The orbitofrontal cortex (OFC) is critical to behavioural flexibility when learning and behaviour need to be updated to reflect a change in the environment [REFS]. In particular, the OFC is necessary for appropriately updating behavior when the contingencies between predictive cues and outcomes change, or when outcomes change in value [REFS]. Information encoded in the OFC about the expected value and identity of predicted outcomes is necessary for flexibly updating behaviour when these outcome features change. Population and single-unit neuronal firing in the OFC encodes many features of reward outcomes (e.g. size, preference, identity, time, location, probability, certainty, salience [REFS]), furthermore the coding of these features develops over the course of learning to predictive cues in anticipation of the expected outcome. There is also substantial evidence to suggest that this outcome expectancy information in the OFC is incorporated into mid-brain dopaminergic reward prediction errors [REFS], which are critical for learning [REFS].

Most accounts of OFC function reconcile the encoding of these features of predicted outcomes with functional evidence following causal manipulations of OFC function such as lesions and functional inactivation. For example, OFC lesions reliably disrupt appropriate behaviour in Pavlovian outcome devaluation tasks in a range of species (REFS). In this task the subject first learns that a cue predicts a food reward outcome (acquisition). Next, the value of the outcome is devalued, usually by pairing the consumption of the food reward with illness or nausea to create a specific taste aversion. Finally, at test the subject is presented with the predictive cue again to assess how much they will respond in anticipation of the now undesirable outcome. Control subjects will significantly reduce their responding in the presence of the cue that predicts the devalued outcome (the devaluation effect), whereas animals with OFC lesions continue to respond for the devalued cue as if the taste aversion did not happen. Critically, OFC lesions do not disrupt the initial cue-outcome acquisition learning or the acquisition of a specific taste aversion, suggesting that the OFC necessary for the integration of the initial acquisition and taste-aversion learning.

To account for the effect of OFC lesions on outcome devaluation, one influential class of theories using an associative learning framework suggests that the OFC represents information regarding the identity and stimulus specific properties of expected outcomes [REFS]. Appropriate performance in a devaluation test requires the subject to represent the specific identity of the expected outcome predicted by the cue and know that this particular outcome has recently become undesirable. OFC lesions disrupt the subject’s ability to represent the identity of the expected outcome, so they continue to respond in anticipation of the outcome. Informally, the subjects are expecting an outcome, but do not know what outcome they are expecting.

A second, but complementary class of theories using a reinforcement learning framework suggests that the OFC is necessary for the representation of latent state information (REFS). In reinforcement learning models, tasks such as Pavlovian conditioning can be divided into discrete states, such as “cue on”, “cue off”, and “reward”, which can be tied to physically observable stimuli e.g. a light or reward delivery. However, a change in task state can also be signaled by partially observable information recalled into working memory such as reinforcement history. For example, in the test phase of a devaluation procedure, the animal might need to recall the following chain of events to appropriately reduce responding cue -> outcome -> illness, thus going from an observable state (cue) to a chain of inference over a series of recalled partially observable states (outcome -> illness). In this class of models, the OFC is necessary for the representation of these partially observable latent states. In a devaluation test, OFC lesions would therefore impair the ability to represent and subsequently make an inference using these latent states.

Both of these theories, while couched in different computational and theoretical frameworks, suggest similar roles for the OFC. Latent states encompass specific outcome expectancies and include broader category of potential stimuli (e.g. internal context). Unsurprisingly, the key empirical findings following OFC lesions that are modelled involve tasks in which the animal must rely on latent states to successfully update behaviour. This core set of findings are, extinction (when rewards are no longer available), reversal learning (when cue-outcome contingencies change), and over-expectation (when multiple outcome expectancies must be integrated). Importantly, these core deficits are also accompanied by a critical null result, the finding that initial acquisition learning is often unaffected by OFC lesions.

However, close inspection of the available data suggests that the evidence for a null effect of OFC lesions on acquisition may not be clear or complete. For example, Pavlovian cue-outcome learning studies investigating OFC lesions do not fully train the cue-outcome associations to a behavioural asymptote [REFS] before transitioning to the next phase of the experimental procedure. Similarly, many training protocols involve discrete choice procedures in which OFC lesion and control subjects reach a ceiling level of performance quite rapidly and there is low sensitivity in choice measures to assess differences in response strength [REFS]. Intriguingly, Schoenbaum et al (REFS) have reported no difference between OFC lesion and control animals in the acquisition of a discrete trial go-no learning task (as measured by the number of trials to criterion), but a significant effect of lesions on response latencies. This suggests that OFC lesions may cause differences in the asymptote of conditioning that can be detected by a relatively sensitive behavioural measure.

The fact that OFC lesions are reported not to affect initial acquisitions is surprising since the OFC lesions disrupt normal mid-brain dopaminergic prediction error signaling (REFS), and these prediction error signals are a necessary driver of learning (REFS). However, an implicit assumption of these models is that in simple Pavlovian tasks involving a single cue and outcome, the specific identity of the outcome, or latent state information, is not relevant to correct performance in the task. Therefore, while the underlying content of cue-outcome learning may be impoverished in some way following OFC lesions, this is not revealed until this information becomes relevant when task contingencies change (REFS – Walton). Therefore, a clear prediction of these models is that OFC lesions should not affect the rate of acquisition and or asymptote of conditioning in a simple Pavlovian cue-outcome procedure. This is because the contingency between the cue and outcome is stable, and the identity and other features of the outcome is irrelevant correct performance on the task.

To address this, we tested the effect of OFC lesions on the acquisition of a simple Pavlovian cue-outcome task in which a single conditioned stimulus (CS) predicted a single unconditioned stimulus (US) outcome, and training continued until a behavioural asymptote was reached. We hypothesized that OFC lesions would not affect the rate of learning or total learning (asymptote) of conditioning. This null result was predicted by both latent state and sensory-specific outcome expectancy theories of OFC function, and the ubiquity of reported null effects of OFC lesions on initial acquisition learning [REFS].

**Results**

**Experiment 1: Pre-training OFC lesions**

***Acquisition***

In contrast to numerous reports that OFC lesions do not affect acquisition learning, OFC lesions significantly increased responding to the predictive cue relative to sham control animals (Figure 1A; lesions depicted in Figure 1-supplementary figure 1). Analysis of conditioned responding was conducted as a CS-PreCS difference score such that levels of responding reflected discriminative cue (CS) driven performance above baseline (PreCS). Acquisition of responding to the CS was significantly greater in the lesion group than the sham group (main effect of Group , , Block , , and Group x Block interaction , ). Follow up comparisons on each block revealed that responding in the lesion group was significantly higher than the sham group during the last 4 blocks (Block 1 , , Block 2 , , Block 3 , , Block 4 , , Block 5 , , Block 6 , , Block 7 , ). Given the ubiquity of non-significant effects of OFC lesions on acquisition learning in the literature, two independent replications of this novel effect were conducted (combined here; same pattern of statistical significance in both independent replications) which confirmed the effect was robust.

***Locomotor activity***

The enhanced responding observed during the Pavlovian conditioning procedure in the OFC lesion group could simply reflect an enhancement of general locomotor activity, however locomotor activity (Figure 1C) did not differ between groups (main effect of Time , , but no significant effect of Group , , or Group x TimeBin interaction , ). Therefore, the enhanced responding during acquisition was not simply due to OFC lesions inducing hyperactivity.

***Satiety***

To test whether the enhanced responding following OFC lesions was sensitive to levels of hunger or shifts in motivation, a subgroup of animals (subgroup 1) was tested when sated (Figure 1B). General satiety, providing 24 hours access to home-cage food, did not affect the rate of responding in the sham group (Sham: Satiety vs Hungry , ) but significantly suppressed responding in the lesion group (Lesion: Satiety vs Hungry , ) compared to subsequent testing 24 hours later when hungry again (no significant main effect of Group , , but a significant main effect of Hunger , , and Group x Hunger interaction , ). Since the satiety test session was rewarded, it is possible that OFC lesioned animals could learn that the reward was less valuable by direct experience with the reward, similar to incentive learning effects normally observed in instrumental conditioning (Dickinson & Balleine, 2002). However, this possibility is unlikely as responding was comparable between groups on the first trial of the satiety test (, , Figure 1-figure supplement 2), before the reward was delivered. This suggests that animals with OFC lesions are sensitive to shifts in hunger and general motivation.

***Devaluation Test***

Traditionally, OFC lesions have been shown to cause deficits in Pavlovian outcome devaluation (Gallagher, McMahan, & Schoenbaum, 1999; Panayi & Killcross, 2018; Pickens, Saddoris, Gallagher, & Holland, 2005; Pickens et al., 2003). Therefore, to test whether the present lesion manipulation was comparable to other reports we tested a subgroup of animals (subgroup 2) on Pavlovian outcome devaluation. First the sham and lesion animals were given novel acquisition training of two novel and unique cue-outcome relationship (Figure 1-figure supplement 3A). A specific taste aversion was then established by pairing consumption of one of the outcomes with illness (i.p. injection of lithium chloride; Devalued), and the value of the other outcome was left intact (Non-Devalued). Both groups learned the novel cue-outcome associations and acquired the specific taste aversion (Figure 1-figure supplement 3B).

Finally, during a devaluation test (Figure 1D), the two cues were presented in extinction. The sham group showed a significant devaluation effect, i.e. responding was lower to the devalued than non-devalued cue (, ). In contrast, the devaluation effect was abolished in the lesion group, and responding remained high to both the devalued and non-devalued cue (, ; Significant Group x Cue interaction , , but no main effect of Group , , or Cue , ). This finding successfully replicates the finding that both non-specific and focal OFC lesions abolish the outcome devaluation effect in rodents (Gallagher et al., 1999; Panayi & Killcross, 2018; Pickens et al., 2005, 2003).

**Experiment 2: Post-training muscimol inactivation**

The enhanced Pavlovian responding observed following OFC lesions (Figure 1A) may be due to enhanced learning of the cue-outcome relationship in the OFC lesion group (Figure 2-figure supplement 1). This is consistent with a role for the OFC in representing outcome expectancy information. For example, incremental learning about a cue-outcome relationship is thought to depend upon prediction errors (Esber & Haselgrove, 2011; LePelley, 2004; Mackintosh, 1975; Nasser, Calu, Schoenbaum, & Sharpe, 2017; Pearce & Hall, 1980; Rescorla & Wagner, 1972; Sutton & Barto, 1998), i.e. the difference between the experience outcome value and the expected outcome value. The expected outcome value of a cue is incrementally updated until this prediction error discrepancy is minimised. If the OFC carries some aspect of outcome expectancy information (Baxter, Parker, Lindner, Izquierdo, & Murray, 2000; Pears, Parkinson, Hopewell, Everitt, & Roberts, 2003; Schoenbaum, Roesch, Stalnaker, & Takahashi, 2009; Takahashi et al., 2009, 2011), then OFC lesions might reduce the expected value of a cue which in turn would result in abnormally persistent prediction errors and enhanced learning. Therefore, disruption of OFC function should temporarily lower expected value, and enhance prediction errors and learning (for modelling of this prediction see Figure 2-figure supplement 1). We tested this hypothesis by inactivating the OFC after first successfully acquiring cue-outcome learning i.e. when expected value is high and prediction errors are low. If the OFC carries some aspect of the learned expected value, then inactivation of the OFC should enhance prediction errors, and responding should increase to reflect new learning. Following this, returning function to the OFC should result in an over-expectation of the value of the outcome, and performance should decrease to reflect the extinction of this over-expectation. Importantly, while this account is couched in terms prediction-error learning mechanisms, the prediction remains true for any account of OFC lesions enhancing learning (Figure 1A).

We tested this hypothesis by first training a new group of animals on the same simple Pavlovian task for 9 days, before implantation of bilateral cannulae targeting the OFC (Figure 2A, Days 1-9; significant main effect of Day , , but no main effect of Group , , or Group x Day interaction , ). Following post-operative recovery (histology depicted in Figure 2-figure supplement 2), and prior to infusion, response levels were similar in both groups (Figure 2A, Post; no significant differences between Groups , ).

Contrary to our prediction, intra-OFC muscimol infusions disrupted further acquisition of responding relative to the saline group (Figure 2A, Infusion - Days 12-15; Significant Group x Day interaction , , but no main effect of Group , , or Day , ). Simple effects revealed significantly greater responding in the saline group on the last 2 days of infusions (Muscimol vs Saline: Day 12 , , Day 13 , , Day 14 , , Day 15 , ). Furthermore, the saline group increased responding across infusion days 12-15 (Saline: positive linear trend , ), whereas the muscimol group did not (Muscimol: no significant linear trend , ). Therefore, post-training inactivation of the OFC impaired acquisition.

Post-infusion, with function returned to the OFC, the group differences observed under drug infusion were no longer apparent, and both groups continued to acquire responding at similar levels (Figure 2A, Days 16-17; significant main effect of Day , , but no main effect of Group , , or Group x Day interaction , ). Therefore, the effect of OFC inactivation did not persist, which suggests that the OFC plays a role in the behavioural expression (i.e. performance) of learned value and not in learning *per se*.

**Experiment 3: Post-Training OFC lesions**

Next, we used post-training lesions to rule out the possibility that the differences between pre- and post-training OFC manipulations were simply due to differences in the method of manipulation i.e. excitotoxic lesions vs inactivation using a GABA-A agonist. We trained a new cohort of animals on this simple Pavlovian cue-outcome task for 9 days, and then performed post-training excitotoxic or sham OFC lesions before continuing with acquisition (lesion extent depicted in Figure 2-figure supplement 3). Prior to surgery, animals acquired responding to the cue (Figure 2B, Pre-Surgery; significant main effect of Block , , but no main effect of Group , , or Group x Block interaction , ). After surgery, the sham group continued to acquire responding, but the lesion group did not (Figure 2B, Post-Surgery; significant Group x Block interaction , , but no main effect of Group , , or Day , ). Responding in the sham control group was significantly higher than the lesion group in the final block of 3 days (Block 4 , , Block 5 , , Block 6 , ). Furthermore, further acquisition post-surgery was completely abolished in the lesion group (Lesion: no linear trend over Blocks 4-6 , ), but continued in the sham control group (Sham: significant positive linear trend over Blocks 4-6 , . Therefore, both post-training lesions and inactivation of OFC function effectively block the expression of Pavlovian acquisition.

To facilitate comparisons between experiments, CS-PreCS response rates on Block 6 were Sham: M = 9.61, SD = 3.88, Lesion: M = 7.18, SD = 1.74 (Figure 2B). The terminal levels of responding in the sham group are similar to those of the saline group in Figure 2A, and the sham group in Figure 1A which used identical session parameters. This suggests that the present findings are unlikely to be due to abnormally elevated levels of responding in the control groups in any one of these experiments.

**Experiment 4: OFC inactivation early in acquisition**

The results presented so far suggest that OFC inactivation temporarily suppressed performance, but not learning. However, it is also possible that the protocol is not sensitive enough to observe a learning deficit. For example, rates of responding were still quite high during muscimol inactivation (Figure 2A, days 12-15) and the subsequent recovery of responding (Figure 2A, days 16-17) could reflect rapid within-session learning in the muscimol group. Therefore, we tested the effect of OFC inactivation much earlier in the learning process, after only 4 days of acquisition (Figure 2C) when differences in learning should have greater impact. A new set of animals was implanted with bilateral cannulae (Figure 2-figure supplement 4) and then trained on a simple Pavlovian cue-outcome task (CS was a 10s house light).

Prior to drug infusions, all animals acquired responding to the cue (Figure 2C, Days 1-4; Significant main effect of Day , , but no main effect of Group , or Group x Day interaction , ). However, OFC inactivation during the next 5 days of conditioning significantly impaired acquisition in the muscimol group (Figure 2C, Days 5-9; Significant main effect of Group , , Day , , and Group x Day interaction , ). Responding in the muscimol group was significantly lower than the saline group on days 7-9 (Muscimol vs Saline: Day 5 , , Day 6 , , Day 7 , , Day 8 , , Day 9 , ). Again, this deficit was characterised by significant acquisition over days in the saline group that was abolished in the muscimol group (positive linear trend over days 5-9; Saline , , Muscimol , ). Finally, this reduction in responding persisted on day 10 when all rats were tested without infusion (Figure 2C, Day 10; , ). In contrast to OFC inactivation later in acquisition (Figure 2A), disrupting OFC activity early in learning suppressed performance which persisted when the OFC was active again. This suggests that OFC inactivation early in training disrupted acquisition learning rather than just behavioural performance.

**Experiment 5: OFC inactivation prior to associative blocking**

OFC inactivation during acquisition suppressed cue responding, but it is unclear if this reduction in behaviour is due to suppression of learning (Figure 2A) or behavioural performance (Figure 2C). This ambiguity is predominantly driven by the assumption that an animal’s response levels are some monotonic function of acquired learning (Mackintosh, 1975; Pearce & Hall, 1980; Rescorla & Wagner, 1972; Sutton & Barto, 1998; Wagner, 1981). To disambiguate learning from performance effects we employed an associative blocking design (Figure 3A). In a blocking experiment, first an animal is trained such that a cue (cue A) predicts an outcome (pellet). Next, A is presented in compound with a novel cue (cue B) which also leads to the same pellet outcome. If the animal has learned that cue A sufficiently predicts the pellet outcome already, then very little is learned about cue B i.e. learning about cue A blocks subsequent learning about cue B (Kamin, 1969). However, if learning about cue A is insufficient, then learning about cue B should not be blocked. We predicted that if OFC inactivation is disrupting learning, then OFC inactivation during initial learning about cue A should disrupt the blocking effect.

To test this prediction, a new set of animals was implanted with bilateral cannulae targeting the OFC and tested in a blocking procedure. During stage 1 of blocking (Figure 3B), all animals were given 10 days of acquisition training to cue A. OFC function was intact during the first 4 days of acquisition, and all animals began to acquire the cue A-outcome relationship (Days 1-4: significant main effect of Day , , but no effect of Group , or Group x Day interaction , ). All animals then received an additional 6 days of acquisition to cue A (Figure 3B, Days 5-10) following either intra-OFC infusions of muscimol or saline. Infusions of muscimol depressed overall responding relative to saline infusions (significant main effect of Group , , and Day , , but no Group x Day interaction , ). Importantly, on the final day (Day 10), responding in the muscimol group was significantly lower than the saline group (, ).

Next, animals were trained such that compounds AB and CD also predicted reward (Figure 3C, Stage 2), importantly OFC function was intact in all animals i.e. no infusions. Responding in both the saline and muscimol groups was initially lower to the novel compound CD than to AB (Significant Cue x Day interaction , , and main effect of Day , , but no other main effects or interactions with Group were significant, all remaining effects *F* < 1.91, *p* > .160; Cue AB vs CD: Day 12 , , Day 13 , , Day 14 , ). However, the pattern of means suggests that responding to compound AB in the muscimol group was similar to the novel compound CD on Day 12 (Figure 3C, Right - Day 12, Muscimol: AB vs CD , ), and lower than compound AB in the saline group (Figure 3C, Left - Day 12; Day 12, Saline: AB vs CD , ). Furthermore, Within-session changes over trials on Day 12 revealed rapid within-session acquisition to both compounds in both groups, but responding was significantly lower in the muscimol group at the start of the session (Figure 3 - Supplemental figure 2; First 2 trials, significant main effect of Group , , and Cue , , but no Group x Cue interaction , ). The lower responding to cue AB in the muscimol group suggests that acquisition to cue A was impaired following infusions in Stage 1 and this impairment persisted (albeit transiently) when test drug free in stage 2. Indeed, the levels of responding to compound AB in the muscimol group at the start of Day 12 (Figure 3 - Supplemental figure 2) are similar to levels of responding to the novel compound CD in the saline group. This would suggest that learning about cue A in the muscimol group was impaired in stage 1, and therefore cue A will not effectively block learning to cue B in stage 2.

At test both groups showed significant blocking of learning to cue B relative to the control cue D (Figure 3D; Significant main effect of Cue , , but no main effect of Group , , or Group x Cue interaction , ). This suggests that inactivation of the OFC significantly reduced behavioural performance but not learning to cue A in Stage 1, and this impairment transiently affected compound AB on Day 12 in the absence of OFC inactivation. Therefore, the impairments observed in our earlier findings (Figure 2A & C, post infusion) are unlikely to be due to impairments in learning. In addition to this, we rule out the possibility that the two groups used different attentional solutions to achieve a similar blocking result (Figure 3-Figure supplement 3).

**Experiment 6: Competing response values**

One possible account of the impaired performance following OFC inactivation in the present study is an inability to potentiate behaviour based on the current value of the outcome. Specifically, OFC inactivation may disrupt the ability to potentiate performance based on the current motivational value of the outcome, but leave intact knowledge about the predictive cue-outcome relationship. The current value of an outcome can be modulated by a number of factors such as current motivation (e.g. hunger), the magnitude of the outcome (e.g. volume, concentration, or number or rewards), the probability of the outcome, and the relative value of competing alternative outcomes. To assess this possibility a novel task was created in which the strength of responding to a Pavlovian cue is modulated by the relative value of competing unsignalled rewards i.e. the background rate of reward.

The task involved a Pavlovian cue-outcome procedure similar to those described above i.e. a 15s white-noise auditory stimulus predicted the delivery of a food pellet into a reward magazine at the front of the chamber (Figure 4A). Independently of this contingency, the background rate of reward in the environment was also manipulated. Liquid sucrose reward was made available randomly (i.e. unsignalled delivery) throughout the session in a second reward magazine located at the back of the chamber. The probability of sucrose availability stayed constant for blocks of 8 trials but changed within each session in a randomized order (Figure 4 – Supplementary Figure 1). Sucrose was presented in a dipper cup for 5s and then retracted so that this background reinforcement rate could only be determined by sampling the magazine location. This task provided a measure of a reward guided exploratory behaviour in the sucrose magazine, and Pavlovian behaviour to the pellet magazine driven by the expected value of the predicted outcome (Figure 4 – Supplementary Figure 2). Normally, animals will engage in a range of unmeasured and uncontrolled alternative behaviours in a testing chamber (e.g. exploration, orienting, grooming, etc…) that may compete with Pavlovian magazine approach. Here we provide a means to guide and control these alternative behaviours towards the sucrose magazine, and explicitly measure the integration of un-cued and cued expected value. We also confirmed that behaviour in this task was sensitive to changes in reward value/size, and ruled out the influence of thirst on the valuation of the liquid sucrose reward.

An analysis of the separate magazine approach data (top and middle row) was performed using a Shift (Acquisition, Thirst, 4xSucrose) x Period (PreCS, CS) x Magazine (Sucrose, Pellet) x Probability (Low, Medium, High) repeated measures ANOVA. First, we confirmed that the CS increased behaviour above PreCS levels at the Pellet but not the Sucrose magazine (Pellet magazine: PreCS vs CS , , Sucrose magazine: PreCS vs CS , ; Significant Period x Magazine interaction , , and main effect of Period , ). Therefore, we could effectively dissociate Pavlovian behaviour directed at the Pellet magazine from exploratory sampling behaviour directed at the Sucrose magazine.

Next, we confirmed that animals were sensitive to the background rate of sucrose delivery. The probability of sucrose affected modulated activity in the Sucrose and Pellet magazines in opposing directions (significant Magazine x Probability interaction , ). As the probability of sucrose availability increased, activity at the sucrose magazine increased whereas activity at the pellet magazine decreased (Sucrose magazine: Low vs Medium , , Low vs High , , Medium vs High , , Pellet magazine: Low vs Medium , , Low vs High , , Medium vs High , ). This shows that (1) Sucrose magazine behaviour was sensitive to the unsignalled changes in the background rate of sucrose availability, and (2) Pellet magazine behaviour reflects the trade-off between, and integration of, the expected Pavlovian pellet reward and the background rate of sucrose availability.

Finally, we confirmed that the motivation for the sucrose reward was not significantly driven by a motivational state of thirst, and that the behaviours in this task were sensitive to changes in reward value (i.e. a 4-fold increase in sucrose volume). Increasing sucrose reward size selectively increased behaviour at the Sucrose but not the Pellet magazine, whereas a motivational state of thirst did not significantly affect behaviour at either magazine (significant Magazine x Shift interaction , ; Sucrose magazine: Acquisition vs Thirst , 4xSucrose vs Acquisition , 4xSucrose vs Thirst , ; Pellet magazine: Acquisition vs Thirst , 4xSucrose vs Acquisition , 4xSucrose vs Thirst , ). No other meaningful effects were significant (significant Period x Probability interaction , ; all remaining effects *F* < 3.421, *p* > .06).

***The effect of OFC inactivation on updating relative expected value***

Next, these animals were implanted with bilateral cannulae to assess the role of the OFC in updating relative expected value. Animals were tested following muscimol or saline infusions (within-subjects, counterbalanced order) on a modified task that went from low to high probability only. This provided a shorter session to ensure the efficacy of muscimol throughout the session, and the fixed probability order minimized any potential for satiety to confound behaviour later in the session.

We hypothesized that OFC function was necessary for flexibly controlling the strength of Pavlovian anticipatory behaviour relative to the current value of the outcome and alternative behavioural options in the environment. Specifically, in the present task, following muscimol inactivation, we predicted that behaviour at the Sucrose magazine would remain sensitive to the probability of sucrose whereas behaviour at the Pellet magazine during the CS would no longer be modulated by probability of sucrose i.e. behaviour based on Pavlovian expected value would become inflexible.

First, during the PreCS period, all animals were able to detect changes in the probability of the unsignalled sucrose reward, and appropriately update Sucrose magazine approach behaviour (Figure 4B & D; PreCS period: Significant Probability x Magazine interaction , , and main effects of Probability , , and Magazine , ; No significant main effect or interaction with Drug). Specifically, during the PreCS period, anticipatory approach to the Sucrose magazine in both drug conditions increased with the probability of sucrose (Sucrose magazine: Low vs High probability , ), whereas approach to the Pellet magazine did not change (Pellet magazine: Low vs High probability , ).

Next, during the CS period, OFC inactivation significantly disrupted activity at the Pellet magazine but left activity at the Sucrose magazine intact (Figure 4C & E; CS period: significant Drug x Magazine x Probability 3-way interaction , ). Activity at the Sucrose magazine was not affected by muscimol infusions (Figure 4C; Sucrose magazine: no significant main effect of Drug , , or Drug x Probability interaction , ), whereas activity at the Pellet magazine was significantly disrupted by muscimol infusions (Figure 4E; Pellet magazine: significant Drug x Probability interaction , ). Simple effects revealed that Pellet magazine responding was lower after muscimol than saline infusions for the low probability of dipper reward (, ) but did not differ between infusions for the high probability of dipper reward (, ).

Finally, comparing the analysis of the PreCS and CS periods using a full Drug (Saline, Muscimol) x Period (PreCS, CS) x Magazine (Sucrose, Pellet) x Probability (Low, High) repeated measures ANOVA confirmed our prediction that the muscimol deficit was specific to the Pellet magazine in the CS period (Figure 4 B-E; Significant Drug x Period x Magazine x Probability 4-way interaction , ). OFC inactivation selectively disrupted the ability to modulate behaviour based on integrating Pavlovian expected values with the current rate of alternative rewards i.e. the current subjective value of the predicted reward.

**Discussion**

* Null result consistently reported. Latent state and specific outcome expectancy theories predict no effect in
* simple, single cue-outcome design where the outcome identity is irrelevant to the task and all task states are explicitly cued and stable.
* In contrast to these predictions and the extant literature, we observed a significant and replicable effect of OFC lesions and inactivation on acquisition behaviour.
  + Why did we find this effect? The majority of studies never trained animals to asymptote, notably at around 9-12 days when most procedures proceed to a new phase of learning, we did not observe differences. Instead, differences emerged only later in the asymptote of conditioning (around 15-21 days in this procedure).
  + This effect is consistent with the finding that after extensive acquisition training in a discrete choice go-nogo task, Schoenbaum et al [REFS] observed significant effects of OFC lesions on response vigour as measured by latency to respond, but not on choice accuracy.
* We modelled these deficits within the framework of the OFC representing some aspect of outcome expectancy that informs a full reward prediction-error. Loss of this information would lead to systematic under expectation of reward and therefore increase the asymptote of learning. This model predicted a similar increase in learning following post-training OFC inactivation. However, this hypothesis was not confirmed, and instead post-training OFC inactivation suppressed any further learning. This finding was replicated with post-training lesions, and post-training inactivation at an earlier time point during acquisition.
  + Therefore, the dissociable effects of pre- and post- training OFC lesions/inactivation were not simply differences between lesions and inactivation via muscimol infusions.
  + Reference inhibition paper here? Control cue Z?
* Next, we tested whether the suppressed behaviour following post-training inactivation of the OFC reflected a disruption of learning or performance. Using an associative blocking design, we confirmed that the disruption of behaviour to a single Pavlovian cue did not affect the ability of this cue to effectively block learning about a novel cue. This suggests that OFC inactivation did not disrupt learning about the cue-outcome relationship but instead disrupted the ability to modulate behaviour based on the current learned value of the cue.
  + Maybe refer to Kieflin et al study with Hierarchical stuff to indicate that you rule out a possible account of this effect being a state dependent learning effect.
  + Discuss the importance of not simply relying on performance levels to a target cue to indicate how much learning has occurred
* We concluded from these studies that the OFC was indeed important in simple Pavlovian cue-outcome behaviour even when the cue-outcome contingencies remain stable and the identity of the outcome is not relevant to task performance. Furthermore, it appeared that these effects likely reflected impaired behavioural control rather than impaired learning. To explain these effects, we proposed that the OFC was critical for calculating the current value of an expected outcome relative to the value of other options in the environment.
  + We created a task in which the relative value of alternative behaviours is integrated into Pavlovian expected outcomes to test this hypothesis. As predicted, the OFC was necessary for the integration of the relative value of alternative behaviours into the flexible control of Pavlovian expected value.
  + One possibility is that the failure to integrate between the Pavlovian and non-Pavlovian values is due to the different outcome identities of each of the outcomes i.e. pellet vs liquid sucrose [REFS]. However, it is still the case that the OFC was not necessary for flexibly modulating non-Pavlovian foraging behaviours, but impaired at modulating specifically Pavlovian behaviour based on the expected value of the outcome.
  + This adds to the finding that the OFC does not appear to be involved in other non-Pavlovian learned behaviours such as instrumental action-outcome learning (REFS). The specificity of this neural deficits supports the idea that Pavlovian cue-outcome behaviours are psychologically separate from instrumental action-outcome behaviours [Refs – Omission; SD vs CS in blocking].

Accounting for the pre vs. post training lesion differences

* The dissociable effects of pre- vs post-training lesions are important to understand.
* Updating the value of sensory-specific outcome expectancies
  + From an associative learning framework, the even putatively “simple” single cue-outcome Pavlovian learning can involve a number of different processes (REFS; Hall; Dickinson; Rescorla content of learning; Holland nature of responding; Delamater). Take for example a 10s light cue that reliably predicts the delivery of a pellet reward. A rat can learn that the cue predicts the sensory-specific properties of the outcome (e.g. taste, texture, sweetness, colour, size, location etc...), or the general motivational value of that reward, or simply develop a stimulus-response habit to approach the reward location when the cue is presented. Indeed, there is experimental evidence for these multiple aspects of learning occurring during Pavlovian conditioning [REFS].
  + It is possible that pretraining OFC lesions disrupt the balance of these different aspects of Pavlovian learning and behavior. If the OFC is necessary for the representation of the sensory specific properties of expected outcomes, then OFC lesions might allow a stimulus-response habit system to dominate behavioural control. This may lead to an unconstrained learning system (REFS; Adams and Dickinson chapter) that is not bounded by the actual value of the outcome and is instead limited by a behavioural ceiling and overly sensitive to the current general motivation (e.g. overall hunger levels) of the organism.
  + However, once initial learning occurs with an intact OFC, the initial encoding of the identity of the expected outcome is likely to have occurred (REFS; Delamater- shows this can occur very rapidly). Now, a post-training lesion or inactivation of the OFC is likely to affect the flexible updating of this information. Here we propose that the impaired acquisition behaviour we observed following post-training inactivation reflects an inability to update the current motivational value of the specific outcome that is expected.
* Inflexible Latent states
  + The latent state representation account of the OFC might also be able to account for the differences observed dissociation between pre- and post-training OFC lesions on acquisition.
  + Computational modeling has made the assumption, for simplicity, that in a simple single cue-outcome procedure, the cue state (e.g. “light on”) is stable throughout acquisition. Given that the same cue is presented, and it always leads to the pellet outcome, this stable representation is a reasonable assumption. However, it is also likely that during acquisition this state representation is not stable in healthy control animals. How can the animal be certain that the light cue, the testing chamber context, or the reward pellet that they see on each trial is identical to the trials they have already experienced within the session, and from previous days? The subjective experience of these states is very likely to be different within and between sessions such as the ambient noises, odours, temperature etc.. of the context, the location and intensity of the light cue based on where the rat happens to be located when it turns on, and the gradual onset of sensory specific satiety to the pellet. Informally, how does the rat know that this light is the same light that they saw at the start of the session, or the day before? The perception and recognition of these states is therefore subject to differences in such as generalization, confidence and certainty etc.…
  + Paradoxically, in a simple and stable cue-outcome training procedure pre-training OFC lesions may result in relatively rapid and inflexible formation of task states. The inability to integrate partially observable latent state information about the task could allow for an inflexible and certain representation of the CS state early in training. In this stable and simple training context this would lead to enhanced Pavlovian acquisition. However, in a task with multiple or uncertain cue-outcome contingencies pretraining OFC lesions should impair acquisition [REFS- Walton; Certainty Paper; Hiro’s gambling].
  + However, post-training inactivation of the OFC would disrupt the ability to update the state representation at whatever stage of certainty/stability that it has currently achieved. In the stable single cue-outcome learning situation employed in the present studies, this would result in disruption of further acquisition. Again, in a task with interference from multiple cue-outcome relationships, post-training lesions might actually significantly improve performance.
* Discussion of multiple subregions of OFC/homology [look at Mark’s paper]
  + Bring in Devalaution result as positive control
* Discussion of connectivity of OFC
  + BLA effects – Shauna/Juan Carlos?
* In general – need to cite specific studies to back up statements
  + Consider the new studies claiming OFC effects on learning but not showing it?

The orbitofrontal cortex (OFC) is critical to behavioural flexibility when learning and behaviour need to be updated to reflect a change in the environment [REFS]. In a range of learning situations, neural activity within the OFC initially tracks the value of rewards, and cues that have reliably predicted these rewards [REFS]. This suggests that the OFC represents the expected value of rewards based predictive stimuli in the environment. Expected values play an integral in prediction-error learning theories in which learning is based on the difference between predictions and actual experienced outcomes i.e. actual experienced value – expected value. Indeed, expected value information within the OFC has been tied to mid-brain dopaminergic prediction-error activity [REFS].

Consistent with a role for the OFC in representing expected values involved in prediction-error learning, OFC lesions and inactivation disrupt learning when rewards are no longer available (extinction), when cue-outcome contingencies change (reversal learning), and when multiple outcomes are expected (over-expectation). However, it is also clear that the OFC does not simply represent all information about the expected value of outcomes since OFC lesions do not affect initial, prediction-error dependent, cue-outcome learning. Instead the OFC has been proposed to represent specific aspects of outcome expectancy information. Take for example a putatively simple Pavlovian cue-outcome experiment in which a 10s light cue is immediately followed by a grain pellet reward. An animal can learn that the cue predicts a reward of a certain motivational value, but also about the sensory-specific properties of the outcome (e.g. taste, texture, sweetness, colour, size, location etc...), or simply develop a stimulus-response habit to approach the reward location when the cue is presented. Indeed, there is strong experimental evidence for learning about these multiple aspects of expected outcomes [REFS]. For example, if after learning about the light-pellet contingency, the value of the pellet was reduced by pairing consumption with

Methods and materials

*Animals.* Subjects were male Long Evans rats (Monash Animal Services, Gippsland, Victoria, Australia) approximately 4 months old. Rats were housed four per cage in ventilated Plexiglass cages in a temperature regulated (22 ± 1­°C) and light regulated (12h light/dark cycle, lights on at 7:00 AM) colony room. At least one week prior to behavioural testing, feeding was restricted to ensure that weight was approximately 95% of ad libitum feeding weight, and never dropped below 85%. All animal research was carried out in accordance with the National Institute of Health Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratories Animals (NIH publications No. 80-23, revised 1996) and approved by the University of New South Wales Animal Care and Ethics Committee.

*Apparatus.* Behavioural testing was conducted in eight identical operant chambers (30.5 x 32.5 x 29.5 cm; Med Associates) individually housed within ventilated sound attenuating cabinets. Each chamber was fitted with a 3-W house light that was centrally located at the top of the left-hand wall. Food pellets could be delivered into a recessed magazine, centrally located at the bottom of the right-hand wall. Delivery of up to two separate liquid rewards via rubber tubing into the magazine was achieved using peristaltic pumps located above the testing chamber. The top of the magazine contained a white LED light that could serve as a visual stimulus. Access to the magazine was measured by infrared detectors at the mouth of the recess. Two retractable levers were located on either side of the magazine on the right-hand wall. A speaker located to the right of the house light could provide auditory stimuli to the chamber. In addition, a 5-Hz train of clicks produced by a heavy-duty relay placed outside the chamber at the back-right corner of the cabinet was used as an auditory stimulus. The chambers were wiped down with ethanol (80% v/v) between each session. A computer equipped with Med-PC software (Med Associates Inc., St. Albans, VT, USA) was used to control the experimental procedures and record data.

*Consumption chambers.* To provide individual access to reinforcers during the satiety and devaluation procedures, rats were individually placed into an individual cage (33 x 18 x 14 cm clear Perspex cage with a wireframe top). Pellet reinforcers were presented in small glass ramekins inside the box and liquid reinforcers were presented in water bottles with a sipper tube. 1 day prior to the target procedure, all rats were exposed to the individual cages and given 30 mins of free access to home cage food and water to reduce novelty to the context and consuming from the ramekin and water bottles.

*Locomotor activity.* Locomotor activity was assessed in eight identical boxes measuring 50 x 36x 18 cm (length x width x height), housed in a sound attenuated room. Each box consisted of 4 opaque white polyurethane walls and floor and a removable roof. In the center of the roof was an 18x40 cm grid of 3x3 mm ventilation holes. Two custom pairs of infrared beam detectors spanned the width of the box to detect locomotor activity and were located 15 cm from each end of the box. Beam breaks, corresponding to activity within the box, were recorded on a computer equipped with Med-PC software (Med Associates Inc.).

*Surgery.* Excitotoxic lesions targeting the lateral OFC were performed in experiments [XYZ]. Rats were anesthetized with isoflurane, their heads shaved, and placed in a stereotaxic frame (World Precision Instruments, Inc., Sarasota, FL, USA). The scalp was incised, and the skull exposed and adjusted to flat skull position. Two small holes were drilled into the skull and the dura mater was severed to reveal the underlying cortical parenchyma. A 1-µL Hamilton needle (Hamilton Company, Reno, NV, USA) was lowered through the two holes targeting the lateral OFC (co-ordinates specified below). Stereotaxic co-ordinates were AP: +3.5 mm; ML: ±2.2 mm; D-V: -5.0 mm from bregma. At each site the needle was first left to rest for 1 min. Then an infusion of N-methyl-D-aspartic acid (NMDA; Sigma-Aldrich, Switzerland), dissolved in phosphate buffered saline (pH 7.4) to achieve a concentration of 10μg/μL, was infused for 3 mins at a rate of 0.1 µ/min. Finally, the needle was left in situ for a further 4 mins to allow the solution to diffuse into the tissue. Following the diffusion period, the syringe was retracted, and the scalp cleaned and sutured. Sham lesions proceeded identically to excitotoxic lesions except that no drugs were infused during the infusion period. After a minimum of 1 week of postoperative recovery, rats were returned to food restriction for 2 days prior to further training.

In experiments [XYZ] bilateral guide cannulae were surgically implanted targeting the lateral OFC. Rats were anesthetized with isoflurane, their heads shaved, and placed in a stereotaxic frame (World Precision Instruments, Inc., Sarasota, FL, USA). The scalp was incised, and the skull exposed and adjusted to flat skull position. Two small holes were drilled for the cannulae using a high-speed drill, and four holes were hand drilled on different bone plates to hold fixing screws. Bilateral stainless steel guide cannulae (26 gauge, length 5mm below pedestal; Plastics One, Roanoke, VA, USA) were lowered into the lateral OFC (AP: +3.5 mm; ML: ±2.2 mm; D-V: -4.0 mm from bregma). Cannulae were held in place by dental cement and anchored to the skull with 4 fixing screws. Removable dummy cannulae were inserted into the guide cannulae to prevent them from blocking. After one week of postoperative recovery, rats were returned to food restriction for 2 days prior to further testing.

*Drugs and infusions.* The GABAA agonist muscimol (Sigma-Aldrich, Switzerland) was dissolved in 0.9% (w/v) non-pyrogenic saline to obtain a final concentration of 0.5 *μ*g/0.5 *μ*l. Non-pyrogenic saline 0.9% (w/v) was used as the saline control.During infusions, muscimol or saline was infused bilaterally into the lateral OFC by inserting a 33 gauge internal cannula into the guide cannula which extended 1 mm ventral to the guide tip. The internal cannula was connected to a 25 *μ*l glass syringe (Hamilton Company, Reno, NV, USA) attached to a microinfusion pump (World Precision Instruments, Inc., Sarasota, FL, USA). A total volume of 0.5 *μ*l was delivered to each side at a rate of 0.25 *μ*l/min. The internal cannula remained in place for an additional 1 min after the infusion and then removed. During the infusion procedure animals were allowed to move freely in a bucket to minimize stress. Dummy cannulae were removed prior to, and replaced immediately after, infusions. For the two training sessions prior to infusions, all animals received dummy infusions which were identical to the infusion procedure, except that no liquids were infused. These dummy infusions were performed to familiarize the rats with the microinfusion procedure and thereby minimize stress. Dummy infusions were also conducted on test sessions after the infusions to minimise differences in handling between experimental stages.

*Reinforcers***.** The reinforcers used were a single grain pellet (45 mg dustless precision grain-based pellets; Bio-serv, Frenchtown, NJ, USA), 20% w/v sucrose solution and 20% w/v maltodextrin solution (Myopure, Petersham, NSW, Australia). Liquid reinforcers were flavoured with either 0.4% v/v concentrated lemon juice (Berri, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia) or 0.2% v/v peppermint extract (Queen Fine Foods, Alderley, QLD, Australia) to provide unique sensory properties to each reinforcer. Liquids were delivered over a period of 0.33 s via a peristaltic pump which corresponded to a volume of 0.2 mL. The volume and concentration of liquid reinforcers was chosen to match the calorific value of the corresponding grain pellet reward and have been found to elicit similar rates of Pavlovian and instrumental responding as a pellet reward in other experiments conducted in this lab. In all experiments involving liquids, the magazine was scrubbed with warm water and thoroughly dried between sessions to remove residual traces of the liquid reinforcer. To reduce neophobia to the reinforcers, one day prior to magazine training sessions all animals were pre-exposed to the reinforcers (10 g of pellets per animal and 25 ml of liquid reinforcer per animal) in their home cage.

*Magazine training.* All animals received one session of magazine training for each experimental reinforcer with the following parameters: reward delivery was on an RT60 s schedule for 16 rewards. When necessary, sessions were separated by at least 2 hours and the order of reinforcer identity was counterbalanced between groups.

*Behaviour.* CS responding was operationalized as the number of magazine entries during the CS period. PreCS responding was operationalized as the frequency of responding during the immediately preceding the CS period, and was used as a measure of baseline responding to the testing context. PreCS responding was analysed separately, and any group differences identified and reported. Data were presented as CS – PreCS difference scores, which reflect discriminative responding to the CS. All data were analysed with mixed ANOVAs using SPSS statistical software (REFERENCE), and significant interactions of interest were followed up with ANOVAs on the relevant subset of data. Following significant omnibus ANOVA tests, in addition to simple effects, planned linear and quadratic orthogonal trend contrasts and their interactions between groups were analysed to assess differences in rates of responding.

**Experiment 1: Acquisition with Pre-training lesions**

**Subjects.**

Subjects were forty-eight (N = 48) rats, tested in two cohorts. Cohort 1, n = 16 rats weighing between 280-361 g (M = 312.2 g) and cohort 2, n = 32 rats weighing between 271-328 g (M = 296.3 g).

Training

Pavlovian Acquisition

Following magazine training, all rats received 21 sessions of Pavlovian acquisition training. Each session consisted of 16 presentations of a single auditory CS (a 15 s train of clicks) presented on a VT90s schedule (ranging from 60 to 120 s). A single pellet (US) was delivered at the termination of each CS. The session duration was 28 mins and animals were left in the chamber for an additional 2 mins before being removed. Animals received either one session per day, or two sessions per day separated by at least 2 hours.

Subgroup 1: General Satiety Pre-Feeding

At the end of acquisition training on day 21, a subgroup of animals (sham n = 8, lesion n = 8) were taken off food restriction and given 24 hours free access to their home cage food before further acquisition training on day 22. This session was rewarded as per acquisition training. At the end of day 22 animals were put back on food restriction and continued acquisition training.

***Subgroup 2: Devaluation***

Following initial Pavlovian acquisition of a single CS-US association, a subgroup of animals (sham n = 8, lesion n = 8) were re-trained with two novel unique CS-US associations intended to test devaluation in a taste aversion procedure.

Novel Acquisition

Novel acquisition of two unique CS-US associations was conducted with identical parameters to initial acquisition training, 2 session per day for 14 days, each session consisting of 16 trials consisting of a 15s CS co-terminating with reward with a vITI90s. Unlike initial acquisition the two CSs were an 80dB white noise and a 2800 Hz, 80 dB tone followed by either a single pellet or 20% w/v maltodextrin liquid (CS-US identities counterbalanced between animals).

Taste Aversion

Taste aversion took place in the devaluation chambers and involved 30 mins exposure to one US every day, alternating each day for 4 days. Following fee access to a US animals were immediately injected i.p. with either 0.15M LiCl or 0.9% saline (15 mL/Kg). The outcome paired with nausea induced by injection of LiCl was designated the devalued outcome and the outcome paired with neutral saline injections was designated the non-devalued outcome (counterbalanced between animals). Following the final day of injections all animals were given a day of rest in their home cage to allow hunger levels to return to normal after taste aversion training.

Devaluation Test

Animals were tested with a single session of CS training except that no rewards were delivered i.e. in extinction. The magazine frequency measure that was available was not as sensitive to devaluation as a measure of duration, so only data from the first trial was analysed at test.

Locomotor Activity

At the end of the experimental procedures, all animals were assessed for locomotor activity over a 1-hour period.

**Histology and Group Allocation**

Lesion damage is depicted in Figure XXX. Lesion extent was judged by a trained observer blind to group allocation. A lesion was retained if there was evidence of significant bilateral damage constrained to LO or DLO. Animals were excluded if there was only unilateral LO/DLO damage, evidence of damage to the dorsal part of the anterior olfactory nucleus ventral to LO/DLO or if there was extensive damage to the white matter of the forceps minor of the corpus callosum. One lesioned animal did not recover from surgery, four lesion animals had only unilateral OFC damage, and one lesioned animal had extensive white matter damage. Forty-two animals were retained (N = 42, sham n = 24, lesion n = 18), of which subgroup 1 contained fifteen (*N* = 15; sham *n* = 8, lesion *n* = 7) and subgroup 2 contained thirteen (*N* = 13; sham *n* = 8, lesion *n* = 5).

**PreCS Analysis**

Analysis of the PreCS period using a Group (sham, lesion) x Block (1-7) mixed ANOVA revealed that responding was significantly higher in the lesion group than the sham group (main effect of Group *F*(1, 40) = 7.24, *p* = .01). Furthermore, while responding increased over blocks (main effect of Block *F*(6, 240) = 20.37, *p* < .001; positive linear trend *F*(1, 40) = 33.18, *p* < .001), this increase was greater in the lesion than the sham group (Block x Group interaction *F*(6, 240) = 2.52, *p* = .02; linear trend interaction *F*(1, 40) = 5.34, *p* = .03). During the first block PreCS responding was similar between groups (Sham M = 2.07, SD = 0.60; Lesion M = 2.13, SD = 0.90), by the final block PreCS responding was higher in the Lesion group (M = 4.30, SD = 1.95) than the sham group (M = 2.76, SD = 2.30).

**Experiment 2: Acquisition with Muscimol Inactivation**

**Subjects**

Subjects were thirty-two (total N = 32) male Long Evans rats (Monash Animal Services, Gippsland, Victoria, Australia) approximately 4 months old, weighing between 285-350 g (M = 319.7 g).

***Pavlovian Acquisition***

Animals were given 9sessions, 1 session per day, of Pavlovian acquisition training with session parameters identical to those described in Experiment 3a. This number of session was chosen because the effect of pre-training lesions appeared after around 9 session in Experiments 3a and 3b. Briefly, each session consisted of a VT90s ITI with 16 trials consisting of a 15s click CS co-terminating with a single pellet US. Following the final day of training all animals were taken off food restriction and received surgical implantation of guide cannulae.

**Post-Training**

***Pre-Infusion***

Following post-operative recovery animals were returned to food restriction for a day before receiving a further 2 days of acquisition training as per pre-training. However, immediately prior to entering the chamber all animals received a dummy infusion.

***Infusion***

Animals were assigned to one of two infusion groups such that performance there were no differences between groups on the final day of pre-infusion acquisition. For the next 4 days, all animals received an infusion of saline or Muscimol immediately prior to entering the testing chamber for a Pavlovian acquisition session.

***Post-Infusion***

On the final 2 days of training all animals received a further 2 days of acquisition training immediately preceded by a dummy infusion.

**Histology and Group Allocation**

Cannulae placements are illustrated in (Figure X). One animal did not recover from surgery and was excluded. Three animals were excluded as a result of the cannulae assembly detaching from the skull. A further 3 animals were excluded as a result of failing to consume the pellets after recovery from surgery. One animal from the muscimol group was excluded from analysis as a result of a cannula tip embedded within the white matter of the forceps minor of the corpus callosum. Therefore, a total of 8 animals were excluded leaving *N* = 24 (saline *n* = 12, muscimol *n* = 12).

**PreCS Rates**

PreCS baseline responding did not differ between infusion groups across training and justified the use of CS-preCS difference scores for analyses of discriminative responding. In particular, during the infusion period a Group x Day (4 days) mixed ANOVA on preCS responses revealed a significant effect of Day (*F*(3, 66) = 5.95, *p* = .001) but no significant effect of Group (*F*(1, 22) = 0.01, *p* = .93) or Group x Day interaction (*F*(3, 66) = 0.41, *p* = .741). PreCS response rates on these days were, saline *M* = 0.70, *SD* = .48, muscimol *M* = 0.72, *SD* = .48.

**Experiment 3: Post-training LO Lesions**

**Methods**

**Subjects**

Subjects were twenty-four (total N = 24) male Long Evans rats (Monash Animal Services, Gippsland, Victoria, Australia) approximately 4 months old, weighing between 317-369 g (M = 338.9 g).

**Pre-lesion Training**

***Pavlovian Acquisition***

All animals received 9 days of Pavlovian acquisition training, 1 session per day. On the final day of training all animals were removed from food restriction for at least 24 hours before receiving sham or excitotoxic lesions of the OFC. Lesion conditions were pseudo-randomly assigned to animals such that group performance was matched on the final day of acquisition and an equal number of animals were assigned to each lesion condition in each homecage.

**Post-lesion Training**

***Pavlovian Acquisition***

Following post-operative recovery all animals were returned to food restriction for 24 hrs before receiving an additional 9 days of acquisition training.

**Histology and Group Allocation**

Lesion damage is depicted in Figure X. Lesion extent was judged by a trained observer blind to group allocation. A lesion was retained if there was evidence of significant bilateral damage constrained to LO or DLO. Animals were excluded if there was only unilateral LO/DLO damage, evidence of damage to the dorsal part of the anterior olfactory nucleus ventral to LO/DLO or if there was extensive damage to the white matter of the forceps minor of the corpus callosum. Three lesion animals had only unilateral OFC damage and were excluded from analysis (final *N* = 21; sham *n* = 12, lesion *n* = 9).

**PreCS Responding**

PreCS levels of responding did not differ between groups across days of training, and on the final block of 3 days (post-operative) response rates (15s) were sham *M* = 2.55, *SD* = 2.03, lesion *M* = 2.74, *SD* = 0.94. A mixed Group x DayBlock (6 blocks of 3 days) ANOVA on preCS responding supported this observation with only a significant main effect of DayBlock (*F*(5, 95) = 11.52, *p* < .001, effect of Group and Group x DayBlock interaction *F* < 1.00, *p* > .81).

**Experiment 5: Early training Acquisition with Muscimol Inactivation**

**Subjects**

Subjects were thirty-two (total N = 16) male Long Evans rats (Monash Animal Services, Gippsland, Victoria, Australia) approximately 4 months old, weighing between 321-399 g (M = 357.4 g).

**Surgery**

Surgical implantation of cannulae occurred prior to any behavioural training.

***Pavlovian Acquisition***

Animals were given 10sessions, 1 session per day. Briefly, each session consisted of a VI 200s ITI with 16 trials consisting of a 10s light CS (illumination of the house light at the back of the chmber) co-terminating with a single pellet US. Subjects received mock infusions on days 3 and 4, and either Saline or Muscimol was infused prior to entering the chamber on days 5-9. On day 10 all animals received a mock infusion.

**Histology and exclusions**

One rat in the Muscimol condition had a blocked guide cannulae and was excluded from experimental analysis. Final numbers N = 15 (Muscimol n = 7, Saline n = 8).

**PreCS Rates**

PreCS responding did not differ between infusion groups across the 10 days of Pavlovian conditioning (Group *F*1,13 = 2.72, *p* = .12; Day *F*9,117 = 1.49, *p* = .16; Group x Day *F*9,117 = 2.72, *p* = .25).

**Experiment 4. Pavlovian blocking following LO inactivation during acquisition**

**Subjects**

Subjects were thirty-two (total N = 32) male Long Evans rats (Monash Animal Services, Gippsland, Victoria, Australia) approximately 4 months old, weighing between 299-395 g (M = 331.5 g).

**Surgery**

Surgical implantation of cannulae occurred prior to any behavioural training.

**Training**

The design of the experiment was such that 4 CSs were designated as cues A, B, C and D. Cues A and C were always visual cues, either darkness caused by extinguishing the houselight or flashing panel lights (5Hz; Figure 3A). Cues B and D were always auditory cues, either an 80dB white noise or a 5Hz train of clicks. Throughout all training sessions the house light was always illuminated unless it was extinguished to act as a visual cue. All cues lasted 10s and co-terminated with the delivery of the US, 2 pellets delivered consecutively 0.25s apart. The identity of the cues was counterbalanced between subjects except that A and C were always visual cues and B and D were always auditory cues. Simultaneous audio-visual compounds were designated as AB and CD. Pavlovian training sessions were always 56 mins long such that there were 16 trials with a vITI 200s (range 100 to 300s); animals were left in the chambers for an additional 2 mins before being removed.

***Food Restriction and Magazine Training***

Magazine training sessions consisted of an RT120s reward delivery schedule for 16 rewards. Each reward consisted of 2 pellets delivered to the magazine 0.25s apart.

***Stage 1***

Stage 1 acquisition involved 10 days of acquisition to cue A, 16 trials per session. On days 1-4 of training all animals received dummy infusions to familiarise them to the infusion procedure. Animals were then split into two groups with matched performance on day 4. On days 5-10 all animals received an infusion of saline or muscimol immediately prior to entering the test chambers.

***Pre-exposure***

On day 11 all rats received pre-exposure to auditory cues B and D, 4 non-rewarded presentations of each cue vITI 200s. This was done to minimise novelty to the auditory cues during compound training in stage 2. All animals received dummy infusions prior to the session.

***Stage 2***

On days 12-14 all animals received stage 2 audio-visual compound training. Sessions involved 8 presentations of compound AB and 8 presentations of CD (pseudo randomly presented such that a compound was never repeated more than 2 times in a row). The compounds were rewarded with 2 pellets, the same US that was used in stage 1. All animals received dummy infusions prior to each session.

***Test***

On day 15 and 16 all animals were tested in extinction for responding to the target auditory cue B and the overshadowing control cue D (8 presentations of each cue, pseudorandom trial order, vITI 200s). All animals received dummy infusions prior to each session.

***Re-acquisition***

On days 17-19, all animals received re-acquisition training to cue B (16 trials per session) to test for differences in rates of re-acquisition to the blocked cue. On days 20-21 animals were tested for re-acquisition to cue A (16 trials per session) to test for differences in the rate of re-acquisition to the blocking cue.

**Results**

**Histology and Group Allocation**

Cannulae placements are illustrated in Figure X. 1 animal failed to consume pellets throughout the experiment and was excluded from testing. One animal from the muscimol group lost its cannula assembly during the infusion period and was excluded from testing. One animal in the muscimol group was euthanized due to severe illness. A further 2 animals were excluded after histological analysis revealed that the cannulae were only unilaterally targeting DLO and LO. Therefore, a total of 6 animals were excluded leaving *N* = 26 (saline *n* = 13, muscimol *n* = 13).

**PreCS Responding**

Baseline levels of responding did not differ between groups during training, and on the final day of infusions (day 10 of stage 1) preCS response rates (10s) were saline *M* = 0.122, *SD* = 0.24, muscimol *M* = 0.67, *SD* = 0.87. These observations were supported by mixed Group x Day ANOVAs on preCS responding in stage1 suggesting that there were no group differences on days 1-4 prior to infusion (all *F* < 1.69, *p* > .21) or on days 5-10 during infusions (significant main effect of Day *F*(5, 120) = 15.21, *p* < .001, all remaining *F* < 1.00, *p* > .50).

**Experiment 6. Effect of LO Inactivation on reward competition**

**Subjects**

Subjects were eight (total N = 8) male Long Evans rats (Monash Animal Services, Gippsland, Victoria, Australia) approximately 4 months old, weighing between 285-331 g (M = 314.9 g).

**Apparatus**

The apparatus comprised of 8 operant chambers (Med Associates Inc.) individually housed in light and sound attenuating cabinets. Each chamber comprised of a transparent Perspex back wall, roof and front door, with aluminium left and right-hand walls. The floor consisted of 19 steel bars (3.8mm diameter, spaced 1.6 cm apart), aligned perpendicular to the back of the chamber. Rewards could be independently delivered into one of two recessed magazines located centrally at the bottom of the left and right-hand walls. The magazine on the right-hand wall could be rewarded with food pellets (45 mg; Bio-Serv) whereas the magazine on the left hand wall could be rewarded with liquid rewards delivered by a dipper cup mechanism that could be retracted from the magazine. Access to the magazines was measured by infrared detectors at the mouth of the recess. Two panel lights (2 cm diameter) were located on either side of the right-hand magazine at the top of the right-hand wall. A 3-W house light was located at the top left of the left-hand wall. A speaker located to the right of the house light (on the top far right of the left-hand wall) could provide auditory stimuli to the chamber. In addition, a 5-Hz train of clicks produced by a heavy-duty relay placed outside the chamber at the back-right corner of the cabinet was used as an auditory stimulus. A computer equipped with Med-PC software (Med Associates Inc.) was used to control the experimental procedures and record data.

**Food Restriction and Magazine Training**

All animals were food restricted for at least 2 days prior to any training, and pre-exposed to sucrose (10 mL) and pellets (5g per rat) in their homecage.

Magazine training involved the unsignalled delivery of the reinforcer in the experimental chamber to familiarise the subjects with retrieving rewards from each of the two magazines. All rats received two separate magazine training sessions in one day (separated by at least 2 hours), one for each magazine, order counterbalanced. The dipper magazine was always paired with 20% w/v sucrose solution, the other magazine was always rewarded with pellets. Magazine training involved un-signalled delivery of reward on an RT60s schedule for 16 rewards.

**Acquisition**

Acquisition training lasted for 16 days. In each session rats received 3 consecutive blocks of 8 trials. Each trial consisted of a vITI 105s, a 15s CS (80 dB white noise) co-terminating in a pellet delivered into the pellet magazine. Simultaneously, there was always a probability of un-signalled 5s access to sucrose in the dipper magazine (dipper cup held 0.01cm3 fluid). The probability of sucrose availability changed randomly between each block from low (p = 2/24), medium (p = 4/24) to high (p=8/24). Each trial was defined by 24 bins of 5s (trial length = 120s). During this period the CS would occur across 3 5s bins (15s CS) and there was the possibility of un-signalled reward at the dipper magazine at the start of each 5s time bin. Notably, un-signalled reward could occur during any 5s bin, including the CS period. Unsignalled rewards occurred 2, 4, or 8 times in each trial. The pellets were therefore signalled rewards (as they were reliably preceded by the CS). The sucrose dipper was un-signalled, and if the sucrose was not collected during the 5s period the dipper would be retracted and lost.

**Water deprivation**

On days 17 and 18, all animals were water restricted for 22h prior to testing. Test sessions were identical to acquisition sessions. Animals were given 2 hours of free access to water 2 hours after test sessions. Animals were given 24 hours of ad libitum access to water after day 18 before any further testing to ensure animals were no longer thirsty in subsequent tests.

**Un-Signalled Reward Shift**

On testing days 19 and 20 received 2 sessions of acquisition with an increased magnitude of un-signalled reward delivery. Specifically, the size of the dipper cup was increased from 0.01 to 0.04 cm3 of fluid so that each un-signalled reward was increased in volume.

**Surgery and drug infusions**

Following testing day 20 all animals were taken off food restriction and underwent surgical implantation of guide cannulae targeting the lateral OFC.

**Test**

Following post-operative recovery all animals received 3 days of training immediately preceded by dummy infusions. All post-operative sessions used the larger sucrose dipper cup volume (0.04 cm3). Following this, all animals received 2 days of training in which they received 1 test day under saline infusion and 1 test day under muscimol infusion. The order of infusion days was counterbalanced. Test sessions were shortened to only 2 blocks with a fixed progression from low probability (p = 2/24) to high probability (p = 8/24) of un-signalled reward. This was done to ensure that muscimol was still active during the test session by keeping the session duration to 30 mins.

**Response Analysis**

It is important to note that all magazine responding in this procedure was analysed from periods in which the dipper reward was not physically present to eliminate the possibility that magazine responses simply reflect sucrose consumption.

**Histology**

Cannulae placements are illustrated in (FIGXXX). Two animals were due to the cannulae assembly losing patency during post-operatively. Therefore, a total *N*= 6 animals were tested post-operatively.