

Role of endogenous opioid system for human reward

Siri Leknes

What the tabloids know



MORO MED ENDORFINER: En god luttet gjør deg lett og glad. Her er det justisminister Knut Storberget, Høyres Jan Petersen og finansminister Kristin Halvorsen som morer seg på jobb. Foto:

rusfrie alternativer - her er våre ti tips til et helt naturlig endorfin-kick:

1) Spis chili

Denne metoden er ganske elementær. Smerte gjør deg våken og får kroppen til å gå i alarmberedskap. Endorfinene utløses for å slukke brannen i munnhulen, og du føler deg bedre.

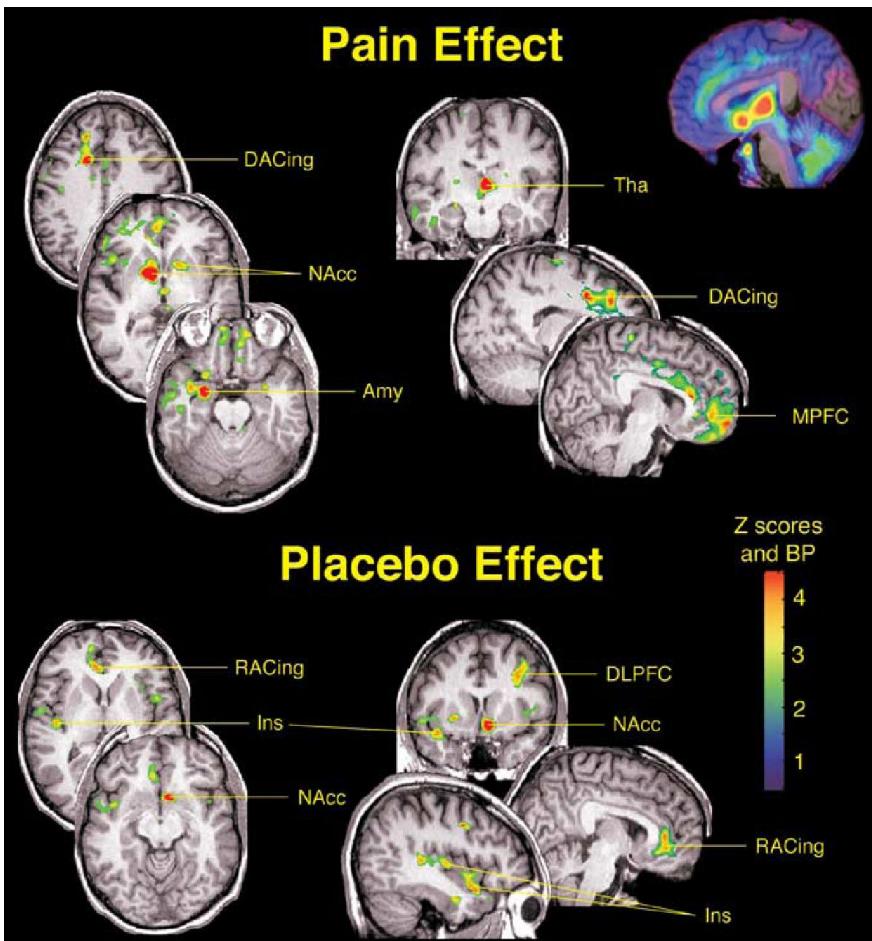
2) Glade tanker

Positive tanker om noe du gleder deg til eller noen du er glad i, utløser en belønning i hjernen i form av endorfiner. Noen leger mener at positive tanker kan virke like bra som smertestillende tabletter.

3) Løp deg glad

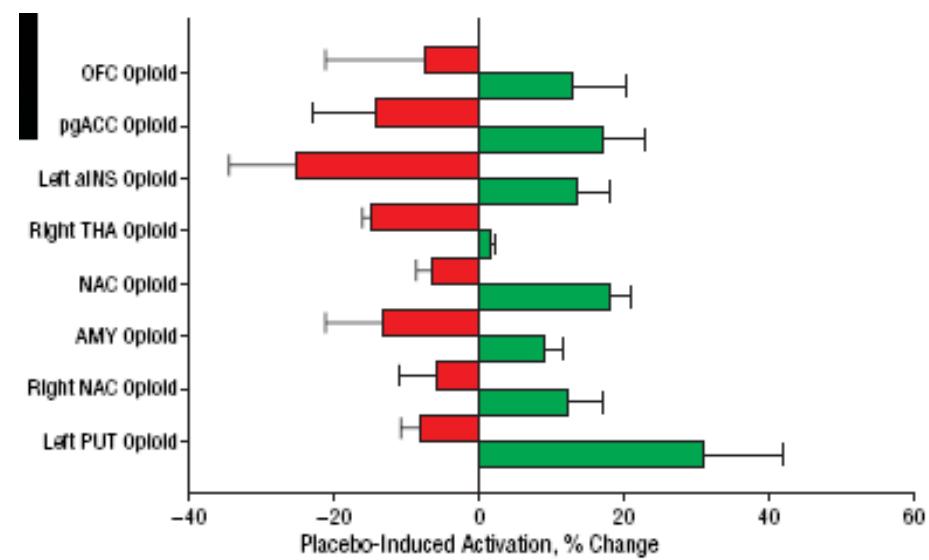
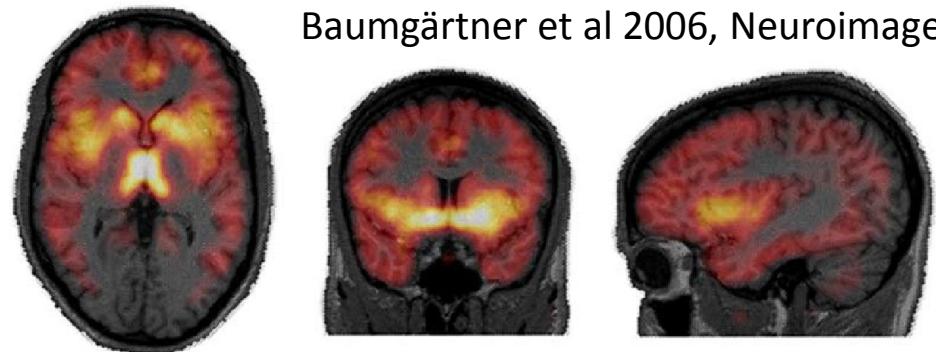
Forskerne er uenige om det skyldes den fysiske belastningen eller den mentale tilfredsstillelsen over fysisk aktivitet. Men resultatet er likevel det samme: Trening utløser endorfiner som gjør deg glad. En langvarig økt som jogging, sykkeltur eller en tenniskamp gir aller best effekt.

Opioid regulation of pain



Zubieta et al 2005, J Neurosci

Baumgärtner et al 2006, Neuroimage



Scott et al 2008, Neuron

Opioid regulation of social emotions



Age: 31

Occupation:
Lawyer

Interests:
cycling,
reading,
diving



Age: 28

Occupation:
Manager of
a coffee shop

Interests:
museums,
traveling

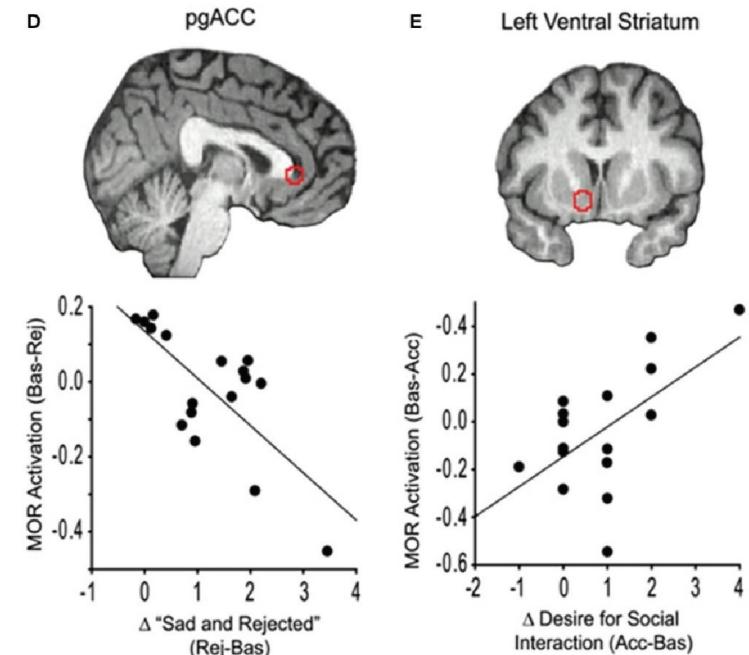
"Would I like this person?" Your response: **very likely yes**
"Do I think this person would like me?" Your response: **likely yes**

"Would I like this person?" Their response: **definitely no**

When you think about this person's
response, how much do you feel:

sad?

very slightly or not at all (thumb)	a little (index)	moderately (middle)	quite a bit (ring)	extremely (pinky)
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Opioid regulation of reward

Animal research

- Motivational and hedonic aspects of reward
- Opioid drugs modulate high-value reward motivation
 - Food
 - Partner

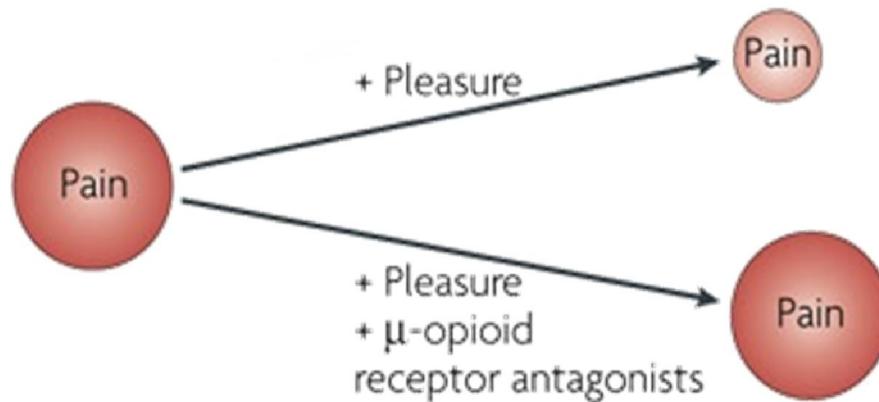


Human research

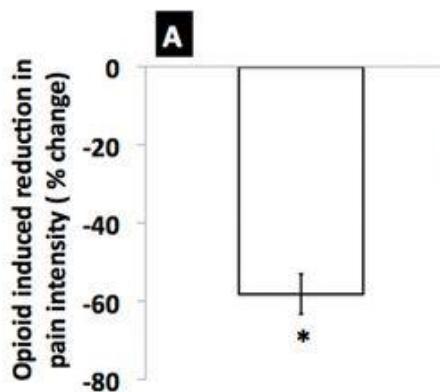
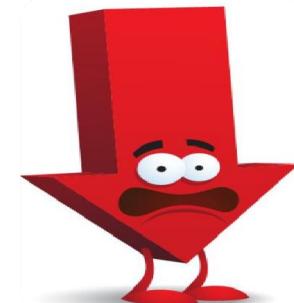
- Addictive drugs
- ‘Runner’s high’ euphoria
- Naltrexone reduces food liking and consumption.
 - Especially **high-value food reward**



What is the μ -opioid system for?



Opioid effects on reward behaviours

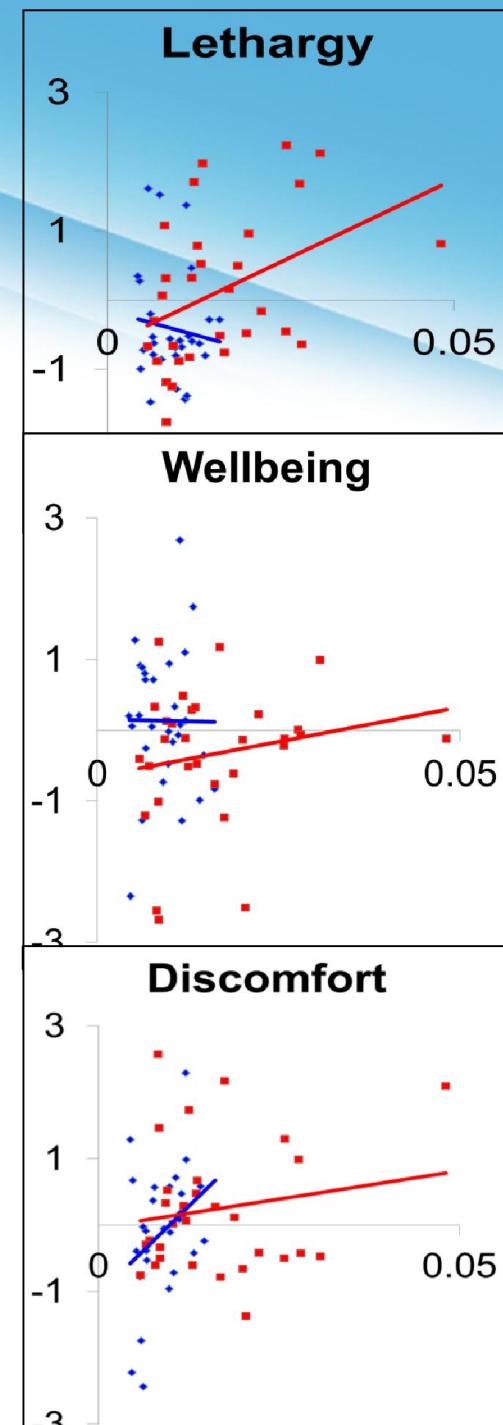
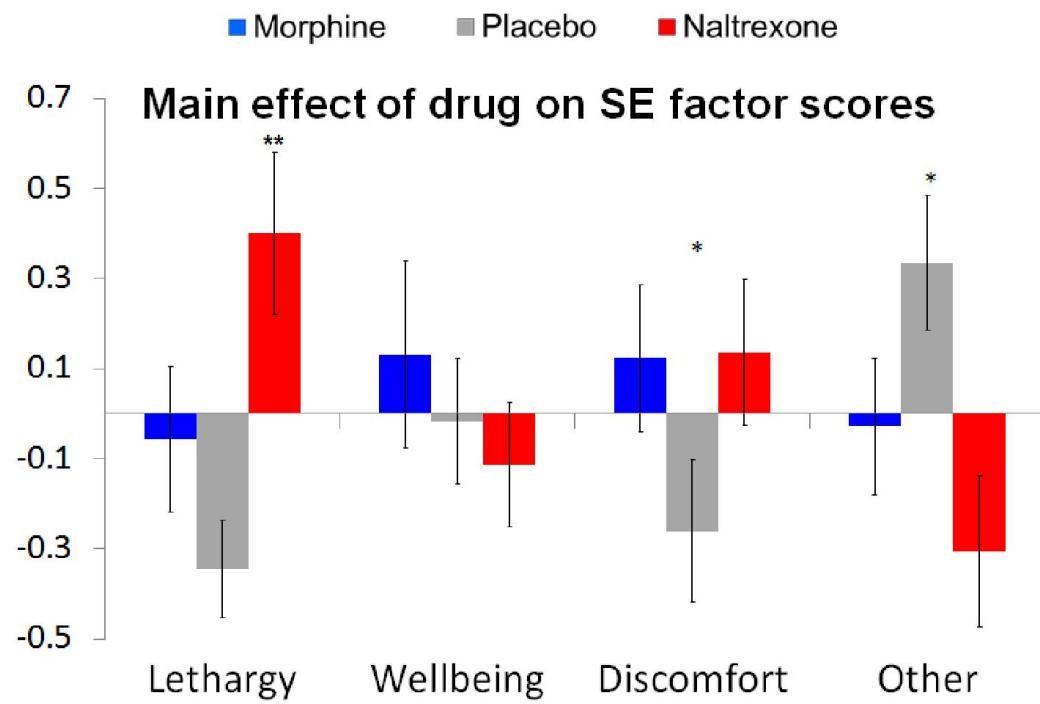


Wanigasekera et al, 2013, PNAS

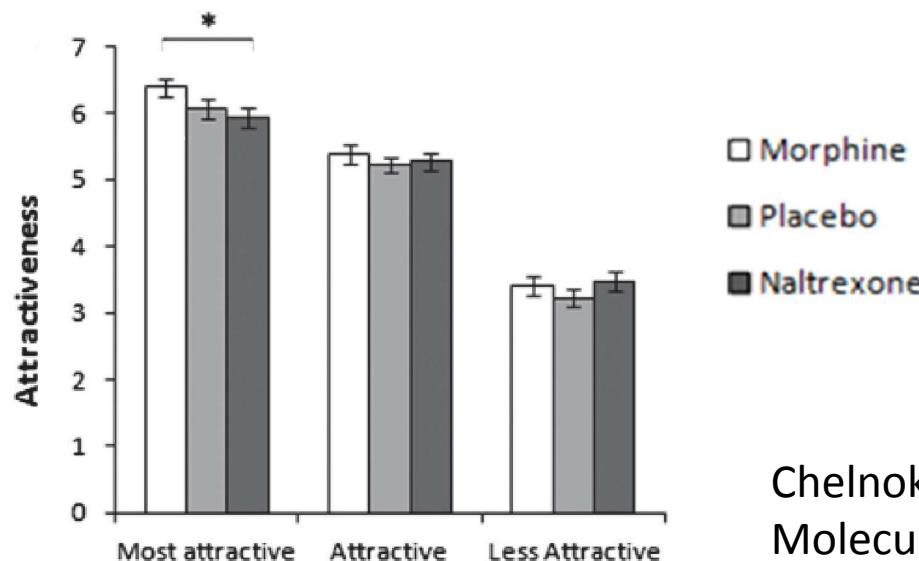
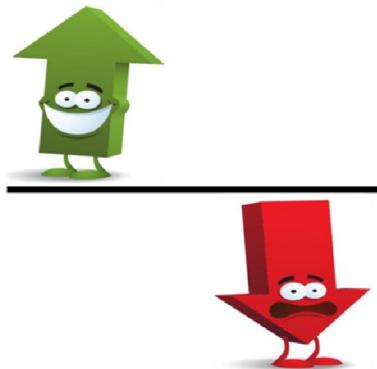
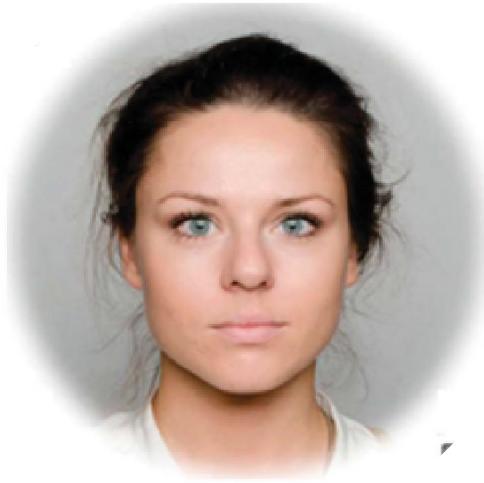
- N=30 males within-subjects



Drug blinding was successful, only 34% correct guesses



Rewards of beauty: the opioid system mediates social motivation in humans



Chelnokova et al. 2014,
Molecular Psychiatry

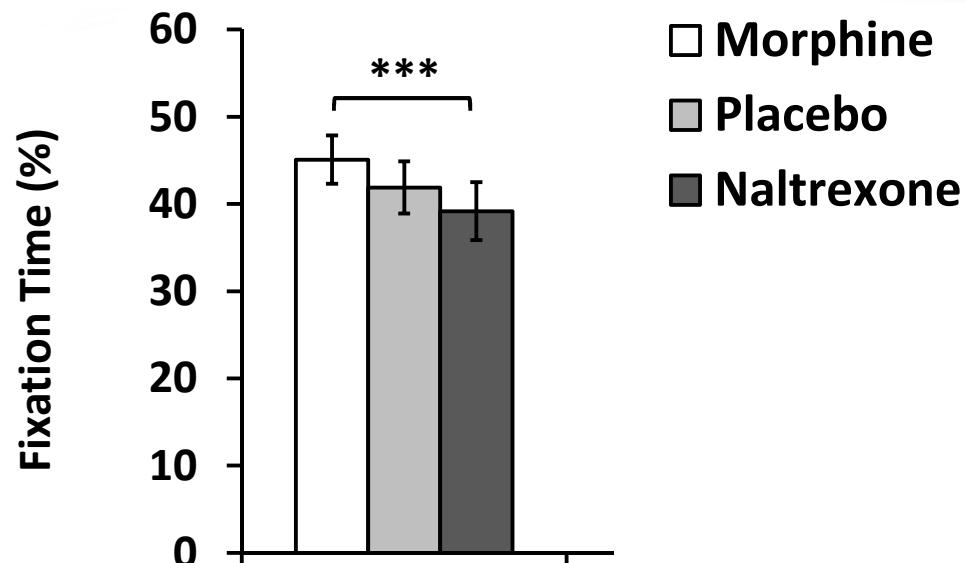
How do we typically look at faces?



- Why attend to the eyes?



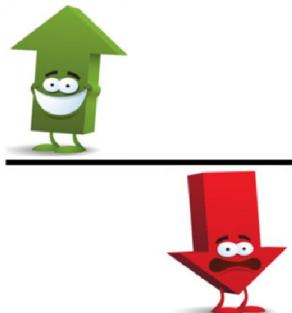
μ -opioid system promotes social attention



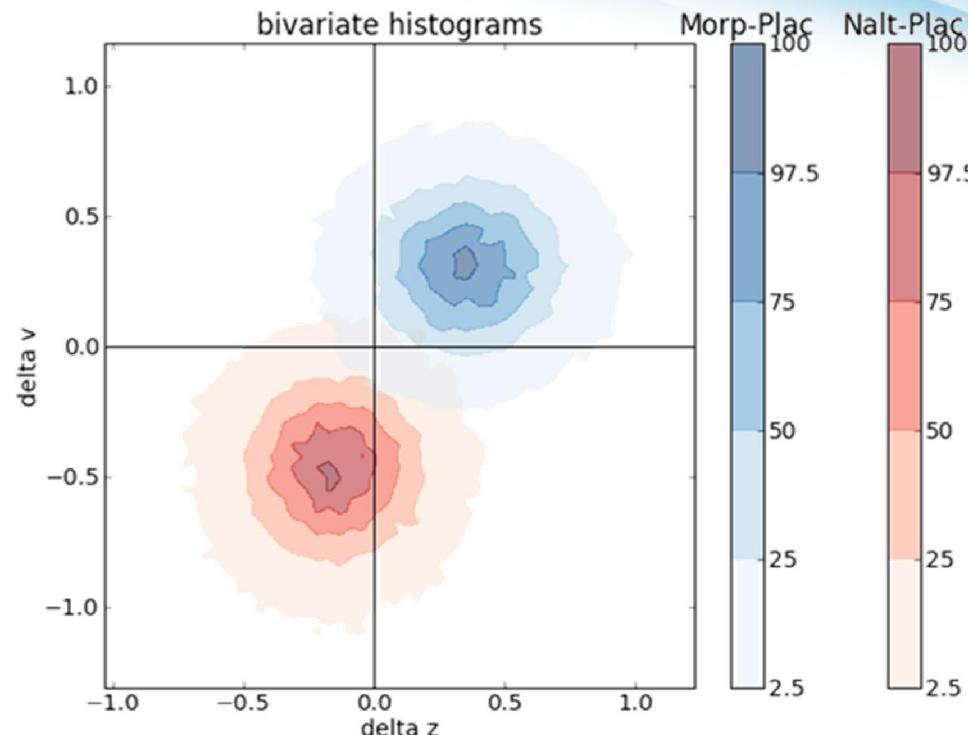
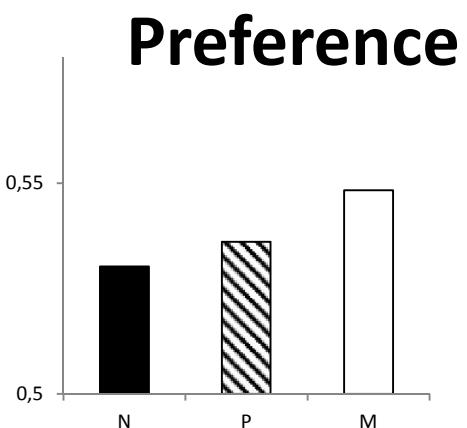
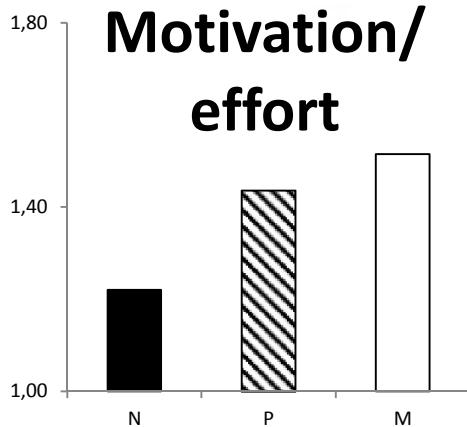
Becker et al, 2014
Neuropsychopharmacol

- N=30 males within-subjects

Chelnokova et al., submitted

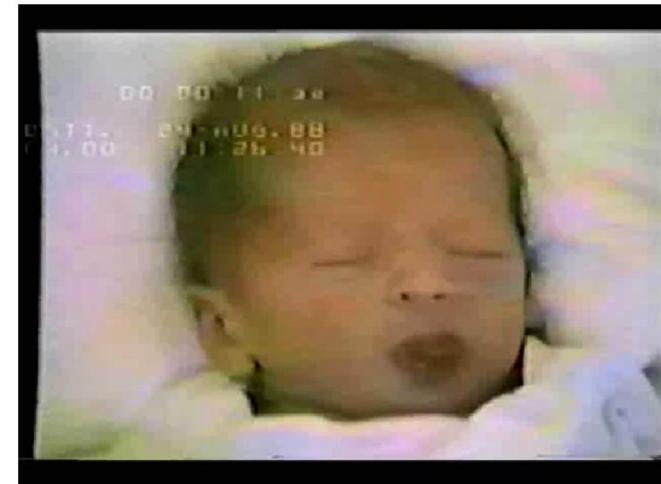


μ -opioid system promotes adaptive decision making



What does the human μ-opioid system do?

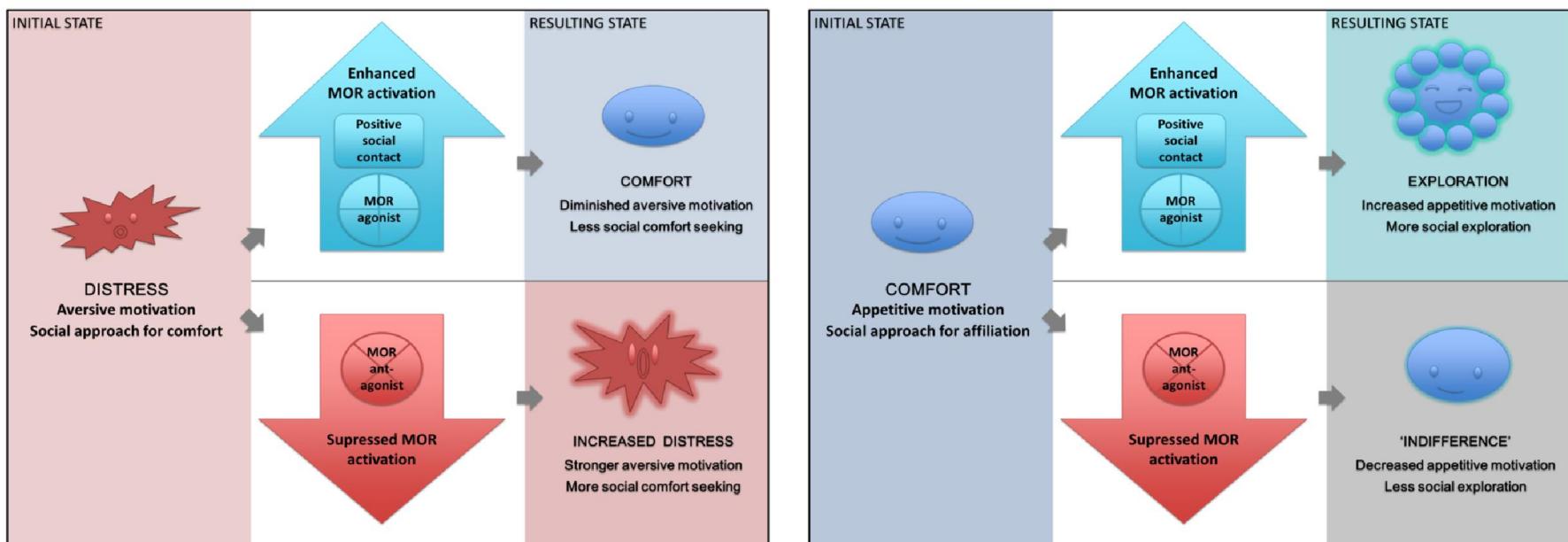
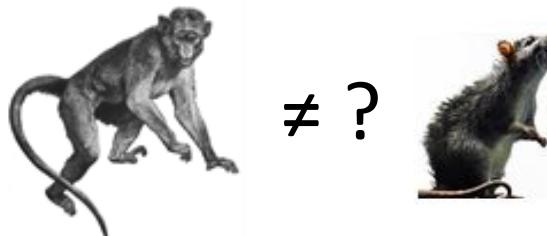
- Regulates pain and rejection
- Promotes motivation for most valuable
 - Monetary reward
 - Faces
 - Face region
 - Sweet tastes
- Clinical significance
 - Decision making and social function
 - Drug abuse
 - Chronic pain
 - Autism



State-dependent μ -opioid pain regulation



State-dependent μ -opioid modulation of social motivation





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Opioid regulation of pleasure and positive emotion

