

Mouse Model for Mania

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Technology description

Presently, there are no good rodent models for mania, which is a critical component of bipolar disorder. The most commonly used approach is to inject normal mice with amphetamines to produce hyperactivity. Many researchers feel these drug-induced traits do not model true mania. A UW–Madison researcher has developed a novel line of mice which exhibit at least four characteristics of mania: hyperactivity, elevated aggression, increased risk taking and decreased sleep.

The line of mice originally was derived from outbred hsd:ICR mice as part of a study of high wheel-running. The researcher now has found that the mice exhibit mania behaviors like decreased daytime sleep and cage hyperactivity. Furthermore, some of these behaviors were tempered following treatment with the common anti-mania drugs valproate and olanzapine, as well as lithium. The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in a mouse model to understand the genetic and neurobiological basis of mania and aid in the development of new anti-mania drugs.

Saul M.C., Gessay G.M. and Gammie S.C. 2012. A New Mouse Model for Mania Shares Genetic Correlates with Human Bipolar Disorder. PLoS One. 7, e38128.

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Application area

Mouse model for research and drug development/testing

Advantages

Model provides a new avenue for understanding the genetics and neurobiology of mania.

Institution

[Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation](#)

Inventors

[Stephen Gammie](#)

联系我们



叶先生

电话 : 021-65679356

手机 : 13414935137

邮箱 : yeyingsheng@zf-ym.com