The KIR (for inwardly rectifying potassium channel) family of potassium channels possesses a greater tendency to allow potassium to flow into the cell rather than out of it. The KIR2 subunit family includes 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4. Unlike G protein-coupled KIR3 subunits, KIR2.1 requires both phosphorylation by PKA and ATP hydrolysis for functional activity. KIR2.1 is expressed in the superior and inferior collicula and the pontine region of the brain, where it moderates synaptic transmission, like many other potassium channels. In the placenta, KIR2.1 is expressed throughout gestation in cytotrophoblast cells. In the kidney, KIR2.1 colocalizes with KIR5.1 in the proximal tubule. KIR2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 associate with the membrane-associated guanylate kinase synapse-associated protein 97 in the cerebellum and heart. Phosphorylation of KIR2.2 by protein kinase A inhibits the associates with SAP97. Arachidonic acid increases current amplitude in KIR2.3 activity but does not affect the activity of KIR2.1, 2.2 or 2.4. KIR2.4 is abundantly expressed in the neuronal retina and is sensitive to changes in extracellular pH.

REFERENCES

CHROMOSOMAL LOCATION
Genetic locus: KCNJ2 (human) mapping to 17q24.3; Kcnj2 (mouse) mapping to 11 E2.

SOURCE
KIR2.1 (H-40) is a rabbit polyclonal antibody raised against amino acids 378-417 mapping within a C-terminal cytoplasmic domain of KIR2.1 of human origin.

PRODUCT
Each vial contains 200 µg IgG in 1.0 ml of PBS with < 0.1% sodium azide and 0.1% gelatin.