bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 compared to bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 control.

**Fig. 4.** Average steady-state slow inactivation curves fitted with a modified Boltzmann equation. **A.** Curves for hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 (light gray) and hNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + 25 μM SDZ (black). **B.** Curves for bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 (light gray) and bNa<sub>v</sub>1.5 + 25 μM SDZ (black). Inset shows pulse protocol (see Materials and Methods for details). Data were not gathered for 2.5 μM SDZ.

Figure 1

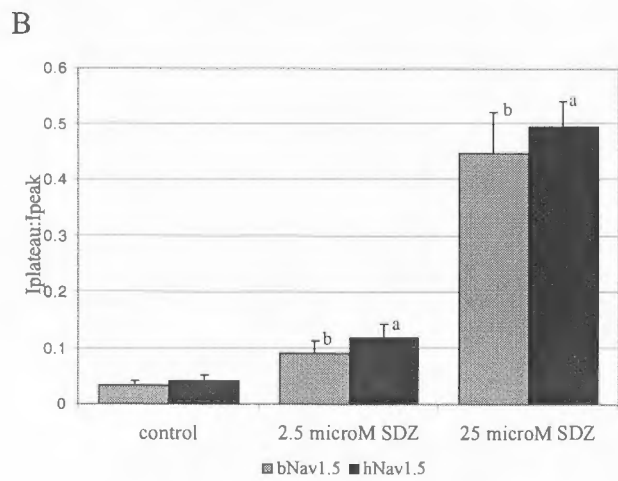
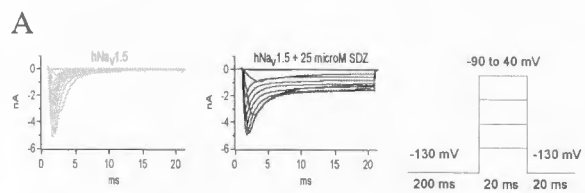


Figure 2

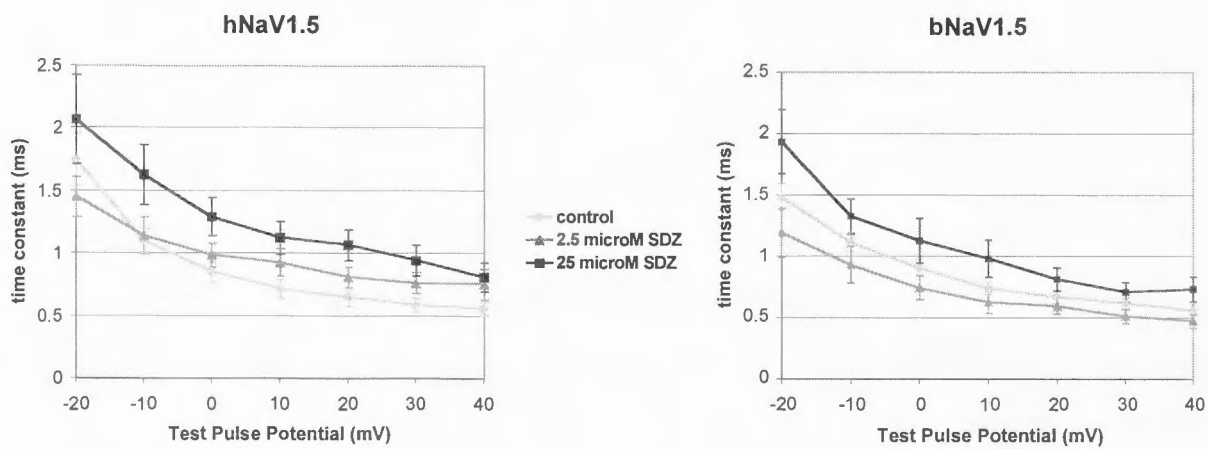
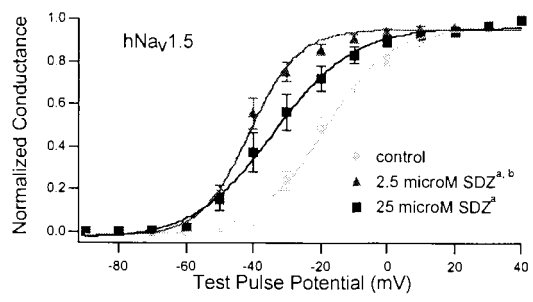


Figure 3

A



B

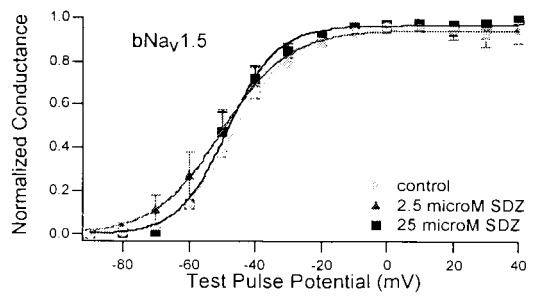
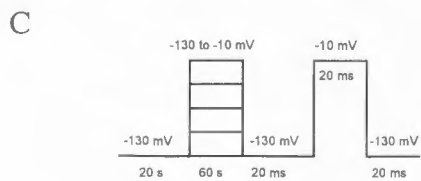
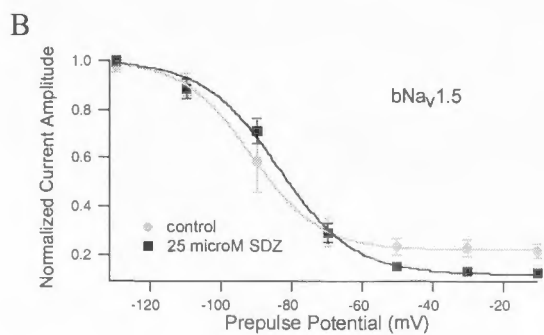
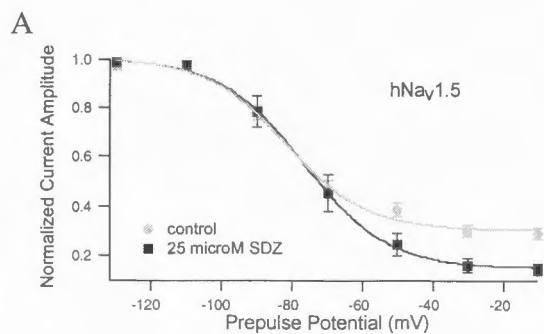


Figure 4



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