

5th Barcelona Lecture Series in

Brain, Cognition & Behaviour



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The implications of dopaminergic transmission in musical pleasure and memory

Music represents a unique type of reward. Previous research has consistently shown that music-evoked pleasure is accompanied by physiological changes in the autonomous nervous system as well as activation of the mesolimbic reward pathway, indirectly suggesting the involvement of dopaminergic transmission. According to the neo-Hebbian framework for episodic memory, as dopamine strengthens the synaptic potentiation produced by learning, stimuli triggering dopamine release could result in long-term memory improvements (SN/VTA-hippocampal dopaminergic loop). However, in the music field, the possibility that differences in music-related reward responses can drive memory performance remains almost unexplored.

In this talk, I will present results obtained from pharmacological interventions (i.e. administration of dopamine agonist and antagonist) supporting the hypothesis that dopaminergic transmission causally modulates both musical pleasure and episodic memory.

Date: Thursday, 31 May 2018

Hour: 15:00

Place: Sala de Graus, Facultat de Psicologia, Campus Mundet

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