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Takahirō Seki, Tatsuhiro Onogi,
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Masamichi Satoh

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About the cover: Targeting of δ-opioid receptor to surface membranes. COS-1 cells were transfected with a mouse δ-opioid receptor mutant (D128A), for which the conserved aspartate in the third membrane domain is replaced by alanine. Cells were double-labeled with fluorescein-conjugated concanavalin A to label the plasma membrane (green) and with an anti-δ-opioid receptor antibody followed by rhodamine-conjugated streptavidin (red). Yellow shows the region of colocalization. This mutant exhibited reduced expression and subtle changes in its ability to bind certain agonist ligands. From Befort, K., L. Tabbara, S. Bausch, C. Chavkin, C. Evans, and B. Kieffer. The conserved aspartate residue in the third putative transmembrane domain of the δ-opioid receptor is not the anionic counterpart for cationic opiate binding but is a constituent of the receptor binding site. Mol. Pharmacol. 49: 216–223 (1996).