

Role of orexin and opioid dynorphin peptides in obesity behavioral dysregulation

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" why the study of obesity is relevant today

Obesity health risks

- Fast growth in modern society " fast rate of growth points that purely biological causes are unlikely
- Environmental variables are critical in obesity

" Environmental variables become relevant when they interact with behavior through ‘decision making’

Homeostatic and hedonic feeding behavior

- Definition

" This should provide a model that explains feeding behavior as a series of decisions (“feeding bouts”) and how value is assigned to each dietary option

- Behavioral controllers of feeding behavior
 - ‘Reinforcement learning’ action/state/value/reward model

" How are these behavioral controllers affected by the environmental variables

Behavioral controllers under the cafeteria diet

" If obesity happens in a particular environment, how the behavioral controllers are dysregulated in order to consume more calories than those used

- Definition of cafeteria diet
- Cafeteria diet induced obesity
- Decision-making dysregulations

" What obesity does at the level of behavior should be clear up to this point, now it should state how obesity does this.

Feeding neurobiology in obesity

" This section should be the longest

" State-dependent effects should be reviewed both ways (1) ox/dyn (injection) effect in obese animals; (2) ox/dyn levels in obese animals

" Site-specific is related to PVN versus Ventral tegmental area

- Orexin and dynorphin regulating hedonic intake
 - State-dependent effect (obese / non-obese)
 - Site-specific effect
- How these peptides could regulate controllers value functions
 - Modulation of the reward properties of food " leptin, ghrelin, insulin (?)

" By this point it should be clear how orexin/dynorphin modulate neural activity and how that neural activity is related to the 'behavioral controllers'

Conclusions