

Figure 2. Withdrawal severity during conditioning is associated with changes in the hypothalamic and amygdala nuclei BOLD signal in response to the naloxone-paired cue. (A) Hypothalamic cluster extracted from the BOLD signal cue × heroin-access interaction shown in Figure 1C, with a 3D rendered whole-brain underlay. A, anterior; P, posterior. (B) Mean percentage of BOLD signal change from baseline in the hypothalamic cluster to the cue-only presentations. Dot plot displays individual data for each condition. Sal, saline. (C) Scatter plot of heroin intake during naloxone conditioning and BOLD signal response in the hypothalamic cluster to the naloxone-paired cue across both heroin-access groups (Pearson's correlation). (D) Amygdala nuclei extracted from the BOLD signal cue x heroin-access interaction shown in Figure 1C, with a 3D rendered whole-brain underlay. (E) Mean percentage of BOLD signal change from baseline in amygdala nuclei to the cue-only presentations. Dot plot displays individual data for each condition. (F) Scatter plot of heroin intake during naloxone conditioning and BOLD signal response in the amygdala nuclei to the naloxone-paired cue across both heroin-access groups (Pearson's correlation). n = 11 ShA rats; n = 10 LgA rats.

For fMRI data analysis, the averaged signal from white matter and the ventricles was removed by multiple regression analysis (34, 35). We conducted a whole brain 2 (heroin access, ShA versus LgA) × 2 (cue, saline- versus naloxone-paired odor) × 2 (cue presentation block, blocks 1 and 2 versus blocks 3 and 4) mixed-design ANCOVA of the percentage of BOLD signal change, using average respiration rate during the block as a covariate. No a priori regional hypotheses were tested. The 3dClustSim program in AFNI was used to estimate the probability of false-positive clusters, which was used to estimate the cluster size threshold for a given voxel-wise P value threshold to correct for multiple comparisons. A cluster size of 13 with a corrected P < 0.01 (uncorrected P < 0.01) was considered significant. The correlation between behavior (withdrawal severity as the number of heroin infusions during naloxone conditioning) and BOLD signal (in response to odor cues in each of the 19 ROIs that were extracted from the activation cluster, defined by a significant cue × heroin-access interaction) was evaluated using Pearson's test. P values were corrected for multiple comparisons using FDR (q = 0.05).

Study approval. All procedures were reviewed and approved by the NIDA Intramural Research Program's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee in accordance with the National Research Council Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (National Academies Press, 2011).

Author contributions

SAC, JCMV, and HL conducted the experiments. SAC, RJK, and EGLG analyzed the data. EAS and HL supervised the fMRI experiments. LFV and GFK supervised the behavioral experiments. SAC, GFK, and LFV conceptualized and designed the study and wrote the manuscript. All authors contributed to the manuscript writing.

Acknowledgments

We thank J. Comins for comments, M. Arends for proofreading the manuscript, T. Ross and H. Gu for technical advice, Y. Shaham for reinstatement experimental advice, B. Priddy and L. Thomas for technical support, and M. Raley (NIDA IRP Visual Media) for graphical abstract support. This work was supported by the Intramural Research Program of the NIDA, NIH, and a postdoctoral fellowship award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (FRN 152478 to RJK).

Address correspondence to: Leandro F. Vendruscolo, BRC RM 08A727, 251 Bayview Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21224, USA. Phone: 443.740.2869; Email: leandro.vendruscolo@nih.gov.

SAC's present address is: Center for Adaptive Systems of Brain-Body Interactions, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia, USA.

- Scholl L, Seth P, Kariisa M, Wilson N, Baldwin G. Drug and opioid-involved overdose deaths — United States, 2013–2017. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2018;67(5152):1419–1427.
- Koob GF, Volkow ND. Neurobiology of addiction: a neurocircuitry analysis. *Lancet Psychiatry*. 2016;3(8):760-773.
- O'Brien CP, Testa T, O'Brien TJ, Brady JP, Wells
 B. Conditioned narcotic withdrawal in humans.
 Science. 1977:195(4282):1000–1002.
- Kenny PJ, Chen SA, Kitamura O, Markou A, Koob GF. Conditioned withdrawal drives heroin consumption and decreases reward sensitivity. J Neurosci. 2006;26(22):5894–5900.
- Carmack SA, Koob GF, Anagnostaras SG. Learning and Memory in Addiction. In: Byrne JH, ed. *Learning and Memory: A Comprehensive Reference*. Cambridge, MA; Academic Press: 2017: 523-538.
- 6. Wikler A. Dynamics of drug dependence. Implications of a conditioning theory for research and