Transient signaling of free ADP-ribose monitored with an intracellular biosensor

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Abstract

We have developed a biosensor enabling the dynamic, compartmentalized, and longitudinal measurements of intracellular ADP-ribose (ADPR) in live cells. Free ADPR is a critical signaling metabolite derived from nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD^+). As an agonist for Transient Receptor Potential Melastatin 2 (TRPM2), ADPR levels can regulate immune responses during infection, as well as nociception and adjustment of core body temperature. The study of ADPR signaling has been limited, however, by a lack of methods to measure this metabolite in situ. Using the biosensor and its paired non-responsive control, we determine that intracellular ADPR accumulation was transient and tunable. We found that basal concentrations were in the nanomolar range and could be stimulated ~30-fold to activate TRPM2. We identified that TRPM2 activation, measured by calcium influx, required an intracellular ADPR threshold concentration > 2 µM at physiological temperature. We observed that the timing of the ADPR rise coincided with TRPM2 activation, thus providing support for ADPR fluctuations being a critically regulated aspect for channel activation. Notably, transient fluctuations of ADPR were not accurately reflected by measurements of intracellular NAD^+ loss or calcium levels.

Significance Statement

We have developed a unique real-time biosensor for free ADP-ribose that is tuned to physiological concentrations and capable of intracellular measurements in individual cells. Using a calibrated system we determined that concentrations and timing of induced intracellular ADPR aligned with the thermosensitive TRPM2 activity. The data support ADPR as a critical component whose intracellular levels are regulated to control TRPM2 channel opening in cells.

Introduction

Free ADP-ribose (ADPR) is a metabolic second messenger derived from the cleavage of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD^+). By association with the enzymes that produce and use the signaling molecule, free ADPR signaling has been linked to immunomodulation, fever and oxidative stress responses, cancer, diabetes, neurodegeneration, and neuropathy (1–15).

Elucidating how cells use and regulate levels of intracellular free ADPR has been challenging due to a lack of direct measurements in intact cells. Enzymes that catalyze ADPR production and turnover are spatially organized and thought to locally regulate the abundance of this signaling molecule (16). ADPR can artefactually arise during the extraction process and is a common contaminant in commercially available cADPR and adenine dinucleotides (14, 17–19). In short, there are unknowns about the regulation of free ADPR that challenge our understanding of its targets and mechanisms of action (16, 19, 20).

Transient Receptor Potential Melastatin 2 (TRPM2) is a ligand-gated cation channel that predominantly functions at the plasma membrane (21–25). Convergent structural, biochemical, and electrophysiological data have established that free ADPR (and not NAD^+, NAADP, or cyclic-ADPR) (17–19) is an endogenous agonist for calcium-bound TRPM2 under physiological temperatures (26). While remaining strictly ligand-gated, TRPM2 integrates extracellular cues of calcium availability and temperature with levels of intracellular ADPR ligand for full channel opening. Additional reported roles for ADPR include activating intracellular ryanodine receptors (27) and extracellular P2Y1 receptors (5, 28, 29) and for substrate-level ATP production in the nucleus (30, 31). ADPR has been further reported to bind to Complex I in mitochondria (32–35) and to cytosolic glycolysis enzymes (36).

Consequently, ADPR is a critical contributor to cellular processes and study of its roles

requires methods to quantitatively monitor ADPR dynamics in situ. Previously, a Förster

resonance energy transfer (FRET)-based assay was developed that used cysteine labelling on a

catalytically inactivated Nudt9 protein via maleimide click chemistry (37). However, its

applicability has been largely limited for assays in vitro. Molecular probes such as Af1521 and

engineered Af1521 Fc fusion proteins can bind ADPR but do not distinguish the free from

covalently bound molecules in situ (38, 39). Similarly, existing genetically encoded sensors that

detect poly-ADPR chains are used for monitoring PARP activity but do not detect free ADPR

molecules (40–42).

We have developed a genetically encoded single fluorescent protein biosensor that

selectively monitors free ADPR with ratiometric intensity changes. We determined that ADPR

signaling is transient and cannot be accurately reflected by proxy measurements of NAD^+ or free

calcium fluctuations. We found that basal ADPR levels were held < 1 μM and accumulation of

~4 but not ~2 μM elicited TRPM2 activation under physiological conditions, thus establishing

thresholds of intracellular ADPR levels regulating TRPM2 channel opening.

Results

A selective and dynamic biosensor for free ADPR.

We recognized that bacterial transcriptional repressor NrtR de-repressed its targets in

response to direct binding of intracellular ADPR (43). Structural analyses of *Shewanella*

oneidensis NrtR showed multiple ADPR-dependent allosteric changes enabling its release from

DNA, including a Nudix switch element that transformed from an alpha helix into an extended

state (Fig. S1A) (44). Insertion of circularly permutated Venus fluorescent protein (cpVenus)

within the nudix switch at Q118 created a candidate biosensor, and we introduced additional

point mutations D122N, K435A and S436D to improve pH resistance, brightness, and

intracellular solubility (Fig. S1B).

We determined that the ADPR biosensor exhibited a ~3-fold decrease in fluorescence

intensity in vitro in the presence of saturating ADPR concentrations (Fig. 1A). We created a non-

responsive fluorescent variant (R98E) to serve as a negative control, and this non-binding variant

showed no significant fluorescent changes between tested 100 pM - 1 mM free ADPR (Fig. 1A).

We found that the biosensor was consistent for reporting relative ADPR fluctuations between pH

6.5 to 8.0 (Fig. 1B) but that its basal brightness was 1.65-fold dimmer at pH 6.5 compared to pH

8.0 (Fig S1C). This pH-dependent change in brightness, nevertheless, was improved from the

original 5.5-fold change in brightness of its fluorescent protein cpVenus across this range (Fig

S1C). Increasing temperature (tested up to 42 °C) was another determinant that dimmed the basal

brightness of the biosensor (Fig. 1C). The non-responsive R98E control was similarly affected by

temperature, and when incorporated for normalization, resulted in stable ADPR measurements

between 25°C – 42°C (Fig. S1D). In vitro stopped-flow kinetic measurements revealed dynamics

consistent with a single site binding (Fig. 1D). The data were fit using nonlinear regression based

on numerical integration of the rate equations, and we observed high confidence in the global

data fit (Fig. 1E) with the proposed on-step binding mechanism $E + S \rightleftharpoons ES$ and k_{on} =1.42 µM ±

0.02 µM, k_{off} = 0.84 µM ± 0.014 µM (Fig. 1F). An independent plotting of experimentally

replicated datapoints revealed congruent values (Fig. S1E, S1F). Analysis of the experimentally

solved binding pocket in NrtR revealed that ADPR bound in a linear conformation (Fig. 1G),

suggesting selectivity for ADPR over cyclic-ADPR. In agreement, the sensor responded to

ADPR and physiological analogs (2'-deoxy-ADPR, 2'/3'-O-acetyl-ADPR, and phospho-ADPR),

but it did not respond to cyclized ADPR nor other tested nucleotides at their expected

physiological concentrations (Fig. 1H); the R98E control did not respond to any tested analyte

(Fig. S1G). Notably, ADPR, acetyl-ADPR, phospho-ADPR and 2'deoxy-ADPR are endogenous

agonists of TRPM2 (45, 46), and both ADPR and phospho-ADPR are endogenous ligands of

NrtR, reflecting the substrate accommodation of many Nudix-like domains found in natural

enzymes (18, 44, 47).

Quantitative subcellular measurements of ADPR

To improve the precision of in-cell measurements, we fused the sensor with far-red

fluorescent protein mCardinal (48) to normalize for variations in sensor expression (Fig. 2A). We

found that ratiometric Green/Red emissions resulted in more consistent in-cell measurements

compared to Green-only emissions. We quantified this as a 12-fold reduction in the heterogeneity

in fluorescence (Interquartile range/Geometric Mean) across a population of cells expressing the

sensor at low-copy (Fig. S2A).

We generated individual HEK293T lines where the sensor was localized to the cytosol,

nucleus, membrane (myristoylated), and mitochondrial matrix (Fig. 2B) and used these lines to

calibrate the sensors in cells. We acutely permeabilized with saponin and equilibrated the lines

with a range of ADPR concentrations (Fig. 2C, S2B). Analyses were restricted to the

subpopulation that both retained sensor fluorescence and showed internalization of propidium

iodide (Fig. S2E) indicating equilibration with extracellular small molecules. Apart from the

myristolylated sensor, the addition of localization tags did not significantly alter responsiveness

of the sensors (Fig. S2C), and so we calibrated both myristoylated and cytosolic sensors. We

found the range of sensor measurements in cells was 100 nM to 100 µM, with binding constants

$^{Cyto}K_{d,app} \sim$4.7 µM [95% confidence interval (CI), 3.73 to 5.88] and $^{Myr}K_{d,app} \sim$10.2 µM [95% CI,

8.24 to 12.90]. With the calibration curve, we intrapolated the concentrations of measured ligand

at different subcellular compartments in HEK293T cells (Fig. 2D); all measurements were < 500

nM. We further estimated basal ADPR levels across different cell lines based on the HEK293T

curve and all estimates were < 1 µM (Fig. 2E); AML lines were estimated to have slightly higher

basal ADPR levels between 500 - 600 nM.

Single-cell measurements reveal heterogenous nature of ADPR accumulation.

A limited number of approaches have been validated to modulate intracellular ADPR, and

so we used H_2O_2-induced stress as an established approach to characterize the cytosolic sensor in

cells (49–52). We observed a mean maximal accumulation of free ADPR at 5 minutes post-

treatment and dissipation starting at 10 minutes post-treatment (Fig. 2F).

To determine the heterogeneity of responses to H_2O_2-induced stress, we analyzed ADPR

accumulation in individual cells and found that single-cell measurements generally mirrored the

dynamics of bulk measurements (Fig. 2G, 2H, S2D). We observed and quantified heterogeneity

across individual cells with regards to the amplitude and timing of maximal sensor fluorescence

response (Fig. 2G, 2H, S2D). The variation was independent of sensor expression (Fig. S2E) and

the R98E control did not show significant variability (Fig. S2F, S2G), suggesting that the

variability indeed reflected heterogeneity for intracellular ADPR accumulation. Together, the

data support the use of sensors for both bulk and single-cell measurements.

Intracellular ADPR fluctuations are distinct from NAD$^+$ levels.

We determined that two different doses of exogenous H_2O_2 resulted in transient

accumulations of cytosolic, nuclear, and membrane ADPR with similar dynamics but distinct

maxima (Fig. 3A, S3A-B); no ADPR signal was detected with paired negative control sensors

R98E (Fig. S3C-E). We found that H_2O_2-induced ADPR depended on PARP1/2 and PARG

activities, as the signal was ablated by Olaparib and PDD00017273 treatment, respectively (Fig.

3B-C, S3F-G). Together the data indicated that free ADPR was generated by dismantling of

PARP1/2-dependent poly-ADPr chains by PARG.

To compare the dynamics between ADPR accumulation and NAD$^+$-consumption, we

monitored cytosolic NAD$^+$ levels in parallel using a FRET-based ChemoG-NAD biosensor that

was more resistant to exogenous H_2O_2 compared to the LigA-NAD$^+$ single-FP biosensor. While

the ADPR maxima had peaked at 5 minutes, we interestingly observed that NAD$^+$ continued to

deplete until 15 – 20 minutes post-treatment and that its concentration remained low (Fig. 3D).

The dynamics of NAD$^+$ depletion was distinct from any photobleaching observed with the

ChemoG-NAD biosensor. The H_2O_2-dependent loss of NAD$^+$ was prevented by olaparib

treatment, supporting that PARP activity was dominantly consuming NAD$^+$ (Fig. 3E). Together,

the data indicated distinct trajectories following H_2O_2-induced stress between free NAD$^+$ and

free ADPR concentrations.

We next co-expressed a cytosolic-localized NUDT9 enzyme that lacked its N-terminal

mitochondrial targeting sequence, ΔMTS-NUDT9 (Fig. 3F, 3G). NUDT9, $K_{M,(ADPR)} = 3$ μM (53),

was previously used to suppress ADPR mediated TRPM2 activation (11). We found that co-

expression of ΔMTS-NUDT9 ablated H_2O_2-induced ADPR (Fig. 3H) and had no significant

effects on the R98E control (Fig. S3H). NUDT9 activity is selective for linear forms of ADPR

over cyclic-ADPR, confirming that the sensor was monitoring linear ADPR. This is also the first

direct support that Nudix activity can regulate ADPR levels in cells. Notably, the sensor further

revealed that intracellular ADPR was robustly induced in cells lacking mitochondrial NAD^+

transporter SLC25A51 (Fig. 3I, S3I). The HEK293 SLC25A51 KO line (54) was previously

shown to have depleted mitochondrial NAD^+ concentrations, thus the data suggest that H_2O_2

production of ADPR did not depend on high levels of mitochondrial NAD^+.

A threshold level of intracellular ADPR is required for TRPM2 activation.

We next determined whether the observed burst of intracellular ADPR could signal to

TRPM2 and mediate influx of extracellular calcium. We used a landing pad HEK293T cell line

(55) to integrate at single copy a cassette co-expressing Ca^{2+} sensor GCaMP7s (56) and TRPM2.

We found that 1 mM of exogenous H_2O_2 was sufficient to trigger calcium influx (Fig. 4A). The

timing of channel opening corresponded to peak ADPR levels, and calcium influx was ablated

with block of PARP activity (Fig. 4B). Notably, while 100 μM exogenous H_2O_2 treatment

produced ADPR, the accumulation was less and not sufficient to activate TRPM2. This indicated

there exists a threshold concentration of intracellular ADPR required to activate TRPM2 in cells.

With 1 mM H_2O_2 treatment and channel opening, we observed a second influx of calcium

starting at approximately 20 minutes post-treatment that did not directly correspond to the ADPR

accumulation. Collectively, the biosensor data revealed a threshold level of ADPR required for

TRPM2 activation and demonstrated that proxy measurements such as NAD^+ consumption and

calcium influx were inexact approximations for ADPR fluctuations.

We next quantified the different concentrations of intracellular ADPR produced.

Treatment with 1 mM H_2O_2 resulted in peak accumulation of 5.00 ± 0.89 μM cytosolic ADPR,

which is ~30-fold higher than pretreatment levels (Fig. 4C). The lower dose (0.1 mM H_2O_2)

resulted in only 1.85 ± 0.25 μM accumulation and was insufficient to activate TRPM2 channels.

Therefore we estimate a threshold for activation > 2 μM in cells.

Given the temperature-sensitive nature of TRPM2 activation, we determined how

temperature affected H_2O_2-induced ADPR by examining resulting levels at 37°C (Fig. 4C)

compared to 25°C and 4°C (Fig. 4D). We observed that cooler temperature slowed the

production of ADPR but did not significantly impede its ultimate accumulation.

Discussion

We report and characterize a new genetically encoded ratiometric fluorescent biosensor to

monitor and quantify ADPR fluctuations in cells (Fig. 1). The biosensor is also sensitive to other

physiologically relevant and canonical TRPM2 agonists and Nudix enzyme substrates like 2'-

deoxy-ADPR, 2'/3'-O-acetyl-ADPR, and phospho-ADPR (18, 44–47). We localized it to

different parts of the cell and obtained the first direct measurements of intracellular ADPR as

both bulk and single-cell measurements (Fig. 2).

With the biosensor, we uncovered that intracellular ADPR signaling was transient,

tunable, as well as produced and accumulated in response to PARP1/2 and PARG activity.

Accumulation of the signaling metabolite was proportional to amount of H_2O_2 used during

treatment and depended on PARG-dependent release of ADPR subunits from PAR chains.

Because the rate of production and maximal accumulation depended on the amount of H_2O_2,

ADPR concentrations likely reflected the amount of induced damage. The data further suggest

that PARG activity was not limiting in the cell and that ADPR biosensor measurements might be

useful for reflecting the dynamics of endogenous PARG activity.

ADPR loss occurred with comparable kinetics to its production. We have not determined

the mechanism responsible for turning over ADPR, but it is likely a Nudix-family enzyme (57,

58); ectopic expression of NUDT9 was sufficient to block accumulation of ADPR (Fig. 3F).

Cells with depleted mitochondrial NAD^+ levels were not impeded in cytosolic ADPR

accumulation (Fig. 3G). This is consistent with H_2O_2 treatment activating non-mitochondrial

PARP/PARG activity, but challenges an earlier interpretation about the source of ADPR (11).

Intriguingly we observed that NAD^+ consumption continued at a steady rate after ADPR

accumulation had reached its peak and slowed down (Fig. 3A, D). A comparison of ~2 μM vs ~5

μM ADPR accumulation showed that the curves reached their peaks and turned over at

comparable rates (Fig. 3A). So even if ADP-hydroxymethyl-pyrrolidinediol (ADP-HPD) is an

amino-analogue of ADPR that can block PARG activity (59), the similar kinetics indicate that

product inhibition of PARG was not a major contributor. The effect could instead reflect

increased Nudix enzyme activity while PARG activity is being restrained. Other possibilities

include that the later NAD^+ consumption reflected a non-PARP activity or that there may exist a

subset of PAR chains simply inaccessible to PARG activity. This will require further study.

By calibrating the biosensor, we were able to obtain the first measurements of

intracellular ADPR and found that basal levels were < 1 μM in all tested cell lines. We found two

cell lines derived from acute myeloid leukemia that had slightly elevated basal levels of ADPR ~

570 nM (Fig. 2E). Stimulation of ADPR production resulted in transient ADPR accumulation

representing as much as a 30-fold increase. Notably, only ADPR accumulations > 2 μM resulted

in channel activation of TRPM2 at low expression (Fig. 4). This value is generally consistent

with previously measured ADPR concentrations for physiological channel opening (7, 18, 22, 26,

60). Moreover, we have directly shown that the fluctuation in ADPR levels coincided with the

timing of channel opening. Together the data make a strong case demonstrating that ADPR

fluctuation is a determining factor for TRPM2 opening under physiological conditions.

We found that temperature did not significantly alter the ultimate amount of accumulated

ADPR, but lowered temperatures slowed the rate of ADPR production (Fig. 4). A limitation of

the work is that we did not formally measure ADPR accumulation between 37°C and 42°C due

to lack of sensitive temperature control on the calibrated cytometry instrument. Nevertheless, the

data collectively indicate that threshold ADPR concentrations, and not rate of production, is the

driving factor for channel opening and this is consistent with TRPM2 being responsible for

integrating environmental signals. Additionally, we observed two Ca^{2+} influx events following

H_2O_2 treatment of TRPM2-expressing HEK293T cells similar to earlier observations (15, 25),

but that differ from reports of more sustained (11), single acute (24) or a heterogenous influx (2,

61). We suspect the differences may depend on the relative density and expression of TRPM2 in

the different experimental systems. In this work, TRPM2 was expressed at single-copy in

HEK293T, and the relatively lower density of TRPM2 channels in these cells may have limited

sensitization and sustainment of a calcium rise.

Notes on effective use of the ADPR biosensor:

1. Too much expression of the biosensor in cells can buffer ADPR and attenuate its

detection. We recommend low or single copy expression of the sensor.

2. ADPR changes can be compartmentalized, and we recommend localizing the sensor at

the appropriate subcellular location.

3. pH and temperature can impact measurement values as reported. We recommend the non-

binding R98E control for normalization.

Materials and Methods

Cells

HEK293T (ATCC: CRL-3216) cells were cultured at 37°C with 5% CO_2 in Dulbecco's modified

Eagle's medium (DMEM, Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# D6429) containing glucose (4.5 g/L), sodium

pyruvate (1 mM), L-glutamine (4 mM) and supplemented with 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS,

Biowest, Cat# S1620), penicillin/streptomycin (1x) and 25 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.4).

Lentivirus

500,000 HEK293T cells/well were seeded in 6-well TC-treated plates (Fisherbrand, Cat#

FB012927) and transfected the next day using polyethylenimine (PEI) at a ratio of 5:1 PEI:DNA

μg. The transfection mixture was prepared in Opti-MEM (Gibco, Cat# 31985-070) and

comprised of 20 μg PEI and a plasmid mixture of 1 μg psPAX2, 1 μg pMD2.G, and 2 μg of

either pLenti- NES-Flag-HA-ADPR Sensor-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti- NES-Flag-HA-

R98E-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti- NLS-Flag-HA-ADPR Sensor-mCardinal-IRES-Puro,

pLenti- NLS-Flag-HA-R98E-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti- Myr-ADPR Sensor-mCardinal-

IRES-Puro, pLenti- Myr-R98E-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti-4x(cox8)-Flag-HA-ADPR Sensor-

mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti-4x(cox8)-Flag-HA-R98E-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti-N-Flag-

HA-GAW-IRES-Puro, pLenti-N-Flag-HA-Nudt9(59 - 350 amino acids)-IRES-Puro or pLenti-N-

Flag-HA-ChemoG-NAD-IRES-Puro plasmids. Supernatant that contained viral particles was

collected 72 hours post-transfection and filtered through a 0.45 μm PVDF filter (Millex, Cat#

SLHVR33RS). Five hundred microliters of viral supernatant were added to a cell suspension of

HEK293T cells (125,000 cells/mL) in a 6-well plate and incubated for 2 days. Transduced cells

were either sorted using FACS with a SONY MA900 or selected with puromycin (2 µg/mL) or

blasticidin (20 µg/mL) and cultured with selection for 2 and 6 days respectively. Transduced cells

were maintained in selection media until all non-transduced control cells succumbed to antibiotic

selection in parallel. Stable expression was verified with Western Blotting and live cell imaging.

Generation of HEK293T-iCasp9-LLH-IB cells with attB-GCaMP7s-IRES-TRPM2 integration.

500,000 HEK293T-iCasp9-LLH-IB cells were seeded in 6-well TC-treated plate and transfected

next day using PEI:DNA ratio of 5:1 diluted in Opti-MEM. The DNA mix for transfection

included 1 µg pCAG NLS-HA Bxb1 and 1 µg attB-GCaMP7s-IRES-TRPM2. 48 hrs post-

transfection, cells were selected in media containing 10 nM AP1903 and 1 mM doxycycline for 2

days. The selection was deemed sufficient when the control cells succumbed completely. The

selection media was replaced with fresh media containing 1 mM doxycycline and the cells were

allowed to recover.

Plasmids

2x HiFi builder assembly master mix (NEB #E2621S) was used to assemble the following

plasmids: pLenti-NES-Flag-HA-ADPR Sensor-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti-NLS-Flag-HA-

ADPR Sensor-mCardinal-IRES-Puro, pLenti-4x(cox8)-Flag-HA-ADPR Sensor-mCardinal-

IRES-Puro, pET15b-His-ADPR Sensor, pET15b-His-ADPR Sensor-mCardinal, pLenti-Flag-

HA- Nudt9(59 - 350 amino acids)-IRES-Puro and attB-GCaMP7s-IRES-TRPM2. Q5 site-

directed mutagenesis kit (NEB #E0554S) was used to generate mutations in the above plasmids

and to obtain R98E control variant.

Protein Purification

E. coli BL21 DE3 competent cells were transformed with pET15b-His-ADPR Sensor or

pET15b-His-R98E plasmids and plated on LB Agar (50 µg/mL kanamycin, Kan). A single

colony was picked in 5 mL LB media (50 µg/mL Kan) and grown for 16 hours shaking at 225

rpm at 37ºC. The culture was diluted 1:50 in 250 mL LB Kan media and induced using 1 mM

IPTG once an OD_{600} of 0.6 was achieved. Induced cultures were grown at room temperature for

24 hours. Cultures were centrifuged at 4,000 x g for 10 minutes at 4ºC and cell pellet was

washed in 5 mL equilibration buffer (20 mM Tris HCl, 200 mM NaCl, pH 7.5). Cells were

collected by centrifugation (4,000 x g for 10 minutes at 4ºC) and the cell pellet was resuspended

and lysed in 40 mL lysis buffer (20 mM Tris HCl, 200 mM NaCl, 0.1% Triton-X-100 v/v, 1 mM

PMSF, 10 mM Imidazole, pH 7.5) for 30 minutes, rotating at 4ºC. Cells were then sonicated

using Fisherbrand™ Q705 Sonicator with a 19 mm probe on ice (Amplitude 75, processing time:

1 minute and 30 second, on time: 15 seconds, off time: 45 seconds). Lysate was clarified by

centrifugation at 12,000 x g for 30 minutes at 4ºC before being filtered through a 0.45 μm PVDF

filter (Millex, Cat# SLHVR33RS). A 10 mL disposable gravity column was loaded with 2 mL

slurry of Ni-NTA Superflow Resin (Cat# EM70691-4) and washed with 10 mL equilibration

buffer followed by 10 mL lysis buffer. The filtered lysate was passed through the gravity flow

column twice. The column was washed with 10 mL wash buffer 1 (20 mM Tris-HCl, 200 mM

NaCl, 10 mM Imidazole, pH 7.5) and 10 mL wash buffer 2 (20mM Tris-HCl, 200mM NaCl,

25mM Imidazole, pH 7.5). This was followed by the elution in 10 mL elution buffer (20 mM

Tris-HCl, 200 mM NaCl, 200 mM Imidazole, pH 7.5) and eluate was collected as 1 mL

fractions. The three fractions displaying the brightest fluorescence were combined for further

processing. Dialysis was performed using Slide-A-Lyzer™ G3 Dialysis Cassettes (Cat#

A52966). Cassettes were floated in 250 mL dialysis buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 150 mM

NaCl, 0.5 mM DTT, 100 μM PMSF, 1 mM EDTA, 30% glycerol v/v) while stirring for three

cycles 2-hour each and an overnight dialysis step with buffer refreshed between each step.

Purified protein was resolved using SDS PAGE followed by Coomassie staining. The

quantification was done using Bradford assay along with BSA standards.

Fluorimeter Measurements

ADPR sensor or R98E control recombinant protein (125 nM) was mixed with the ligand at

indicated concentrations in fluorescence assay buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl

and 1x Pierce™ Protease Inhibitor Tablets, EDTA-free Cat# A32965)). The fluorescence was

measured using Horiba fluorimeter at 520 nm emission following excitation scans from 400-510

nm, as well as with 500 nm excitation and emission scans from 515-600 nm. Tested ligands

included ADPR (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# A0752, 10 μM), 2'-deoxy ADPR (BioLog, Cat# D227, 10

μM), O-Acetyl ADPR (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Cat# sc-481663, 10 μM), phospho ADPR

(Biolog, Cat# A190, 10 μM), 2'-cyclic ADPR (Axxora Marketplace, Cat# BLG-C406-005,10

μM), 3'-cyclic ADPR (Axxora Marketplace, Cat# BLG-C404-005,10 μM), cyclic ADPR

(Biolog, Cat# C005, 10 μM), NaAD (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# N4256, 10 μM), NAD$^+$ (Sigma-

Aldrich, Cat# N1636, 10 μM), NADH (Roche, Cat# 10128023001, 10 μM), NaADP$^+$ (Biolog,

Cat# N018, 10 μM), R5P (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# R7750, 10 μM), AMP (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat#

A1752, 500 μM), ADP (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# 2754, 500 μM), and ATP (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat#

9062, 500 μM).

Stopped Flow Kinetics Measurements

Stopped flow kinetic experiments were performed using a KinTek AutoSF-120 instrument with a

circulating water bath kept at 20°C. -The ADPR Sensor (final concentration 125 nM) in

fluorescence assay buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl and 1x Pierce™ Protease

Inhibitor Tablets, EDTA-free) was mixed with ADPR at indicated concentrations to start the

reaction. A laser light source was used to excite at 515 nm, and emission was monitored with a

565 ± 12 nm bandpass filter (Semrock). The stopped flow traces shown are an average of at least

6 individual traces. KinTek Explorer software version 11 was used to analyze the data as

described earlier (62). The parameters k_1 and k_{-1} were obtained by fitting the data to the proposed

mechanism: $E + S \rightleftharpoons ES$. For equation based analysis of the stopped flow data, traces were fit

initially using the analytical (Afit) function of KinTek Explorer to a single exponential function:

$y = A_0 + A_1(1 - e^{-bt})$, where A_0 is the starting fluorescence, A_1 is the amplitude of

fluorescence change, b is the decay rate, and t is time. Subsequent mechanism-based fitting was

achieved using the numerical integration routines in KinTek Explorer.

In cell Calibration Curve

HEK293T cells were permeabilized with 0.004% saponin (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# 84510) and 3

μM propidium iodide to first demonstrate degree of permeabilization. To generate a standard

curve, HEK293T cells stably expressing cytosolic ADPR sensor and R98E control were

trypsinized and 300,000 cells were collected for each measurement. The cells were washed with

DPBS and replaced with 100 μL of calcium measurement buffer (140 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 1

mM CaCl2, 1 mM MgSO4, 1 mM NaH2PO4, 20 mM HEPES, and 5.5 mM glucose, pH 7.4).

100 μL of a mixture containing saponin and the indicated ADPR concentration were equilibrated

at room temperature for 30 minutes prior to measuring the sensor fluorescence. The final curve

was taken using the ratio of the ADPR sensor/R98E control. The values from three biological

replicates were used to fit a four-parameter sigmoidal model against ADPR concentration on

GraphPad v10.6.0. Using the GraphPad equation, $Y = \text{Bottom} + (X^{\text{Hill slope}})*(\text{Top-Bottom})/(X^{\text{Hill}}$

$^{\text{slope}} + \text{EC50}^{\text{Hill Slope}})$, values from a H_2O_2 dosage experiment were interpolated to calculate ADPR

concentrations that were produced in response.

Live-Cell Microscope Imaging Using 10x Lens

HEK293T cells stably expressing the ADPR Sensor or the R98E control were seeded at a density

of 250,000 cells/mL in a 24-well TC-treated glass bottom plate (Cellvis, Cat# P24-1.5H-N).

HEK293T-iCasp9-LLH-IB cells with attB-GCaMP7s-IRES-TRPM2 integration were seeded

similarly after 48 hours induction using 1 mM doxycycline. Prior to imaging, the media was

replaced with 200 μL Fluorobrite DMEM (Gibco, Cat# A18967-01). The cells were allowed to

equilibrate to new conditions for at least 30 mins prior to imaging. Cell imaging was done in an

environment-controlled chamber with 5% CO_2 at 34ºC using OKO-cage system. After imaging

for baseline fluorescence, 200 μL of 2x indicated treatment, including H_2O_2 (Sigma Aldrich,

Cat# 216763), olaparib (LC Laboratories, Cat# O-9201) or PDD00017273 (Cayman Chemicals,

Cat# 19511) was added and imaged for indicated time. Cells were imaged using a SOLA SM

Light Engine, Photometrics Prime 95B SCMOS digital camera, PLAN ACHROMAT 10x

Objective, NA 0.25, WD 10.6 MM. The instrument was automated using a motorized xy-stage

for frame positioning and z-axis control to adjust the focus for clear imaging. Multichannel

images were captured with an IX3 ET-EGFP/FITC/Cy2 and IX3 ET-Cy5 fluorescence filter, with

an excitation of 470 ± 40 nm or 520 ± 60 nm, and an emission of 525 ± 50 nm or 700 ± 75 nm,

respectively. Each field of image contained approximately 750 - 1000 fluorescent cells for

analysis.

Microscope Image Quantification For Bulk Analysis

All images captured using 10x lens were analyzed using ImageJ2 v2.16.0/1.54p software. Mean fluorescence intensity was noted from each frame. Background intensities from each frame were subtracted using the thresholding function, and remaining mean fluorescence intensity was measured. Images were minimally processed and involved threshold subtraction for each frame followed with mean fluorescence intensity quantification. The ratiometric sensor measurement was obtained by dividing the ADPR sensor or R98E control fluorescence with mCardinal fluorescence. Data was normalized by dividing each value by the average of baseline measurements for GCaMP7s (Green) and ADPR sensor or R98E control (Green/Red) taken from time 0 to 5 minutes.

NAD$^+$ Monitoring using ChemoG-NAD$_{JF635}$ Sensor

HEK293T cells stably expressing ChemoG-NAD were seeded at 100000/mL in a 24-well glass bottom plate and 24 hours later the media was replaced with fresh media containing 200 nM JF635 dye for overnight incubation. Next day, the media was replaced with 200 μL Fluorobrite DMEM 30 minutes before the imaging. Cell imaging was performed in an OKO-cage system with controlled environment at 34°C and 5% CO_2. Cells were imaged using UAPO 100XTIRF OBJ, NA 1.49, WD 0.1MM, W/CC lens and a high-powered spinning disk laser system. ChemoG-NAD$_{JF635}$ multichannel images were taken using the excitation wavelength of 488 nm, with fluorescence emission at 525 ± 50 nm and FRET emission at 617 ± 73 nm. We took baseline fluorescence measurements before the addition of the indicated treatments at t = 0 mins. Image analysis was performed using ImageJ where the threshold for the image was set and was subtracted from mean fluorescence intensity for EGFP and FRET. The ChemoG-NAD$_{JF635}$ FRET was calculated by dividing FRET fluorescence with EGFP fluorescence. Each field of view contained approximately 30 – 50 cells.

Confocal Imaging and Single Cell Analysis of ADPR Sensor using a 100x Lens

HEK293T cells expressing the ADPR Sensor or the R98E control were seeded at a density of

250,000 cells/mL in a 24-well glass bottom plate. Prior to imaging, the media was replaced with

200 μL Fluorobrite DMEM. The cells were allowed to equilibrate to new conditions for at least

30 mins prior to imaging. Cell imaging was done in an environment-controlled chamber with 5%

CO_2 at 34ºC using OKO-cage system. For single-cell analysis, imaging was done using a UAPO

100XTIRF OBJ, NA 1.49, WD 0.1MM, W/CC lens and a high-powered spinning disk laser

system. We took multichannel images for ADPR sensor and R98E Control using excitation

wavelengths of 488 nm and 561 nm, with their respective emission at 525 ± 50 nm and 617 ± 73

nm. All images captured using 100x lens were analyzed using ImageJ2 v2.16.0/1.54p software.

Each individual cell was enclosed in a region of interest and followed over the experiment time.

Individual experiment's field of view image contained approximately 5 - 20 fluorescent cells.

The threshold function was used to determine the background for each image and was subtracted

from mean fluorescence intensity values. Ratiometric fluorescence values for ADPR Sensor and

R98E control were calculated by dividing the sensor fluorescence with mCardinal. For

determining the localization of the sensor, the cell nucleus was stained using 20 mM Hoechst

33342 (ThermoScientific, Cat# 62249) diluted 1:2000 in DPBS and incubated at room

temperature for 10 minutes, protected from light. The cells were then washed three times with

DPBS following which the media was replaced with 200 μL of Fluorobrite DMEM for imaging,

with an excitation wavelength of 405 nm and emission wavelength of 525 ± 50 nm.

Representative Time-Lapsed Images of ADPR Sensor-mCardinal in Live HEK293T Cells

Threshold was applied to create a binary mask for each color in every image. The original image

was multiplied to the binary mask in ImageJ using image calculator option, and a reciprocal was

taken using the math option in ImageJ. We then selected GEM LUT and image was further

smoothened. The whole image was cropped to show representative cells.

Flow Cytometry

Sensor fluorescence was measured by analyzing 10,000 fluorescent cells using flow cytometry

with NovoCyte Flow Cytometer 3000. The fluorescence was measured for ADPR Sensor and

R98E at excitation 488 nm, emission 530 ± 30 nm and the fluorescence for mCardinal was

measured at excitation 561 nm, emission 660 ± 20. Standard gating was applied to exclude

debris and cell doublets. Flow cytometry data was analyzed using FlowJo v10.

Western Blot

500,000 HEK293T cells were lysed in 100 μL 2x Laemmli sample buffer (Tris pH 6.8, glycerol,

DTT, 10% SDS, bromophenol blue), followed by an incubation at 95ºC for 5 minutes. 15 μL of

cell lysate was resolved by SDS-PAGE using NUPAGE 4-12% Bis-Tris protein gel (Invitrogen)

with MOPS running buffer. Following transfer to a 0.45 μm nitrocellulose membrane, the

membrane was blocked with 5% BSA in pH 7.4 Tris-buffered saline with 0.1% (v/v) Tween 20

(TBST). The primary antibodies were incubated overnight at 4ºC in TBST containing 1% BSA,

followed by 3 washes of 5 minutes each with TBST. Secondary antibodies in TBST containing

1% BSA were incubated for an hour at room temperature followed by 3 washes of 5 min each

with TBST. Images were taken on an Odyssey CLx Imager. The antibody dilutions used: anti-

FLAG (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# F1804, 1:3000), anti-Tubulin (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# T9026,

1:3000); and anti-mouse IgG H&L Alexa Fluor 680 (Invitrogen, Cat# A10038, 1:10000).

Immunostaining Imaging

22x22 mm glass coverslips coated with 25 μg/mL Poly-L-Lysine (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat# A-005-

M) were seeded with 300,000 mammalian cells in a TC-treated 6-well plate. For cell fixation, the

media was removed and cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde (Electron Microscopy

Sciences, Cat# 15710) and 4% sucrose in DPBS for 10 minutes. Fixed cells were washed with

DPBS and transferred to a humidifying chamber to prevent evaporation. Cells were blocked and

permeabilized in 2% BSA, 5% normal goat serum, 0.3% Triton-X in DPBS for 10 minutes.

Primary antibody was incubated overnight at 4ºC in the blocking buffer. After the removal of the

primary antibody, secondary antibody was placed and incubated at room temperature for one

hour. Coverslips were mounted face-down on 15 μL of Vectashield Vibrance Anti-Fade

Mounting Medium with DAPI (Fisher Scientific, Cat# NC1601054) on microscope slides. After

curing at room temperature for one hour, the sides were sealed with nail polish. Multichannel

images were taken using an excitation wavelength of 405 nm and 561 nm, with their respective

emission wavelength of 460 ± 50 nm and 617 ± 73 nm. Antibodies and dilutions used were as

follows: rabbit anti-FLAG (Cell Signaling Technology, Cat# 14793, 1:500) and anti-rabbit IgG

Highly Cross-Absorbed Alexa Fluor 561 (Invitrogen Cat# A-11036, 1:1000).

Statistical Analysis

The data were analyzed and plotted using GraphPad Prism 10 v10.5.0. Statistical significance

was determined using unpaired two-sided Student's t-test for two samples, ordinary one-way

ANOVA with post-hoc Dunnett's or Tukey's test for more than two samples, and Mann-Whitney

U test using a false discovery rate (FDR) of 0.01% and two-stage step-up method for non-normal

data. *P*-values under 0.05 were deemed significant with $*p < 0.05$, $**p < 0.01$ and $***p < 0.001$.

For global fit analyses using KinTek Explorer software (63), residuals were computed as the

difference between each datapoint and the mean. Normal distribution around zero indicated an

accurate fit of model to the data. Standard deviation was calculated from the data using the

equation $\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N-1} * \sum_{j=1}^{N-1}(x_j - \bar{x})^2}$, where $x_j - \bar{x}$ are residuals.

Confidence contour plots in Fig. 1F for k_{on} and k_{off} values, as well as for fluorescence scaling

factors *a* and *b*, were calculated using the FitSpace (64) function of the KinTek Explorer

software. The following output observable expression was used in data fitting: a*(E+(b*ES)),

where *a* is the scaling factor for the initial measured fluorescence and *b* is the scaling factor for

the fractional change in signal upon ligand binding. Confidence contour plots showed that

calculated parameters were well-constrained by the data (Fig. 1F).

Data Availability

All data supporting the findings in this study are provided in the figures and Supplementary files. Full view images and source data have been deposited to the Texas Data Repository, Cambronne XA Lab Dataverse, https://doi.org/10.18738/T8/DBSGWU.

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Author Contributions

S.G. and X.A.C. conceptualized this work; S.G., V.N., S.N.L. T.L.D., K.A.J. and X.A.C. designed research; S.G., V.N., S.N.L., T.L.D., W.Y, C.F., H.C., Y.M., L.C., N.R. and K.D. performed research; S.G., V.N., S.N.L., T.L.D., W.Y., K.A.J, and X.A.C analyzed data; S.G., V.N. and X.A.C. wrote the paper; all authors reviewed the paper; X.A.C. supervised the project and acquired the funds for this work.

Competing Interest Statement

S.G and X.A.C are inventors on a US patent application filed by The University of Texas at Austin covering the technology described here.

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Figure 1

Figure 1. Characterization of a biosensor for free ADPR

A) In vitro dose responses of recombinant Sensor and R98E control at 20°C and pH 7.4, normalized to 0 µM ADPR (F_0).

B) ADPR-dependent sensor responses at indicated pH, 20°C, normalized to lowest ADPR concentration (0.003 µM, F_0).

C) Temperature effect on fluorescence of sensor and R98E control.

D) Global fitting of stopped flow ADPR binding data. ADPR concentrations tested are listed to the right of the panel.

E) Histogram of residuals (dark blue) calculated from the simulated global fit (red line, σ ~0.02) compared to an ideal fit (cyan, σ ~0.03).

F) Confidence contour plots showing upper and lower limits based on min χ^2 threshold of 0.99 (dotted line), corresponding to the 95% confidence interval.

G) An ADPR molecule binds to *So*NrtR in extended conformation (PDB ID: 3GZ8).

H) Effects of different ligands on the ADPR sensor. Ligands were tested at 10 µM, except for ADP, AMP, ATP at 500 µM, $n = 39$ without and $n = 3$ with ligands.

Fluorescence data in A-C and H were measured using a fluorimeter at emission 520 ± 2 nm following excitation at 508 ± 2 nm, and plotted as mean $\pm$ SD, $n = 3$.

Figure 2

Figure 2. ADP-ribose concentration can be quantified in live cells

A) Biosensor cassette for green/red ratiometric measurements in cells.

B) Localized dual color ADPR sensor-mCardinal expression in stably transduced live HEK293T cells, scale bar 20 μm.

C) Standard curves measured with flow cytometry using cells expressing localized ADPR sensor-mCardinal and normalized to parallel green/red controls, mean ± SEM, $n = 3 - 4$.

D) Intrapolated concentration for (2'deoxy/phospho-)ADPR in nuclear, cytosol, myristorylated, and mitochondrial matrix compartments in HEK293T cells, mean ± SEM, $n = 7 - 20$ samples.

E) Estimated cytosolic concentration of (2'deoxy/phospho-)ADPR in different cell lines based on ratiometric intrapolation with the HEK293T standard curve, mean ± SEM, $n = 7 – 19$ samples.

F) Representative time-lapsed images of ADPR sensor-mCardinal stably expressed in live HEK293T cells at 34°C; arrow, addition of H_2O_2 (1 mM). Green and red channels are depicted separately, and image intensities were inverted and pseudo-colored for viewing, scale bar 20 μm.

G) Trajectories of ratiometric sensor readouts from individual cells analyzed by live confocal imaging, $n = 73$ cells; arrow, addition of H_2O_2 (1 mM).

H) Distribution of cells based on time to maximal ADPR sensor response.

Figure 3

Figure 3. ADPR dynamics are distinct from NAD$^+$ fluctuations

A) Ratiometric measurements from stably expressed cytosolic ADPR sensor-mCardinal in HEK293T cells at 34°C; dashed line, addition of H$_2$O$_2$. Data (imaging) are mean ± SEM, $n = 3$ experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

B) Treatment with PARP1/2 inhibitor, olaparib (5 µM) added at $t = 0$ min, $n = 3$ experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

C) Treatment with PARG inhibitor, PDD00017273 (10 µM) added at $t = 0$ min, $n = 3$ experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

D) Cytosolic NAD$^+$ levels measured in parallel with stably expressed ChemoG-NAD$_{JF635}$ biosensor, $n = 9 - 12$ experiments each containing 30 - 50 cells monitored over time with 100x lens .

E) NAD$^+$ levels with olaparib (5 µM) added at $t = 0$ min, $n = 11 - 12$ experiments each containing 30 - 50 cells monitored over time with 100x lens.

F) Effect of ectopic co-expression of cytosolic NUDT9 on cytosolic ADPR sensor, $n = 3$ experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

G) Response of ADPR sensor (cytosolic) in cells with depleted mitochondrial NAD$^+$, $n = 9$ experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

Figure 4

Figure 4. A threshold level of intracellular ADPR is required for TRPM2 activation.

A) Intracellular calcium measured with jGCaMP7s-IRES- hTRPM2 expressed via single-copy landing pad in HEK293T cells, dashed line, addition of H_2O_2. Data (imaging) are mean $\pm$ SEM, $n = 4$ - 5 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

B) Intracellular calcium with treatment with PARP1/2 inhibitor, olaparib (5 μM) added at $t =$ 0 min, $n = 4$ - 5 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

C) Quantified intracellular ADPR at 37°C using control-normalized measurements with the cytosolic sensor, obtained with the same flow cytometer used for the calibration curve in Fig. 2C. Baseline measurement (maroon) prior to addition of H_2O_2 (dashed line). Data (cytometer) are mean $\pm$ SEM, $n = 3$ experiments.

D) Quantified intracellular ADPR at 25°C (left) and at 4°C (right), similar to above.

Supporting Information for

Transient signaling of free ADP-ribose monitored with an intracellular biosensor

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This PDF includes:

Figures S1- S3.

Figure S1. Supplemental figure panels accompanying Figure 1. *Design and in-vitro characterization of ADPR Sensor and R98E Control*

Figure S2. Supplemental figure panels accompanying Figure 2. *Sensor normalization, identification of population to use for calibration, single cell measurements*

Figure S3. Supplemental figure panels accompanying Figure 3. *Reponses of localized sensor, responses of R98E controls, expression of $^{Flag}\Delta MTS$-NUDT9.*

Figure S1

A)

ADPR-bound soNrtR (PDB: 3GZ8)

apo soNrtR (PDB: 3GZ6)

B)

NrtR (1-118) | cpmVenus | NrtR (119-238)
D122N | | K435A, S436D

C)

ADPR-Sensor - 1.65 fold

pH
8.0
7.7
7.4
7.1
6.8
6.5

CpVenus - 5.5 fold

pH
8.0
7.7
7.4
7.1
6.8
6.5

D) Sensor/R98E Control

Temperature (°C)
● 20
■ 25
▲ 34
▼ 37
◆ 40

E) Experimental Data, non simulated

	k_{on}	k_{off}
1	1.42 ± 0.002	0.84 ± 0.001
2	1.41 ± 0.002	0.81 ± 0.001
3	1.43 ± 0.002	0.86 ± 0.001

F)

G) Control R98E

Figure S1. Supplemental figure panels accompanying main text Figure 1.
Design and in-vitro characterization of ADPR Sensor and R98E Control

A) Schematic of ADPR biosensor design.

B) Conformation of α-helix 2 when unbound (bottom, PDB 3GZ6) compared to ADPR-bound (top, PDB 3GZ8) (44).

C) pH effects on fluorescence brightness of the ADPR biosensor, left, compared to another fluorescent protein circularly permutated (cp)Venus, right.

D) Dose-dependent response of ADPR biosensor when normalized to the R98E control at indicated temperatures, $n = 3$.

E) Representative experimental dataset used for global fit simulation of sensor kinetics. Calculated experimental values across 3 replicates are indicated.

F) Representative experimental dataset represented as 1/fluorescence, compared to ADPR concentration.

G) Effect of ADPR and indicated molecules of R98E sensor control. All ligands were tested at 10 µM except AMP/ADP/ATP at 500 µM, reflecting their expected physiological intracellular concentrations, $n = 54$ without and $n = 3 - 6$ with ligands.

Figure S2

A)

	Heterogeneity Score	
	ADPR Sensor	R98E Control
Green Only	200 ± 26	200 ± 29
Green/Red Ratio	17 ± 2.4	16 ± 2.4

D) Cytosolic ADPR Sensor

Heterogeneity Score at 4 - 5 mins

H₂O₂	
1 mM	18
0 mM	6.8

G) Cytosolic R98E Control

Heterogeneity Score at 4 - 5 mins

H₂O₂	
1 mM	2.5
0 mM	3.7

Figure S2. Supplemental figure panels accompanying main text Figure 2. *Sensor normalization, identification of population to use for calibration, single cell measurements*

A) Quantitation using a heterogeneity score of the distribution of basal biosensor readouts across stably expressed cell lines when measured as green-only intensity compared to ratiometric green/red fluorescence. Heterogeneity Score = (interquartile range of the distribution)/ (geometric mean of distribution). Data mean scores ± SD from, $n = 40$ experiments each containing 10000 cells.

B) Three subpopulations can be resolved after cell permeabilization and equilibration with propidium iodide (PI) based on retention of biosensor green fluorescence and internalization of red PI, relative to untreated cells (grey). Only the "red" population was defined by green fluorescence and internalization of red PI, and only readouts from this subpopulation were included in the calibration curve, n = 10000 cells.

C) Biosensor variants with cytosolic, nuclear, and mitochondrial localization tags responded similarly to ADPR. Data (fluorimeter) mean ± SD, $n = 3$.

D) Individual traces of the cytosolic ADPR-mCardinal sensor across cells shown in 2G (n= 52 - 73), following addition of buffer or H_2O_2 (dashed line). Mean traces are bolded green and grey, and variability in the maxima between 4 - 5 minutes is indicated by heterogeneity scores below.

E) Maximum amplitude from ADPR-mCardinal sensor readouts in individual cells compared to mCardinal fluorescence in same cell (n= 73), $p = 0.5$

F) Trajectories of ratiometric R98E control measurements from individual cells analyzed by live confocal imaging, $n = 27 - 68$; arrow, addition of H_2O_2 (1 mM).

G) Individual traces of the cytosolic R98E control across cells (n= 27 - 68) following addition of buffer or H_2O_2 (dashed line). Mean traces are bolded green and grey; calculated heterogeneity scores from maxima between 4 - 5 minutes.

Figure S3

Figure S3. Supplemental figure panels accompanying main text Figure 3. *Reponses of localized sensor, responses of R98E controls, expression of* ^{Flag}*ΔMTS-NUDT9.*

A) Ratiometric measurements from stably expressed nuclear ADPR sensor-mCardinal in HEK293T cells; dashed line, addition of H_2O_2. Data (imaging, 34°C) are mean ± SEM, *n* = 3 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

B) Response from myristoylated ADPR sensor-mCardinal in HEK293T cells; Data (imaging, 34°C) are mean ± SEM, *n* = 3 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

C-G) Response from localized R98E-mCardinal controls as indicated, and with either Olaparib or PDD00017273 added at *t* = 0 min as indicated. Data (imaging, 34°C) are mean ± SEM, *n* = 3 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

H) Western blot depicting ectopic expression of ^{Flag}ADPR Sensor (MW 88.3 kDa) , ^{Flag}R98E Control (MW 88.3 kDa), or ^{Flag}ΔMTS-NUDT9 (MW 37.5 kDa) individually or co-expressed as indicated. Loading control, β-tubulin (MW 50.5 kDa).

I) Response from the R98E-mCardinal control to co-expression of ^{Flag}ΔMTS-NUDT9 *n* = 3 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.

J) Response from the R98E-mCardinal control in SLC25A51 KO HEK293 cells. *n* = 3 experiments each containing 750 - 1000 cells monitored over time with 10x lens.