

Supplementary data:

Mutations in the *Plasmodium falciparum* chloroquine resistance transporter, PfCRT, enlarge the parasite's food vacuole and alter drug sensitivities

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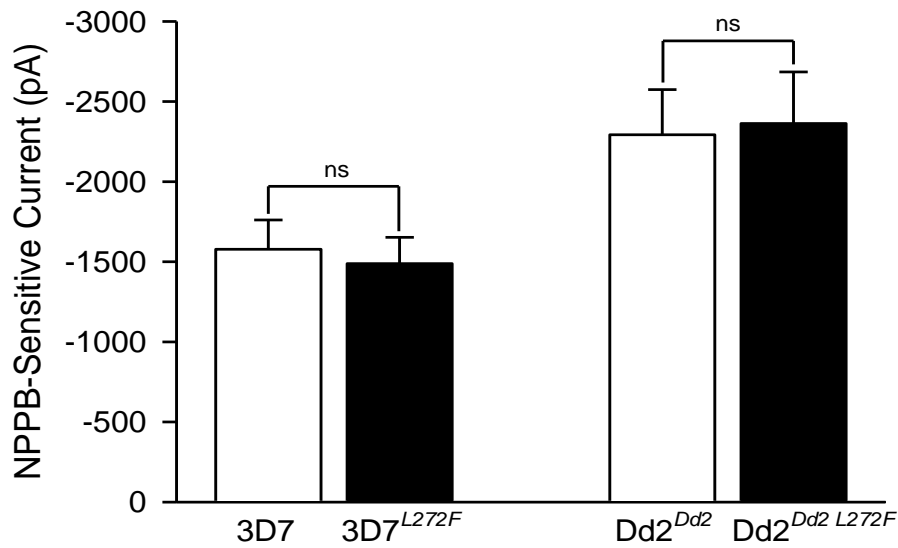
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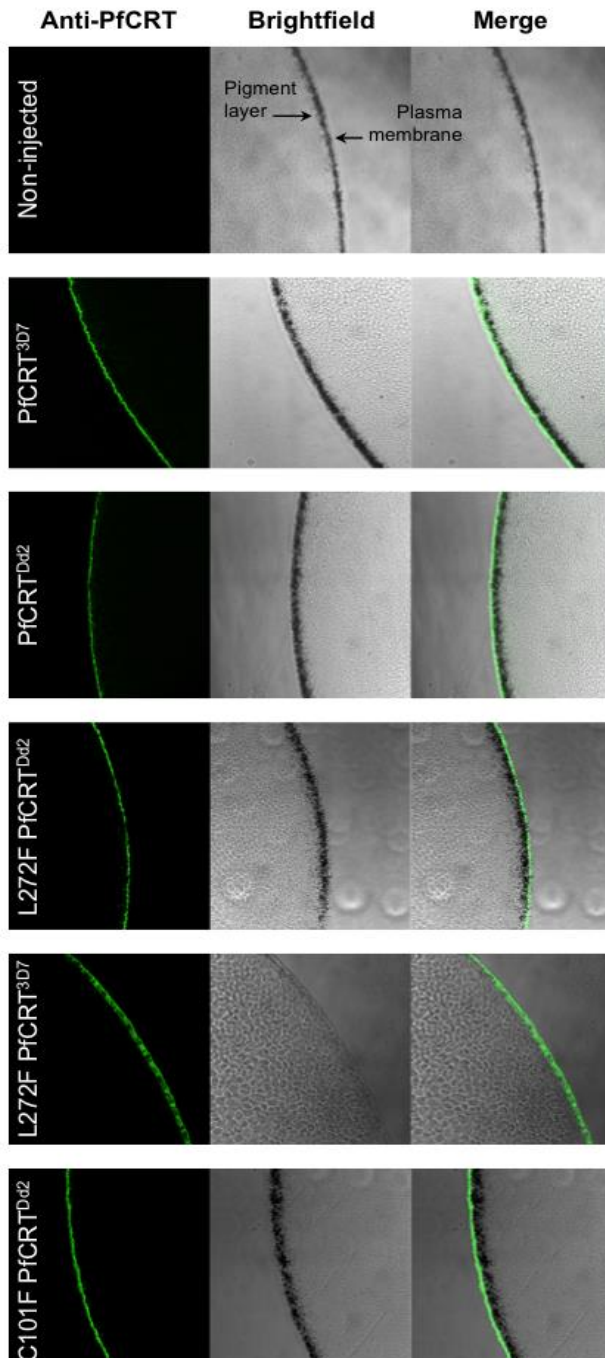
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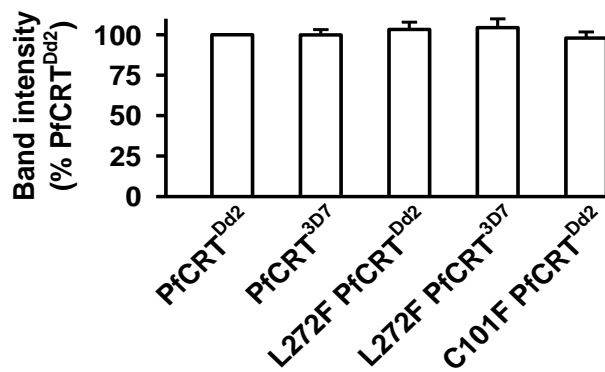
Supplementary Figure S1 | Electrophysiological properties of parasite lines.

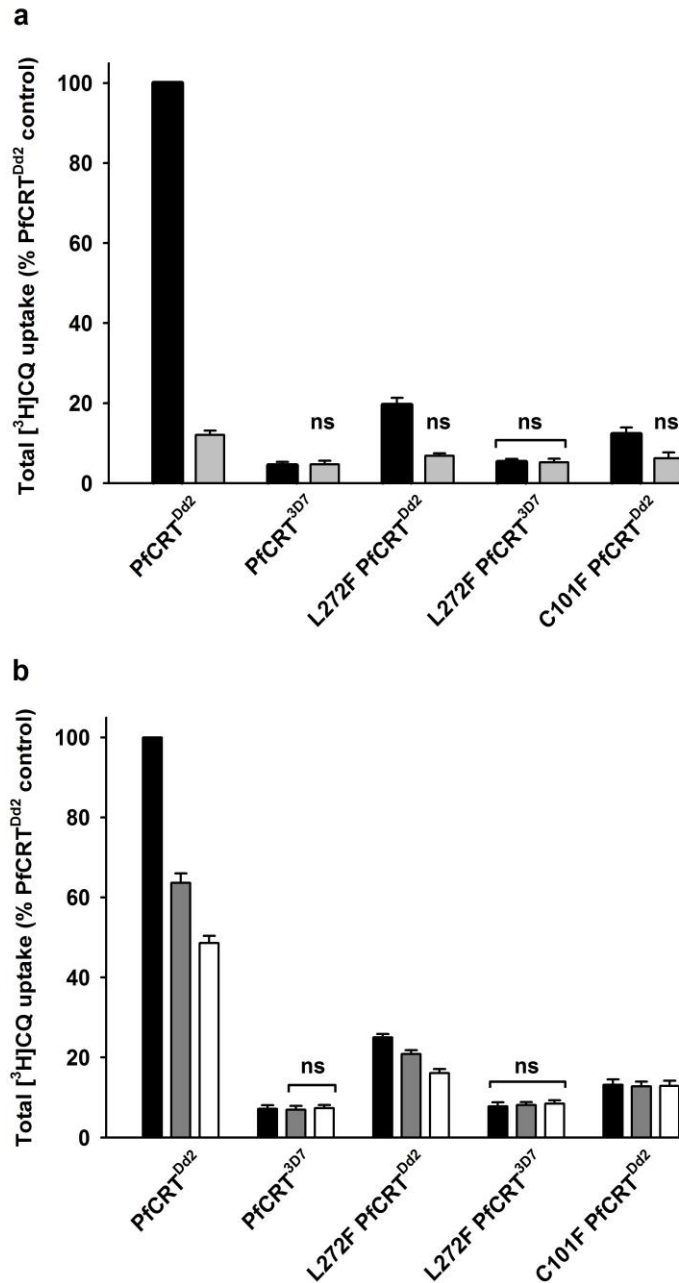
Plasmodium parasites are known to alter the permeability of their host's RBC plasma membrane¹. This altered permeability is characterised by increased transport of a range of structurally unrelated solutes, with a preference for anions over electroneutral and cationic solutes². Using electrophysiological technologies, infected RBCs exhibit greatly increased anionic currents, particularly at negative membrane potentials, that can be inhibited by non-specific anion transport blockers such as 5-nitro-2-(3-phenylpropylamino) benzoic acid (NPPB)³. BSD pressure has been shown to reduce parasite-induced RBC plasma membrane currents by altering expression of *clag3*.^{14, 5, 6}, thus electrophysiological studies were undertaken to compare 3D7 and 3D7^{L272F} and Dd2^{Dd2} and Dd2^{Dd2 L272F}-infected RBCs. The ruptured patch whole-cell voltage-clamp configuration was used to record membrane currents⁷. All experiments were performed at room temperature. Patch pipettes (tip resistances 6 to 12 MΩ) were prepared from borosilicate glass capillaries pulled and polished on a Werner Zeitz DMZ programmable puller. The bath solution contained 155 mM NaCl, 1.4 mM CaCl₂, 1 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM HEPES, 10 mM glucose (pH 7.4, 310 ± 5 mOsm/kg H₂O). The pipette solution was of the same composition, with the one exception that 1.4 mM CaCl₂ was replaced with 0.5 mM EGTA. A 2 ml aliquot of infected RBC suspension (0.001% hematocrit) was placed in a 35 mm Petri dish and left while the RBCs settled. Having obtained a seal (5-15 GΩ) on an infected RBC, the cell was lifted off the bottom of the dish and the patch ruptured by brief application of negative pressure, to attain the whole-cell configuration. Whole-cell currents were recorded using an Axopatch 200B amplifier (digitised at 10 kHz and filtered at 5 kHz with a 4-pole Bessel filter), with voltage command protocols generated and the currents analysed using the pCLAMP software suite (Version 10, Molecular Devices). Whole-cell current/voltage (I-V) curves were obtained by evoking a series of V_T values from -100 to +100 mV in 10 mV steps for 300 ms from a V_H of 0 mV. Current data were measured over the last 50 ms of each record (*i.e.* 250-300 ms). NPPB-sensitive currents at a V_T of -100 mV are shown. NPPB was used at a concentration of 100 μM, which on average inhibited 94 ± 2% of the total current (n = 25). Current data were not included if NPPB inhibition was not greater than 75%, suggesting loss of seal. No significant differences (ns) were found between 3D7 (n = 5) and 3D7^{L272F} (n = 5) and Dd2^{Dd2} (n = 7) and Dd2^{Dd2 L272F}-infected RBCs (n = 8), respectively, suggesting no alteration in the permeability of infected RBCs (Students's *t*-test; p > 0.5).

a

Supplementary Figure S2 | Expression of the C101F and L272F variants of PfCRT in *Xenopus* oocytes. (a)

Immunofluorescence microscopy was used to localize L272F PfCRT^{Dd2}, L272F PfCRT^{3D7}, and C101F PfCRT^{Dd2} in the oocyte. In each case, the expression of the PfCRT variant resulted in a fluorescent band external to the pigment layer, indicating that the protein was expressed in the oocyte plasma membrane. The band was not present in non-injected oocytes. **(b)** The level of PfCRT protein in the oocyte membrane was semiquantified using a western blot method⁸. The analysis included PfCRT^{Dd2} as a control, to which the other band intensity values were normalized. Levels of PfCRT protein are shown as mean + SEM from three to five separate experiments (in each experiment measurements were averaged from two independent replicates). There were no significant differences in expression levels between constructs ($p > 0.05$); hence, all of the PfCRT variants were present at similar levels in the oocyte membrane.

b



Supplementary Figure S3 | Total CQ transport activity of the C101F and L272F variants of PfCRT in *Xenopus* oocytes. (a,b) The uptake of [³H]CQ into oocytes expressing PfCRT was measured in the absence (closed bars) or presence of 250 μM VP (light grey bars; a), 100 μM BSD (dark grey bars; b), or 500 μM BSD (open bars; b). Within each experiment, measurements were made from 10 oocytes per treatment and uptake was expressed relative to that measured in the PfCRT^{Dd2}-expressing oocytes under control conditions. The normalized data obtained from 4-5 separate experiments (each using oocytes from different frogs) were then averaged and are shown + SEM. These data are total CQ uptake (*i.e.* both CQ accumulation attributable to diffusion and that via PfCRT). In the control treatments, the rates of CQ uptake (pmol/oocyte/h; $n = 9 \pm \text{SEM}$) in oocytes expressing PfCRT^{Dd2} and PfCRT^{3D7} were 23.6 ± 2.3 and 1.3 ± 0.2 , respectively. 'ns' denotes no significant difference ($p > 0.05$) in CQ accumulation between oocytes expressing a PfCRT variant (in the presence or absence of VP or BSD) and that measured in the PfCRT^{3D7}-expressing oocytes under control conditions.

Supplementary Table S1 | Primers used for sequencing of PfCRT in 3D7 parasites

| Name | Sequence (5' to 3') | Direction | Product (bp) |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Crt1 | CCGTTAATAATAAATACACGCAG | Forward | 540 |
| Crt2 | GTTCTTGTAAGACCTATGAAGGCC | Reverse | |
| Crt3 | ATCCATGTTAGATGCCTGTTTCAGTC | Forward | 479 |
| Crt4 | CCCAAGAATAAACATGCGAAACC | Reverse | |
| Crt5 | GCTTTTCAAACATGACAAGGG | Forward | 581 |
| Crt6 | CGACGTTGGTTAATTCTCCTTC | Reverse | |
| Crt7 | GTCTTATATTACCTGTATACACCC | Forward | 600 |
| Crt8 | CCTTATAAAGTGTAATGCGATAGC | Reverse | |

Supplementary Table S2 | PCR verification primers for transfection experiments

| Name | Sequence (5' to 3') |
|--------------|--|
| p3264 | CTTGAATTCGACCTTAACAGATGGCTCAC |
| p3265 | CTTATCGATAAGCAGAAGAACATATTAATAGGAATACTTAATTG |
| p3315 | CTCGAGATGGTTGGTTCGCTAAACTGC |
| p3403 | TTGACCCTTATATATTCCACCCA |
| p3404 | CTTGGGCCCAAGTTGTACTGCTTCTAAGC |
| p3527 | CCTGTATACACCCTTCCATTTTTAAAAGAATTTTCATTTACCATATAATGAAATATGGAC |
| p3528 | GTCCATATTTTCATTATATGGTAAATGAAATTCTTTTAAAAATGGAAGGGTGTATACAGG |

References - Supplementary data

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