***eLife’s* transparent reporting form**

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**Sample-size estimation**

* You should state whether an appropriate sample size was computed when the study was being designed
* You should state the statistical method of sample size computation and any required assumptions
* If no explicit power analysis was used, you should describe how you decided what sample (replicate) size (number) to use

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No large samples were studied.

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* You should report how often each experiment was performed
* You should include a definition of biological versus technical replication
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* High-throughput sequence data should be uploaded before submission, with a private link for reviewers provided (these are available from both GEO and ArrayExpress)

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* Statistical analysis methods should be described and justified
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* Report exact p-values wherever possible alongside the summary statistics and 95% confidence intervals. These should be reported for all key questions and not only when the p-value is less than 0.05.

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In Figure 1-figure supplement 3 where this applies, error bars represent SEM.

(For large datasets, or papers with a very large number of statistical tests, you may upload a single table file with tests, Ns, etc., with reference to sections in the manuscript.)

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* Indicate how samples were allocated into experimental groups (in the case of clinical studies, please specify allocation to treatment method); if randomization was used, please also state if restricted randomization was applied
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EM density maps are deposited to EMDB with the accession codes EMD-8922 and EMD-8923 for the whole map and ECD map respectively, structure of the triheteromeric receptor has been deposited to the RCSB PDB with the PDB ID 6DW0 and 6DW1 for the whole map model and ECD map model respectively.