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Title:	Probing the role of CREB homolog, CRH-1, in innate and learned behaviours in <i>C. elegans</i>
Authors:	Rose, Saloni (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Rose%2C+Saloni)
Keywords:	Chemotaxis in <i>C. elegans</i> Behavioural assays Associative learning paradigm Localisation of AMPA
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Abstract:	<p>Animals display innate behaviours that are genetically hardwired and can be performed in response to a cue. Although they are stereotypic, some innate behaviours can be modified through experience. One such behaviour is chemotaxis towards an attractant isoamyl alcohol (IAA) in <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>. <i>C. elegans</i> is a soil dwelling nematode that lives on microbes for its food source. They move forward in a sinusoidal wave pattern and their forward movement is punctuated by frequent stops and events of backward movement called reversals. The main strategy is to reduce the frequency of reversals when the environment becomes more favourable. <i>crh-1</i> (homolog of mammalian CREB1) null mutants have severely compromised ability to change the reversal frequency in response to the gradient of attractant IAA. This defect is also manifested as a learning defect in <i>crh-1</i> null worms. Our experiments employ a learning paradigm where the IAA was paired to heat and show that CRH-1c and CRH-1e (2 out of 6 CRH-1 isoforms) are required for innate behaviours as well as learned. Consistent with the behavioural data, the spatial localisation of ionotropic glutamate receptor subunit GLR-1 was found to be defective in CRH-1c and CRH-1e deletion lines. These experiments provide important insight into mechanistic understanding of CREB1/CRH-1 transcription factor in mediating innate and learned behaviours.</p>
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