

1 **Effector membrane translocation biosensors reveal G**
2 **protein and β arrestin coupling profiles of 100**
3 **therapeutically relevant GPCRs**

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28 **Abstract**

29 The recognition that individual GPCRs can activate multiple signaling pathways has raised
30 the possibility of developing drugs selectively targeting therapeutically relevant ones. This
31 requires tools to determine which G proteins and β arrestins are activated by a given
32 receptor. Here, we present a set of BRET sensors monitoring the activation of the 12 G
33 protein subtypes based on the translocation of their effectors to the plasma membrane
34 (EMTA). Unlike most of the existing detection systems, EMTA does not require
35 modification of receptors or G proteins (except for G_s). EMTA was found to be suitable for
36 the detection of constitutive activity, inverse agonism, biased signaling and
37 polypharmacology. Profiling of 100 therapeutically relevant human GPCRs resulted in
38 1,500 pathway-specific concentration-response curves and revealed a great diversity of
39 coupling profiles ranging from exquisite selectivity to broad promiscuity. Overall, this
40 work describes unique resources for studying the complexities underlying GPCR signaling
41 and pharmacology.

42 **Introduction**

43 G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) play crucial roles in the regulation of a wide variety
44 of physiological processes and represent one-third of clinically prescribed drugs (Hauser,
45 Attwood, Rask-Andersen, Schioth, & Gloriam, 2017). Classically, GPCR-mediated signal
46 transduction was believed to rely on linear signaling pathways whereby a given GPCR
47 selectively activates a single G protein family, defined by the nature of its $G\alpha$ subunit
48 (Oldham & Hamm, 2008). $G\alpha$ proteins are divided into four major families (G_s , $G_{i/o}$, $G_{q/11}$,
49 and $G_{12/13}$) encoded by 16 human genes. Once activated, these proteins each trigger
50 different downstream effectors yielding different biological outcomes. It has now become
51 evident that many GPCRs can couple to more than one G protein family and that ligands
52 can selectively promote the activation of different subsets of these pathways (Namkung
53 et al., 2018; Quoyer et al., 2013). These observations extended the concept of ligand-
54 biased signaling, which was first established for ligand-directed selectivity between
55 β arrestin and G protein (Azzi et al., 2003; Wei et al., 2003), to functional selectivity
56 between G proteins. Ligand-directed functional selectivity represents a promising avenue
57 for GPCRs drug discovery since it offers the opportunity of activating pathways important
58 for therapeutic efficacy while minimizing activation of pathways responsible for
59 undesirable side effects (Galandrin, Oligny-Longpre, & Bouvier, 2007; Kenakin, 2019).

60

61 To fully explore the potential of functional selectivity, it is essential to have an exhaustive
62 description of the signaling partners that can be activated by a given receptor, providing
63 receptor- and ligand-specific signaling signatures. Currently, few assays allow for an

64 exhaustive pathway-specific analysis of GPCR signaling; these include BRET-based G
65 protein activation sensors platforms (Gales et al., 2005; Masuho et al., 2015; Maziarz et
66 al., 2020; Mende et al., 2018; Olsen et al., 2020) and the TGF- α shedding assay (Inoue et
67 al., 2019). However, several of these platforms require modification of G protein subunits
68 that may create functional distortions. Moreover, these assays may detect non-
69 productive conformational rearrangements of the G protein heterotrimer as was recently
70 reported for G₁₂ (Okashah et al., 2020).

71

72 Here, we describe unique sensors that do not require modification of receptors or G
73 proteins (except for G_s) for interrogating the signaling profiles of GPCRs. The platform
74 includes 15 pathway-selective enhanced bystander bioluminescence resonance energy
75 transfer (ebBRET) biosensors monitoring the translocation of downstream effectors to
76 the plasma membrane for G_{i/o}, G_{q/11} and G_{12/13}, the dissociation of the G α subunit from
77 the plasma membrane for G_s and the recruitment of β arrestin to the plasma membrane.
78 Overall, the new ebBRET-based **E**ffector **M**embrane **T**ranslocation **A**ssays, named EMTA,
79 provide a readily accessible large scale and comprehensive platform to study constitutive
80 and ligand-directed GPCR signaling. The signaling signatures of 100 GPCRs using the EMTA
81 platform also provides a rich source of information to explore the principles underlying
82 receptor/G protein/ β arrestin coupling selectivity relationships. It thus provides a unique
83 set of tools that is complementary to previously described platforms and existing
84 datasets, and offers a map of the coupling potentials for individual GPCR that will

85 stimulate future studies investigating the relevance of these couplings in different
86 physiological systems.

87 **Results**

88 **ebBRET-based G protein effector membrane translocation assay (EMTA) allows** 89 **detection of each G α protein subunit activation**

90 To detect the activation of G α subtypes, we created an EMTA biosensor platform based
91 on ebBRET (Namkung et al., 2016) (**Figure 1A**). The biosensors at the heart of EMTA
92 consist of sub-domains of the G protein-effector proteins p63-RhoGEF, Rap1GAP and PDZ-
93 RhoGEF that selectively interact with activated G $_{q/11}$, G $_{i/o}$ or G $_{12/13}$, respectively. These
94 domains were fused at their C-terminus to *Renilla* luciferase (RlucII) and co-expressed
95 with different unmodified receptor and G α protein subtypes. Upon GPCR activation, the
96 energy donor-fused effectors translocate to the plasma membrane to bind activated G α
97 proteins, bringing RlucII in close proximity to the energy acceptor, *Renilla* green
98 fluorescent protein, targeted to the plasma membrane through a CAAX motif (rGFP-
99 CAAX), thus leading to an increase in ebBRET. The same plasma membrane translocation
100 principle is used to measure β arrestin recruitment (Namkung et al., 2016) (**Figure 1B**, top).
101 Because no selective soluble downstream effector of G $_s$ exists, the assay was modified
102 taking advantage of G α_s dissociation from the plasma membrane following its activation
103 (Wedegaertner, Bourne, & von Zastrow, 1996). In this configuration, the RlucII is directly
104 fused to G α_s (Carr et al., 2014). Its activation upon GPCR stimulation leads to its
105 dissociation from the plasma membrane (Martin & Lambert, 2016), resulting in a
106 reduction in ebBRET (**Figure 1B**, bottom).

107

108 The sensitivity and selectivity of the newly created G protein EMTA biosensors, were
109 validated using prototypical GPCRs known to activate specific $G\alpha$ subtypes. The responses
110 were monitored upon heterologous expression of specific $G\alpha$ subunits belonging to $G_{i/o}$,
111 $G_{q/11}$ or $G_{12/13}$ families in the absence or presence of pharmacological inhibitors and using
112 engineered cells lacking selected $G\alpha$ subtypes. The dopamine D_2 receptor was used to
113 validate the ability of the $G_{i/o}$ binding domain of Rap1GAP (Jordan, Carey, Stork, & Iyengar,
114 1999; Meng, Glick, Polakis, & Casey, 1999) to selectively detect $G_{i/o}$ activation. The
115 dopamine-promoted increase in ebBRET between Rap1GAP-RlucII and rGFP-CAAX in the
116 presence of $G\alpha_{i/o}$ subunits was not affected by the $G_{q/11}$ -selective inhibitor UBO-QIC
117 (a.k.a., FR900359 (Schrage et al., 2015); **Figure 2A**, left), whereas the $G\alpha_{i/o}$ family inhibitor,
118 pertussis toxin (PTX), completely blocked the response for all members of $G\alpha_{i/o}$ family
119 except for $G\alpha_z$, known to be insensitive to PTX (Casey, Fong, Simon, & Gilman, 1990)
120 (**Figure 2A**, right). Gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) stimulation of the GnRH
121 receptor (GnRHR), used as a prototypical $G_{q/11}$ -coupled receptor, promoted ebBRET
122 between the RlucII-fused $G_{q/11}$ binding domain of p63-RhoGEF (p63-RhoGEF-RlucII) (Lutz
123 et al., 2007; Rojas et al., 2007) and rGFP-CAAX. The ebBRET increase observed in the
124 presence of different $G\alpha_{q/11}$ subunits was not significantly ($p=0.077$, 0.0636 and 0.073 for
125 G_q , G_{11} and G_{14} , respectively) affected by PTX (**Figure 2B**, right), whereas UBO-QIC
126 completely blocked the response for all members of $G\alpha_{q/11}$ family except for $G\alpha_{15}$, known
127 to be insensitive to UBO-QIC (Schrage et al., 2015) (**Figure 2B**, left). These two G protein
128 specific EMTA were sensitive enough to detect responses elicited by endogenous G
129 proteins since deletion of $G_{i/o}$ ($\Delta G_{i/o}$) or $G_{q/11}$ ($\Delta G_{q/11}$) subtypes completely abolished the

130 responses induced by D₂ or GnRHR activation in the absence of heterologously expressed
131 G proteins (**Figure S1I**). It should however be noted that relying on endogenous proteins
132 does not allow the identification of specific members of G_{i/o} (i.e.: G_{i1}, G_{i2}, G_{i3}, G_{oA}, G_{oB} or
133 G_z) or G_{q/11} (i.e.: G_q, G₁₁, G₁₄ or G₁₅) families.

134

135 The selectivity of the G_{12/13} binding domain of PDZ-RhoGEF (Fukuhara, Chikumi, &
136 Gutkind, 2001) was confirmed using the cannabinoid receptor type 1 (CB₁). The ebBRET
137 between PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII and rGFP-CAAX in the presence of G α ₁₂ or G α ₁₃ promoted by
138 the cannabinoid agonist WIN-55,212-2 was not affected by UBO-QIC (**Figure 2C**, top left),
139 nor PTX (**Figure 2C**, top right). Given the lack of selective G_{12/13} pharmacological inhibitor,
140 we used HEK293 cells genetically deleted for G α ₁₂ and G α ₁₃ proteins (Δ G_{12/13}) to further
141 confirm the response selectivity. As expected, PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX ebBRET was
142 observed only following reintroduction of either G α ₁₂ (Δ G_{12/13}+G₁₂) or G α ₁₃
143 (Δ G_{12/13}+G₁₃) (**Figure 2C**, bottom left). The G_{12/13} coupling of CB₁ was further confirmed
144 by monitoring the recruitment of PKN to the plasma membrane (**Figure 2C**, bottom right)
145 in agreement with previous reports (Inoue et al., 2019).

146

147 To further assess the selectivity of each EMTA biosensor, we took advantage of the fact
148 that the endothelin-1 receptor (ET_A) can activate G_{q/11}, G_{i/o} and G_{12/13} family members. As
149 shown in **Figure S2**, only over-expression of the G α family members corresponding to
150 their selective effectors (Rap1GAP for G_{i/o}, p63-RhoGEF for G_{q/11} and PDZ-RhoGEF for
151 G_{12/13}) significantly increased the recruitment of the effector-RlucII to the plasma

152 membrane. A recent study (Chandan N.R., 2021) showed that $G_{i/o}$ can also activate full
153 length PDZ-RhoGEF. Although the domain of PDZ-RhoGEF required for this activation has
154 not been identified yet, the selectivity of our PDZ-RhoGEF sensor for $G_{12/13}$ vs. all other G
155 protein families most likely results from the fact that we used a truncated version of PDZ-
156 RhoGEF that only contains the $G_{12/13}$ binding domain and lacks the PDZ domain involved
157 in protein-protein interaction, the actin-binding domain and the DH/PH domains involved
158 in GEF activity and RhoA activation (Aittaleb, Boguth, & Tesmer, 2010).

159 It should be noted that in the heterologous expression configuration, competition with
160 endogenous G proteins did not occur to a significant extent since the potencies of the
161 responses to a given G protein subtype were not affected by genetic deletion of the
162 different G protein family members (**Figure S1** and **Supplementary Table 1A**). Similarly,
163 overexpression of G proteins, GPCRs or effectors-RlucII did not affect the potencies of the
164 responses observed (**Figure S3** and **Supplementary Table 1B-D**), indicating that, in our
165 experimental conditions, overexpression of the different components of EMTA sensors
166 must likely not bias the coupling response. In addition to spectrometric assessment of
167 coupling selectivity (above) and activation kinetics (**Figure S4**), EMTA allows to image the
168 real-time recruitment of the G protein effectors to the plasma membrane (**Videos 1-3**)
169 thus providing spatiotemporal resolution for the imaging detection of $G\alpha_{i/o}$, $G\alpha_{q/11,14,15}$
170 and $G\alpha_{12/13}$ activation.

171

172 The sensitivity of the EMTA platform is illustrated by a direct side-by-side comparison of
173 the signals detected with EMTA vs. BRET assays based on $G\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation ($G\alpha\beta\gamma$) (Gales

174 et al., 2005; Gales et al., 2006; Olsen et al., 2020), that reveals a significantly larger assay
175 windows for EMTA for the 6 $G\alpha$ subunits tested for 8 selected receptors, (**Figure S5**).

176

177 For the $G\alpha_s$ translocation biosensor, the bile acid receptor (GPBA) was chosen for
178 validation (Kawamata et al., 2003). As expected, lithocholic acid stimulation resulted in a
179 concentration-dependent decrease in ebBRET between $G\alpha_s$ -RlucII and rGFP-CAAX (**Figure**
180 **2D**, left). Cholera toxin (CTX), which directly activates $G\alpha_s$ (De Haan & Hirst, 2004), led to
181 a decrease in ebBRET (**Figure 2D**, center), confirming that loss of $G\alpha_s$ plasma membrane
182 localization results from its activation. The potency of lithocholic acid to promote G_s
183 dissociation from the plasma membrane was well in line with its potency to increase
184 cAMP production as assessed using a BRET²-based EPAC biosensor (Leduc et al., 2009)
185 (**Figure 2D**, right). The G_s -plasma membrane dissociation ebBRET signal was not affected
186 by UBO-QIC or PTX (**Figure 2D**, left), confirming the selectivity of the biosensor.

187

188 **Signaling signatures of one hundred therapeutically relevant receptors reveals distinct** 189 **G protein and β arrestin selectivity profiles**

190 We used EMTA to assess the signaling signature of a panel of 100 human GPCRs that are
191 either already the target of clinically used drugs (74 receptors), considered for pre- or
192 clinical drug development (6 receptors), or pathophysiologically relevant (**Supplementary**
193 **Table S2A**). To establish the coupling potentials for each receptor, we quantified its ability
194 to activate 15 pathways: $G\alpha_s$, $G\alpha_{i1}$, $G\alpha_{i2}$, $G\alpha_{oA}$, $G\alpha_{oB}$, $G\alpha_z$, $G\alpha_{12}$, $G\alpha_{13}$, $G\alpha_q$, $G\alpha_{11}$, $G\alpha_{14}$, $G\alpha_{15}$
195 and β arrestin 2 as well as β arrestin 1 and 2 in presence of GRK2 (**Supplementary File 1**).

196 E_{\max} and pEC_{50} values were determined (**Supplementary Table 2**) and, based on the pre-
197 determined threshold criteria ($E_{\max} \geq \text{mean of vehicle-stimulated} + 2 \cdot \text{SD}$; see Methods),
198 a ‘yes or no’ agonist-dependent activation was assigned to each signaling pathway and
199 summarized using radial graph representations (**Figure S7**). To assess whether
200 endogenous receptors could contribute to the observed responses, assays were also
201 carried out in cells not transfected with the studied receptor (**Figure S8**). When an
202 agonist-promoted response was observed in non-transfected parental HEK293 cells, this
203 response was not considered as a receptor-specific response (see Methods).

204

205 To compare the signaling profiles across all receptors and pathways and to overcome
206 differences in receptor expression levels and individual biosensor dynamic windows, we
207 first min-max normalized E_{\max} and pEC_{50} values (between 0 and 1) across receptors as a
208 function of a reference receptor yielding the largest response for a given pathway (**Figure**
209 **3A**, left). Then, these values were again min-max normalized (between 0 and 1) for the
210 same receptor across pathways, using the pathway with the largest response for this
211 receptor as the reference (**Figure 3A**, right; see description in Methods). Such double
212 normalization allows direct comparison of the coupling efficiency to different G proteins
213 for a given receptor and across receptors for a given G protein. This coupling efficiency is
214 summarized as heatmaps (**Figure 3B**) that reveals a high diversity of signaling profiles. The
215 selectivity toward the different G protein families varies considerably among GPCRs
216 (**Figure 4**). In our dataset, which is the first using unmodified GPCRs and $G\alpha$ proteins
217 (except for G_s), 29% of the receptors coupled to only one family, whereas others displayed

218 more promiscuity by coupling to 2, 3 or 4 families (36%, 25% and 10% respectively).
219 Receptors coupling to a single G protein family favored the members of the $G_{i/o}$ family.
220 Indeed, 27% of the receptors coupling to $G_{i/o}$ only activated this subtype family in
221 comparison to 0, 2.4 and 9.1% for receptors activating $G_{12/13}$, $G_{q/11}$ and G_s , respectively,
222 thus displaying more promiscuous coupling. A detailed comparative analysis of the
223 selectivity profiles that we observed using the EMTA sensors with that of the chimeric G
224 protein-based assay developed by Inoue *et al.* (Inoue et al., 2019) and the IUPHAR/BPS
225 Guide to Pharmacology database (GtP; <https://www.guidetopharmacology.org/>) is
226 presented in the accompanying paper (Hauser et al., 2021). **Supplementary Table 2C**
227 allows a direct comparison of the relative potency determined using EMTA for both the
228 new and the already known (i.e.: identified in GtP database) couplings. As can be seen in
229 the table, although in many cases the potency for the novel couplings is lower, this is not
230 a universal finding since for some receptors, the pEC_{50} s for the new couplings are similar
231 (ex: G_{12} for CB_1 ; G_{13} for serotonin 5-HT_{2C}; $G_{12/13}$ for adenosine 2A (A_{2A}) and prostaglandin
232 E1 (EP_1) receptors; $G_{i/o}$ for corticotropin-releasing hormone receptor 1 (CRFR1), ET_A and
233 G-protein-coupled receptor 39 (GPR39)) or higher (ex: G_z for serotonin 5-HT_{2B}; G_{15} for
234 adenosine 3 (A_3) and melanocortin 3 (MC3R) receptors; G_{12} for bradykinin 2 (B_2),
235 cholecystokinin A (CCK₁), chemokine receptor 6 (CCR6) and ET_A receptors; $G_{12/13}$ for CRFR1
236 and GPR68) than those for the canonical ones. Interestingly, in many instances the
237 potency for the newly uncovered couplings are similar to those for β arrestins, which is
238 generally lower than for their canonical G proteins, a finding consistent with the role of
239 β arrestins in signaling arrest at the plasma membrane. The potency differences observed

240 for the activation of different G protein subtypes by a given receptor may lead to
241 preferential activation of some pathways over others. This relative selectivity is likely to
242 be influenced by tissue-dependent G protein subtype expression levels. The physiological
243 consequences of such selectivity remain to be investigated.

244

245 When examining the frequency of coupling for each $G\alpha$ subunit family (**Figure 4C**), the
246 $G_{i/o}$ family members were the most commonly activated, with 89% of the tested receptors
247 activating a $G_{i/o}$ family member. In contrast, only 33%, 49% and 45% of the receptors
248 activate G_s , $G_{12/13}$ or $G_{q/11}$ (excluding $G\alpha_{15}$) family members, respectively. Not surprisingly,
249 and consistent with its reported promiscuous coupling, $G\alpha_{15}$ was found to be activated by
250 81% of the receptors. For some receptors, we also observed preferential coupling of
251 distinct members within a subtype family (**Figure S7**). For instance, 33% of $G_{i/o}$ -coupled
252 receptors can couple to only a subpopulation of the family (**Figure S10A**). For the $G_{q/11}$
253 family, only 44% activate all family members with 45% activating only $G\alpha_{15}$ and 11%
254 engaging only 2 or 3 members of the family. A matrix expressing the % of receptors
255 engaging a specific $G\alpha$ subtype that also activated another subtype, is illustrated in **Figure**
256 **S10B**. When considering individual families, considerable variation within the $G_{i/o}$ family
257 was observed. The greatest similarities were observed between $G\alpha_{oB}$ and either $G\alpha_{oA}$ or
258 $G\alpha_z$, and the lowest between $G\alpha_{i1}$ and $G\alpha_z$. A striking example of intra-family coupling
259 selectivity is the serotonin 5-HT_{2B} that activates only $G\alpha_{oB}$ and $G\alpha_z$ and GPR65 that
260 selectively activates $G\alpha_{oB}$. Similarly, when considering the ligand-promoted responses
261 above our threshold criteria (see Methods), histamine H₂ and MC3R receptors show

262 preferred activation of $G\alpha_{OB}$ and $G\alpha_z$, whereas the prostaglandin F (FP) and neuropeptide
263 Y5 (Y₅) receptors preferentially activate $G\alpha_{OB}$, $G\alpha_{OA}$ and $G\alpha_z$. Even when all members of a
264 given family are found to be activated, some receptors activate specific family members
265 with greater potencies (**Supplementary Table 2C**).

266

267 When considering β arrestin recruitment, our analysis shows that 22% of receptors did
268 not recruit β arrestin1 or 2, even in the presence of overexpressed GRK2 (**Figure 4D**).

269 Among the receptors able to recruit β arrestins, only a very small number selectively
270 recruited β arrestin1 (1.3%) or β arrestin2 (6.4%), most of them recruiting both β arrestins
271 in the presence of GRK2 (92.3%) (**Figure 4D**). Overexpression of GRK2 potentiated the
272 recruitment of β arrestin2 for 68% of receptors highlighting the importance of GRK2
273 expression level in determining β arrestin activation (**Supplementary File 1** and
274 **Supplementary Table 2**).

275

276 **Comparison with Previous Datasets Reveals Commonalities and Crucial Differences**

277 We compared the signaling profiles obtained here with those presented by Inoue *et al.*
278 (Inoue et al., 2019) and the GtP dataset. Of note, this comparison only considers the final
279 reported couplings that in the Inoue's study were based on the criteria of positive
280 coupling if $\text{LogRAi} \geq -1$ and negative coupling if $\text{LogRAi} \leq -1$, and is influenced by the
281 different cut-offs and normalization used in the two studies. A comparison of couplings
282 using common Emax standard deviation cut-off, quantitative normalization and
283 aggregation of G proteins into families is provided in the accompanying paper (Hauser et

284 al., 2021). As can be seen in **Supplementary Table 3A**, among the 70 receptors common
285 to both studies, less couplings were detected in our study than reported in Inoue *et al.*
286 for $G\alpha_s$ (21 vs. 28), $G\alpha_{i1}$ (54 vs. 56), $G\alpha_q$ (31 vs. 34) and $G\alpha_{14}$ (36 vs. 40). In contrast, more
287 receptors activating $G\alpha_{12}$ (29 vs. 23), $G\alpha_o$ (59 vs. 41), $G\alpha_{13}$ (30 vs. 15), $G\alpha_z$ (52 vs. 37) and
288 $G\alpha_{15}$ (62 vs. 15) were detected in our study. When comparing with data collected in GtP,
289 that reports couplings grouped for G protein families (*i.e.*: G_s , $G_{i/o}$, $G_{q/11}$ or $G_{12/13}$) and not
290 at the single G protein subtype level, we detected less couplings than what was reported
291 in GtP for $G\alpha_s$ (32 vs. 37), but more for $G\alpha_{i/o}$ (89 vs. 69), $G\alpha_{q/11}$ (81 vs. 48) and $G\alpha_{12/13}$ (47
292 vs. 10), among the 99 receptors common to both datasets (**Supplementary Table 3B**).

293

294 Altogether, the comparative analysis reveals 64% and 69% identity of couplings between
295 the EMTA and Inoue's or GtP datasets, respectively. Each dataset reporting unique
296 couplings and missing couplings found in the other two datasets. The reasons for these
297 differences are plausibly due to intrinsic differences in the assays used. For instance, for
298 $G_{12/13}$ and G_{15} specifically, the difference with the GtP dataset most likely results from the
299 fact that in most cases $G_{12/13}$ or G_{15} activation were determined indirectly since, until their
300 recent description ($G_{12/13}$: (Quoyer et al., 2013; Schrage et al., 2015); G_{15} :(Inoue et al.,
301 2019; Olsen et al., 2020)), no robust readily available assay existed to monitor the
302 activation of these G proteins.

303

304 **Validation of newly identified $G_{12/13}$ and G_{15} couplings**

305 Given the overrepresentation of both $G_{12/13}$ and G_{15} couplings, obtained with the EMTA
306 assays vs. those reported by Inoue *et al.* and the GtP datasets, the validity of the EMTA
307 assay to detect real productive couplings, was confirmed using orthogonal assays for
308 selective examples not reported in the two other datasets. For $G_{12/13}$, we used the PKN-
309 based BRET biosensor detecting Rho activation downstream of either $G_{12/13}$ or $G_{q/11}$
310 (Namkung *et al.*, 2018) and the MyrPB-Ezrin-based BRET biosensor detecting the
311 activation of Ezrin downstream of $G_{12/13}$ (Leguay *et al.*, 2021), both in the absence of
312 heterologously expressed G proteins. Ligand stimulation of FP and CysLT₂ receptors led
313 to Rho and ezrin activation (**Figure S9A**), that were insensitive to the $G_{q/11}$ inhibitor YM-
314 254890, confirming that these receptors activate $G\alpha_{12/13}$.

315

316 For newly identified G_{15} couplings we took advantage of the lack of $G\alpha_{15}$ in HEK293 cells
317 and assessed the impact of $G\alpha_{15}$ heterologous expression on receptor-mediated calcium
318 responses (**Figure S9B**). For prostaglandin E₂ (EP₂) and κ -opioid (κ OR) receptors, which
319 couple to G_{15} but no other $G_{q/11}$ members, expression of $G\alpha_{15}$ significantly increased the
320 PGE₂- and Dynorphin A- promoted calcium responses. For α_{2A} adrenergic (α_{2A} AR) and
321 vasopressin 2 (V₂) receptors that couple other $G_{q/11}$ family members, treatment with YM-
322 254890 completely abolished the agonist-promoted calcium response in the absence of
323 $G\alpha_{15}$. In contrast, the calcium response evoked by α_{2A} AR and V₂ agonists following $G\alpha_{15}$
324 expression was completely insensitive to YM-254890 (**Figure S9B**), confirming that these
325 receptors can activate this YM-254890-insensitive G protein subtype (Takasaki *et al.*,
326 2004).

327

328 **EMTA platform detects constitutive receptor activity and biased signaling**

329 We went on to assess the ability of the EMTA platform to detect receptor constitutive
330 activity. Transfection of increasing amounts of adenosine A₁ receptor (A₁) led to a
331 receptor-dependent increase in basal ebBRET of the Gα_{i2}-activation sensor (**Figure 5A**,
332 left), reflecting A₁ constitutive activity. The A₁ inverse agonist DPCPX (Lu et al., 2014) dose-
333 dependently decreased the constitutive A₁-mediated activation of Gα_{i2} (**Figure 5A**, left),
334 indicating that EMTA can detect inverse agonism. Although we can not exclude that the
335 high basal activity resulted from activation by adenosine in the cell culture medium, the
336 fact that high basal activity was observed for A₁ but not A₃, despite a similar potency of
337 adenosine to activate these two receptors subtypes (see **Figure S11A**), supports the
338 notion that the increased basal activity reflects A₁ constitutive activity.

339 To further confirm that the platform can adequately detect inverse agonism, a second
340 receptor for which no endogenous ligand should be present in the media, the CB₁
341 receptor, was used. As illustrated in **Figure 5A** (right), increase CB₁ expression led to a
342 ligand-independent constitutive activation of G_z, that could be completely blocked by the
343 CB₁ inverse agonist rimonabant.

344

345 EMTA also faithfully detected biased signaling. Indeed, as previously reported (Namkung
346 et al., 2018; Wei et al., 2003), angiotensin analogs such as SII, saralasin or TRV027
347 displayed biased signaling by promoting efficient βarrestin2 recruitment but marginal or
348 no Gα_q, Gα_{i2} or Gα₁₃ activation as compared to angiotensin II that activated all G proteins

349 and β arrestin2 (**Figure 5B**). The platform was also used to identify biased-signaling
350 resulting from single nucleotide polymorphisms. As shown in **Figure 5C**, two naturally
351 occurring variants of human GPR17 (isoform 2) localised in the TM3 E/DRY motif resulted
352 in altered functional selectivity profiles. Whereas the Asp128Asn variant displayed WT-
353 like activity on $G\alpha_{i2}$, it lost the ability to activate $G\alpha_q$ and β arrestin2. In contrast, variant
354 Arg129His at the neighboring position resulted in an increased constitutive β arrestin2
355 recruitment and a loss of $G\alpha_{i2}$ and $G\alpha_q$ protein signaling.

356

357 **Combining G_z and G_{15} biosensors for safety panels and systems pharmacology**

358 The G protein coupling profiles obtained for the 100 GPCRs revealed that 95% of receptors
359 activate either $G\alpha_z$ (73%) or $G\alpha_{15}$ (81%). Measuring activation of both pathways
360 simultaneously provides an almost universal sensor applicable to screening. Combining
361 the two sensors (Rap1GAP-RlucII/p63-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX) in the same cells
362 allowed to detect ligand concentration-dependent activation of a safety panel of 24
363 GPCRs, that are well established as contributors to clinical adverse drug reactions (Bowes
364 et al., 2012) (**Figure S12**). Indeed, the G_z/G_{15} sensor captured the activation of receptors
365 largely or uniquely coupled to either $G\alpha_z$ (e.g., CB₂) or $G\alpha_{15}$ (e.g., A_{2A} and A_{2B}), as well as
366 receptors coupled (to varying degrees) to both pathways. The usefulness of the G_z/G_{15}
367 combined sensor to detect off-target ligand activity is illustrated in **Figure 6A**. Most
368 ligands tested were specific for their primary target(s). However, certain ligands displayed
369 functional cross-reactivity with GPCRs other than their cognate targets. These included
370 the activation of the α_{2A} AR by dopamine and serotonin, the D₂ by noradrenaline and

371 serotonin, and of the CB₁ and CB₂ receptors by acetylcholine (**Figures 6B-C**). The activation
372 of D₂ by noradrenaline and serotonin was confirmed by the ability of the D₂-family
373 selective antagonist eticlopride to block the dopamine-, serotonin- and noradrenaline-
374 promoted responses detected using the combined G_z/G₁₅ or the G_{i2}- and G_{oB}-selective
375 sensors and β arrestin2 sensor (**Figure 6B**, top). Similarly, use of the α_2 AR selective
376 antagonist, WB4101, allowed to confirm that dopamine can activate G α_{i2} , G α_{oB} and
377 β arrestin2 through the α_{2A} AR (**Figure 6B**, bottom). Such pleiotropic activation of different
378 monoaminergic receptors by catecholamines and serotonin has been previously observed
379 (Roth, Sheffler, & Kroeze, 2004; Sanchez-Soto et al., 2016; Sunahara et al., 1991). Direct
380 activation of the α_{2A} AR by dopamine was confirmed by showing that treatment with the
381 D₂-family receptor selective antagonist eticlopride had negligible effect on dopamine-
382 mediated activation of G α_{i2} and G α_{oB} in cells heterologously expressing α_{2A} AR, confirming
383 that the response did not result from the activation of endogenously expressed dopamine
384 receptor. In contrast, eticlopride blocked the activation of G α_{i2} and G α_{oB} in cells
385 heterologously expressing D₂ (**Figure S13**).

386

387 These cross-reactivity may be direct (i.e., via direct binding of a ligand to its non-cognate
388 receptor) as suggested above, or indirect (e.g., “trans”, via ligand activation of its
389 canonical receptor, leading to subsequent secretion of factors that activate the non-
390 canonical target). One such example of trans-activation is provided by the activation of
391 cannabinoid CB₁ and CB₂ receptors by acetylcholine (detected by the G_{z/15} and confirmed
392 with the G_{oB} sensors; **Figure 6A, C**). Indeed, the activation was completely inhibited by

393 both the CB inverse agonist AM-630 and by the cholinergic antagonist atropine (**Figure**
394 **6C**, left). Yet the response evoked by the CB selective agonist WIN55,212 2 was not
395 blocked by atropine (**Figure 6C**, center). $G\alpha_{OB}$ activation by acetylcholine did not result
396 from direct activation of endogenous muscarinic receptors since no $G\alpha_{OB}$ response was
397 observed in parental cells (**Figure S8**). Given that the M_3 muscarinic receptor, which is
398 endogenously expressed at relatively high levels in HEK293 cells (Atwood, Lopez, Wager-
399 Miller, Mackie, & Straiker, 2011), is strongly coupled to the $G_{q/11}$, CB_1 -expressing cells
400 were pretreated with $G_{q/11/14}$ inhibitor UBO-QIC prior to stimulation with acetylcholine.
401 UBO-QIC pre-treatment blocked acetylcholine- but not WIN55,212-2-mediated $G\alpha_{OB}$
402 activation (**Figure 6C**, right). These results demonstrate that CB_1 activation by
403 acetylcholine is indirect and potentially involves the secretion of an endogenous CBR
404 ligand following activation of $G_{q/11}$ by endogenous muscarinic acetylcholine receptors.
405 The combined G_z/G_{15} sensor is therefore a useful tool to identify interplay between
406 receptors and to explore systems pharmacology resulting from such cross-talks.

407 **Discussion**

408 This study describes the development and validation of a genetically encoded ebBRET-
409 based biosensor platform allowing live-cell mapping of GPCR-G protein coupling
410 preferences covering 12 heterotrimeric G proteins. The novel EMTA biosensors were
411 combined with previously described ebBRET-based β arrestin trafficking sensors
412 (Namkung et al., 2016), providing an unprecedented description of GPCR signaling
413 partner couplings. In addition to providing a resource to study GPCR functional selectivity
414 (see companion paper (Hauser et al., 2021)), the sensors provide versatile and readily
415 usable tools to study, on a large-scale, pharmacological processes such as constitutive
416 activity, inverse agonism, ligand-biased signaling, and signaling cross-talk.

417

418 Our EMTA-based biosensor platform offers several advantages relative to other available
419 approaches. First, EMTA provides direct real-time measurement of proximal signaling
420 events following GPCR activation (i.e., $G\alpha$ protein activation and β arrestin recruitment)
421 and resulting in lower level of amplification than those of assays relying on enzymatic
422 activity of downstream effectors (i.e.: adenylyl cyclase or phospholipase C) or artificial
423 detection systems (i.e.: gene-reporter or TGF- α shedding assays) that measure signal
424 accumulation sometimes following extended incubation times. In addition, measuring
425 proximal activity reduces the risk of cross-talks between pathways that may complicate
426 data interpretation when considering downstream signaling as the readout (Mancini,
427 Frauli, & Breton, 2015).

428

429 Second, EMTA uses native untagged GPCRs and G protein subunits (except for G_s),
430 contrary to protein complementation (Laschet, Dupuis, & Hanson, 2019), FRET/BRET-
431 based $G\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation/receptor-G protein interaction (Bunemann, Frank, & Lohse,
432 2003; Gales et al., 2005; Gales et al., 2006; Hoffmann et al., 2005; Namkung et al., 2018;
433 Olsen et al., 2020) or TGF- α shedding (Inoue et al., 2019) assays. Modifying these core-
434 signaling components could alter responses, complicate interpretation and explain some
435 of the discrepancies observed between the EMTA platform and other approaches used to
436 study G protein activation. Moreover, the ability to work with unmodified receptors and
437 G proteins (except for G_s) offers numerous advantages. First, it allows for the detection of
438 endogenous GPCR signaling in either generic HEK293 cells (**Figure S8**) or more
439 physiologically relevant cell lines such as induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC)-derived
440 cardiomyocytes (**Figure 7A**) and promyelocytic HL-60 cells (**Figure 7B**). Further it allows,
441 in cells expressing sufficient endogenous level of the G proteins of interest, to detect
442 activation of both native receptor and G proteins with no need of overexpression (**Figure**
443 **7C-D**). This is illustrated by the ability to detect the recruitment of Rap1GAP upon
444 activation of the endogenous $G_{i/o}$ family members by the formyl peptide receptor 2 (FPR2)
445 in HL-60 cells (**Figure 7C**) or protease-activated receptor-2 (PAR2) in HEK293 cells (**Figure**
446 **7D**). The ability to detect the activation of endogenous G protein was also illustrated in
447 **Figure S11**, where the responses elicited by agonist stimulation were lost in cells
448 genetically deleted of the G protein engaged by the studied receptor (i.e.: $G_{q/11}$ or $G_{i/o}$
449 families). Recently, another BRET-based approach (Maziarz et al., 2020), taking advantage
450 of a synthetic peptide recognizing the GTP-bound form of $G\alpha$ subunits, also allows the

451 detection of native G protein activation offering alternative means to probe coupling
452 selectivity profiles for both endogenously and heterologously expressed GPCRs.

453

454 Finally, similarly to BERKY, the EMTA assay platform detects the active form of the $G\alpha$
455 subunits rather than the surrogate measurement of $G\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation (Gales et al., 2005;
456 Masuho et al., 2015; Maziarz et al., 2020; Mende et al., 2018), which can also detect non-
457 productive binding as recently described for the V_2 engagement of G_{12} (Okashah et al.,
458 2020).

459

460 A potential caveat of EMTA is the use of common downstream effectors for all members
461 of a given G protein family. Indeed, one cannot exclude that distinct members of a given
462 family may display different relative affinities for their common effector. However, such
463 differences are compensated by our data normalization that establishes the maximal
464 response observed for a given subtype as the reference for this pathway (**Figure 3A**), as
465 long as the number of the diversity of receptors including in the analysis is sufficient.

466

467 A second potential caveat of EMTA is that, when using heterologously expressed GPCRs
468 and G proteins, some of the responses could result from favorable stoichiometries that
469 may not exist under physiological conditions. It follows that such profiling represents the
470 coupling possibilities of a given GPCR and not necessarily the coupling that will be
471 observed in all cell types. Any couplings observed in such high-throughput studies
472 requires further validation to conclude on their physiological relevance in cells or tissues

473 of interest, and to form hypothesis for futures studies. Because we elected to use
474 unmodified receptors (*i.e.*: not bearing any tags), the expression level of receptors could
475 not be directly monitored. However, the double normalization method developed (see
476 Methods) allows quantitative comparison of coupling preferences across different
477 receptors curtailing the influence of the assay response windows as well as receptor
478 expression levels. Indeed, the double normalization allows ranking the coupling
479 propensity of the receptors first as a function of the receptor which shows the strongest
480 coupling to a specific G protein subtype, and then establishing the maximal response
481 observed for a given G protein subtype as the reference for all G protein activated by a
482 given receptor. In addition, as illustrated using the ET_A receptor as example, titrating
483 receptor levels did not influence the pEC₅₀ for the activation of the different G protein
484 coupled to this receptor (**Figure S3B** and **Supplementary Table 1C**). Similarly, the pEC₅₀
485 was not affected when titrating the amount of G protein subtype expressed (**Figure S3A**
486 and **Supplementary Table 1B**). As expected, only the amplitude of the response was
487 affected.

488

489 It could be argued that overexpressing the G protein effectors (*i.e.*: p63-RhoGEF,
490 Rap1GAP or PDZ-RhoGEF) used as sensors could influence the couplings observed. This
491 potential caveat is mitigated by the fact that we used truncated part and/or modified
492 versions of these effectors that limit the possibilities of interference with other
493 components of the signaling machinery, and served essentially as a binding detector of
494 the active forms of the G proteins (see Material and Methods). Supporting this notion,

495 titrating the amount of the biosensor effector component did not affect the pEC₅₀ of G
496 protein activation (**Figure S3C and Supplementary Table 1D**).

497

498 Another limitation of the EMTA platform is the lack of a soluble effector protein selective
499 for activated G α_s thus requiring tagging of the G α_s subunit (**Figure 1B**, bottom) and
500 monitoring its dissociation from the plasma membrane. Yet, our data show that this
501 translocation reflects G α_s activation state, justifying its use in a G protein activation
502 detection platform.

503

504 Finally, because EMTA is able to detect constitutive activity, high receptor expression
505 levels may lead to an elevated basal signal level that may obscure an agonist-promoted
506 response. Such an example can be appreciated for the A₁ receptor for which the agonist-
507 promoted G α_{i2} response did not reach the activation threshold criteria because of a very
508 high constitutive activity level (**Figure 5A**). The impact of receptor expression on the
509 constitutive activity and the narrowing on the agonist-promoted response is illustrated
510 for G α_q activation by the 5-HT_{2C} (**Figure S11B**).

511

512 A limitation of any large-scale signaling study and drug discovery program is that ligands
513 may elicit responses downstream of receptors other than the one under study. The
514 development of a G₂/G₁₅ quasi-universal biosensor enables efficient screening and
515 detection of such polypharmacology and cross-talk. Using a combination of EMTA and
516 appropriate pharmacological tools, we also proposed a systematic approach to

517 distinguish off-target action of ligands from cross-talk. Interestingly, the cross-talk
518 between the M₃ and CB receptors detected (**Figure 6**) may have physiological relevance
519 since activation of muscarinic acetylcholine receptors has been shown to enhance the
520 release of endocannabinoids in the hippocampus (Kim, Isokawa, Ledent, & Alger, 2002).
521 The combined G_z/G₁₅ biosensor should be particularly useful for early profiling of
522 compound activity on safety panels and for the design of drugs displaying
523 polypharmacology, an approach that is increasingly considered for the development
524 neuropsychiatric drugs (Roth et al., 2004).

525

526 The EMTA platform undoubtedly represents a novel tool-set that could be amenable for
527 high throughput screening of small molecules and biologics across an array of signaling
528 pathways, allowing for the discovery of functionally selective molecules or for GPCR
529 deorphanization campaigns. The ability of the EMTA platform to quantitatively assess -G
530 protein coupling selectivity firmly expands the concept of functional selectivity and
531 potential ligand bias beyond the dichotomic G protein vs. β arrestin view and provides
532 plausible functional selectivity profiles that could be tested for their biological and
533 pharmacological outcomes.

534 **Materials and Methods**

535 **Cells**

536 HEK293 clonal cell line (HEK293SL cells), hereafter referred as HEK293 cells, were a gift
537 from S. Laporte (McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada) and previously described
538 (Namkung et al., 2016). HEK293 cells devoid of functional $G\alpha_s$ (ΔG_s), $G\alpha_{12}$ and $G\alpha_{13}$
539 ($\Delta G_{12/13}$), $G\alpha_q$, $G\alpha_{11}$, $G\alpha_{14}$ and $G\alpha_{15}$ ($\Delta G_{q/11}$) and, $G\alpha_i$, and $G\alpha_o$ ($\Delta G_{i/o}$) proteins were a gift
540 from Dr. A. Inoue (Tohoku University, Sendai, Miyagi, Japan) and previously described
541 (Devost et al., 2017; Namkung et al., 2018; Schrage et al., 2015; Stallaert et al., 2017).
542 Cells were maintained in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM, Wisent, Saint-Jean-
543 Baptiste, QC, Canada) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Wisent) and 1%
544 antibiotics (100 U/mL penicillin and 100 μ g/mL streptomycin (PS); Wisent). HL-60 cells
545 were obtained from ATCC and maintained in RPMI 1640 medium containing L-Glutamine
546 and 25 mM HEPES (Gibco) supplemented with 20% FBS (Wisent) and 1/100 volume PS
547 (Wisent). Differentiation of HL-60 cells into neutrophil-like cells was induced by
548 maintaining the cells in growth medium containing 1.3 % DMSO (Bioshop) during 5 days.
549 Cardiomyocytes derived from induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs; iCell Cardiomyocytes)
550 were obtained from FUJIFILM Cellular Dynamics (Madison, WI, USA) and maintained in
551 maintenance medium provided with the cells (special formulation by FujiFilm). Cells were
552 grown at 37°C in 5% CO₂ and 90% humidity and checked for mycoplasma contamination.

553

554 **Plasmids and ebBRET biosensor constructs**

555 Only human GPCRs and human G α subunits were used in this study. An open reading
556 frame of each full-length GPCR was cloned into pcDNA3.1(+) expression plasmid. Except
557 when otherwise specified, GPCRs sequences were devoid of epitope tags.

558 G α_s -67-RlucII (Carr et al., 2014), G α_{i1} -loop-RlucII and GFP10-G γ_1 (Armando et al., 2014),
559 G α_{i2} -loop-RlucII and β arrestin2-RlucII (Quoyer et al., 2013), G α_{oB} -99-RlucII (Mende et al.,
560 2018), G α_q -118-RlucII (Breton et al., 2010), G α_{12} -136-RlucII and PKN-RBD-RlucII (Namkung
561 et al., 2018), G α_{13} -130-RlucII (Avet et al., 2020), GFP10-G γ_2 (Gales et al., 2006), β arrestin1-
562 RlucII (Zimmerman et al., 2012), rGFP-CAAX (Namkung et al., 2016), EPAC (Leduc et al.,
563 2009), MyrPB-Ezrin-RlucII (Leguay et al., 2021), HA- β_2 AR (Lavoie et al., 2002), signal
564 peptide-Flag-AT $_1$ (Goupil et al., 2015) and EAAC-1 (Brabet et al., 1998) were previously
565 described. Full-length, untagged G α subunits, G β_1 and G γ_9 were purchased from cDNA
566 Resource Center. GRK2 was generously provided by Dr. Antonio De Blasi (Istituto
567 Neurologico Mediterraneo Neuromed, Pozzilli, Italy).

568

569 To selectively detect G i/o activation, a construct coding for aa 1-442 of Rap1 GTPase-
570 activating protein (comprising a G i/o binding domain) fused to Rluc8, was sequence-
571 optimized, synthesized and subcloned at TopGenetech (St-Laurent, QC, Canada). From
572 this construct, a RlucII tagged version of Rap1GAP (1-442) with a linker sequence
573 (GSAGTGGRAIDIKLPAT) between Rap1GAP and RlucII was created by Gibson assembly in
574 pCDNA3.1_Hygro (+) GFP10-RlucII, replacing GFP10. Three substitutions (i.e.,
575 S437A/S439A/S441A) were introduced into the Rap1GAP sequence by PCR-mediated
576 mutagenesis. These putative (S437 and S439) and documented (S441) (McAvoy, Zhou,

577 Greengard, & Nairn, 2009) protein kinase A phosphorylation sites were removed in order
578 to eliminate any G_s-mediated Rap1GAP recruitment to the plasma-membrane.

579 To selectively detect G_{q/11} activation, a construct encoding the G_q binding domain of the
580 human p63 Rho guanine nucleotide exchange factor (p63RhoGEF; residues: 295-502)
581 tagged with RlucII was done from IMAGE clones (OpenBiosystems; Burlington, ON,
582 Canada) and subcloned by Gibson assembly in pCDNA3.1_Hygro (+) GFP10-RlucII,
583 replacing GFP10. The G_q binding domain of p63RhoGEF and RlucII were separated by the
584 peptidic linker ASGSAGTGGRAIDIKLPAT. N-term part containing palmitoylation sites
585 maintaining p63 to plasma membrane and part of its DH domain involved in RhoA
586 binding/activation (Aittaleb et al., 2010; Aittaleb, Nishimura, Linder, & Tesmer, 2011) are
587 absent of the sensor.

588 To selectively detect G_{12/13} activation, a construct encoding the G_{12/13} binding domain of
589 the human PDZ-RhoGEF (residues: 281-483) tagged with RlucII was done by PCR
590 amplification from IMAGE clones (OpenBiosystems) and subcloned by Gibson assembly
591 in pCDNA3.1_Hygro (+) GFP10-RlucII, replacing GFP10. The peptidic linker GIRLREALKLPAT
592 is present between RlucII and the G_{12/13} binding domain of PDZ-RhoGEF. The sensor is
593 lacking the PDZ domain of PDZ-RhoGEF involved in protein-protein interaction, as well as
594 actin-binding domain and DH/PH domains involved in GEF activity and RhoA activation
595 (Aittaleb et al., 2010).

596

597 **Transfection**

598 For BRET experiments, HEK293 cells (1.2 mL at 3.5×10^5 cells per mL) were transfected
599 with a fixed final amount of pre-mixed biosensor-encoding DNA (0.57 μ g, adjusted with
600 salmon sperm DNA; Invitrogen) and human receptor DNA. Transfections were performed
601 using a polyethylenimine solution (PEI, 1 mg/mL; Polysciences, Warrington, PA, USA)
602 diluted in NaCl (150 mM, pH 7.0; 3:1 PEI/DNA ratio). Gelatin solution (1%; Sigma-Aldrich,
603 Saint-Louis, Missouri) was used to stabilize DNA/PEI transfection mixes. Following
604 addition of cells to the stabilized DNA/PEI transfection mix, cells were immediately
605 seeded (3.5×10^4 cells/well) into 96-well white microplates (Greiner Bio-one; Monroe,
606 NC, USA) and maintained in culture for the next 48 h in DMEM containing 2% FBS and 1%
607 PS. DMEM medium without L-glutamine (Wisent) was used for transfection of cells with
608 mGluR to avoid receptor activation and desensitization. For Neutrophil-like differentiated
609 HL-60 cells, cells were resuspended in electroporation medium (growth medium
610 containing an extra 15 mM of HEPES pH 7.0) at 25×10^6 cells/mL. Electroporation
611 reactions were prepared by adding 50 μ L of DNA mastermix (20 μ g total of DNA adjusted
612 with salmon sperm DNA, supplemented with 210 mM NaCl) to 200 μ L of cell suspension
613 and transferring into 0.4 cm gap electroporation cuvettes (Bio-Rad). The cells were
614 electroporated at 350 μ F/400 V using a Bio-Rad Gene Pulser II electroporation system,
615 washed in electroporation medium, and seeded in 96-well plates at 0.8×10^6 cells/well in
616 200 μ L of growth medium. BRET assays were performed 6 hours post-electroporation. For
617 iPSC Cardiomyocytes, cells were seeded in 96-well plates pretreated with fibronectin
618 (10 μ g/ml 60 min; Sigma-Aldrich) at 3.5×10^4 cells /well. After 48 h, attached iPSCs cells
619 were transfected with the indicated biosensor components, using TransIT-LT1 reagent

620 (Mirus; Madison, WI, USA), according to manufacturer recommendation. BRET assays
621 were performed 48 hours after transfection.

622 For Ca^{2+} experiments, cells (3.5×10^4 cells/well) were co-transfected with the indicated
623 receptor, with or without $\text{G}\alpha_{15}$ protein, using PEI and seeded in poly-ornithine coated 96-
624 well clear-bottomed black microplates (Greiner Bio-one) and maintained in culture for
625 the next 48 h.

626 For BRET-based imagery, cells (4×10^5 cells/dish) were seeded into 35-mm poly-d-lysine-
627 coated glass-bottom culture dishes (Mattek Corporation; Ashland, MA, USA) in 2 ml of
628 fresh medium and incubated at 37°C in 5% CO_2 , 3 day before imaging experiments.

629 Twenty-four hours later, cells were transfected with EMTA ebBRET biosensors and the
630 indicated receptor (i.e., p63-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX + $\text{G}\alpha_q$ and GnRHR, Rap1GAP-
631 RlucII/rGFP-CAAX + $\text{G}\alpha_{i2}$ and D_2 or PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX + $\text{G}\alpha_{13}$ and $\text{TP}\alpha\text{R}$) using
632 X-tremeGENE 9 DNA transfection reagent (3:1 reagent/DNA ratio; Roche) diluted in
633 OptiMEM (Gibco) and maintained in culture for the next 48 h in DMEM containing 10%
634 FBS and 1% PS.

635

636 **Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer Measurement**

637 Enhanced bystander BRET (ebBRET) was used to monitor the activation of each $\text{G}\alpha$
638 protein, as well as β arrestin 1 and 2 recruitment to the plasma membrane. $\text{G}\alpha_s$ protein
639 activation was measured between the plasma membrane marker rGFP-CAAX and human
640 $\text{G}\alpha_s$ -RlucII in presence of human $\text{G}\beta_1$, $\text{G}\gamma_9$ and the tested receptor. $\text{G}\alpha_s$ downstream cAMP
641 production was determined using the EPAC biosensor and GPBA receptor. $\text{G}\alpha_{i/o}$ protein

642 family activation was followed using the selective- $G_{i/o}$ effector Rap1GAP-RlucII and rGFP-
643 CAAX along with the human $G\alpha_{i1}$, $G\alpha_{i2}$, $G\alpha_{oA}$, $G\alpha_{oB}$ or $G\alpha_z$ subunits and the tested receptor.
644 $G\alpha_{q/11}$ protein family activation was determined using the selective- $G_{q/11}$ effector p63-
645 RhoGEF-RlucII and rGFP-CAAX along with the human $G\alpha_q$, $G\alpha_{11}$, $G\alpha_{14}$ or $G\alpha_{15/16}$ subunits
646 and the tested receptor. $G\alpha_{12/13}$ protein family activation was monitored using the
647 selective- $G_{12/13}$ effector PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII and rGFP-CAAX in presence of either $G\alpha_{12}$ or
648 $G\alpha_{13}$ and the tested receptor. The expression level of the $G\alpha$ subunits was monitored by
649 Western blot in HEK293 cells that endogenously expressed $G\alpha_{i1}$, $G\alpha_{i2}$, $G\alpha_{12}$, $G\alpha_{13}$, $G\alpha_q$,
650 $G\alpha_{11}$, $G\alpha_{14}$ and $G\alpha_s$ but not $G\alpha_{oA}$, $G\alpha_{oB}$, $G\alpha_z$ and $G\alpha_{15}$ (**Figure S6**). $G\alpha_{12/13}$ -downstream
651 activation of the Rho pathway was measured using PKN-RBD-RlucII and rGFP-CAAX with
652 the indicated receptor. β arrestin recruitment to the plasma membrane was determined
653 using DNA mix containing rGFP-CAAX and β arrestin1-RlucII with GRK2 or β arrestin2-RlucII
654 alone or with GRK2 and the tested receptor. Glutamate transporters EAAC-1 and EAAT-1
655 were systematically co-transfected with the mGluR to prevent receptor activation and
656 desensitization by glutamate secreted in the medium by the cells (Brabet et al., 1998). All
657 ligands were also tested for potential activation of endogenous receptors by transfecting
658 the biosensors without receptor DNA. The G_z/G_{15} biosensor consists of a combination of
659 the following plasmids: rGFP-CAAX, Rap1GAP-RlucII, $G\alpha_z$, p63-RhoGEF-RlucII and $G\alpha_{15}$.
660 For G protein activation detection using the BRET-based $G\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation sensors, cells
661 were co-transfected with untagged $G\beta_1$ and $G\alpha_q$ -118-RlucII, $G\alpha_{12}$ -136-RlucII or $G\alpha_{13}$ -130-
662 RlucII with GFP10- $G\gamma_1$, or $G\alpha_{i1}$ -loop-RlucII, $G\alpha_{i2}$ -loop-RlucII or $G\alpha_{oB}$ -99-RlucII with GFP10-
663 $G\gamma_2$, along with the indicated receptor.

664

665 The day of the BRET experiment, cells were incubated in HBSS for 1 h at room
666 temperature (RT). Cells were then co-treated with increasing concentrations of ligand
667 (see **Supplementary Table 2** for details) and the luciferase substrate coelenterazine
668 prolume purple (1 μ M, NanoLight Technologies; Pinetop, AZ, USA) for 10 min at RT. Plates
669 were read on a Synergy Neo microplate reader (BioTek Instruments, Inc.; Winooski, VT,
670 USA) equipped with 410 ± 80 nm donor and 515 ± 30 nm acceptor filters or with a Spark
671 microplate reader (Tecan; Männedorf, Switzerland) using the BRET² manufacturer
672 settings. The BRET signal (BRET²) was determined by calculating the ratio of the light
673 intensity emitted by the acceptor over the light intensity emitted by the donor. To
674 validate the specificity of the biosensor responses, cells were pretreated in the absence
675 or presence of either the $G\alpha_q$ inhibitor UBO-QIC (100 nM, 30 min; Institute for
676 Pharmaceutical Biology of the University of Bonn, Germany), the $G\alpha_{i/o}$ inhibitor PTX (100
677 ng/mL, 18 h; List Biological Laboratories, Campbell, California, USA) or the $G\alpha_s$ activator
678 CTX (0 to 200 ng/mL, 4h; Sigma-Aldrich) before stimulation with agonist. For Inverse
679 agonist activity detection of A_1 or CB_1 receptors, cells were stimulated during 10 min with
680 increasing concentrations of DPCPX or rimonabant, respectively. For ligand-cross receptor
681 activation experiments, cells were pretreated for 10 min with increasing concentrations
682 of antagonists or inverse agonist (eticlopride for D_2 , WB4101 for $\alpha_{2A}AR$, atropine for
683 muscarinic receptors and AM-630 for CB_1) before a 10 min stimulation with an EC_{80}
684 concentration of the indicated agonist. BRET was measured as described above. For the
685 safety target panel ligand screen using the combined G_2/G_{15} sensor, basal ebBRET level

686 was first measured 10 min following addition of coelenterazine prolume purple (1 μ M)
687 and ebBRET level was measured again following a 10 min stimulation with a single dose
688 of the indicated ligand (1 μ M for endothelin-1 and 10 μ M for all other ligands). Technical
689 replicates for each receptor were included on the same 96-well plate. For kinetics
690 experiment of ET_A activation, basal BRET was measured during 150 sec before cells
691 stimulation with either vehicle (DMSO) or 1 μ M of endothelin-1 (at time 0 sec) and BRET
692 signal was recorded each 30 sec during 3570 sec. For the validation of G_{12/13}-mediated
693 signal by new identified G_{12/13}-coupled receptor using PKN- or Ezrin-based BRET
694 biosensors, cells were pretreated or not with the G α_q inhibitor YM-254890 (1 μ M, 30 min;
695 Wako Pure Chemical Industries; Wako Pure Chemical Industries (Fujifilm), Osaka, Japan)
696 before agonist stimulation for 10 min. For G protein activation detection using the BRET-
697 based G $\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation sensors, and for titration experiments of either G α proteins
698 subunit with GEMTA sensors, GPCRs with GEMTA sensors or Effector-RlucII (p63-RhoGEF-
699 RlucII for G $\alpha_{q/11}$, Rap1GAP-RlucII for G $\alpha_{i/o}$ or PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII for G $\alpha_{12/13}$) from GEMTA
700 sensors, cells were stimulated with increasing concentrations of the indicated agonist in
701 presence of prolume purple for 10 min before BRET measurement. For BRET in iPSC
702 Cardiomyocytes and HL-60 cells, cells were incubated in Tyrode HEPES buffer (137 mM
703 NaCl, 0.9 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 11.9 mM NaHCO₃, 3.6 mM NaH₂PO₄, 25 mM HEPES, 5.5
704 mM D-Glucose and 1 mM CaCl₂, pH 7.4) 30 min at RT before to be treated with increasing
705 concentration of agonist for 15 min, using prolume purple (2 μ M) as luciferase substrate,
706 and BRET measured.
707

708 **BRET Data analyses and coupling efficiency evaluation**

709 All BRET ratios were standardized using the equation below and represented as universal

710 BRET (μ BRET) values: μ BRET = ((BRET ratio – A)/(B-A)) * 10 000. Constants A and B

711 correspond to the following values:

712 A = pre-established BRET ratio obtained from transfection of negative control

713 (vector coding for RlucII alone);

714 B = pre-established BRET ratio obtained from transfection of positive control (vector

715 coding for a GFP10-RlucII fusion protein).

716

717 For a given signaling pathway, μ BRET values at each agonist concentration were

718 normalized as the % of the response obtained in the absence of agonist (vehicle) and

719 concentration-response curves were fitted in GraphPad Prism 8 software using a four-

720 parameter logistic nonlinear regression model. Results are expressed as mean \pm SEM of

721 at least three independent experiments.

722

723 A ligand-promoted response was considered real when the E_{max} value was \geq to the mean

724 + 2*SD of the response obtained in vehicle condition and that a pEC_{50} value could be

725 determined in the agonist concentration range used to stimulate the receptor.

726 Consequently, a score of 0 or 1 was assigned to each signaling pathway depending on an

727 agonist's ability to activate the tested pathway (0= no activation; 1= activation). In the

728 case where responses associated to endogenous receptor were detectable, we considered

729 as "distorted" and exclude all the responses observed in the presence of transfected

730 receptor for which E_{max} was \leq to 2*mean of the E_{max} value obtained with endogenous
731 receptors or pEC_{50} was \geq to 2*mean of the pEC_{50} value obtained with endogenous
732 receptors. Consequently, a score of 0 was assigned for these distorted responses in radial
733 graph representation (**Figure S7**) and dose-response curves were placed on a gray
734 background in signaling signature profile panels (**Supplementary File 1**). Whenever
735 transfected receptors produced an increase in E_{max} or a left-shift in pEC_{50} values compared
736 to endogenous receptors, responses were considered 'true' and were assigned with a
737 score of 1 for radial graph representation (**Figure S7**) and dose-response curves were
738 placed on a yellow background in signaling signature profile panels to indicate a partial
739 contribution of endogenous receptors (**Supplementary File 1**).

740

741 We used a double normalization of E_{max} and pEC_{50} values to compare the signaling
742 efficiency obtained for the 100 GPCRs across all receptors and pathways. E_{max} and pEC_{50}
743 values deduced from concentration-response curves were first normalized between 0 and
744 1 across receptors by ranking the receptors as a function of the receptor that most
745 efficiently activate a given pathway and then using the activation value for the pathway
746 (including G protein and β arrestin subtypes) that a given receptor most efficiently activate
747 as a reference for the other pathways that can be activated by this receptor. This double
748 normalization can be translated in the following formalized equation:

749 • STEP1: For each receptor and for each pathway:

750
$$\left[\frac{E_{max} GPCR_x}{E_{max} GPCR_{Ref}} \right]_{Pathway A} = Pathway\ specific\ normalized\ score\ for\ GPCR_x\ on\ pathway\ A\ ([PSNS$$

751
$$GPCR_x]_{Pathway A})$$

752 Where: $GPCR_x$ is receptor being analyzed, $GPCR_{Ref}$ is the receptor giving greatest
753 E_{max} on pathway A of all receptors studied (i.e., reference receptor for pathway A).
754 A PSNS was determined for every receptor and every pathway coupled to that
755 receptor.

756 • STEP2: For any given receptor:

757
$$\frac{[PSNS\ GPCR_x]_{Pathway\ A}}{[PSNS\ GPCR_x]_{Ref\ pathway}} = \text{Normalized pathway A coupling score for } GPCR_x$$

758 Where: $[PSNS\ GPCR_x]_{Pathway\ A}$ is the pathway specific normalized score for $GPCR_x$
759 on pathway A, and $[PSNS\ GPCR_x]_{Ref\ pathway}$ is the pathway specific normalized score
760 for the pathway giving the highest PSNS for $GPCR_x$ (i.e., reference pathway for
761 $GPCR_x$).

762

763 For the safety target panel ligand screen using the combined G_z/G_{15} sensor, the fold
764 ligand-induced stimulation was calculated for each receptor by dividing the BRET ratio
765 after ligand addition (measured at 10 minutes post stimulation) by the basal BRET ratio
766 prior to receptor stimulation. Activation thresholds were defined as the mean + 2*SD of
767 the ligand-stimulated response obtained with receptor-null cells expressing only the
768 combined G_z/G_{15} sensor.

769

770 **Ca²⁺ mobilization assay**

771 The day of experiment, cells were incubated with 100 μ L of a Ca²⁺-sensitive dye-loading
772 buffer (FLIPR calcium 5 assay kit, Molecular Devices; Sunnyvale, CA, USA) containing 2.5
773 mM probenecid (Sigma-Aldrich) for 1 h at 37°C in a 5% CO₂ incubator. During a data run,

774 cells in individual wells were exposed to an EC₈₀ concentration of agonist, and fluorescent
775 signals were recorded every 1.5 s for 3 min using the FlexStation II microplate reader
776 (Molecular Devices). For receptors that also activate other G_{q/11} family members, cells
777 were pretreated with the G_{q/11} inhibitor YM-254890 (1 μM, 30 min) before agonist
778 stimulation. Gα₁₅ is resistant to inhibition by YM-254890, thus allowing to measure Ca²⁺
779 responses generated specifically by Gα₁₅.

780

781 **BRET-based imaging**

782 BRET images were obtained as previously described (Kobayashi, Picard, Schonegge, &
783 Bouvier, 2019). Briefly, the day of imaging experiment, cells were carefully rinsed with
784 HBSS, and images were acquired before and after agonists addition (100 nM for GnRH
785 and U46619, and 1 μM for dopamine) diluted in HBSS in presence of the luciferase
786 substrate coelenterazine prolume purple (20 μM).

787 Images were recorded using an inverted microscope (Nikon Eclipse Ti-U) equipped with
788 x60 objective lens (Nikon CFI Apochromat TIRF) and EM-CCD camera (Nuvu HNu 512).
789 Measurements were carried out in photon counting mode with EM gain 3,000. Exposure
790 time of each photon counting was 100 ms. Successive 100 frames were acquired
791 alternatively with 480 nm longpass filter (acceptor frames) or without filter (total
792 luminescence frames), and integrated. Image integrations were repeated 5 times and 500
793 frames of acceptor and total luminescence were used to generate each image.

794 BRET values were obtained by dividing acceptor counts by total luminescence counts
795 pixelwise. BRET values from 0.0 to 0.5 were allocated to 'jet' heatmap array using MATLAB

796 2019b. Brightness of each pixel was mapped from the signal level of total luminescence
797 image. 0% and 99.9% signal strength were allocated to the lowest and highest brightness
798 to exclude the influence of defective pixels with gamma correction factor of 2.0.
799 The movies were generated using ImageJ 1.52a. Frame rate is 3 frames/sec, and frame
800 interval is 100 sec. The field of view of the movie is 137 μm x 137 μm .

801

802 **Western blot analysis**

803 Cells were transfected or not with the indicated biosensors mix as previously described
804 and whole-cell extracts were prepared 48 h later. Briefly, cells were washed with ice-cold
805 PBS and lysed in a buffer containing 10 mM Tris buffer (pH 7.4), 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM
806 EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 0.1% SDS, 1% Triton X-100, 10% Glycerol supplemented with protease
807 inhibitors cocktails (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Cell lysates were centrifuged at 13,000 \times g
808 for 30 min at 4°C. Equal amounts of proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE and transferred
809 onto polyvinylidene fluoride membrane. The membranes were blocked in (incubation 1
810 hr at room temperature in PBS 0.1% Tween-20, 5% BSA) and successively probed with
811 primary antibody and appropriate goat secondary antibodies coupled to horseradish
812 peroxidase (described in table below). Western blots were visualized using enhanced
813 chemiluminescence and detection was performed using a ChemiDoc MP Imaging System
814 (BioRad). Relative densitometry analysis on protein bands was performed using
815 MultiGauge software (Fujifilm). Results were normalized against control bands.

Target	Dilution	Species	Class	Reference	Manufacturer
G α i1 (I-20)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-391	Santa Cruz

Gαi2 (T-19)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-7276	Santa Cruz
Gαo (K-20)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-387	Santa Cruz
Gαz	1:1,000	Rabbit	monoclonal	# ab154846	Abcam
Gαs (K-20)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-823	Santa Cruz
Gα12 (S-20)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-409	Santa Cruz
Gα13 (A-20)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-410	Santa Cruz
Gαq (E-17)	1:500	Rabbit	polyclonal	#sc-393	Santa Cruz
Gα11 (C-terminal)	1:500	Rabbit	Polyclonal	#SAB2109181	Sigma-Aldrich
Gα14	1:500	Rabbit	Polyclonal	#SAB4300771	Sigma-Aldrich
Gα15	1:5,000	Rabbit	Polyclonal	#PA1-29022	ThermoFisher scientific (Pierce)
βactin	1:5,000	Mouse	Monoclonal	#A5441	Sigma-Aldrich
Anti-rabbit HRP-coupled	1:5,000	Donkey	Polyclonal	#NA934	GE Healthcare
Anti-mouse HRP-coupled	1:10,000	Sheep	Polyclonal	#NA931	GE Healthcare

816

817 **Statistical Analyses**

818 Curve fitting and statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism 9.3 software

819 and methods are described in the legends of the figures. Significance was determined as

820 $p < 0.05$.

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1019

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1030 **Author contributions**

1031 Conceptualization: CA, AM, BB, CLG, XL, MB
1032 Methodology: CA, AM, BB, CLG, MB
1033 Investigation: CA, AM, BB, CN, HK, FG, MH, VL, SS-O, MC, MH, SM
1034 Formal Analysis: CA, AM, ASH, DEG, MB
1035 Resources: AM, EF, J-PF, SS, XL, MB
1036 Supervision: MH, XL, DEG, MB
1037 Funding Acquisition: SS, DEG, MB
1038 Writing: CA, AM, DEG, MB; All coauthors revised the manuscript

1039 **Competing interests**

1040 AM, BB, CN, FG and SM were employees of Domain Therapeutics North America during
1041 part or all of this research.

1042 EF and J-FF are employees and shareholders of Pfizer.

1043 SS and XL are employees and are part of the management of Domain Therapeutics.

1044 MB is the president of Domain Therapeutics scientific advisory board.

1045 BB, CLG, HK, MH, VL, MB have filed patent applications related to the biosensors used in
1046 this work and the technology has been licensed to Domain Therapeutics.

1047 CA, ASH, SS-O, MC, MH and DEG have no competing interests to declare.

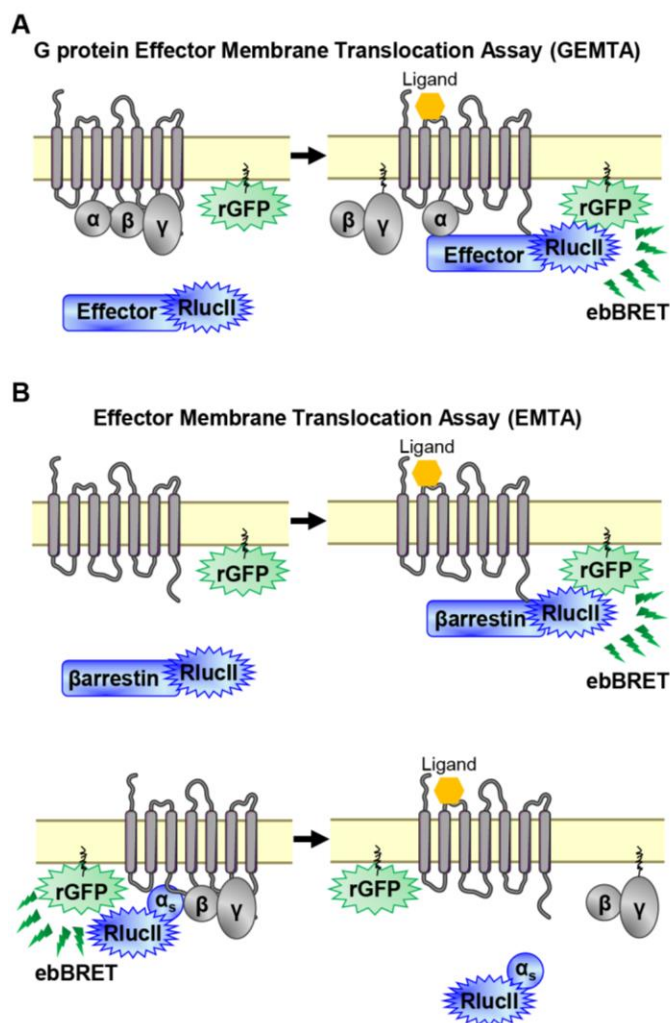
1048 **Data and materials availability**

1049 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and
1050 will be fulfilled upon reasonable request by the Lead Contact, Michel Bouvier
1051 (michel.bouvier@umontreal.ca).

1052 The eBBRET sensors used in the study are protected by patent applications and have been
1053 licensed to Domain Therapeutics. Inquiries for potential commercial use should be
1054 addressed to: xleroy@domaintherapeutics.com. For non-commercial academic use, the
1055 sensors can be obtained freely under material transfer agreement upon request to:
1056 michel.bouvier@umontreal.ca.

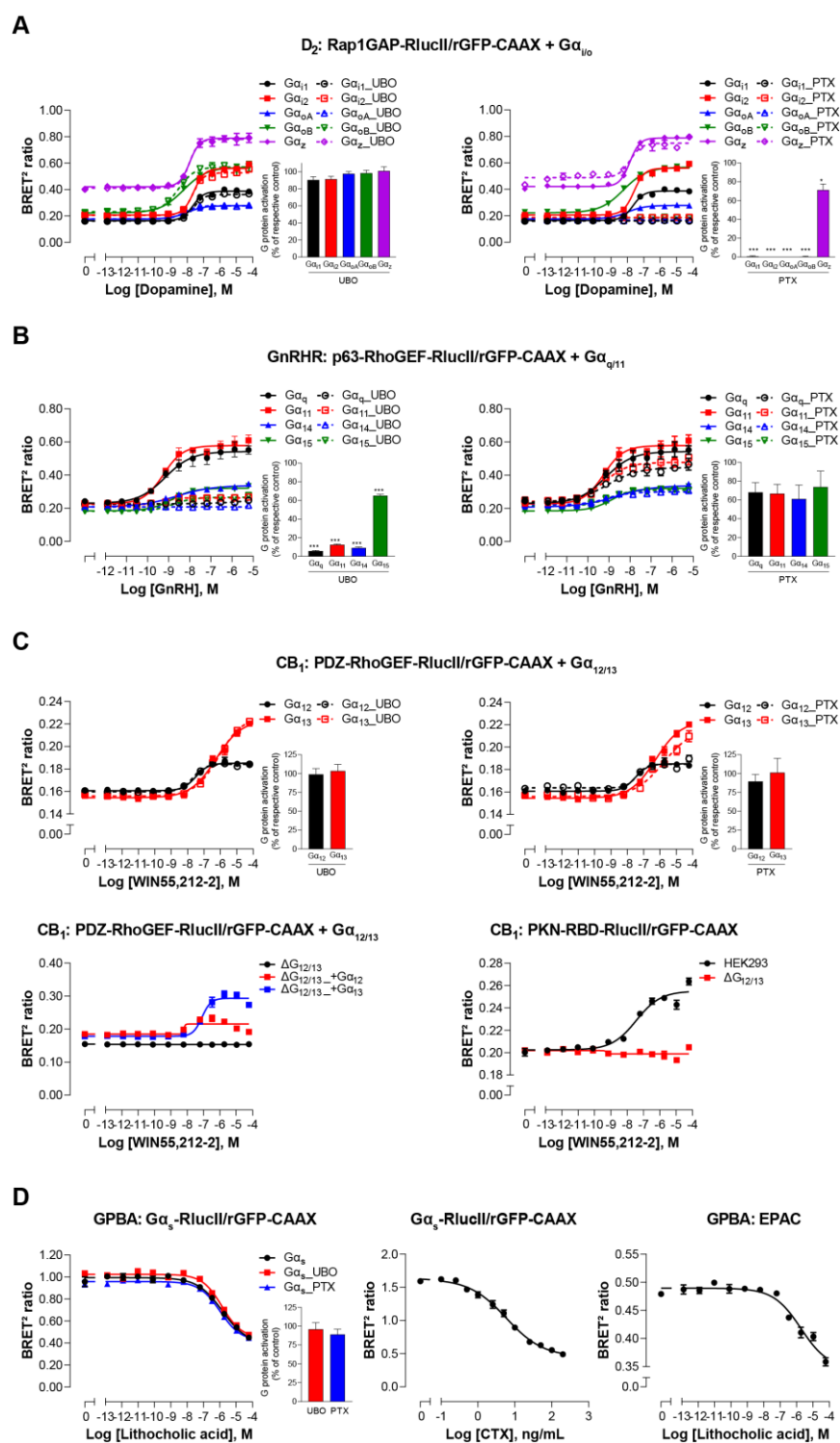
1057 Heatmaps in **Figure 3** were generated using custom python scripts. Scripts are available
1058 from the co-corresponding author, David E. Gloriam (david.gloriam@sund.ku.dk) on
1059 request.

1060 **Figures**



1061

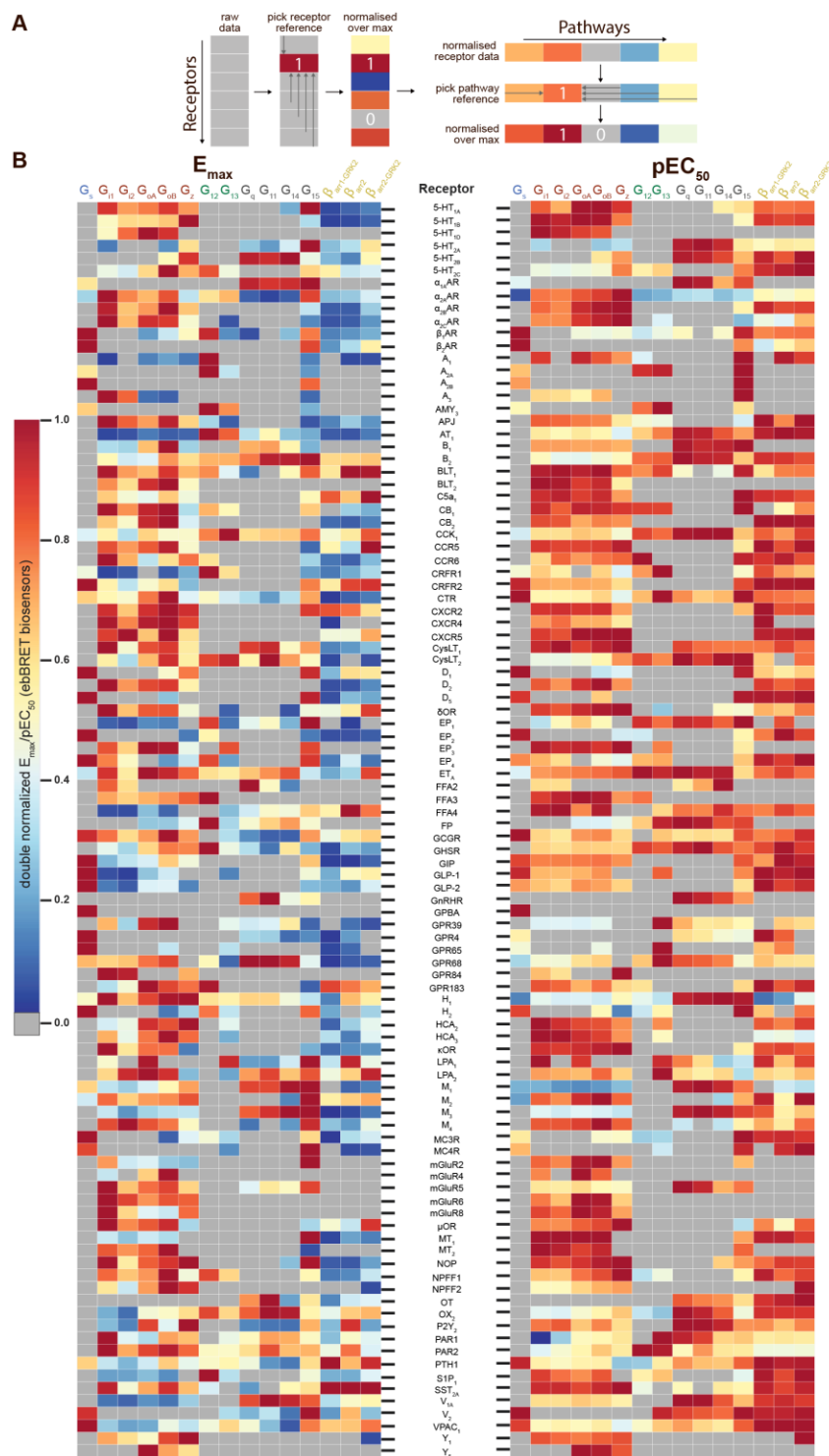
1062 **Figure 1. EMTA ebBRET platform to monitor G protein activation and β arrestin recruitment.** (A) Schematic
1063 of the G protein Effector Membrane Translocation Assay (GEMTA) to monitor $G\alpha$ protein activation. Upon
1064 receptor activation, RlucII-tagged effector proteins (Effector-RlucII) translocate towards and interact with
1065 active $G\alpha$ subunits from each G protein family, leading to increased ebBRET. (B) Principle of the Effector
1066 Membrane Translocation Assay (EMTA) monitoring β arrestin recruitment to the plasma membrane (*top*)
1067 and $G\alpha_s$ activation (*bottom*). *Top*; upon receptor activation, RlucII-tagged β arrestins (β arrestin-RlucII)
1068 translocate to the plasma membrane, thus increasing ebBRET with rGFP-CAAX. *Bottom*; Internalization of
1069 activated RlucII-tagged $G\alpha_s$ ($G\alpha_s$ -RlucII) following receptor stimulation decreases ebBRET with the
1070 membrane-anchored rGFP-CAAX.



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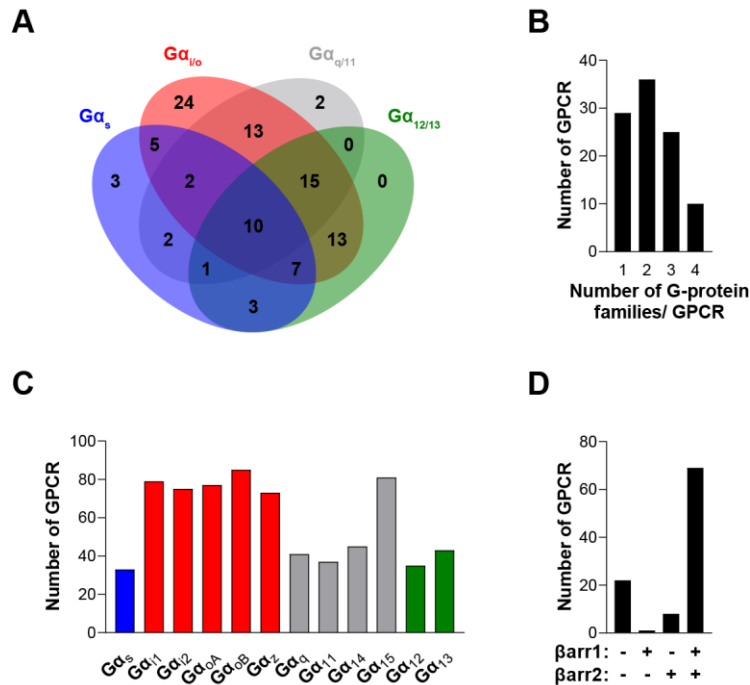
1072 **Figure 2. Validation of EMTA ebBRET-based platform to monitor Gα protein activation. (A)**
 1073 **Pharmacological validation of the Gα_{i/o} activation sensor.** HEK293 cells were transfected with the D₂
 1074 **receptor and the Gα_{i/o} family-specific sensor, along with each Gα_{i/o} subunit. Dose-response curve using the**
 1075 **Gα_{i/o} activation sensor, in the presence or absence of UBO-QIC (left) or PTX (right) inhibitors. Insets; E_{max}**
 1076 **values determined from dose-response curves of inhibitor-pretreated cells. (B) Pharmacological validation**
 1077 **of the Gα_{q/11} activation sensor.** HEK293 cells were transfected with the GnRH receptor and the Gα_{q/11} family-

1078 specific sensors, along with each $G\alpha_{q/11}$ subunit. Dose-response curve using $G\alpha_{q/11}$ activation sensor, in the
1079 presence or absence of UBO-QIC (*left*) or PTX (*right*) inhibitors. *Insets*; E_{max} values determined from dose-
1080 response curves of inhibitor-pretreated cells. **(C)** Validation of the $G\alpha_{12/13}$ activation sensor. Cells were
1081 transfected with the CB_1 receptor and one of the $G\alpha_{12/13}$ activation sensors, along with the $G\alpha_{12}$ or $G\alpha_{13}$
1082 subunits. Dose-response curves of HEK293 cells (*top*) or the parental and devoid of $G_{12/13}$ ($\Delta G_{12/13}$) HEK293
1083 cells (*bottom*) using the PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors (*top and bottom left*) or PKN-RBD-
1084 RlucII/rGFP-CAAX (*bottom right*), pretreated or not with UBO-QIC or PTX (*top*). **(D)** Pharmacological
1085 validation of the $G\alpha_s$ activation sensor. HEK293 cells were transfected with the GPBA receptor and the $G\alpha_s$
1086 activation (*left and central*) or the EPAC (*right*) sensors. *Left*: Dose-response curves using the $G\alpha_s$ activation
1087 sensor in the presence or absence of UBO-QIC or PTX, inhibitors of $G\alpha_q$ or $G\alpha_{i/o}$, respectively. *Central*: Dose-
1088 response activation of the $G\alpha_s$ sensor using CTX, a $G\alpha_s$ activator. *Right*: Dose-response curve using the EPAC
1089 sensor. *Inset*; E_{max} values determined from dose-response curves of inhibitors-pretreated cells. Data are
1090 expressed as BRET ratio for the dose-response curves or expressed in % of respective control cells (E_{max}
1091 graphs) and are means \pm SEM of 3 **(A-C)** or 4 **(D)** independent experiments performed in one replicate.
1092 Unpaired t-test **(A-D)**: * $p < 0.05$ and *** $p < 0.001$ compared to control cells.



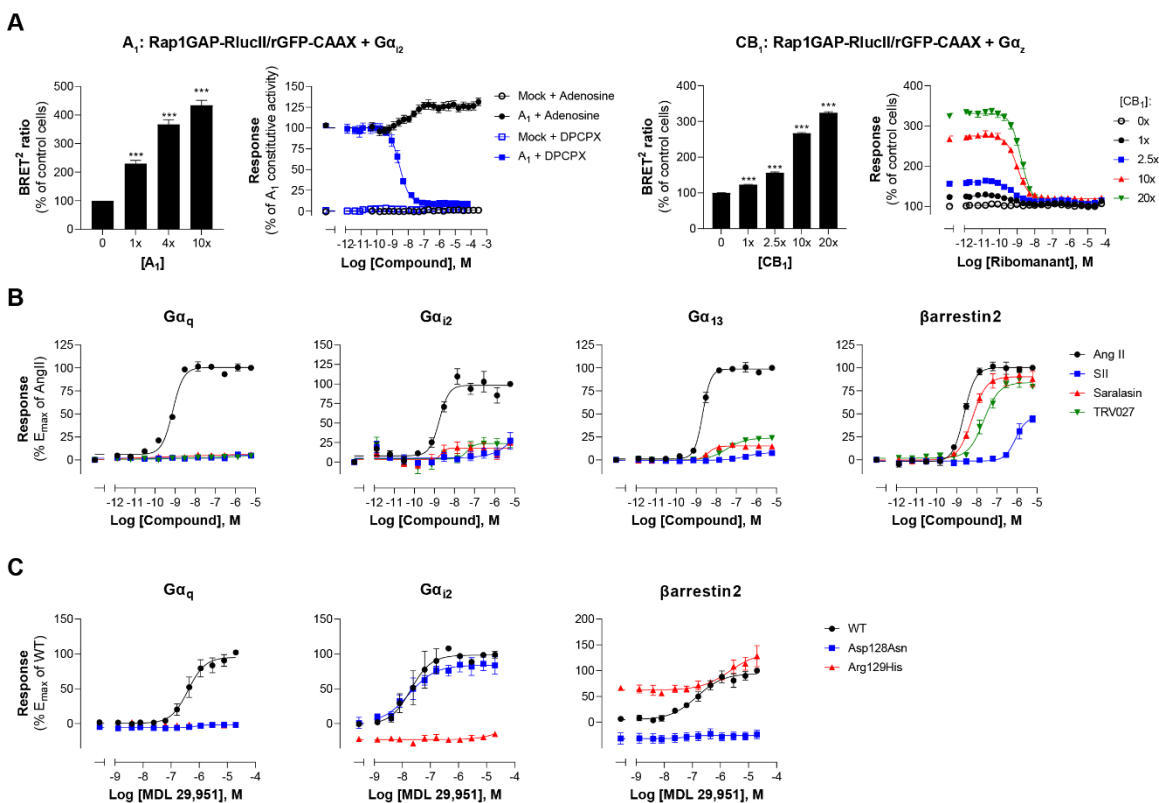
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1094 **Figure 3. Heatmaps illustrating the diversity of receptor-specific signaling signatures detected with the**
1095 **EMTA ebBRET platform. (A) First, values within each pathway were normalized relative to the maximal**
1096 **response observed across all receptors (max = 1; left). These values were then normalized across pathways**
1097 **for the same receptor, with the highest-ranking pathway serving as the reference (max = 1; right). (B)**
1098 **Heatmap representation of double normalized E_{max} (left) and pEC_{50} (right) data. Empty cells (grey) indicate**
1099 **no detected coupling. IUPHAR receptor names are displayed.**



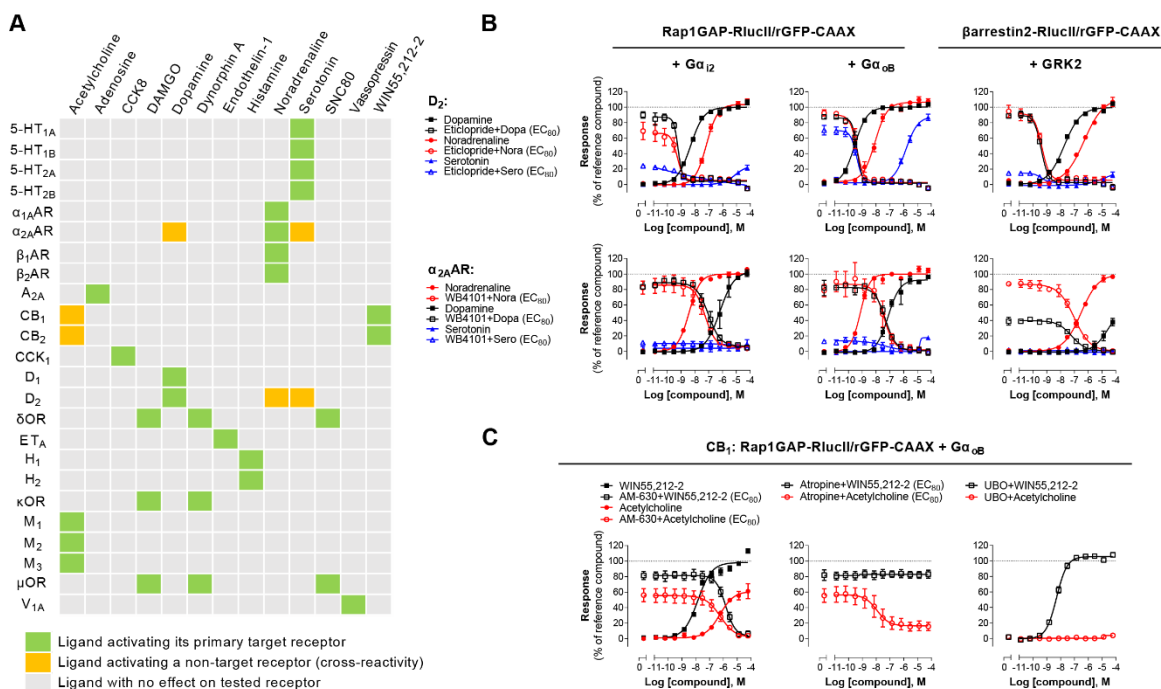
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1101 **Figure 4. The EMTA ebBRET platform has a unique ability to uncover coupling selectivity between G**
 1102 **protein families. (A)** Venn diagram showing the numbers of receptors coupled to each G protein family in
 1103 the EMTA ebBRET biosensor assay. **(B)** Evaluation of receptors coupling promiscuity: number of receptors
 1104 that couple to members of 1, 2, 3 or 4 G protein families. **(C)** Determination of G protein subunit coupling
 1105 frequency: number of receptors that activate each $G\alpha$ subunit. **(D)** Proportion of receptors recruiting
 1106 β arrestins: number of receptors that do not recruit (-/-) or that recruit either (+/- or -/+) or both (+/+)
 1107 β arrestin isoforms. All data are based on double normalized E_{max} values from **Figure 3**.



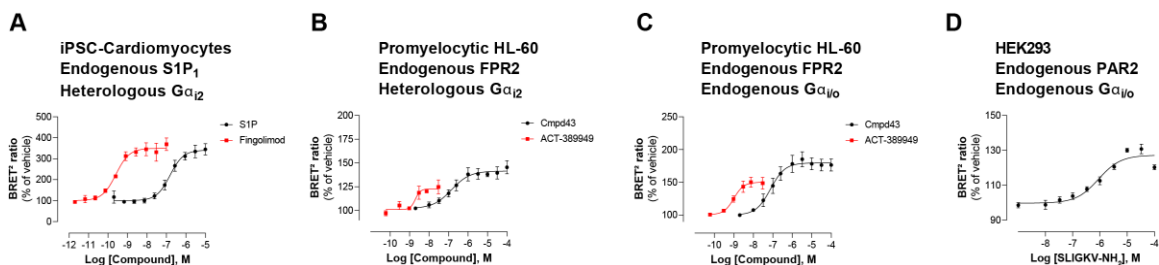
1108

1109 **Figure 5. Multiple applications using the EMTA ebBRET platform. (A)** Inverse agonist activity detection.
 1110 *Left:* Gα_{i2} activation in HEK293 cells transfected with the Rap1GAP-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with untagged
 1111 Gα_{i2} and increasing amount of A₁ receptor plasmid. Data are expressed in % of response obtained in control
 1112 cells (0 ng of A₁) and are means ± SEM of 4-6 independent experiments performed in two replicates. One
 1113 Way ANOVA test: ***p < 0.001 compared to control cells. HEK293 cells expressing the Gα_{i2} activation sensor
 1114 and control (Mock) or A₁ receptor plasmid were stimulated (10 min) with increasing concentrations of the
 1115 indicated compound. Data are expressed in % of constitutive response obtained in vehicle-treated A₁
 1116 transfected cells and are means ± SEM of 4-6 independent experiments performed in one replicate. *Right:*
 1117 Gα_z activation in HEK293 cells transfected with the Rap1GAP-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with untagged Gα_z
 1118 and increasing amount of CB₁ receptor plasmid. Data are expressed in % of response obtained in control
 1119 cells (0 ng of CB₁) and are means ± SEM of 4 independent experiments performed in one replicate. One
 1120 Way ANOVA test: ***p < 0.001 compared to control cells. HEK293 cells expressing the Gα_z activation sensor
 1121 and increasing amount of CB₁ receptor plasmid were directly stimulated (10 min) with increasing
 1122 concentrations of the CB₁ inverse agonist rimonabant. Data are expressed as % of the response obtained in
 1123 control cells (0 ng of CB₁) treated with vehicle and are means ± SEM of 4 independent experiments
 1124 performed in one replicate. **(B)** Ligand-biased detection. Concentration-response curves of AT₁ for the
 1125 endogenous ligand (Angiotensin II, AngII) and biased agonists [Sar1-Ile4-Ile8] AngII (SII), saralasin or TRV027.
 1126 G-protein and βarrestin2 signaling activity were assessed by EMTA platform. Data are expressed in % of
 1127 maximal response elicited by AngII and are means ± SEM of 3-6 independent experiments performed in one
 1128 replicate. **(C)** Functional selectivity of naturally occurring receptor variants. Concentration-response curves
 1129 for WT or E/DRY motif Asp128Asn and Arg129His variants of GPR17 upon agonist stimulation in HEK293
 1130 cells co-expressing the indicated EMTA biosensor. Data are expressed in % of maximal response elicited by
 1131 WT receptor and are means ± SEM of 3 independent experiments performed in one replicate.



1132

1133 **Figure 6. Detection of direct and indirect (*trans*) mechanisms of ligand polypharmacology using the G_z/G₁₅**
 1134 **biosensor. (A)** Test of the G_z/G₁₅ biosensor on a safety target panel. ebBRET signal was measured before
 1135 and after stimulation with the indicated ligand in HEK293 cells transfected with the combined G_z/G₁₅
 1136 biosensor and one of the 24 receptors listed. **(B)** Cross-activation of D₂ and α_{2A}AR by others natural ligands.
 1137 For the agonist mode read, HEK293 cells expressing D₂ or α_{2A}AR and either the Gα_{i2}, Gα_{oB}, or the
 1138 βarrestin2+GRK2 sensors were stimulated with increasing concentrations of the indicated ligand. For the
 1139 antagonist mode read, cells were pretreated with increasing concentrations of the selective D₂ antagonist
 1140 eticlopride or the selective α_{2A}AR antagonist WB4101 before stimulation with an EC₈₀ of the indicated
 1141 ligand. Data are means ± SEM from 3-4 independent experiments performed in one replicate and expressed
 1142 in % of the response elicited by dopamine or noradrenaline for D₂ and α_{2A}AR expressing cells, respectively.
 1143 **(C)** Indirect (*trans*) activation of CB₁ by acetylcholine. For the agonist mode read, HEK293 cells expressing
 1144 CB₁ and the Rap1GAP-RluclI/rGFP-CAAX sensors with untagged Gα_{oB} were stimulated with increasing
 1145 concentrations of the indicated ligand. For the antagonist mode read, same cells were pretreated or not
 1146 with increasing concentrations of the CB inverse agonist AM-630 (*left*) or the cholinergic antagonist atropine
 1147 (*central*) before stimulation with an EC₈₀ of the indicated ligand. To evaluate the contribution of G_{q/11}-
 1148 coupled receptor, cells were pretreated with the Gα_q inhibitor UBO-QIC and then stimulated with increasing
 1149 concentrations of the indicated ligand (*right*). Data are means ± SEM from 3-5 independent experiments
 1150 performed in one replicate and expressed in % of the response elicited by WIN55,212-2.



1151

1152 **Figure 7. Detection of endogenous receptor- and/or G protein-mediated responses in cells with the EMTA**
1153 **ebBRET platform.** Concentration-dependent activation of G α_{12} protein by (A) endogenous S1P₁ receptor in
1154 iPSC-derived cardiomyocytes transfected with heterologous G α_{12} , (B) endogenous FPR2 in promyelocytic
1155 HL-60 cells transfected with heterologous G α_{12} , (C) endogenous FPR2 in promyelocytic HL-60 cells with
1156 endogenous G $\alpha_{i/o}$ proteins and (D) endogenous PAR2 receptor in HEK293 cells with endogenous G $\alpha_{i/o}$ proteins.
1157 In all cases, cells were co-transfected with the Rap1GAP-RLucII/rGFP-CAAX biosensor. Data are the mean \pm
1158 SEM of 3-4 independent experiments performed in one replicate and are expressed as BRET² ratio in
1159 percentage of response induced by vehicle.

Supplementary Information for: Effector membrane translocation biosensors reveal G protein and β arrestin coupling profiles of 100 therapeutically relevant GPCRs

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Supplementary Figures

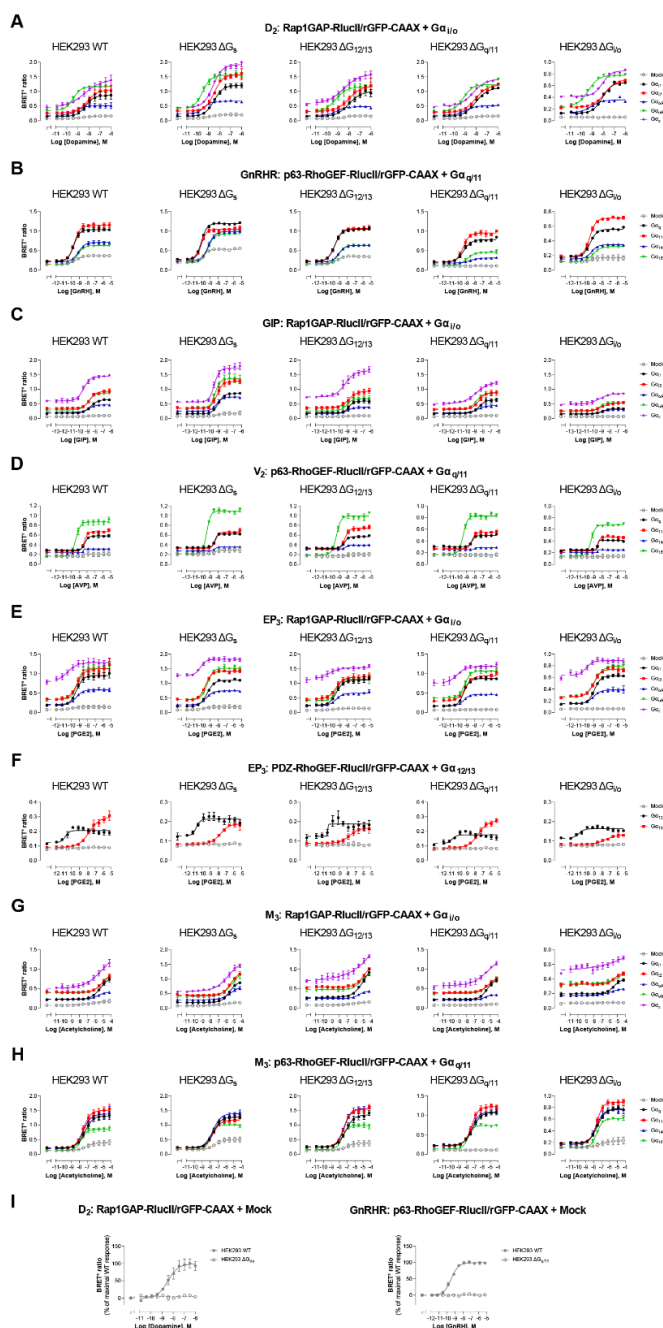


Figure S1. Influence of endogenous G proteins. Dose-response curves elicited in parental (WT) HEK293 cells or devoid of G_s (ΔG_s), $G_{12/13}$ ($\Delta G_{12/13}$), $G_{q/11}$ ($\Delta G_{q/11}$) or $G_{i/o}$ ($\Delta G_{i/o}$) proteins, transfected with the indicated receptor (D_2 , GnRHR, GIP, V_2 , EP_3 or M_3) and one of the $G\alpha_{i/o}$, $G\alpha_{q/11}$ or $G\alpha_{12/13}$ activation sensors, along with the indicated $G\alpha$ subunits. Mock condition corresponded to the response elicited in absence of heterologously expressed $G\alpha$ subunits (i.e., endogenous G proteins effect). Data are means \pm SEM of 3-5 independent experiments performed in one replicate and are expressed as BRET² ratio. Data presented in I are the same as in A-B, but with results expressed as % of maximal response elicited by endogenous G proteins (mock) in WT cells.

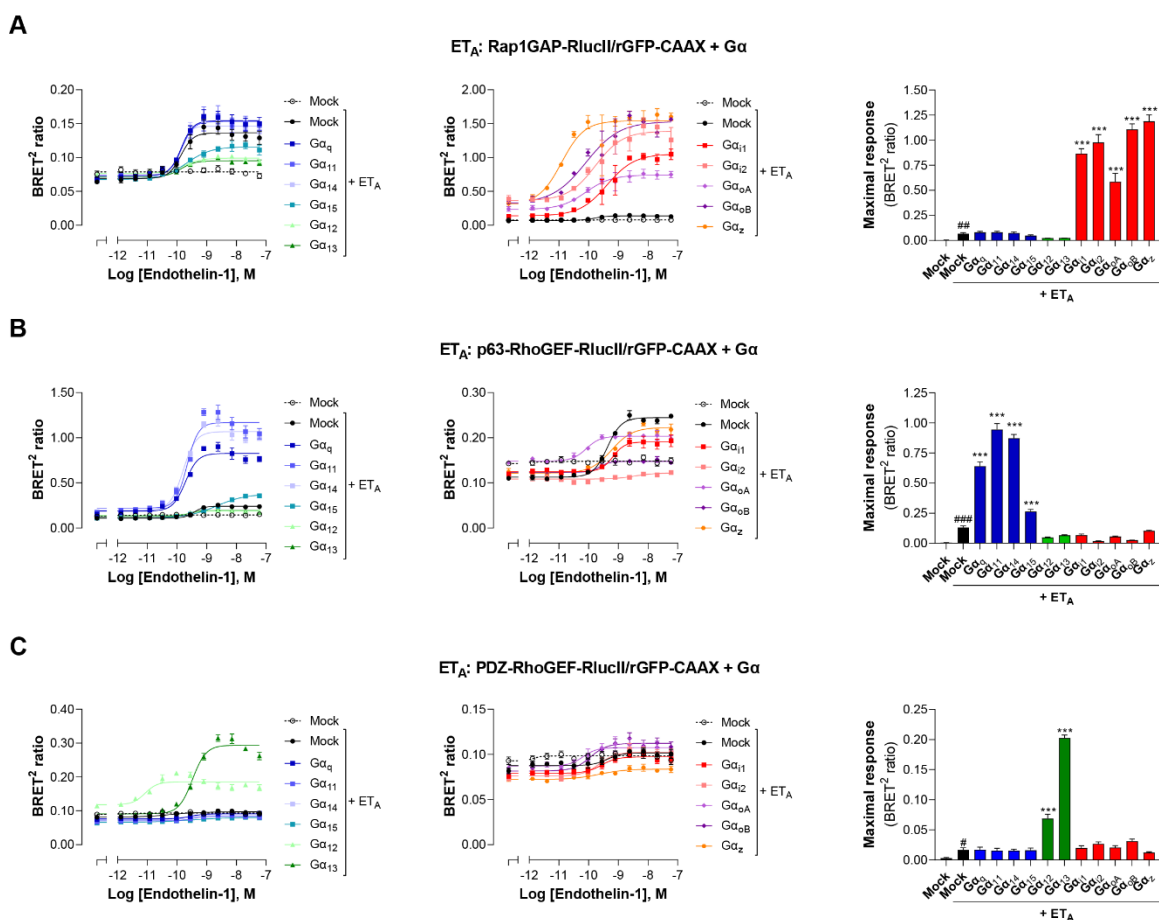


Figure S2. Validation of EMTA ebBRET-based sensors selectivity for each G α subunit families. HEK293 cells were transfected with the ET_A receptor and G $\alpha_{i/o}$ (A), G $\alpha_{q/11}$ (B) or G $\alpha_{12/13}$ (C) activation sensors along with each G α subunit or control DNA (Mock) as control for response obtained with endogenous G α proteins. Dose-response curves in response to endothelin-1 are shown (*left and central*), as well as maximal responses obtained with each G α subunit. Data are means \pm SEM of 3 independent experiments performed in one replicate and are expressed as BRET² ratio. Unpaired t-test: #p < 0.05, ##p < 0.01 and ###p < 0.001 compared to Mock (without receptor) and One-Way ANOVA test: *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 and ***p < 0.001 compared to Mock + ET_A.

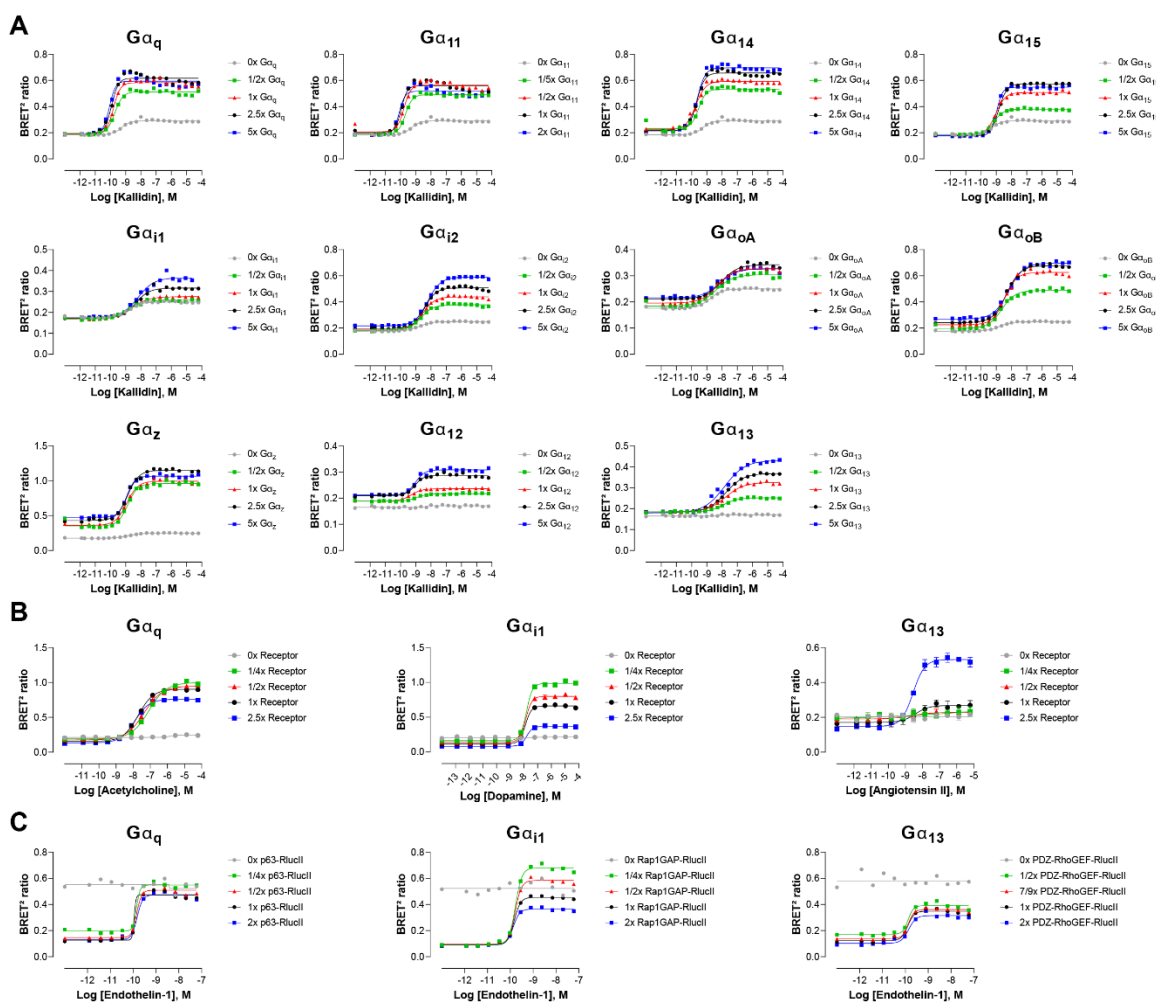


Figure S3. Influence of G protein, GPCR or effector-RlucII level expression. (A) Dose-response curves elicited in HEK293 cells transfected with the B₂ receptor and one of the G $\alpha_{q/11}$, G $\alpha_{i/o}$ or G $\alpha_{12/13}$ activation sensors, along with increasing quantity of the indicated G α subunits. Data represent a representative experiment **(B)** Dose-response curves elicited in HEK293 cells transfected with increasing quantity of the M₃, D₂ or AT₁ receptors and the G $\alpha_{q/11}$, G $\alpha_{i/o}$ or G $\alpha_{12/13}$ activation sensors, along with the indicated G α subunits. **(C)** Dose-response curves elicited in HEK293 cells transfected with the ET_A receptor and increasing quantity of effector-RlucII (p63-RhoGEF for G $\alpha_{q/11}$, Rap1GAP for G $\alpha_{i/o}$ or PDZ-RhoGEF for G $\alpha_{12/13}$), along with rGFP-CAAX and the indicated G α subunits. Data are means \pm SEM of 3 independent experiments performed in one replicate and are expressed in BRET² ratio.

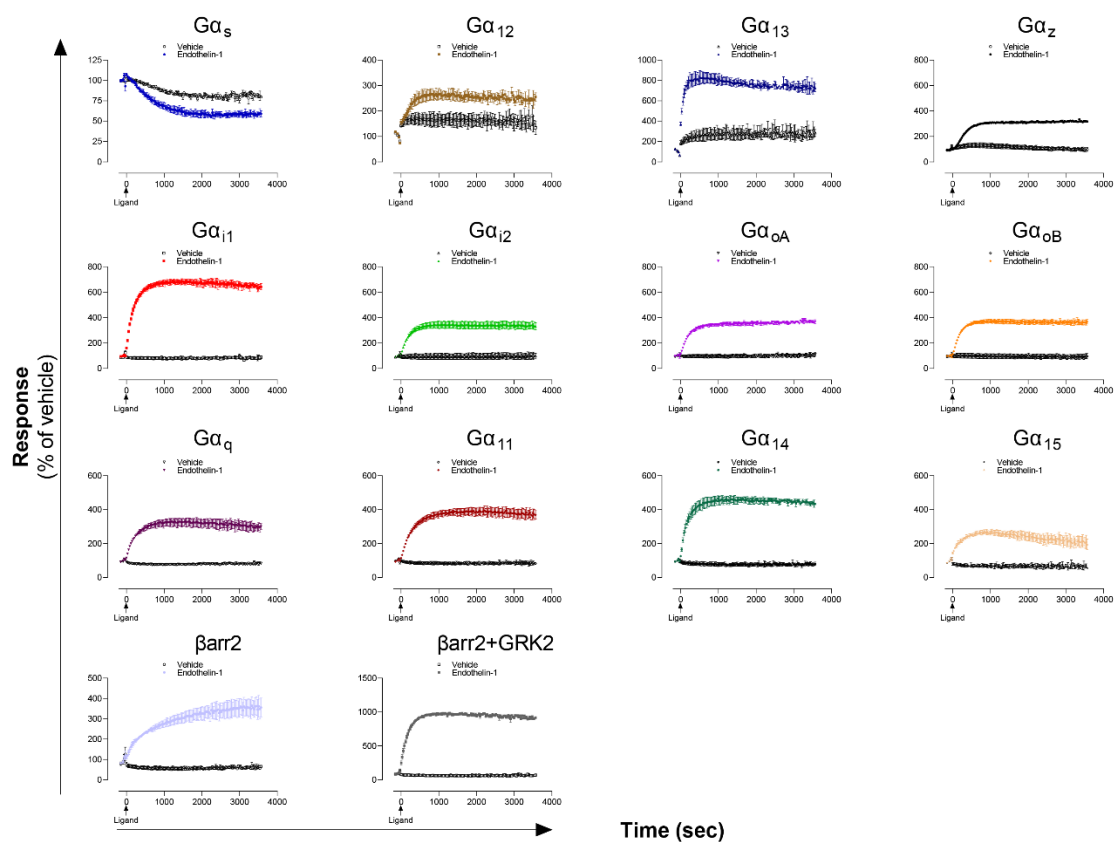


Figure S4. Kinetics of Gα proteins and βarrestins recruitment promoted by the ET_A receptor. Kinetics of activation of the indicated pathways following stimulation with vehicle or Endothelin-1 in HEK293 cells expressing the ET_A receptor. Data are means ± SD of two replicates of a representative experiment from three independent experiments and are expressed in % of the respective basal response (determined before ligand addition at t=0 sec).

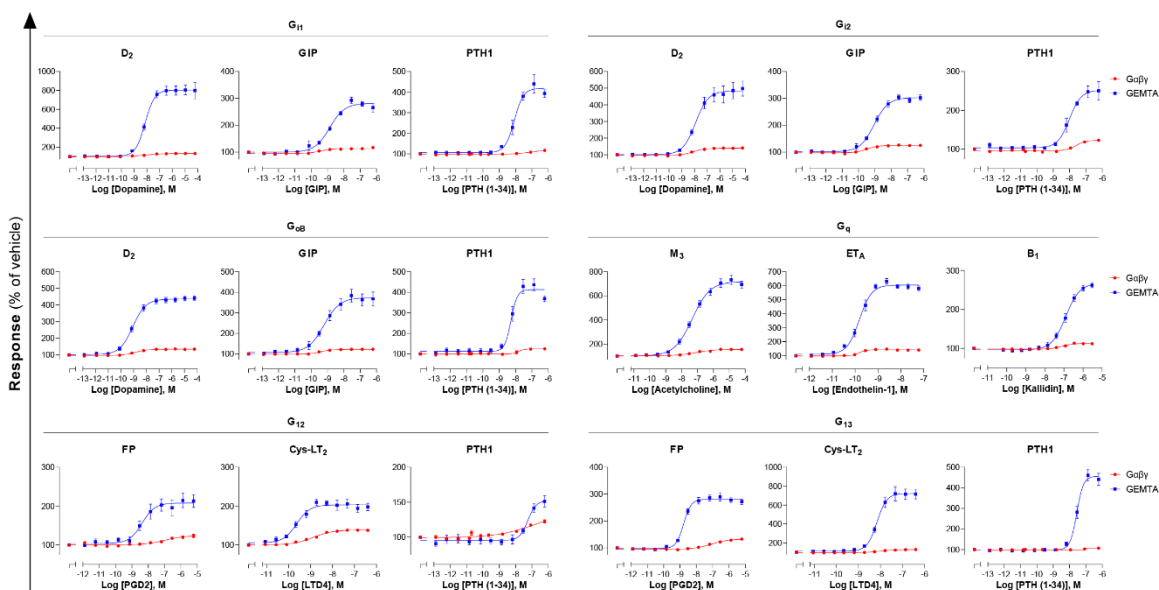


Figure S5. Comparison of EMTA platform and G protein activation BRET assay based on $G\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation. Dose-response curves elicited in HEK293 cells transfected with the indicated receptor (D_2 , GIP, PTH1, M_3 , ET_A , B_1 , FP or Cys-LT₂) and one of the $G\alpha_{i/o}$, $G\alpha_{q/11}$ or $G\alpha_{12/13}$ EMTA activation sensors, along with the indicated $G\alpha$ subunits, or the BRET-based $G\alpha\beta\gamma$ dissociation sensors ($G\alpha$ -RlucII and GFP10-G γ_1 for $G\alpha_q$, $G\alpha_{12}$ and $G\alpha_{13}$ or GFP10-G γ_2 for $G\alpha_{i1}$, $G\alpha_{i2}$ and $G\alpha_{oB}$, with untagged $G\beta_1$). Data are means \pm SEM from 3-7 independent experiments performed in one replicate and results are expressed in % of the response obtained for cells treated with vehicle.

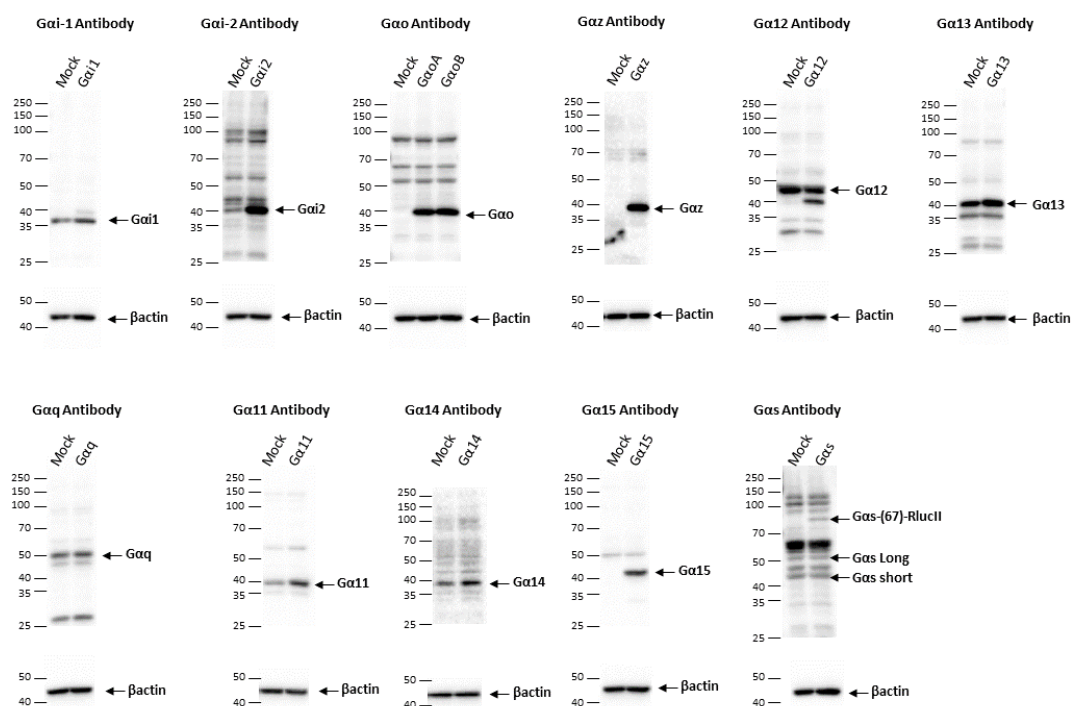


Figure S6. Western blot of G protein level expression in cells transfected with the EMTA eBRET platform. G protein expression level detection in HEK293 cells transfected with the $G\alpha_{i/o}$, $G\alpha_{12/13}$, $G\alpha_{q/11}$ or $G\alpha_s$ activation sensors along with the indicated $G\alpha$ protein or control DNA (Mock). Representative immunoblots of 3 independent experiments are shown.

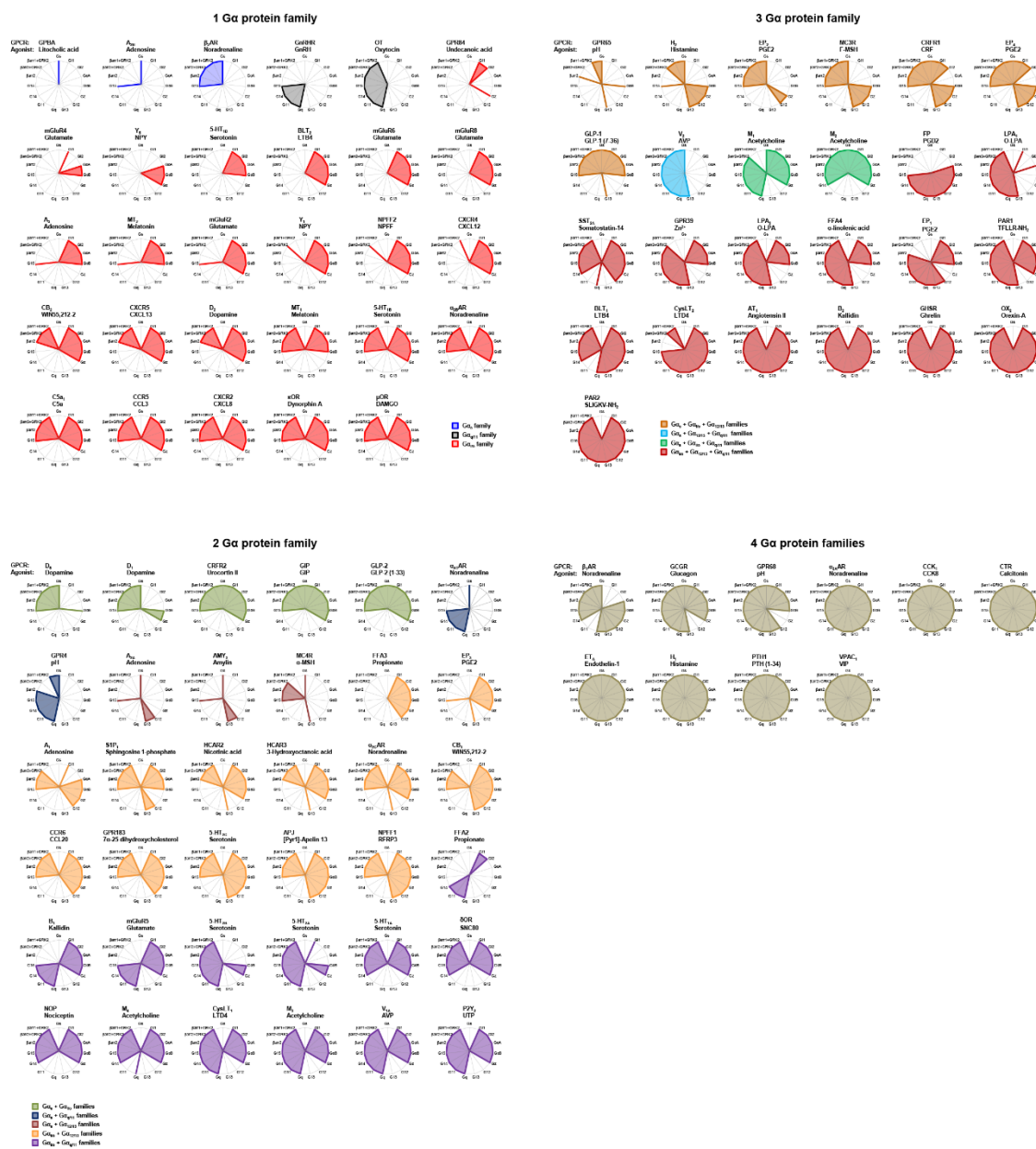
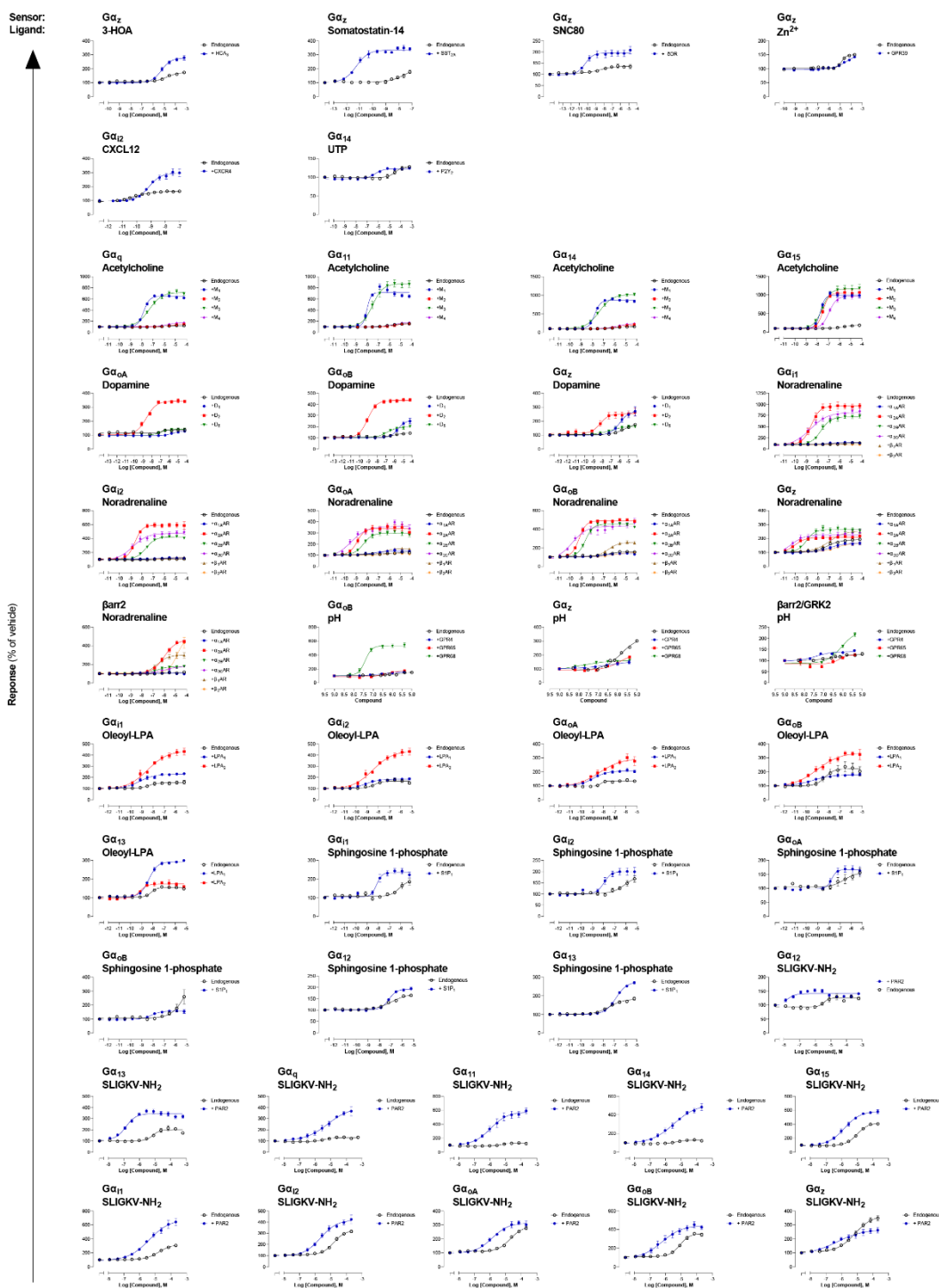


Figure S7. Receptor-specific signaling signatures. E_{max} values derived from concentration-response curves generated on 100 receptors using the 15 ebBRET-based assay are represented as radial graphs. A score of 0 indicates no coupling to a given pathway, whereas a score of 1 indicates a coupling. Receptors are rearranged according to the number of G protein families activated. $G_{\alpha_{15}}$ has been considered apart from the $G_{\alpha_{11}}$ family due to its promiscuous nature. See **Supplementary File 1** that shows the dose-response curves of the 100 receptors for the 15 different pathways.



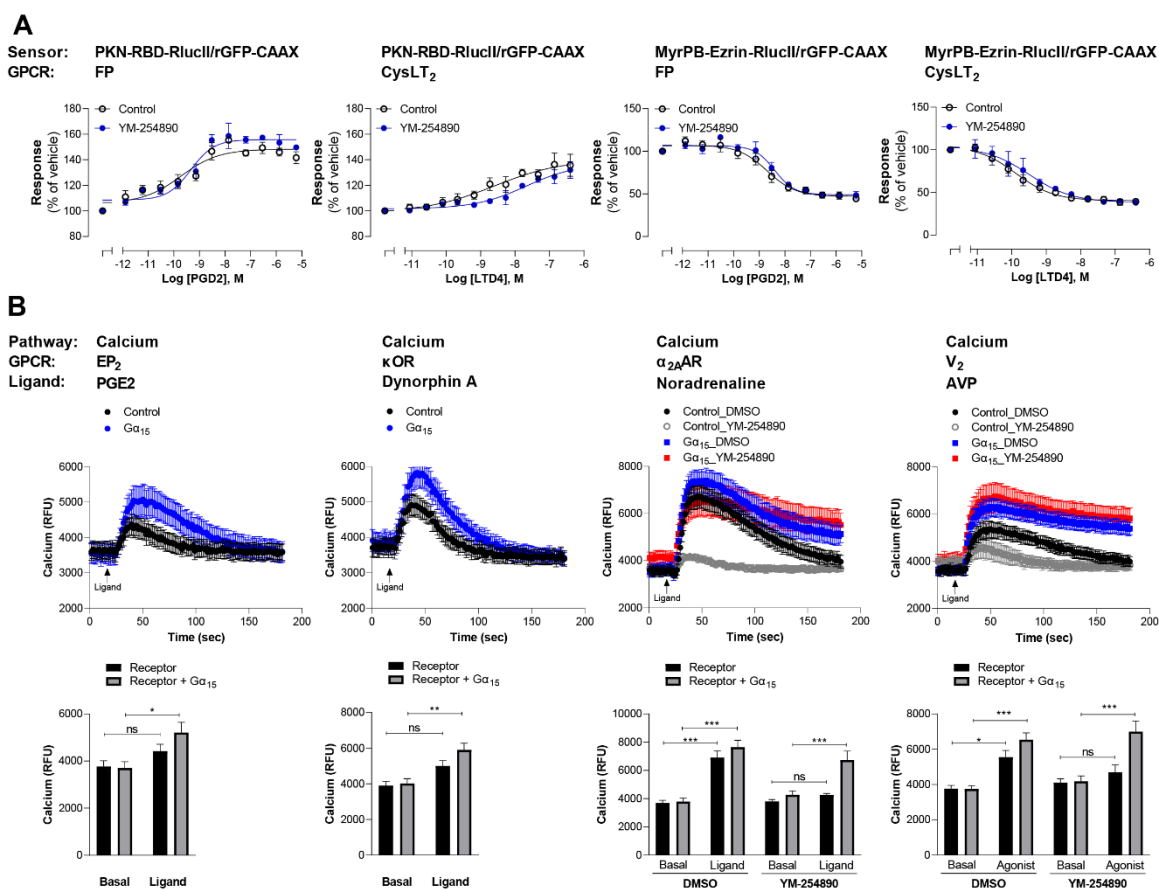


Figure S9. Validation of G_{12/13} and G₁₅ signaling for the newly characterized GPCRs. (A) Validation of G_{12/13}-mediated signal using Rho and Ezrin activation sensors. HEK293 cells expressing FP or CysLT₂ receptors and the PKN-RBD-RlucII or MyrPB-Ezrin-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors were pretreated or not with the G_{αq} inhibitor YM-254890 and then stimulated with increasing concentrations of respective ligand. Data are means ± SEM from 3-5 independent experiments performed in one replicate and expressed in % of vehicle treated cells. (B) Validation of G_{α15}-mediated signal by measuring calcium production. *Top*: Kinetics of calcium release induced by the indicated ligand in HEK293 cells expressing the indicated receptor, alone or with G_{α15} subunit. For receptors that also couple to other G_{q/11} family members, cells were pretreated with DMSO or the G_{αq} inhibitor YM-254890. *Bottom*: The peak of calcium production obtained from kinetics were compared to the basal level of calcium (determined between 0 and 17 sec). Data are means ± SEM from 5-7 independent experiments performed in one replicate and expressed in relative fluorescence unit (RFU). Two Way ANOVA test: *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01 and ***p < 0.001 compared to respective basal calcium level. ns: not significant.

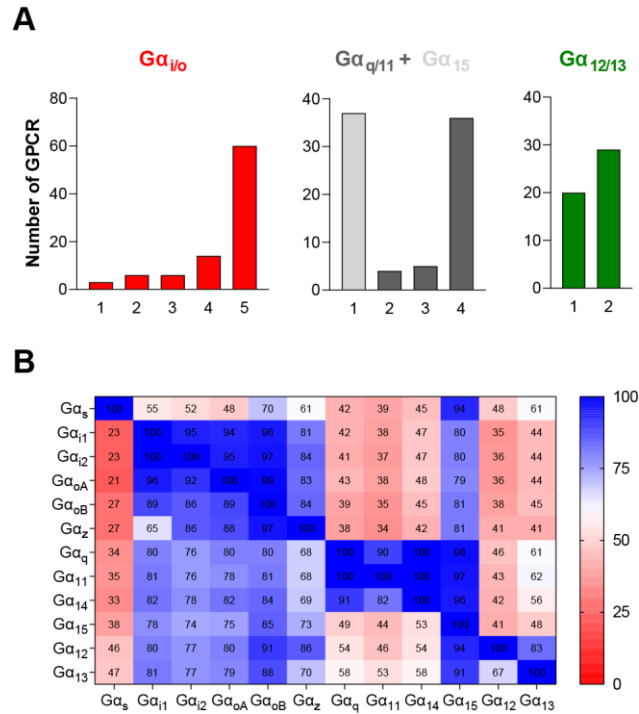


Figure S10. G protein subtypes distribution across the 100 GPCRs profiled with the EMTA eBRET-based platform. (A) Number of receptors that can couple to 1 to 5 of the different subtypes from each G protein family. **(B)** % of receptors activating a specific G protein subtype (Y axis) that also activate another G protein subtype (X axis).

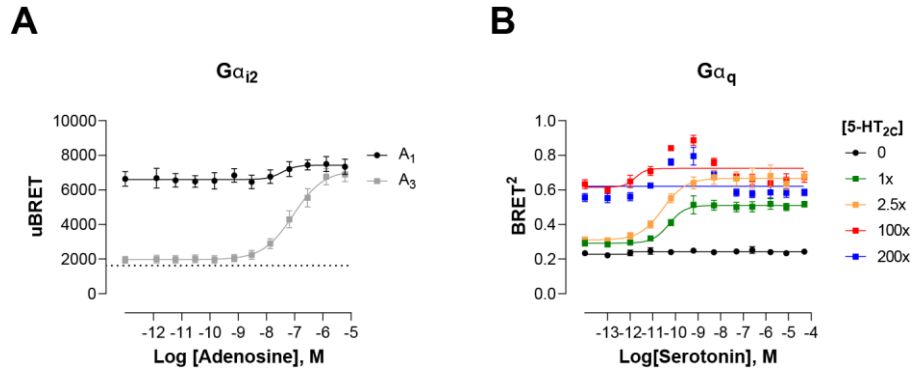


Figure S11. Modulation of ligand-promoted response detected by EMTA ebBRET platform by receptor constitutive activity. (A) Concentration-response curves of G α_{i2} activation elicited by adenosine in HEK293 cells transfected with the Rap1GAP-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with untagged G α_{i2} and A₁ or A₃ receptors. Basal level of G α_{i2} activation detected by the GEMTA sensor in absence of heterologous receptor expression is represented by the interrupted line. Data are expressed as uBRET ratio and are means \pm SEM of 4 independent experiments performed in one replicate. (B) Concentration-response curves of G α_q activation elicited by serotonin in HEK293 cells transfected with the p63-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with untagged G α_q and increasing amount of 5-HT_{2c} receptor plasmid. Data are expressed as BRET² ratio and are means \pm SEM of 4 independent experiments performed in one replicate.

G₂/G₁₅ biosensor

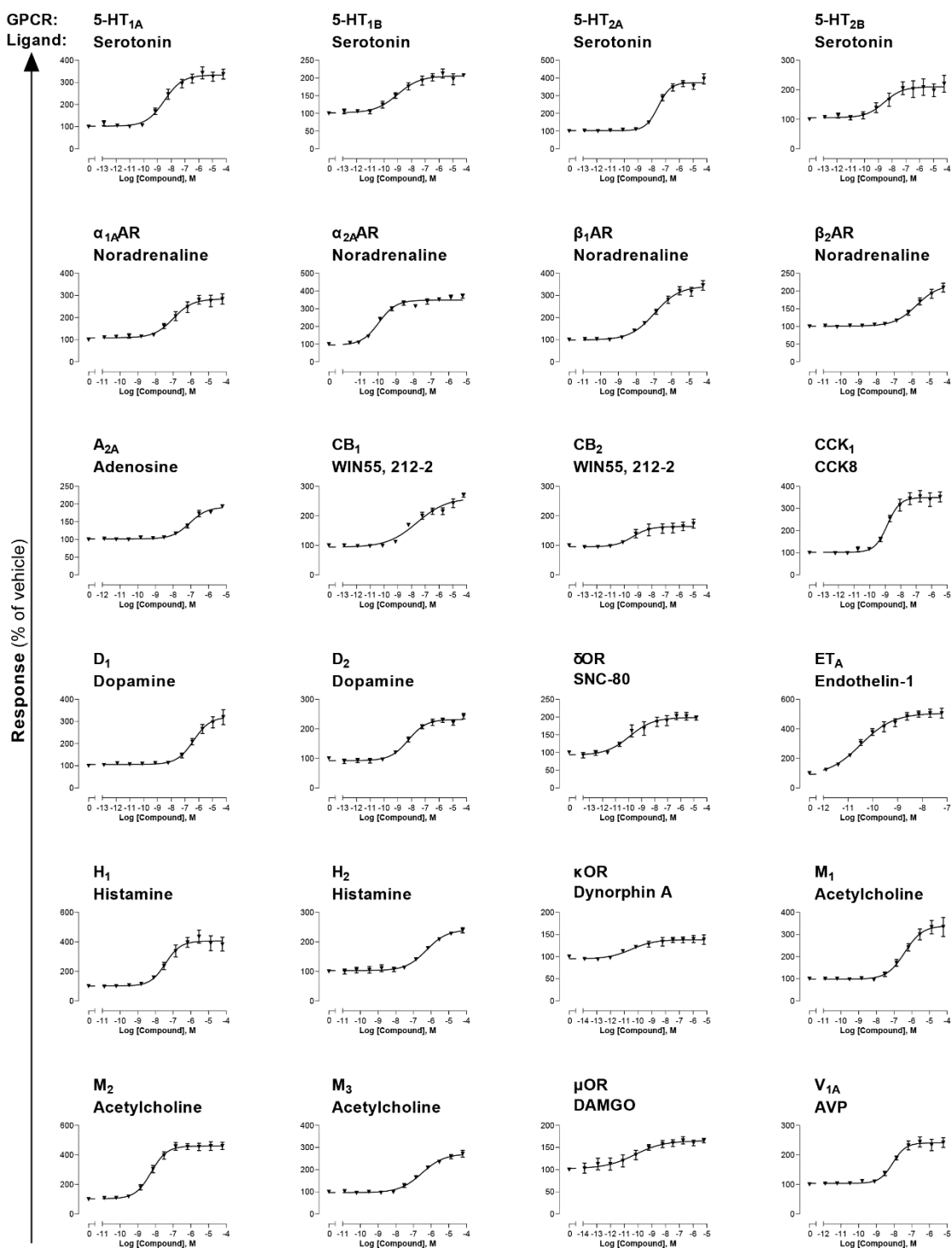


Figure S12. Combined G₂/G₁₅ biosensor. HEK293 cells transfected with the Rap1GAP-RlucII/p63-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors along with G α_2 and G α_{15} subunits and the indicated untagged receptor were stimulated with increasing concentrations of the indicated ligand. Data are means \pm SEM from 3-5 independent experiments performed in one replicate and results are expressed in % of vehicle treated cells.

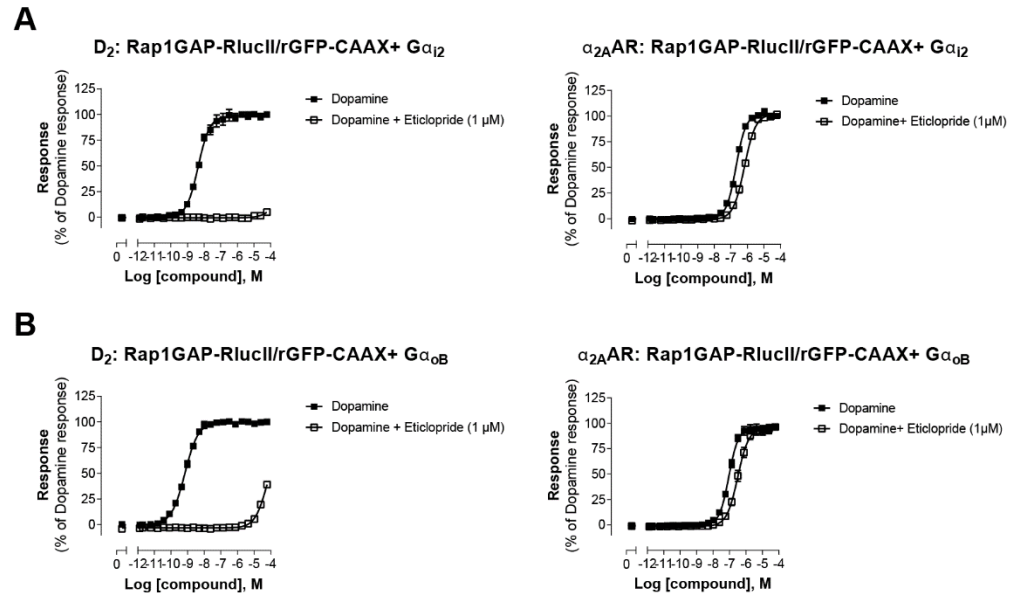


Figure S13. Validation of direct activation of α_{2A} AR by Dopamine. HEK293 cells expressing D₂ or α_{2A} AR and the G α_{i2} (A) or the G α_{oB} (B) sensors were pretreated or not with the selective D₂-family antagonist eticlopride, before stimulation with increasing concentrations of dopamine. Data are means \pm SEM from 2-4 independent experiments performed in one replicate and expressed in % of the response elicited by dopamine.

Supplementary Materials

Supplementary File 1. Signaling profiles of 100 therapeutically-relevant human GPCRs using the EMTA ebBRET platform. Concentration-response curves in HEK293 cells expressing the indicated biosensor after stimulation of heterologously expressed receptor with the indicated ligand. Data are means \pm SEM from at least 3 independent experiments and expressed in % of the response obtained for cells treated with vehicle. For ligands that elicited endogenous receptor-mediated responses (curves with light gray and yellow background for responses similar to and better responses than those obtained with the endogenous receptors, respectively), curves from cells expressing endogenous or heterologously expressed receptors are shown in **Figure S8**.

Supplementary Table 1. (A) Absolute pEC₅₀ values of responses elicited in WT vs. Knockout G α protein background cells. pEC₅₀ values deduced from dose-response curves for various receptor tested in parental (WT) HEK293 cells or devoid of G_s, G_{12/13}, G_{q/11} or G_{i/o} proteins are related to **Figure S1**. **(B) Absolute pEC₅₀ values of responses elicited in cells transfected with different amounts of G α proteins.** pEC₅₀ values deduced from dose-response curves obtained following G α subunit titration in HEK293 cells transfected with GEMTA sensors and related to **Figure S3A**. **(C) Absolute pEC₅₀ values of responses elicited in cells transfected with different amounts of receptors.** pEC₅₀ values deduced from dose-response curves obtained following ET_A titration in HEK293 cells transfected with GEMTA sensors and related to **Figure S3B**. **(D) Absolute pEC₅₀ values of responses elicited in cells transfected with different amounts of Effector-RlucII.** pEC₅₀ values

deduced from dose-response curves obtained following Effector-RlucII titration in HEK293 cells transfected with GEMTA sensors and related to **Figure S3C**.

Supplementary Table 2. List of tested receptors and ligands, along with the raw E_{max} , absolute pEC_{50} and their corresponding double normalized (dnor) values. The E_{max} (in % of vehicle response) and absolute pEC_{50} values deduced from concentration-response curves for the 100 GPCRs tested as well as the double normalized E_{max} and pEC_{50} values calculated are related to **Supplementary File 1** and **Figure 3**, respectively.

Supplementary Table 3. Comparison of G protein couplings identified with EMTA platform and other datasets. Comparison of G protein couplings identified with EMTA platform and TGF- α shedding assay in Inoue *et al.*, 2019 (**A**) or reported in GtP database (**B**).

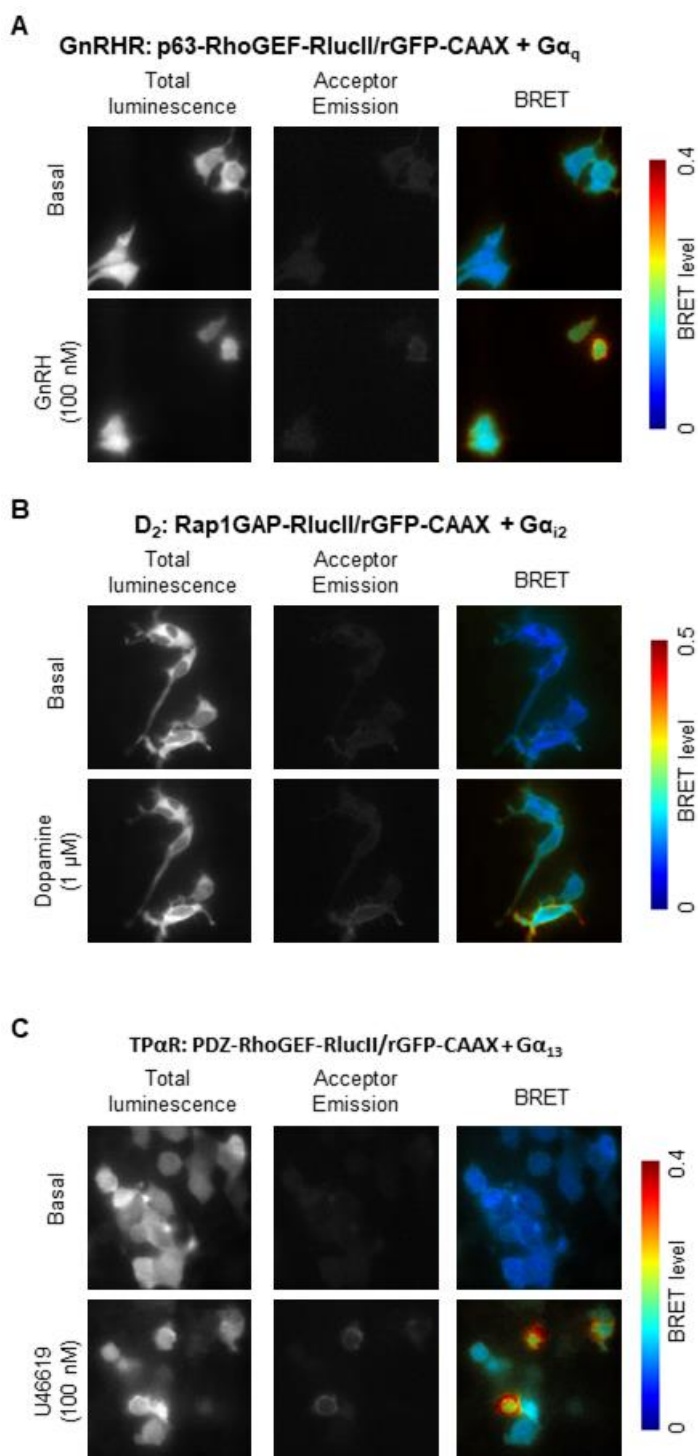
Video 1. BRET-based imagery of p63-RhoGEF-RlucII recruitment to plasma membrane upon GnRHR activation. HEK293 cells expressing the p63-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with $G\alpha_q$ and GnRHR were stimulated with GnRH. BRET levels (the ratio of the acceptor photon count to the total photon count) are expressed as a color code (lowest being black and purple, and highest being red and white).

Video 2. BRET-based imagery of Rap1GAP-RlucII recruitment to plasma membrane upon D_2 activation. HEK293 cells expressing the Rap1GAP-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with $G\alpha_{i2}$ and D_2 were stimulated with dopamine. BRET levels (the ratio of the acceptor photon

count to the total photon count) are expressed as a color code (lowest being black and purple, and highest being red and white).

Video 3. BRET-based imagery of PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII recruitment to plasma membrane upon TP α R activation. HEK293 cells expressing the PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX + G α_{13} and TP α R were stimulated with U46619. BRET levels (the ratio of the acceptor photon count to the total photon count) are expressed as a color code (lowest being black and purple, and highest being red and white).

Since videos cannot be accepted on the bioRxiv site, we have generated figures that show the first and last image of each video that have been submitted to the journal (see below).



BRET-based imagery showing sensor recruitment to the plasma membrane upon receptor activation, using the effector membrane translocation assay (EMTA).

(A) p63-RhoGEF-RlucII recruitment to plasma membrane upon GnRHR activation. HEK293 cells expressing the p63-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with $G\alpha_q$ and GnRHR were stimulated with 100 nM GnRH.

(B) Rap1GAP-RlucII recruitment to plasma membrane upon D_2 activation. HEK293 cells expressing the Rap1GAP-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX sensors with $G\alpha_{i2}$ and D_2 were stimulated with 1 μ M dopamine.

(C) PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII recruitment to plasma membrane upon TP α R activation. HEK293 cells expressing the PDZ-RhoGEF-RlucII/rGFP-CAAX + $G\alpha_{13}$ and TP α R were stimulated with 100 nM U46619.

Images were obtained in basal condition and 200 sec after stimulation with agonist. In each image, BRET levels (the ratio of the acceptor photon count to the total photon count) are expressed as a heat map color code (lowest being black and purple, and highest being red and white), as shown in the right of the panel.