





Review

# TRPC Channels in the SOCE Scenario

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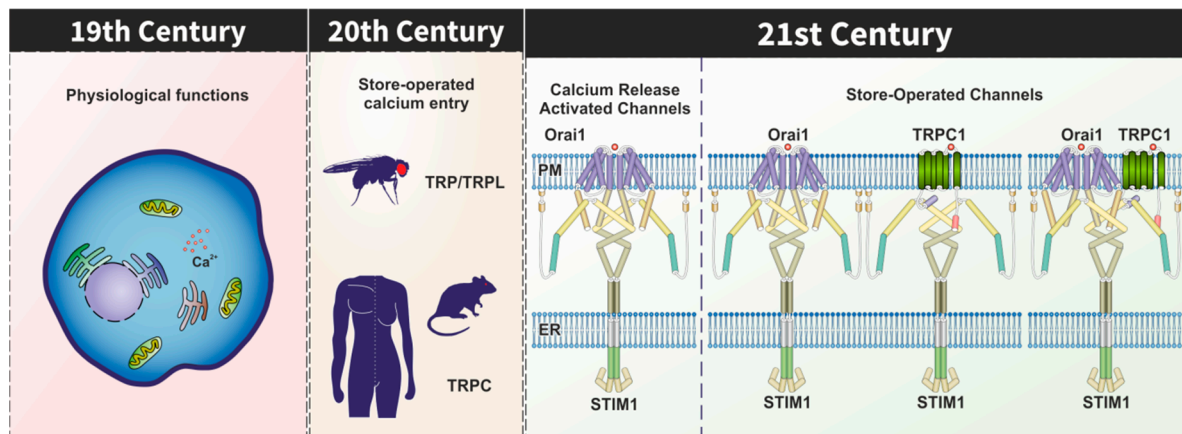


**Abstract:** Transient receptor potential (TRP) proteins form non-selective Ca<sup>2+</sup> permeable channels that contribute to the modulation of a number of physiological functions in a variety of cell types. Since the identification of TRP proteins in *Drosophila*, it is well known that these channels are activated by stimuli that induce PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis. The canonical TRP (TRPC) channels have long been suggested to be constituents of the store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> (SOC) channels; however, none of the TRPC channels generate Ca<sup>2+</sup> currents that resemble *I*<sub>CRAC</sub>. STIM1 and Orai1 have been identified as the components of the Ca<sup>2+</sup> release-activated Ca<sup>2+</sup> (CRAC) channels and there is a body of evidence supporting that STIM1 is able to gate Orai1 and TRPC1 in order to mediate non-selective cation currents named *I*<sub>SOCE</sub>. STIM1 has been found to interact to and activate Orai1 and TRPC1 by different mechanisms and the involvement of TRPC1 in store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry requires both STIM1 and Orai1. In addition to the participation of TRPC1 in the *I*<sub>SOCE</sub> currents, TRPC1 and other TRPC proteins might play a relevant role modulating Orai1 channel function. This review summarizes the functional role of TRPC channels in the STIM1–Orai1 scenario.

**Keywords:** TRPC1; STIM1; Orai1; calcium influx; store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry (SOCE)

## 1. Introduction

The relevance of Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx in cellular physiology was revealed by Ringer in the early 1880s [1] and was almost a century later when store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry (SOCE), also known as capacitative Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry, was identified [2] (Figure 1). SOCE is a singular mechanism for Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx as it is activated by discharge of the intracellular agonist-sensitive Ca<sup>2+</sup> stores unlike other Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry pathways activated by physical changes of the plasma membrane (PM) or direct chemical stimulation of the channels. A number of store-operated currents with different biophysical properties have been described; among them, the first identified and best characterized one is the highly Ca<sup>2+</sup> selective Ca<sup>2+</sup> release-activated Ca<sup>2+</sup> current (*I*<sub>CRAC</sub>). *I*<sub>CRAC</sub> is a non-voltage activated, inwardly rectifying, current initially described in mast cells upon depletion of the intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> pools by means of stimulation with inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate (IP<sub>3</sub>), ionomycin, or excess of EGTA [3]. As mentioned before, *I*<sub>CRAC</sub> is not the only store-operated current and a variety of store-operated currents grouped under the term *I*<sub>SOCE</sub> have been reported in different cell types, which differ from *I*<sub>CRAC</sub> in several biophysical features (see Table 1), including that *I*<sub>SOCE</sub> are not selective for Ca<sup>2+</sup> and exhibit greater conductance than *I*<sub>CRAC</sub> (for a review, see [4]). Since the identification of SOCE, two main issues attracted considerable attention and interest: (1) the molecular basis of the communication between the intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> stores and the channels in the PM and (2) the nature of the store-operated channels.



**Figure 1.** Milestones in the characterization of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry. In the early 1880s, Ringer revealed the functional role of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry in heart contraction. About a century later, store-operated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry (SOCE) was discovered and, by that time, transient receptor potential (TRP) channels were identified, first in *Drosophila* and then in mammals. In 2005 and 2006 STIM1 and Orai1, the key components of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release-activated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (CRAC) channels, were identified, and canonical TRP (TRPC) channels were found to participate in a non-selective store-operated current together with STIM1 and Orai1. The model represents two alternatives for the involvement of TRPC in the store-operated channels.

Back to 1969, Cosens et al. identified a spontaneous *Drosophila* mutant with altered electroretinogram [5] that was attributed to a mutation of the so called transient receptor potential (TRP) channel that resulted in transient, rather than sustained, light-dependent depolarization of the photoreceptors upon  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry [6]. *Drosophila* TRP and its homologue TRPL were characterized as  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  permeable channels activated downstream of phospholipase C [7]. In 1995, two separate groups identified the first human homolog of the *Drosophila* TRP channel, TRPC1 [8,9]. After the characterization of TRPC1, a number of homologs were identified in mammalian cells and grouped into six subfamilies: TRPC (canonical) comprising seven members (TRPC1-TRPC7), TRPV (vanilloid) including subtypes TRPV1 to TRPV6, TRPM (melastatin), which comprises eight members (TRPM1-TRPM8), TRPA (ankyrin) consisting of only one member TRPA1 and TRPP (polycystin) as well as TRPML (mucolipin) comprising three members each (revised in [10,11]).

The basic structure of TRP channels consists of six transmembrane helical domains (TM1 through TM6) with a loop between TM5 and TM6 forming the channel pore and N- and C-terminal regions located in the cytosol. TRP channels are thought to tetramerize to form a 24-helix functional protein complex. Mammalian TRP channels exhibit different functional domains, including a variable number of N-terminal ankyrin repeats present in TRPC, TRPV and TRPA that is involved in protein-protein interaction (revised in [10,12,13]). Remarkably, three members of the TRPM subfamily contain a catalytic kinase domain in the C-terminal region and TRPC and TRPM channels exhibit a conserved TRP domain adjacent to TM6, containing a highly conserved sequence named TRP box, involved in signal transduction coupling and channel gating [14]. In addition, a number of mammalian TRP members contain N- and/or C-terminal coiled-coil domains that play an important role in channel multimerization [15] as well as the interaction of TRPC channels with the endoplasmic reticulum (ER)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  sensor STIM1 [16]. TRPC members contain a C-terminal calmodulin (CaM)- and inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor ( $\text{IP}_3\text{R}$ )-binding (CIRB) site, which participates in the regulation of TRPC channel function [17,18].

TRP channels are mostly non-selective cation channels that are permeable to both monovalent and divalent cations with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  to  $\text{Na}^+$  permeability ratios ranging from 0.01 to over 100 [19]. The pore-forming TM5–TM6 loop has been reported to be highly conserved among all TRP members, and contains several hydrophobic residues at the beginning of the channel pore. TRP channel gating occurs in response to a variety of physical and chemical stimuli and leads to both rises in cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$

concentration and membrane depolarization, which, in turn, activate a number of cellular functions. TRP-induced membrane depolarization might also decrease the driving force for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx through other channels (see Section 3).

Since the identification of the mammalian TRP channels, a considerable attention has been focused on the role of TRPC1 and other TRPC channels as candidates to conduct  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx during SOCE.

**Table 1.** Biophysical features of store-operated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels. Notes: STIM1 CMD: STIM1 calcium modulating domain; DVF: divalent-free solution; n/d: not determined; STIM1 SOAR: STIM1Orai1-activating region.

	Orai1 Channels	Orai1-TRPC Channels	References
Current Voltage (I–V) profile	Inwardly rectifying	Inwardly rectifying	[20–22]
	Positive reversal potential ~ + 50 mV	Positive reversal potential 0 to ~ + 10 mV	
Permeability and Selectivity	$\text{Ca}^{2+}$	$\text{K}^+$ , $\text{Na}^+$ , $\text{Cs}^+$ , $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ and $\text{Ba}^{2+}$	[4,23]
	Low to $\text{Cs}^{3+}$		
	Conduct $\text{Na}^+$ , $\text{Li}^+$ and $\text{K}^+$ in DVF solutions		
Activation	Store depletion via STIM1 SOAR region	Store depletion via STIM1 SOAR and polibasic C-terminus regions	[24,25]
Endogenous current size	0.1–0.2 pA/pF at –100 mV		[26]
Fast Inactivation	$\text{Ca}^{2+}$		[27,28]
	STIM1 CMD	n/d	
	Orai1 68–91 aa Orai1 137–173 aa		
Slow inactivation	Mitochondria		[29–31]
	STIM1 390–391 aa	n/d	
Inhibitors	SARAF		[32–37]
	2-APB (30–50 $\mu\text{M}$ )		
	$\text{La}^{3+}$ and $\text{Gd}^{3+}$ (100 $\mu\text{M}$ )		
	Low pH = 6.7	n/d	
	Synta 66		
	GSK-7975A GSK-5503A		
AnCOA4 (~5 $\mu\text{M}$ )			

## 2. TRPC Channels in the STIM1–Orai1 Scenario

A new scenario emerged in the study of SOCE after the identification of Orai1 and Stim1 as the key components of the CRAC ( $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release-activated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels). STIM1 was identified as the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  sensor in the ER which communicates the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  content of the stores to the channels in the plasma membrane, while Orai1 was identified as the pore subunit of the CRAC channel in the plasma membrane [38–41]. The expression of splice variants of STIM1 and Orai1 with functional and biophysical differences have been demonstrated in mammalian cells. STIM1L, a longer splice variant of STIM1 described in adult human muscle fibers, displays a fast full SOCE activation compared to STIM1 [42]. Regarding to Orai1, two different variants generated by alternative translation initiation, Orai1 $\alpha$  and Orai1 $\beta$ , have been shown to drive  $I_{\text{CRAC}}$  and  $I_{\text{SOC}}$  currents [43,44]. In addition to these variants, mammalian cells also express other STIM and Orai isoforms involved in the generation of  $I_{\text{CRAC}}$  currents. STIM2 is a more sensitive ER  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  sensor than STIM1, but it promotes a weaker CRAC

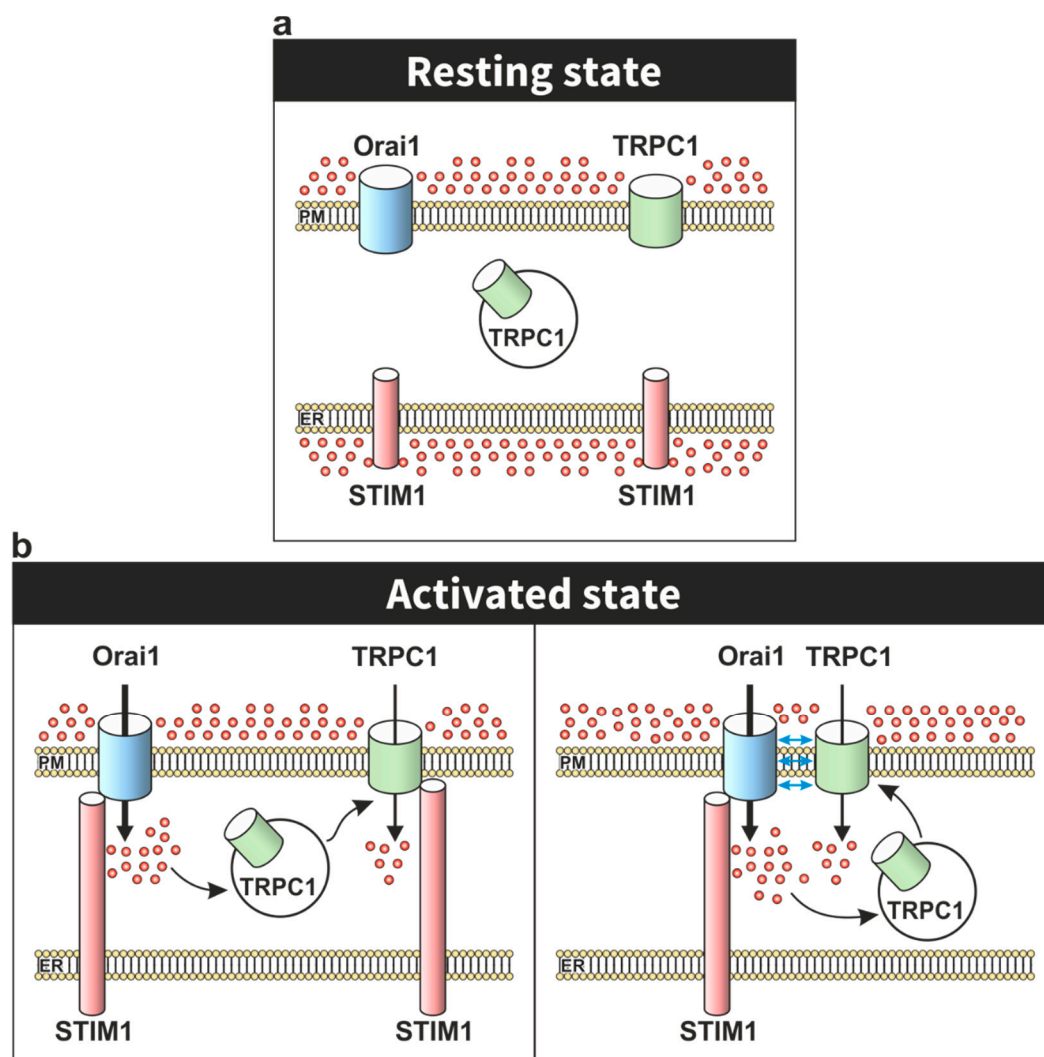
channel activation [45]. Three variants of STIM2, (STIM 2.1, STIM2.2, and STIM2.3) with different roles in the modulation of SOCE have been identified. While STIM2.1 has been described to play an inhibitory role, STIM2.2 has been shown as an activator of SOCE. The function of the STIM2.3 variant still remains unclear [46,47]. Orai2 and Orai3 proteins have also been shown to drive  $I_{CRAC}$  currents after depletion of the intracellular stores [48–50] and their regulation and physiological role are less known as compared to Orai1. Therefore, it is currently widely established that the Orai-STIM complex, mainly Orai1-STIM1, constitutes the highly selective CRAC channel.

TRPC1 was the first candidate proposed as SOC channel in Chinese hamster ovary cells [51] and monkey COS cells [52] by the expression of TRPC1A, a splice variant of TRPC1, and the expression of a full-length cDNA encoding human TRPC1, respectively. In both cases, the consequence was an increased SOCE after depletion of the intracellular  $Ca^{2+}$  stores. Later, the role of TRPC1 as the SOC channel was confirmed using different approaches in a large number of human cells, including submandibular gland cells [53], endothelial cells [54] and platelets [55], among others. However, the involvement of TRPC channels in SOCE has long been controversial with different studies providing evidence against a functional role of TRPC channels in SOCE. For instance, overexpression of TRPC channels, including TRPC3 [56,57], has been found to induce non-capacitative  $Ca^{2+}$  entry downstream of phospholipase C in a variety of cell models. A major problem for the involvement of TRPC channels in SOCE is that these channels cannot reproduce the biophysical properties of  $I_{CRAC}$ . Nevertheless, as  $I_{CRAC}$  is not the only store-operated  $Ca^{2+}$  current, this observation does not rule out the possibility that TRPC channels also participate in SOCE under certain scenarios, such as the assembly with the STIM1-Orai1 complex. In the new STIM1-Orai1 scenario for SOCE, it was soon reported that both proteins together with TRPC1 are assembled to form a dynamic STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 ternary complex that drives the  $I_{SOC}$  current [22,58–60]. Upon store depletion, STIM1 activation promotes its oligomerization and translocation to the ER-PM junctions where it binds Orai1 [58,59] and TRPC1 [59,61,62] in lipid rafts domains, gating both  $Ca^{2+}$  channels [63,64]. STIM1 mediates Orai1 activation by the interaction of the cytosolic STIM1-Orai1 activation region (SOAR) of STIM1 [24] with two STIM1-binding sites located at the C- and N-termini of Orai1 [65–67]. The SOAR region is also required for STIM1-TRPC1 interaction; however, it is not sufficient to activate TRPC1 [24]. The activation of TRPC1 requires electrostatic interaction between highly positively charged lysines ( $^{684}KK^{685}$ ) located in polybasic lysine-rich domain (K-domain) of the STIM1 C-terminus with the conserved, negatively charged, aspartate residues in TRPC1 ( $^{639}DD^{640}$ ) and equivalent residues in other TRPC channels [25]. However, there is no evidence about the domains of Orai1 and TRPC1 involved in their interaction, suggesting that TRPC1-Orai1 binding could be indirectly mediated by STIM1 or still unidentified adaptor proteins [68,69].

The first evidence of the dynamic assembly of the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 ternary complex was found using immunofluorescence and confocal microscopy assay in human salivary gland cells. In resting conditions, STIM1 shows a diffused cytosolic localization while TRPC1 is located in the PM colocalizing with Orai1, although it is also expressed in the cytosolic region. After  $Ca^{2+}$  store depletion, STIM1 co-localized in the PM with both proteins, TRPC1 and Orai1, without modifying the TRPC1 and Orai1 colocalization [59]. Different studies have demonstrated that a functional Orai1 plays an essential role in the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 complex formation using different approaches. In human platelets, the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 ternary complex formation, including Orai1-STIM1 binding, was demonstrated using immunoprecipitation assays and the electrotransfection with an anti-Orai1 C-terminal antibody impairs the interaction between STIM1 and TRPC1, as well as SOCE activation after intracellular  $Ca^{2+}$  store depletion [58]. In Orai1 knockdown HEK-293 by siRNA-mediated gene silencing, cell transfection with the dominant negative mutants Orai1 E106Q or Orai1R91W, but not with a functional Orai1 construct, failed to restore SOCE [22,60]. Concerning Orai1 splicing variants, an elegant study demonstrated that both variants of Orai1, Orai1 $\alpha$  and Orai1 $\beta$ , are equally involved in the generation of  $I_{SOC}$  currents in HEK-293 transfected with STIM1, TRPC1 and either Orai1 $\alpha$  or Orai1 $\beta$  [43]. This finding suggests that the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 complex might include both Orai1 $\alpha$  or Orai1 $\beta$  proteins.

A model proposed by Cheng and coworkers, in human salivary gland cells, suggests that depletion of intracellular stores promotes  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx via Orai1-STIM1 complex, providing a local increase in free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration that induces the translocation of TRPC1 to the vicinity of the STIM1-Orai1 complex (Figure 2). Beyond the activation of TRPC1 by STIM1, this transition also leads to the association of TRPC1 and Orai1 in the same complex. Interestingly, this model could explain the essential role of Orai1 and the lack of strong evidence supporting the direct association between Orai1 and TRPC1 in the assembly of the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 complex [69]. Besides different biophysical properties, the Orai1-STIM1 complex to mediate the  $I_{\text{CRAC}}$  current and the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 ternary complex to mediate the  $I_{\text{SOC}}$  current also display specific temporal and spatial  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  oscillatory patterns involved in the activation of different physiological functions and in the pathogenesis of a number of diseases (revised in [70]). For instance, Orai1-STIM1-mediated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry promotes the activation and nuclear translocation of the NFAT (nuclear factor of activated T-cells) transcription factor, while a TRPC1-dependent  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry is responsible for NF- $\kappa$ B transcription factor activation in human submandibular gland cells [71]. STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1-mediated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry is also required for platelet aggregation [72], insulin release [73], adipocyte differentiation and adiponectin secretion [74], among other functions. Moreover, STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1-dependent  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  currents have been associated to the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  mobilization responsible for the development of distinct cancer hallmarks in different cancer cell types, including prostate cancer cells [75] and colon cancer cells [76,77], while STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1-TRPC4-mediated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  currents are involved in the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  remodelling involved in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in rat ventricular myocytes [78]. A more recent study has reported that in anterior pituitary (AP) cells from Orai1-lacking mice TG-induced SOCE as well as  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry evoked by TRH and LHRH were impaired, by contrast, SOCE was unaffected in AP cells from mice lacking expression of all seven TRPC channels, although spontaneous intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -oscillations associated to electrical activity as well as  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  responses to TRH and GHRH were significantly reduced in the absence of TRPC channels, thus suggesting that SOCE might function independently of TRPC channels and that Orai1 and TRPC channels, such as TRPC1, might play different functional roles [79].

Despite the findings that proposed the STIM1-Orai1-TRPC1 ternary complex as the SOC channel, different observations suggest that ORAI1-STIM1 and TRPC1-STIM1 complexes can also drive  $I_{\text{SOC}}$  currents depending on the cell type and the components of its  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  signalling toolkit. Hence in cells with a robust  $I_{\text{CRAC}}$ , such as Jurkat cells, the Orai1-STIM1 complex is involved in both  $I_{\text{CRAC}}$  and  $I_{\text{SOC}}$  currents [22]. Furthermore, different studies have shown that TRPC1 interacts with STIM1 forming a complex without the involvement of Orai1 to mediate SOCE in vascular smooth muscle cells with a contractile phenotype [80]. In human myotubes, where Orai1 has been reported to be essential for SOCE and differentiation [81,82], the TRPC1-TRPC4-STIM1L complex has been reported to form a SOC channel whose  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  inward current is required for human myogenesis and to maintain fast repetitive  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  release in human myotubes [83]. Interestingly, the integration of Orai1 in this complex promotes an enhanced  $I_{\text{CRAC}}$ -like current involved in the development of the hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in rat ventricular myocytes, as described above [78].



**Figure 2.** Cartoon depicting the activation of TRPC1 channels upon  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  store depletion. (a) In the resting state, TRPC1 shows both plasma membrane and cytosolic localization. (b) Upon  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  store depletion,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx via Orai1 has been reported to induce the translocation of intracellularly-located TRPC1 to the plasma membrane where it might be activated by STIM1. The model shows two alternatives for functional (mediating  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry for the translocation of TRPC1 to the plasma membrane; left panel) or direct participation of Orai1 in the activation of TRPC1 (forming a STIM1–Orai1–TRPC1 ternary complex; right panel).

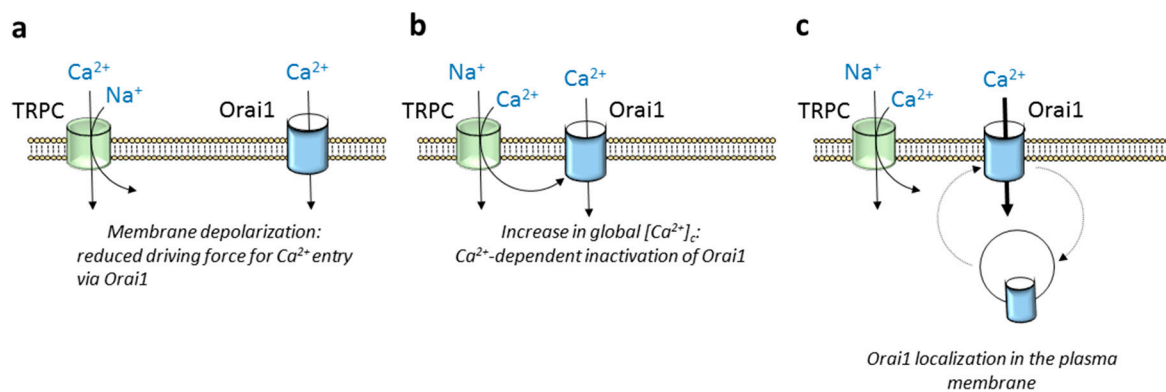
### 3. Modulation of Orai1 Function by TRPC Channels

As mentioned previously, TRPC channels, especially TRPC1 [22,58,70,77] but also other members of the TRPC subfamily, such as TRPC4 [84,85] and TRPC6 [86–89], have been reported to conduct  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry upon  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  store depletion. However, there is a growing body of evidence indicating that TRPC channels play a more complex role shaping  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  signals through Orai1 channels.

TRPC5 and TRPC6 show the greatest selectivity for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  relative to  $\text{Na}^{+}$  of the TRPC subfamily with  $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{Na}^{+}$  permeability ratios around 9 and 5, respectively, while TRPC4 and TRPC1 are approximately equally permeable to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^{+}$  [90]. The latter means that TRPC channel gating leads to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^{+}$  influx in favor of an electrochemical gradient, which, in turn, might attenuate the inward flux of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  through Orai1 channels in two different manners: (1) inducing  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent inactivation of the Orai1 channels and (2) attenuating the driving force for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry as a result of membrane depolarization (Figure 3a,b). Concerning the first issue, fast  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent Orai1 inactivation has been suggested to be evoked by the interaction of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entering through the channel itself to cytosolic

inactivating sites in close proximity to the channel pore [91,92]; however, slow inactivation of Orai1 channels is associated to global increases in cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration [93] that might be influenced by opening of TRPC channels in the vicinity of Orai1. In tumor cells with a gain of function of TRPC channels, in addition to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry,  $\text{Na}^{+}$  influx has been associated to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  efflux from the mitochondria due to exchange for  $\text{Na}^{+}$ , thus resulting in further  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent inactivation of Orai1 channels (revised in [94]). Furthermore, the opening of TRPC channels might increase the amount of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  available to SERCA (sarco/endoplasmic reticulum  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -ATPase) pumps and, therefore, store refilling, thus accelerating the deactivation of Orai1 channels. On the other hand, it has long been reported that TRP channel opening results in membrane depolarization. A well-known depolarizing TRP channel is TRPM4, which has been found to depolarize T lymphocytes [95]. Membrane depolarization induced by TRPC channel gating has been associated to a functional activation of voltage-dependent  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels in electrically excitable cells [96,97]. In addition, depolarization evoked by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^{+}$  influx through TRPC channels leads to subsequent attenuation of the driving force for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry via Orai1 channels.

TRPC channels have also been reported to modulate the localization of other  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -permeable channels in the plasma membrane. Schindl and coworkers have reported that co-expression of TRPC1 with TRPV6 down-regulates the plasma membrane expression of the latter [98]. TRPC channels has been found to be involved in the modulation of cytoskeletal rearrangements [99]. We have recently reported that TRPC6 modulates the plasma membrane expression of Orai1 and Orai3 channels in triple negative and luminal, respectively, breast cancer cells. Thus, attenuation of the expression of TRPC6, either by using interference RNA or by cell treatment with the phenolic compound oleocanthal, results in a significant decrease in SOCE in these cells [100,101]. TRPC6-dependent plasma membrane recycling of Orai1 is entirely dependent on  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^{+}$  influx through TRPC6 channels as it is abolished by expression of the pore-dead dominant-negative TRPC6 mutant [100] (Figure 3c). Whether this mechanism is mediated by cytoskeletal remodeling remains to be determined.



**Figure 3.** Overview of the modulation of Orai1 by TRPC channels. Orai1 channel function might be positively or negatively regulated by TRPC channels in the vicinity. (a)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^{+}$  entry through TRPC channels might lead to membrane depolarization and thus attenuation of the electrical gradient that favors  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx via Orai1. (b)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  entry via TRPC channels participates in global rises in  $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i$ , thus leading to  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent inactivation of Orai1 channels. (c) Some TRPC channels are required for Orai1 recycling at the plasma membrane.

#### 4. Conclusions

TRP proteins form non-selective cation channels that play an important role in a variety of cellular functions and sensory transduction. The identification of STIM1 and Orai1 revealed the key components of the CRAC channels that mediate store-operated and highly  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -selective currents. However, STIM1 and Orai1 alone are unable to support the store-mediated non-selective cation currents described in a number of cell types and that is when TRPC1 channels play an important role as constituents of the SOC channels. In addition to the role of TRPC1 in SOCE, TRPC channels also

regulate the function of Orai1 in different manners, thus suggesting that TRPC channels play relevant functional roles in the STIM1-Orai1 scenario.

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