The Neuroscience of Major Depression: Focus on Anhedonia

Environmental factors

Depression

Biological vulnerability

Decreased reward encoding/learning
↓ OFC, ↓ ventral/dorsal striatum

Exaggerated stress responsiveness
↓ medial PFC, ↓ hippocampus, ↑ amygdala

Acute stress → ↑ PFC DA

Blunted mesolimbic DA pathways

↓ DA

Chronic stress: downregulation

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Hosted by Dr. Judy Garber and Dr. Steve Hollon