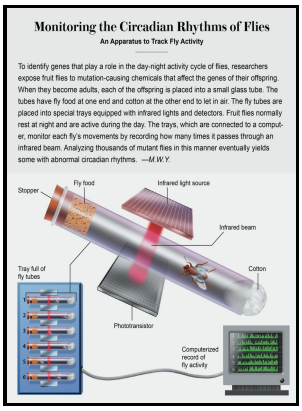
Molecular genetics of biological rhythms

M. Dekker - The genetics of circadian rhythms, sleep and health



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Molecular and Genetic Aspects of Chronobiology

The shaded bar in a shows the critical photoperiodic range for determining whether the day length is long or short. A doctor may also wish to rule out other conditions, like blood sugar disorders, that can cause similar mood disorder symptoms.

Biological rhythms

As circadian rhythms percolate almost every aspect of human physiology and biochemistry, it is no surprise that when rhythms are disrupted, there are important implications for human and animal health and well-being. Dinges, in , 2011 Abstract The biological clock in the suprachiasmatic nuclei SCN of the anterior hypothalamus regulates human behavior as it changes across the 24-hour day.

Molecular and Genetic Aspects of Chronobiology

Reconfiguration of a Multi-oscillator Network by Light in the Drosophila Circadian Clock. Nonexposed control larvae are shown in a. The model also provides a novel framework for the timing of epigenetic modifications during the lifespan and transgenerational inheritance of an organism.

Biological rhythms

Circadian rhythm is a universal biological property functioning in most living species on the earth from bacteria and plants to animals. The molecular machinery of the circadian system plays a pivotal role in a wide range of functional systems, ranging from the control of cell cycle, to the regulation of cardiac and metabolic function, and of the human sleep—wake cycle. Ultradian and circadian clocks share common elements at the molecular level.

Molecular Genetics of Circadian Rhythms

The hypothesis proposed is that an epigenetic clock serves to maintain the period of molecular rhythms via control over the phase of gene transcription and this timing mechanism resides in all cells, from unicellular to complex organisms. Closely related to circannual rhythms are seasonal rhythms, which also approximate 1 year. Disruptions of circadian rhythms play a role in pathology, including cancer, sleep disorders, and mental health.

Biological Rhythm

This article focuses on the implication of the molecular mechanisms driving circadian rhythms in CRSD.

Biological Rhythms: Types, Disorders, and Treatments

Diagnosing biological rhythm disorders is usually a matter of a careful health history review. From a brain and body perspective, our bodies are made to sleep at night. The related terms chronomics and chronome have been used in some cases to describe either the mechanisms involved in chronobiological phenomena or the more quantitative aspects of chronobiology, particularly where comparison of cycles between organisms is required.

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