we thought such controls to be. It is interesting to me as a nonscientist that so many scientists (I unjustifiably assume Rojas to be one) feel free to assert the truth of untested speculation. It may be that mortality is "the engine that propels us to do our best," but the only way to test such a hypothesis is to create some immortals and see what difference it makes.

Finally, Frank confesses to feeling shock at my Essay. I commented that, if increased life expectancy is a good, then justice does not require that if we cannot do good to everyone, we should do it to no one. In response, Frank says, "This argument seems ethically equivalent to the bald claim that an action is permissible because everyone is doing it." My argument was about justice and respect for persons. I nowhere suggested that longevity is a good, but put the point in conditional form. If longevity is a good, then neither justice nor respect for persons demands that when we cannot provide a good for everyone, we should provide it for no one. When I pointed out that "we do not refuse kidney transplants to some patients because we cannot provide them for all," I was illustrating the wide acceptance of this truth but, of course, wide acceptance of kidney transplants does not make them good. They are good because they save lives. As for Frank's suggestions as to what I should and should not approve of, they do not appear to be based on the essence of my arguments. I nowhere suggested that things are OK because "everyone's always done it," nor do I justify longevity treatments. I simply pointed out some of the ethical problems that will attend attempts to deny such treatments to those that might seek them and the problems that society will face if such treatments become available.

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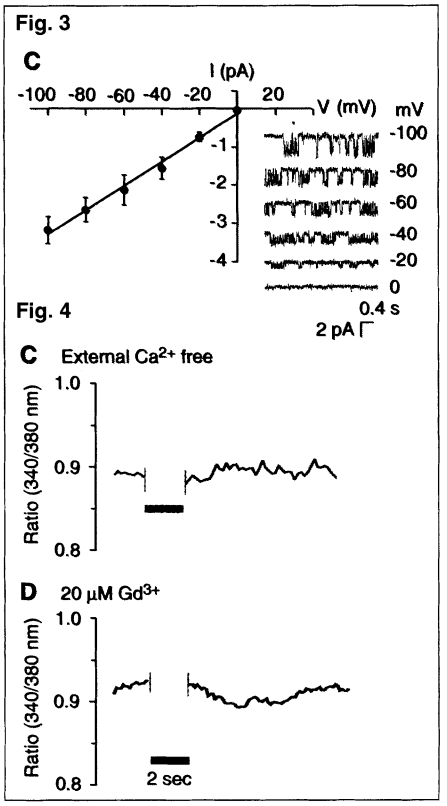
Report Clarification

In the report "Molecular identification of a eukaryotic, stretch-activated nonselective cation channel" by M. Kanzaki *et al.* (6 Aug. 1999, p. 882), we mistakenly presented three incorrect traces in Figs. 3 and 4.

In Fig. 3C, the trace at –100 mV was wrong. When we performed this experiment, we saved each trace obtained at various holding potentials in two ways, using Igor Pro (wave matrics). First, we picked up an area (5 s by 10 pA) and pasted it into an area of 13 cm by 7 cm (Series 1). Next, we picked up an area (6 s by 9 pA) and pasted it into an area of 13 cm by 7 cm (Series 2). As a result, the traces of Series 2 were compressed in width and enlarged in amplitude compared with the traces of Series 1. We made the two separate series of data so that we could compare the two series of traces and select the one with better appearance. When making the final version of the traces as an insert for Fig. 3C, we used the traces at 0, –20, –40, –60, and –80 mV from Series 1, but for the –100-mV trace, we incorrectly used the trace at –80 mV from Series 2 instead of the trace at –100 mV of Series 1.



The trace of Fig. 4C was also wrong. During arrangement of the final version of this panel, we placed Fig. 4A instead of the true Fig. 4C. A corrected panel was published earlier (Corrections and Clarifications, 3 Sept. 1999, p. 1493).

In Fig. 4D, we took part of the original control data (which appeared in panel A) by mistake and processed it with a running average method.

The correct traces are shown here. We deeply apologize for having presented the erroneous figures and thank the readers who pointed out the mistakes.

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Editors' note

The above explanations were received after several exchanges with the authors.