



Neural Plasticity

Special Issue on

Circuit Mechanisms of Rewarding Social Interactions

CALL FOR PAPERS

Social behavior is essential for successfully navigating the currents of day-to-day life. Unfortunately, a common symptom of many neuropsychiatric disorders is the dysregulation of limbic circuits that regulate social reward. Such dysregulation often manifests as active social avoidance or a lack of interest in social interaction and can be exacerbated or precipitated by stressful experiences. Thus, investigations aimed at uncovering pathological adaptations of limbic circuit functions underlying maladaptive social behavior are highly necessary.

Technological advances in the last decade allow for high-resolution investigations into the neural correlates of behaviors. Novel tools, such as site-specific recombinase technology and viral mediated gene-transfer, allow for improved anatomical and functional mapping of micro and macro circuits *in vivo* and *in vitro*. These technologies are being used to demonstrate changes in synaptic strength, connectivity, gene regulation, and the molecular mechanisms underlying experience-dependent plasticity, in normal and pathological states.

We invite investigators to contribute original research articles as well as review articles that seek to uncover particular circuits involved in regulating social behaviors as well as encoding the rewarding aspects of these interactions.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Cell-type specific regulation of social interaction and reward
- ▶ Anatomical-projection specific regulation of social interaction and reward
- ▶ Molecular mediators of social interaction and reward
- ▶ Circuit activity regulation of epigenetic modifications in social interaction and reward
- ▶ Behavioral models of pro- and antisocial reward

Authors can submit their manuscripts via the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/np/cmr/>.

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