

Enabling Discovery, Development, and Translation of Treatments for Cognitive Dysfunction in Depression: A Workshop

Cognitive Dysfunction in Depression: The Need for Discovery, Development, and Translation in this Domain

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<u>Declaration of Interests</u>: Barbara Sahakian consults for Cambridge Cognition, Lundbeck, Otsuka and Servier. She holds a grant from Janssen/J&J.

Aims

- The importance of early detection and early effective treatment of depression
- Cognitive problems in depression
 - Implications for prognosis
 - Impact on patients
 - The concepts of hot and cold cognition
- Cognitive problems in remitted depressed patients
- Treatment of cognitive impairment in depression
- Fast-acting antidepressants
- Holistic treatment (eg pharmacological, psychological, cognitive, workplace, social)

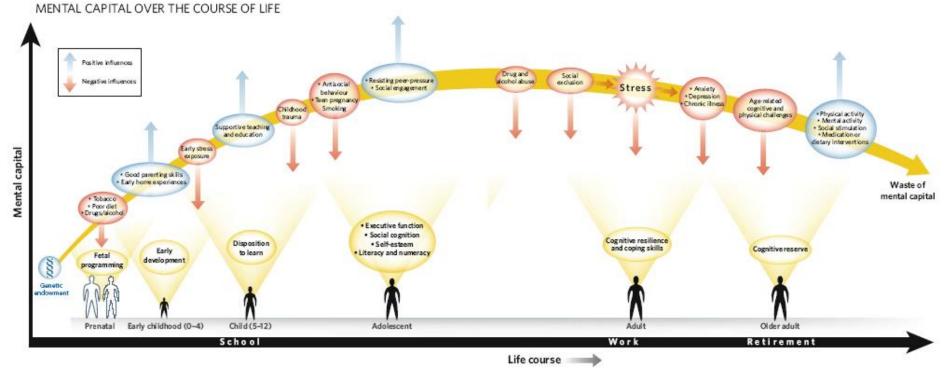
Early Detection and Early Treatment of Depression is Beneficial

If depression is left untreated, it leads to:

- Poorer response to antidepressant treatment
- Lower rate of remission
- Higher risk of chronicity
- Higher number of recurrences

Biomarkers for prevention, early detection and early effective treatment

- Biomarkers include cognitive, genetic, neuroimaging and blood based measures
- 25% of mood disorders start by 18 years of age



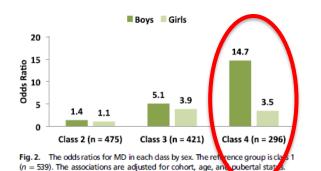
Mental capital encompasses both cognitive and emotional resources, and resilience in the face of stress.

Beddington, Cooper, Field, Goswami, Huppert, Jenkins, Jones, Kirkwood, Sahakian & Thomas (2008) "The mental wealth of nations" Nature, 455

Insel, Voon, Nye, Brown, Altevogt, Bullmore, Goodwin, Howard, Kupfer, Malloch, Marston, Nutt, Robbins, Stahl, Tricklebank, Williams, Sahakian, (2013) Innovative solutions to novel drug development in mental health. <u>Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews</u>, 37 (10), 2438-2444.

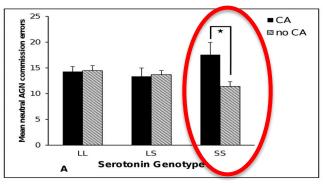
Jones (2013) Adult mental health disorders and their age of onset. BJPsych, 202, s5-s10

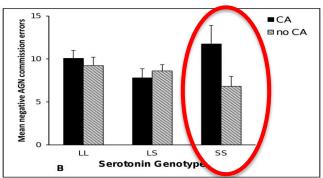
Biomarkers for Early Detection eg. Genetic, Cortisol, Cognition



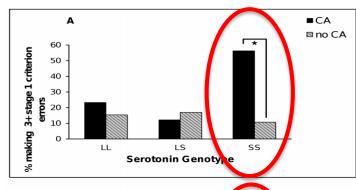
Elevated morning cortisol is a stratified population level biomarker for major depression in boys only with high depressive symptoms Matthew Owens, Joe Herbert, Peter B. Jones, Barbara J. Sahakian, Paul O. Wilkinson, Valerie J. Dunn, Timothy J. Croudace, and Ian M. Goodyer, PNAS, 2014

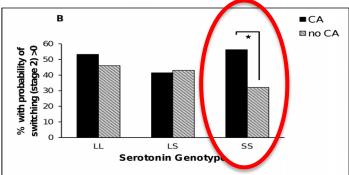
Negative attentional bias





Over-sensitivity to negative feedback





Owens M, Goodyer IM, Wilkinson P, Bhardwaj A, Abbott R, Croudace T, Dunn V, Jones PB, Walsh ND, Ban M, Sahakian BJ (2012). 5-HTTLPR and Early Childhood Adversities Moderate Cognitive and Emotional Processing in Adolescence. <u>PLOS ONE</u>.

Cognitive Dysfunction is Core to Depression Depression Affects both Cold and Hot Cognition

- Whereas cold cognition is non-emotional, hot cognition involves emotion
 - Hot cognitive function may involve a conflict between risk and reward
 - Hot decision making is frequently time-limited
- Hot cognition includes negative attentional biases, response to negative feedback and problems of risky decision-making
- **DSM 5:** Diminished ability to think or concentrate, or indecisiveness
- Research Domain Criteria (RDoC): Broad domains of function (eg negative emotionality, cognition)

- Roiser & Sahakian (2013) CNS Spectrums
- Roiser, Elliott, Sahakian (2012) Neuropsychopharmacology Reviews
- Insel, Cuthbert, Garvey, Heinssen, Pine, Quinn, Sanislow, Wang (2010) <u>American Journal</u> of <u>Psychiatry</u>

Cognitive dysfunction in depression impacts on functionality

Cognitive deficits are associated with:

- Higher relapse rate
- Poorer functional outcome

Information processing, memory and verbal fluency are predictive of poor academic, occupational and daily functioning in major depressive disorder (MDD)

Workplace functionality (absenteeism and presenteeism)

<u>Disorder</u>	Estimated number of subjects affected	Total costs - Estimated in Millions of Euros (2010)			
		Direct health care costs	Direct non- medical costs	Indirect costs	<u>Total</u>
Major depression	30.3 million	24,156	13,762	53,996	91,914

- Direct health care costs include medical costs
- Non-medical costs include the cost of nursing homes etc.
- Indirect costs include the cost of absenteeism from work, pensions etc.
- Jaeger, J., Berns, S., Uzelac, S. & Davis-Conway, S. (2006). Psychiatry Res 145:39-48
- The economic case appendix, No health without mental health, Department of Health.
- Fineberg, Haddad, Carpenter, Gannon, Sharpe, Young, Joyce, Rowe, Wellsted, Nutt & Sahakian (2013). The size, burden and cost of disorders of the brain in the UK. <u>Journal of Psychopharmacology</u>.
- Sahakian (2013) Burdens of brain disorders ignored by government. <u>The Conversation</u>. Available at: http://theconversation.com/burden-of-brain-disorders-ignored-by-government-16641
- Olsen et al (2012) The economic cost of brain disorders in Europe. European Journal of Neurology

What is cognitive dysfunction in depression and how does it affect the lives of the patients?

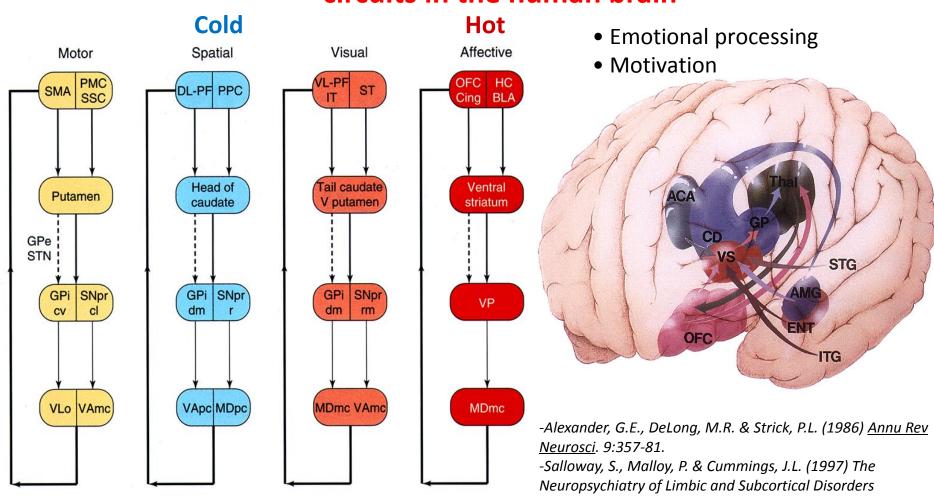
"Depression is the curse of my generation. When did this epidemic begin?"

"When my depression was at its worst I was very forgetful; my short-term memory, which is usually good, was non-existent. My therapist pointed out that I wasn't focusing well enough to even lay down a memory in the first place. Being unable to remember simple things added to the feeling of being out of control. The antidepressants have helped with that. I am able to concentrate much better."

Allison Pearson (Newspaper Columnist and Novelist, Author of "I don't know how she does it")

Cold and **Hot** cognition

Affective cortico-striatal circuits in the human brain

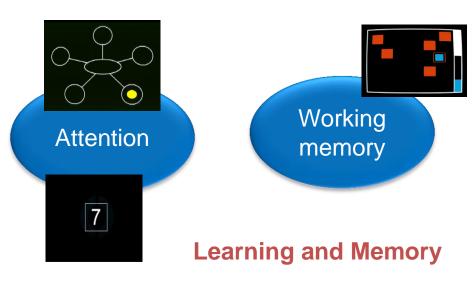


DA, NA, 5-HT

See also: Roiser, J.P. & Sahakian, B.J. (2013) CNS Spectrums

Objective Methods for Measuring Components of Cognition

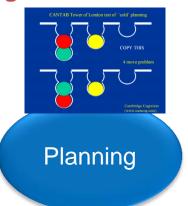
Attention/Concentration





Executive Function including cognitive control



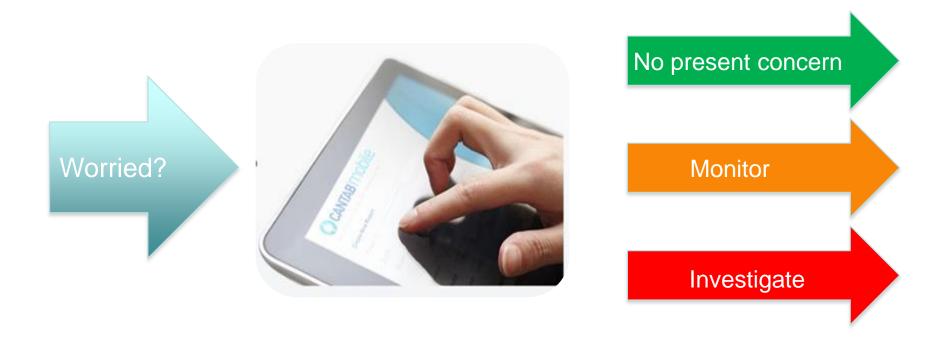






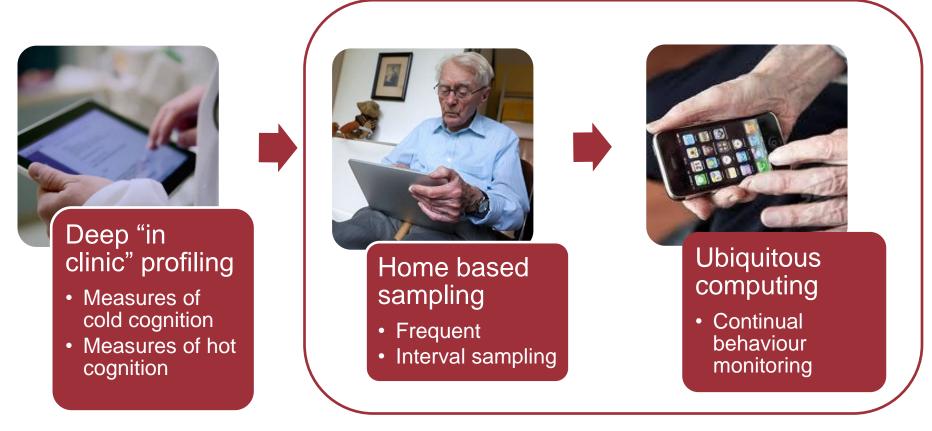


A general medical practitioner (GP) decision-making tool



Improving access to cognitive assessment

In-depth assessment of cognition in depression and frequent monitoring of changes in severity



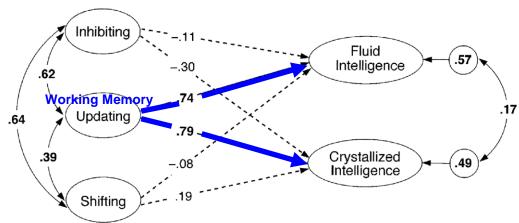
Patients with major depressive disorder

Preclinical/Asymptomatic

Working memory is a core component of executive function tasks and is important for educational success

Working Memory is related to fluid and crystallized intelligence

Friedman, N. P., Miyake, A., Corley, R. P., Young, S. E., DeFries, J. C. & Hewitt, J. K. (2006) Psychological Science



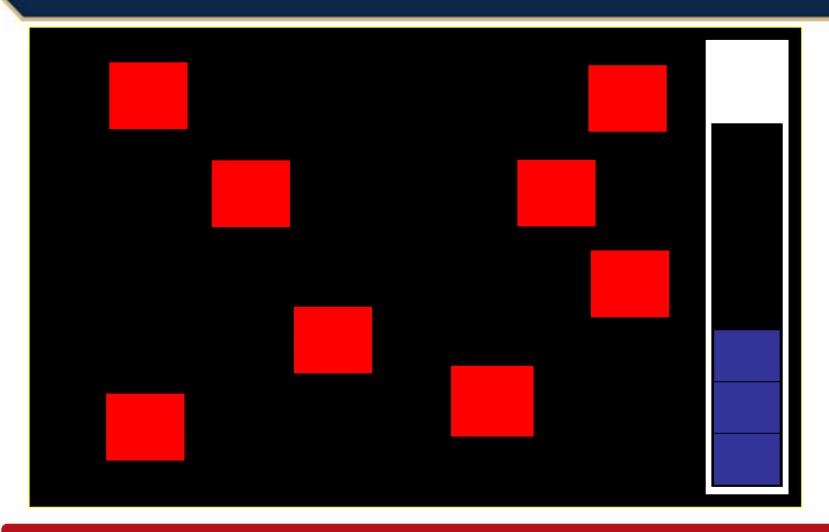
 Correlational studies supported a close relationship between WM and measures of fluid intelligence and science achievement

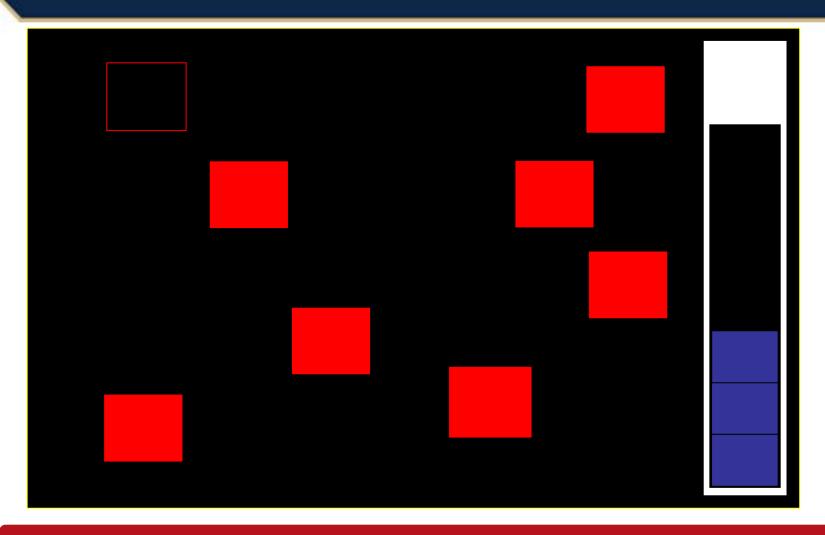
Yuan, K., Steedle, J., Shavelson, S., Alonzo, A. & Oppezzo, M. (2002) Educational Research Review

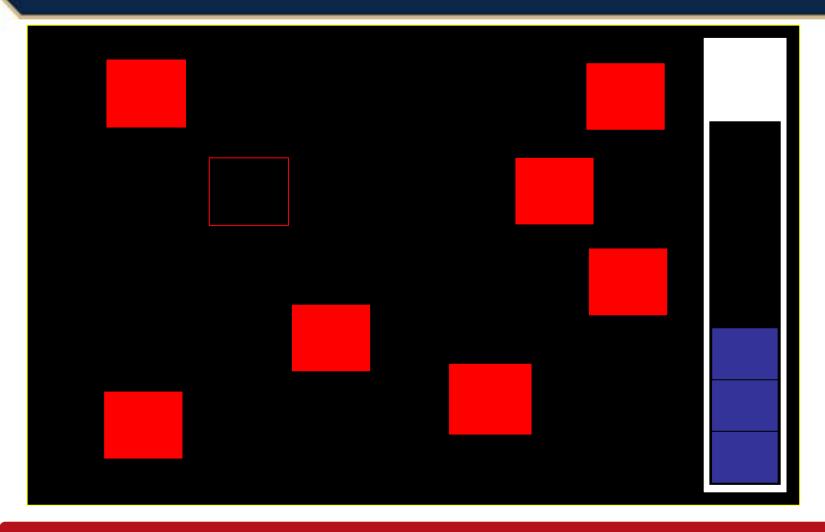
 Working memory at the start of formal education is a more powerful predictor of subsequent academic success than IQ

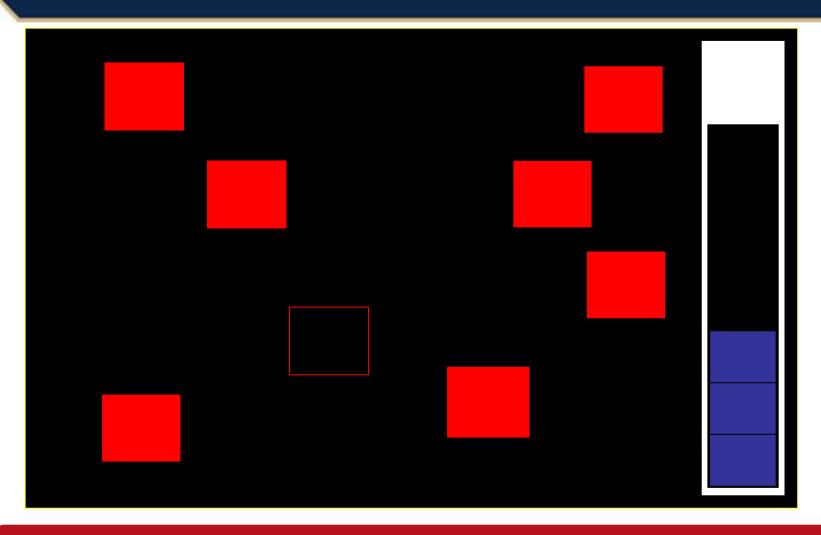
Alloway and Alloway (2010) J Exp Child Psychol

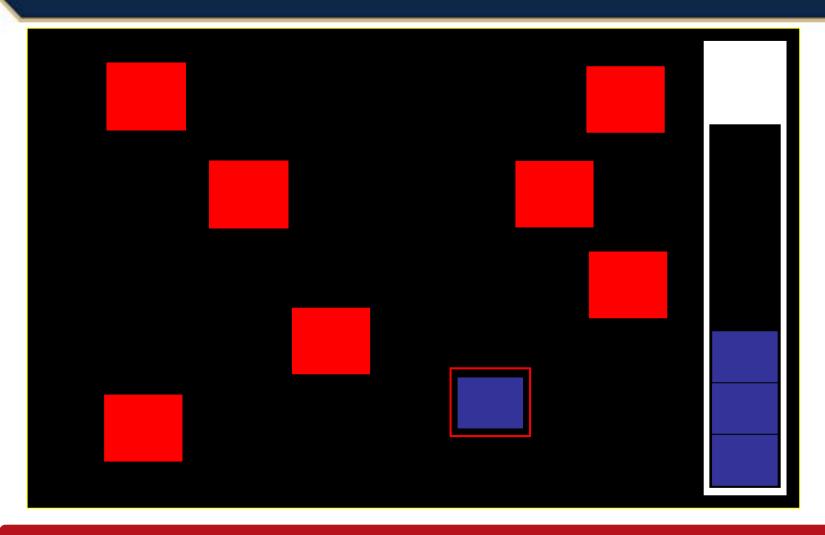
 Working memory is affected in many neuropsychiatric disorders, including depression, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and schizophrenia

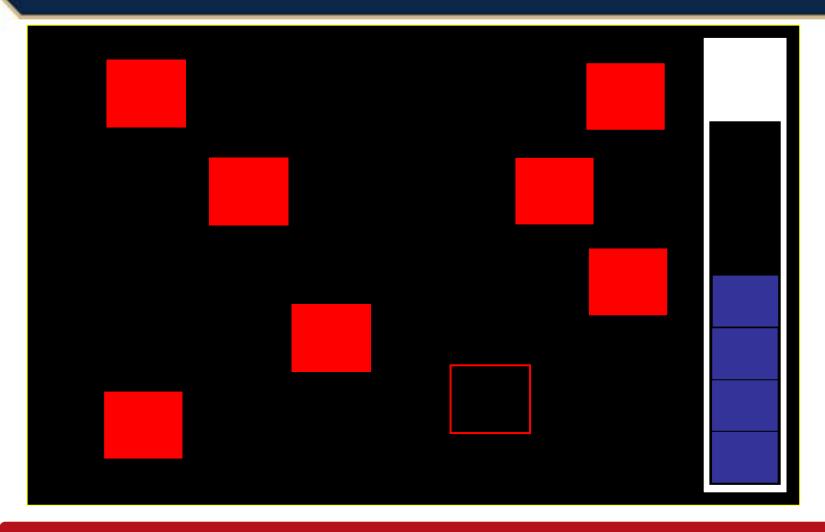


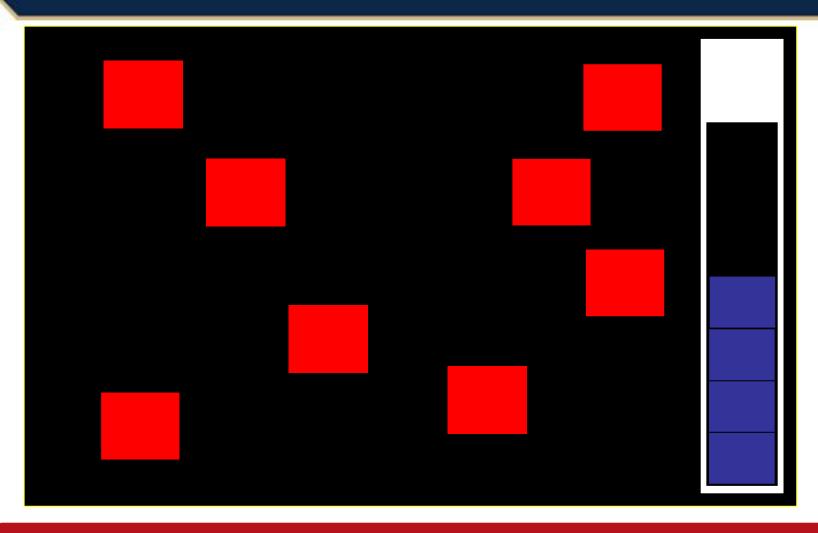


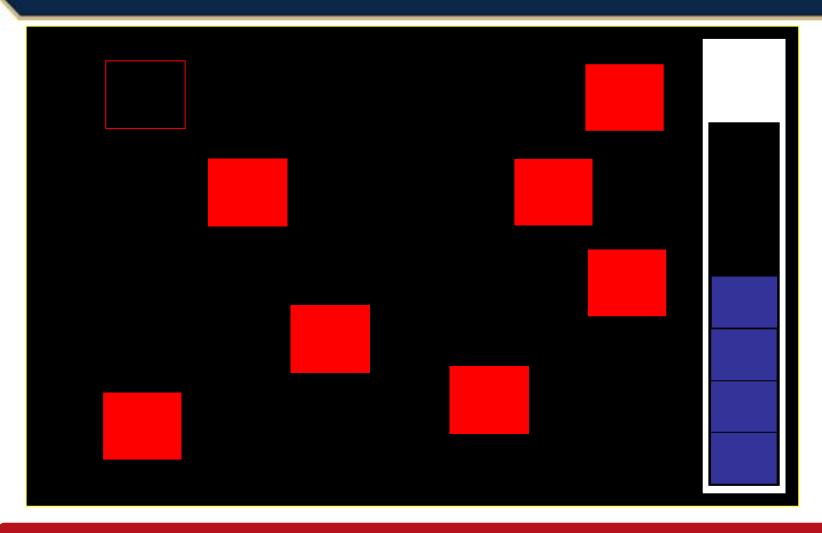


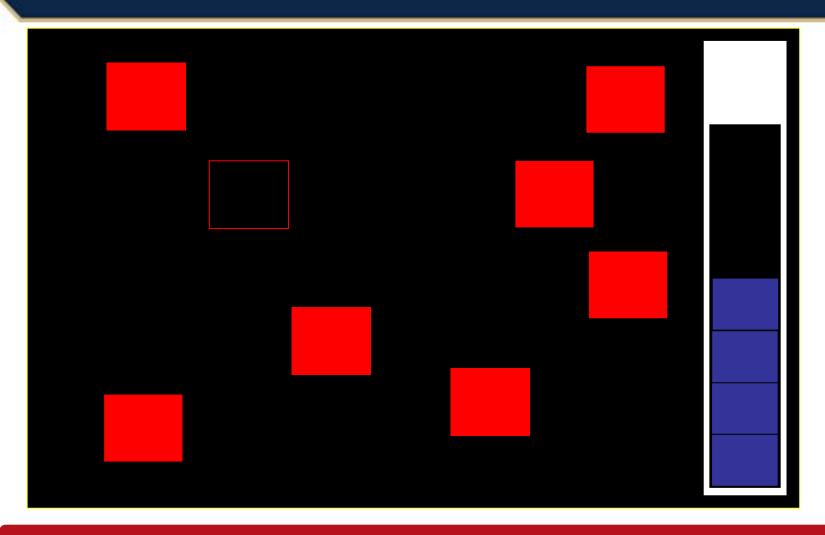


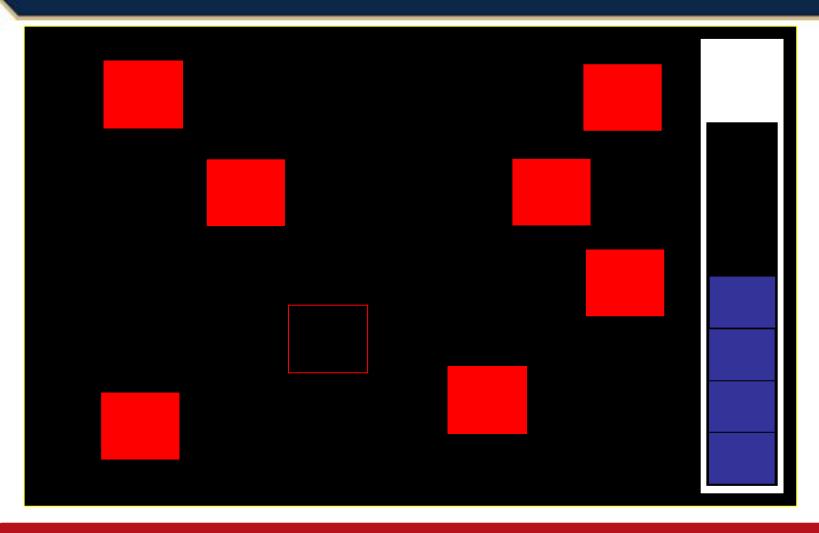


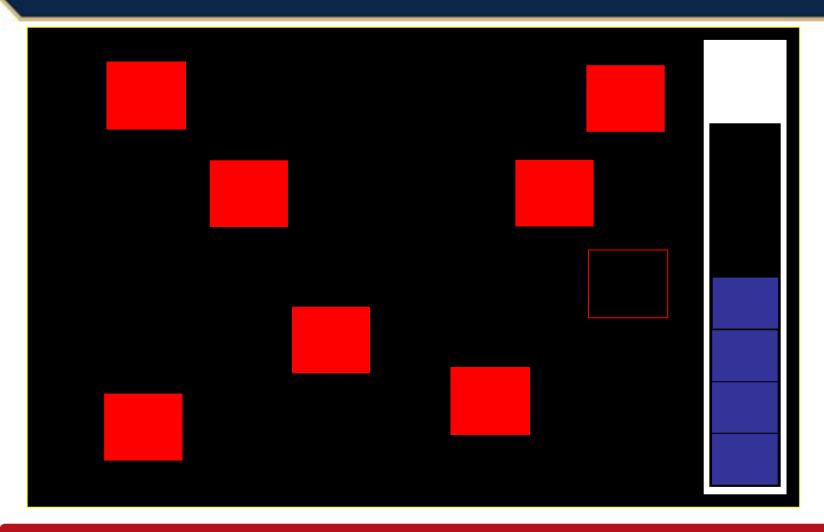


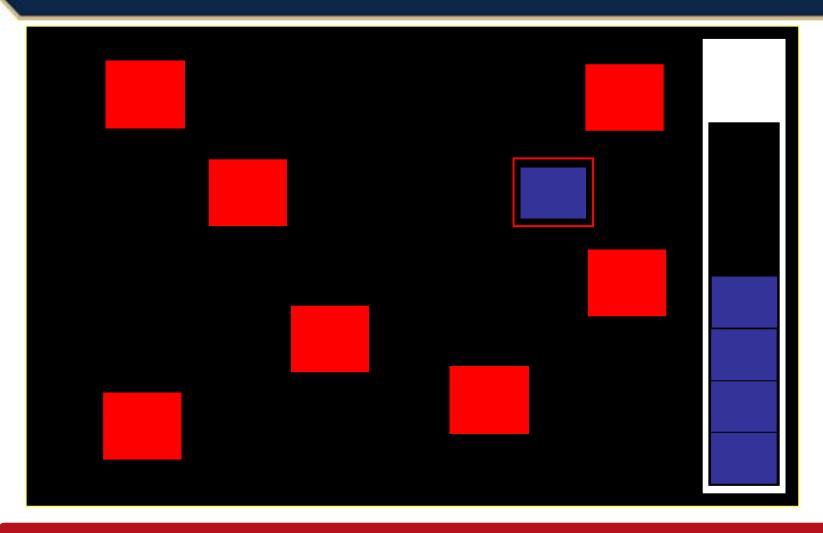


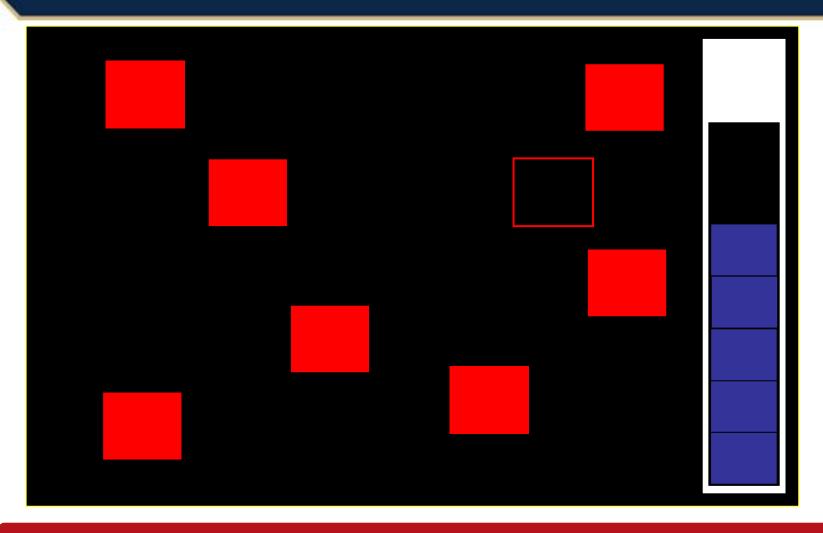




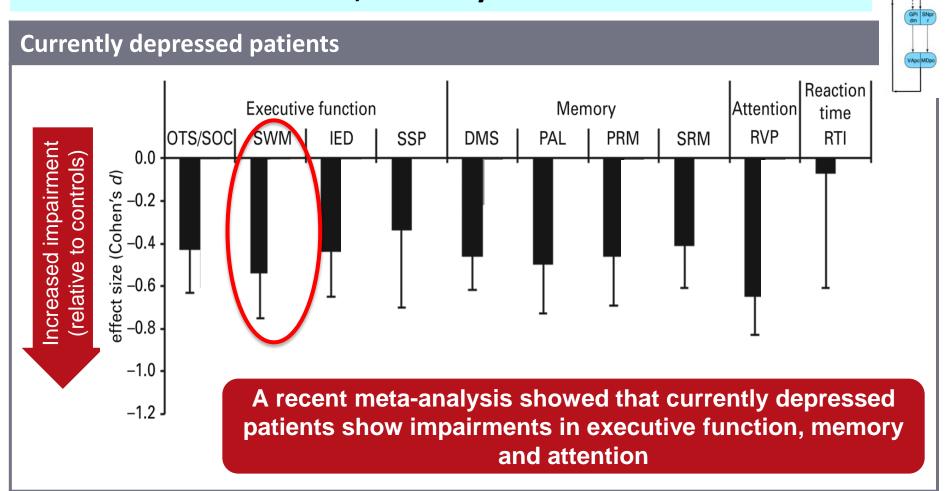








Cold cognitive impairments in <u>currently depressed patients</u> are seen in attention, memory and executive function



CGT, Cambridge Gambling Task; **SWM**, Spatial Working Memory; **OTS/SOC**, Stockings of Cambridge; **IED**, Intra-Extra Dimensional Set Shift; **SSP**, Spatial Span; **DMS**, Delayed Matching to Sample; **PRM**, Pattern Recognition Memory; **SRM**, Spatial Recognition Memory; **PAL**, Paired Associates Learning; **RVP**, Rapid Visual Information Processing; **RTI**, Reaction Time

Action of Methylphenidate, Modafinil, and Atomoxetine

Methylphenidate (Ritalin) increases synaptic concentration of dopamine and noradrenaline by blocking their reuptake.

Atomoxetine (Strattera) is a relatively selective **noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor** (SNRI).

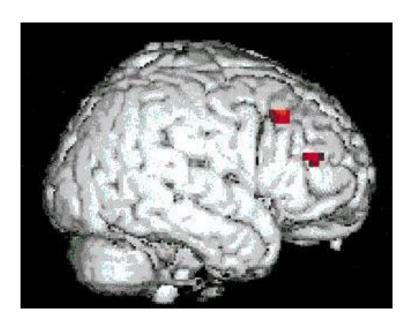
Modafinil (Provigil) action is unclear; Possibilities include: indirect mediation of ACh and/or Adrenergic alpha –1 receptor activity. Appears to effect hypothalamic orexin and histamine, and has a small effect on dopamine transporter activity. Recent evidence suggests NA (Minzenberg et al 2008), DA (Volkow et al 2009) and glutamatergic mechanisms (Scoriels, Jones, Sahakian 2013).

Neuroscience-based nomenclature (Zohar et al, 2014) classifies modafinil as a dopamine reuptake inhibitor.

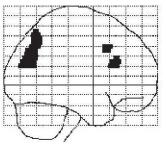
http://www.ecnp.eu/~/media/Files/ecnp/Projects%20and%20initiatives/Nomenclature/Review%20articleNEUPSY_10717v2%20pdf.pdf

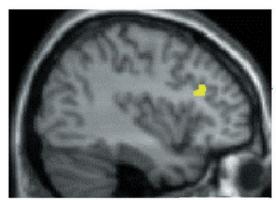
The neural network involved in the Spatial Working Memory (SWM) task

SWM activates a neural network that includes dorsolateral prefrontal cortex

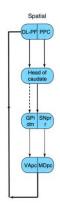


Methylphenidate enhances SWM performance and improves the efficiency of this neural network in healthy people





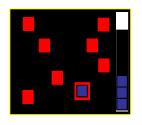
- Owen, A.M., Herrod, N.J., Menon, D.K., Clark, J.C., Downey, S.P.M.J., Carpenter, T.A., Minhas, P.S., Turkheimer, F.E., Williams, E.J., Robbins, T.W., Sahakian, B.J., Petrides, M. & Pickard, J.D. (1999) Redefining the functional organization of working memory processes within human lateral prefrontal cortex. <u>European Journal of Neuroscience</u>
- Owen, A.M., Evans, A. C. & Petrides, M. (1996) Evidence for a Two-Stage Model of Spatial Working Memory Processing within the Lateral Frontal Cortex: A Positron Emission Tomography Study. Cereb Cortex
- Mehta, M.A., Owen, A.M., Sahakian, B.J., Mavaddat, N., Pickard, J.D. & Robbins, T.W. (2000) Methylphenidate Enhances Working Memory by Modulating Discrete Frontal and Parietal Lobe Regions in the Human Brain. <u>The Journal of Neuroscience</u>



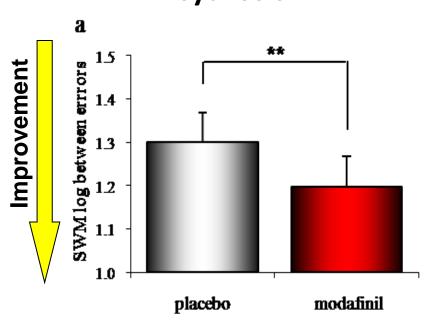
Neural correlates of cold cognitive impairments in depression and neuroimaging as a biomarker for prediction of clinical outcome

- Greater load-response activity in the fronto-parietal working memory neural network in un-medicated patients with depression
- A marker of treatment response to fluoxetine was a lower load-response activity at baseline in the dorsal anterior cingulate, left middle frontal and lateral temporal cortices

Modafinil improves working memory in patients with first episode psychosis and healthy volunteers

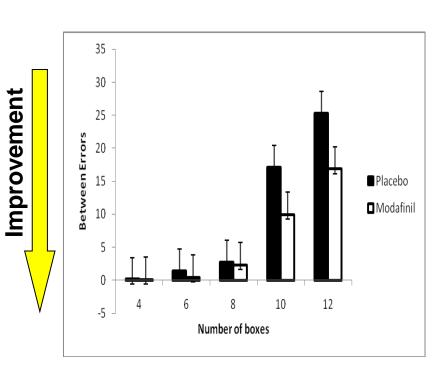


Patients with First Episode Psychosis

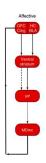


Scoriels L, Barnett JH, Soma PK, Sahakian BJ, Jones, PB (2012) Effects of modafinil on cognitive functions in first episode psychosis. <u>Psychopharmacology</u>, 220, 249-258

Healthy Volunteers



Müller U, Rowe JB, Rittman T, Lewis C, Robbins TW, Sahakian BJ (2013) Effects of modafinil on non-verbal cognition, task enjoyment and creative thinking in healthy volunteers. Neuropharmacology, 64, 490-495.



Hot cognitive impairments in depression

CANTAB Affective Bias Task Sample Stimuli

HAPPY

JOYFUL
SUCCESS
CONFIDENT

SAD

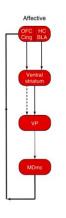
GLOOMY HOPELESS

FAILURE

See also Affective Bias Translational Task for rodents:

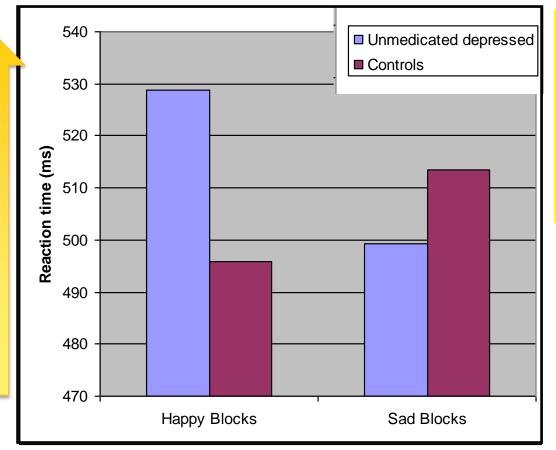
Stuart, Butler, Munafo, Nutt, Robinson (2013) A translational rodent assay of affective biases in depression and antidepressant therapy. *Neuropsychopharmacology*, 38, 1625-1635





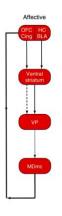
Negative affective bias in depression

Unmedicated patients with major depressive disorder (MDD) are faster to respond to sad compared with happy word targets. In contrast, healthy volunteers are faster to respond to happy words than to sad words (<u>resilience</u>).



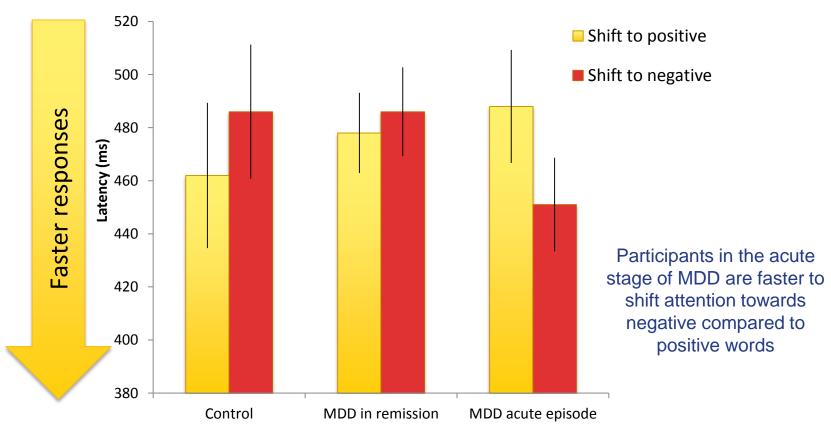
	Major Depressive Disorder	Healthy Volunteers
Age	37.5 (11.9)	36.5 (11.1)
IQ (WAIS abbrev.)	114.85 (12.1)	116.15 (11.9)
MADRS	25.4 (7.1)	0.25 (0.7)

Erickson K, Drevets WC, Clark L, Cannon DM, Bain EE, Zarate CA Jr, Charney DS, Sahakian BJ (2005) Mood-congruent bias in affective go/no-go performance of unmedicated patients with major depressive disorder. <u>American Journal</u> Psychiatry, 162, 2171-2173.



Negative bias to emotional stimuli is present in Major Depressive Disorder and absent in remission

Bias to negative emotions is linked to depressive state



Maalouf FT, Clark L, Tavitian L, Sahakian BJ, Brent D, Phillips ML (2012) Bias to negative emotions: A depression state-dependent marker in adolescent major depressive disorder. <u>Psychiatry Research</u>, 198, 28-33.

The noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor Reboxetine improves positive emotional processing in depressed patients

Harmer, C.J., O'Sullivan, U., Favaron, E., Massey-Chase, R., Ayres, R., Reinecke, A., Goodwin, G. M. & Cowen, P. J. (2009)

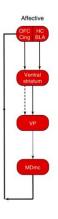
Effect of Acute Antidepressant Administration on Negative Affective Bias in Depressed Patients <u>Am J Psychiatry</u>

Activations in the subgenual cingulate region in response to emotional targets in healthy volunteers

Elliott, R., Rubinsztein, J. S., Sahakian, B. J. & Dolan, R. J. (2000) Neuroreport

Deep Brain Stimulation (Broadmann's Area 25) for Treatment-Resistant Depression **Improves Functional Outcome**

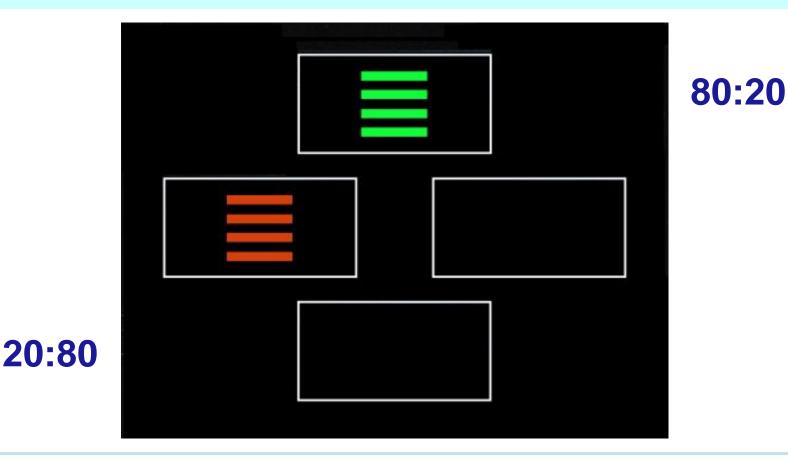
Kennedy, S.H., Giacobbe, P., Rizvi, S.J., Placenza, F.M., Nishikawa, Y., Mayberg, H.S. & Lozano, A.M. (2011) Deep Brain Stimulation for Treatment-Resistant Depression: Follow-Up After 3 to 6 Years. <u>Am J Psychiatry</u>



Rationale for Test Selection: Probabilistic Reversal Learning with Misleading Negative Feedback

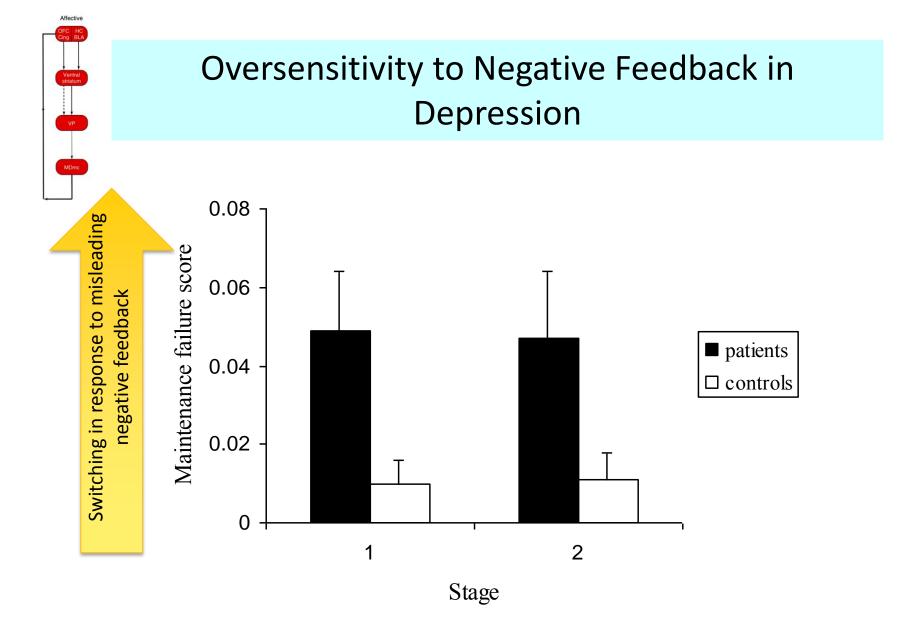
Adaptive behaviour in daily living requires that individuals are able to learn in situations where feedback is unclear and potentially spurious or inconsistent.

Hot cognition: Probabilistic Reversal Learning with Misleading Negative Feedback



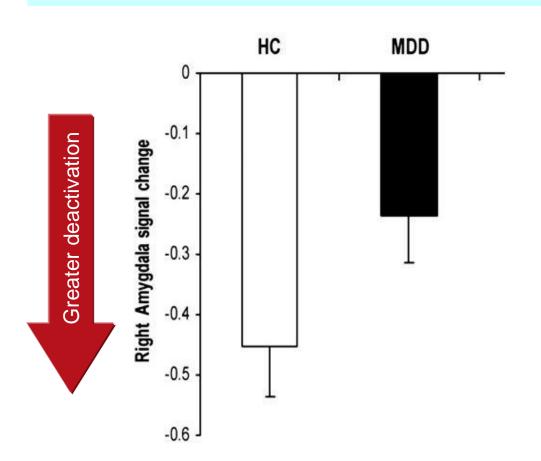
See also: Negative feedback in probabilistic reversal learning translationa task for rodents:

Bari, Theobald, Caprioli, Mar, Aidoo-Micah, Dalley, Robbins (2010) Serotonin modulates sensitivity to reward and negative feedback in a probabilistic reversal learning task in rats. *Neuropsychopharmacology*, 35, 1290-1301.



Murphy, F.C., Michael, A., Robbins, T.W., Sahakian, B.J. (2003). Neuropsychological impairment in patients with major depressive disorder: the effects of feedback on task performance. Psychological Medicine, 33, 455-467.

Failure of top-down control by prefrontal cortex over the amygdala in patients with depression in response to negative feedback.



This functional neuroimaging study in unmedicated depressed patients demonstrates disrupted top-down control by the prefrontal cortex of the amygdala underlies the hypersensitivity to negative feedback in major depressive disorder.

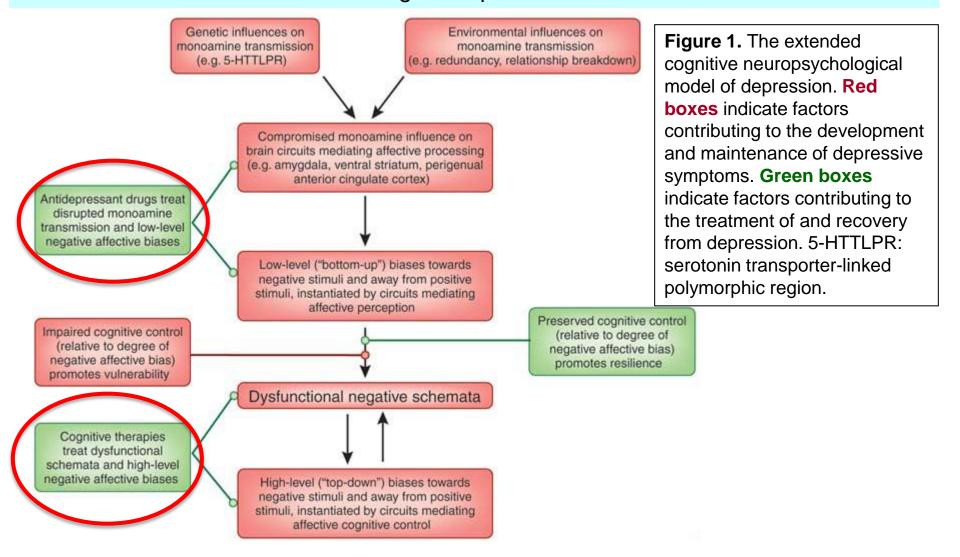
There was greater dorsomedial PFC and ventrolateral PFC activation in HC subjects compared to MDD subjects.

Greater right amygdala deactivation in HC subjects compared to MDD.

Taylor Taveres JV, Clark L, Furey ML, Williams GB, Sahakian BJ, Drevets WC (2008) Neural basis of abnormal response to negative feedback in unmedicated mood disorders. NeuroImage, 42, 1118-1126

Cognitive treatments are important for top-down control of emotion.

Pharmacological interventions are important for treating negative affective bias and reinstating more positive attitude



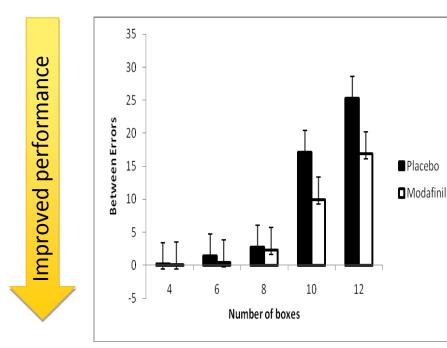
Roiser JP, Elliott R, Sahakian BJ (2012) Cognitive mechanisms of treatment in depression. <u>Neuropsychopharmacology</u>, 37, 117-136

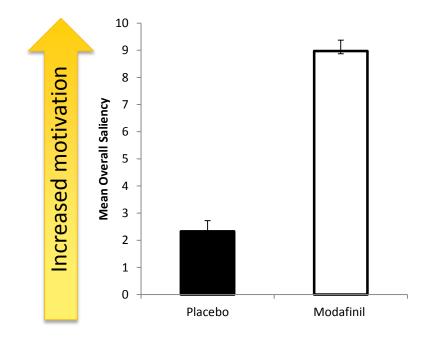
Future Directions

- Cognitive impairment as a target for treatment in depression
- Fast-acting antidepressants
- Games on iPads or phones to reduce attentional bias or anhedonia and increase motivation
- Development of touchscreen computerised tests of hot cognition (eg. EMOTICOM), with domains including emotional processing, social cognition, motivation and reward.

Modafinil enhances working memory and taskrelated motivation in healthy volunteers

On the CANTAB working memory task healthy volunteers on modafinil made significantly fewer errors than those on placebo. Modafinil increases task-related motivation in healthy volunteers





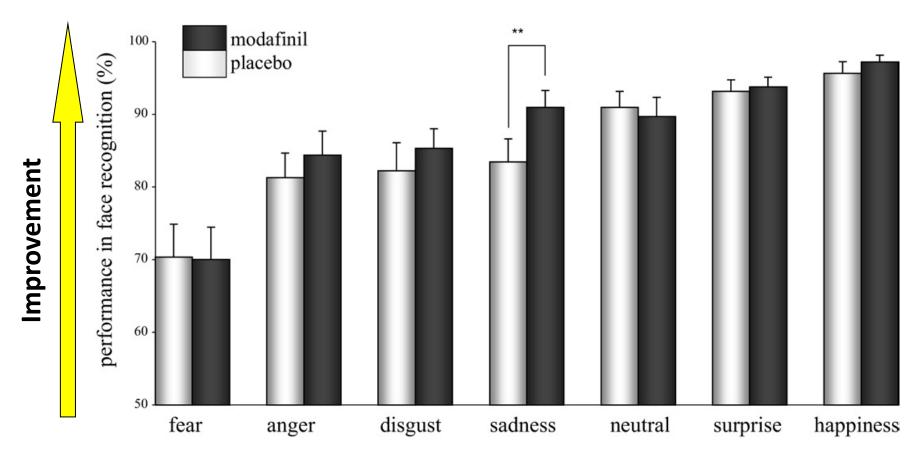
Müller U, Rowe JB, Rittman T, Lewis C, Robbins TW, Sahakian BJ (2013) Effects of modafinil on non-verbal cognition, task enjoyment and creative thinking in healthy volunteers. Neuropharmacology, 64, 490-495

Hot Cognitive Enhancement by Modafinil

Modafinil improves emotional processing in first episode psychosis



Happiness



Scoriels L, Barnett JH, Murray GK, Cherukuru S, Fielding M, Cheng F, Lennox BR, Sahakian BJ, Jones PB (2011) Effects of modafinil on emotional processing in first episode psychosis. <u>Biological Psychiatry</u>, 69, 457-464

Adding modafinil on to the antidepressant medication improves major depressive disorder

<u>Modafinil</u> (Provigil) action is unclear; Possibilities include: indirect mediation of ACh and/or Adrenergic alpha –1 receptor activity. Appears to effect hypothalamic orexin and histamine, and has a small effect on dopamine transporter activity.

Recent evidence suggests <u>NA</u> (Minzenberg et al 2008), <u>DA</u> (Volkow et al 2009) and <u>glutamatergic</u> mechanisms (Scoriels, Jones, Sahakian 2012).

Multimodal action of antidepressant treatments?

Goss AJ, Kaser M, Costafreda SG, Sahakian BJ, Fu CHY (2013) Modafinil augmentation therapy in unipolar and bipolar depression: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials. <u>Journal of Clinical Psychiatry</u>, 74, 1101-1107

Antidepressants with Effects on Cognition

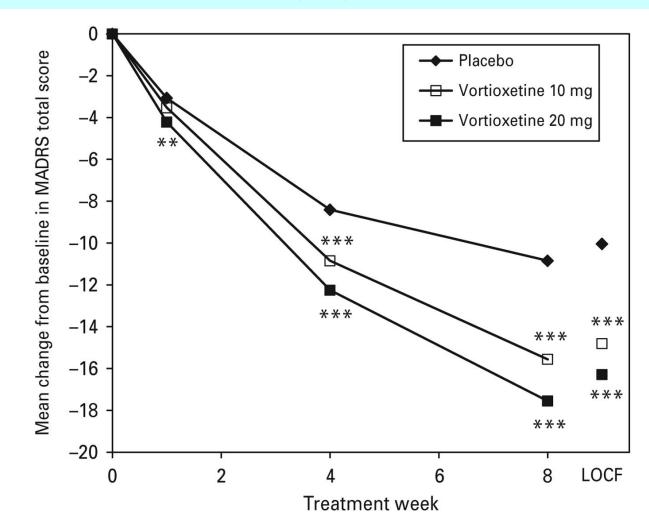
- Vortioxetine has as its principal mode of action a combination of a direct effect on receptor activity and serotonin (5-HT) reuptake inhibition.
- In Vitro studies show that vortioxetine is a:
 - 5-HT₃, 5-HT_{1D} and 5-HT₇ receptor antagonist
 - 5-HT_{1B} receptor partial agonist
 - 5-HT_{1A} receptor agonist
 - 5-HT transporter inhibitor.

Bang-Andersen, B., Ruhland, T., Jorgensen, M. et al (2011) Discovery of 1-[2-(2,4-dimethylphenylsulfanyl)phenyl]piperazine (Lu AA21004): A novel multimodal compound for the treatment of major depressive disorder. J Med Chem

Mork, A. Pehrson, A., Brennum, L.T. et al (2012) Pharmacological effects of Lu AA21004: A novel multimodal compound for the treatment of major depressive disorder. <u>J Pharm Exp Ther</u>

Westrich, L., Pehrson, A., Zhong, H. et al (2012) In vitro and in vivo effects of the multimodal antidepressant vortioxetine (Lu AA21004) at human and rat targets. Int J Psychiatry <u>Clin Pract</u>

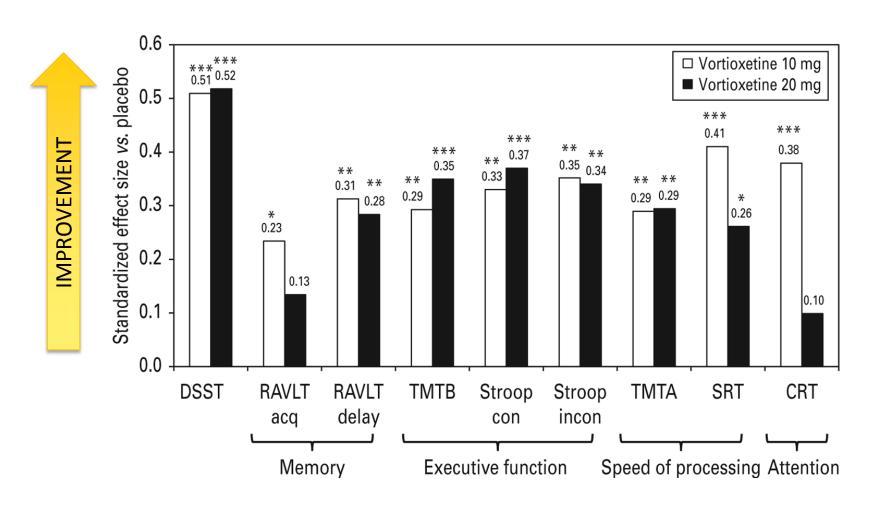
Vortioxetine (10 and 20 mg) reduces depressive symptoms



IMPROVEMENT

McIntyre, R.S., Lophaven, S. & Olsen, C.K. (2014) A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of vortioxetine on cognitive function in depressed adults. <u>International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology</u>, 17, 1557-1567

Vortioxetine (10 and 20 mg) improves cold cognition



McIntyre, R.S., Lophaven, S. & Olsen, C.K. (2014) A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of vortioxetine on cognitive function in depressed adults. <u>International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology</u>, 17, 1557-1567

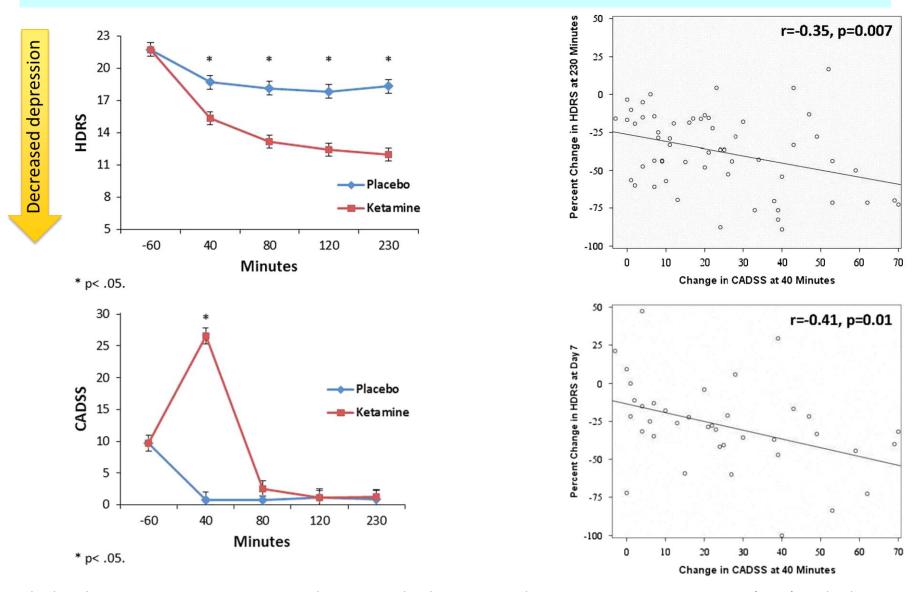
Fast-acting Antidepressants

- Ketamine is an NMDA receptor antagonist, which paradoxically increases glutamate transmission in the prefrontal cortex.
- This occurs via blockade of tonic firing of GABAergic interneurones, resulting in a 'burst of glutamate'
- This contributes to activity-dependent release of BDNF and increased synaptogenesis

Duman, R. & Aghajanian, G.K. (2012) Synaptic dysfunction in depression: Novel therapeutic targets. Science

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Evidence suggests that the dissociative effects of ketamine may mediate its antidepressant effects



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Holistic treatment (eg pharmacological, psychological, cognitive, workplace, social)

- The importance of early detection of depression and early effective treatment
- Treatment should address all aspects of depression, including cognition, to ensure wellbeing and functional outcome in the workplace and the home environment
- Combining treatments and a holistic approach may give the best outcomes for people with depression
- Patients with depression have to take an active role in their treatment, and not a
 passive role. The drug will facilitate improvement, but it also requires an active
 effort on the individual's part to learn and re-learn
- This should prevent depression from becoming debilitating, chronic and relapsing
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