Behavioral Tasks Evaluating Schizophrenia-like Symptoms in Animal Models: A Recent Update

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Abstract: *Background*: Schizophrenia is a serious mental illness that affects more than 21 million people worldwide. Both genetics and the environment play a role in its etiology and pathogenesis. Symptoms of schizophrenia are mainly categorized into positive, negative, and cognitive. One major approach to identify and understand these diverse symptoms in humans has been to study behavioral phenotypes in a range of animal models of schizophrenia.

Objective: We aimed to provide a comprehensive review of the behavioral tasks commonly used for measuring schizophrenia-like behaviors in rodents together with an update of the recent study findings.

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Methods: Articles describing phenotypes of schizophrenia-like behaviors in various animal models were collected through a literature search in Google Scholar, PubMed, Web of Science, and Scopus, with a focus on advances over the last 10 years.

Results: Numerous studies have used a range of animal models and behavioral paradigms of schizophrenia to develop antipsychotic drugs for improved therapeutics. In establishing animal models of schizophrenia, the candidate models were evaluated for schizophrenia-like behaviors using several behavioral tasks for positive, negative, and cognitive symptoms designed to verify human symptoms of schizophrenia. Such validated animal models were provided as rapid preclinical avenues for drug testing and mechanistic studies.

Conclusion: Based on the most recent advances in the field, it is apparent that a myriad of behavior tests are needed to confirm and evaluate the congruency of animal models with the numerous behaviors and clinical signs exhibited by patients with schizophrenia.

Keywords: Schizophrenia, symptom, behavioral task, animal model, genetic, environment.

1. INTRODUCTION

Schizophrenia, a serious mental illness with a lifetime worldwide prevalence of 0.4% [1], affects more than 21 million people [2]. Schizophrenia is a complex neuropsychiatric disorder whose etiology and pathogenesis have been attributed to both genetics and the environment [3]. Symptoms ordinarily begin between the late teens and early thirties [1]. Symptoms of schizophrenia have been typically categorized into three clusters: positive, negative, and cognitive [4, 5]. Positive symptoms involve hallucinations (false perceptions), delusions (abnormal beliefs), disorganized thinking, and experiences that are not characteristic of a normal mental

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state [5-9]. Negative symptoms comprise social withdrawal, lack of motivation, impoverished speech, emotional blunting, and abnormalities in social interaction, which are all signs representing deficits in normal social functions [7-10]. Lastly, cognitive symptoms include impairments in working memory, attention, and executive function [5, 7-13]. Currently, antipsychotic drugs are mainly effective against positive symptoms, showing little therapeutic success in mitigating negative and cognitive symptoms [9, 10, 13, 14]. Even then, existing antipsychotics against positive symptoms have limited efficacy and have harmful side-effects [15].

To date, the etiology of schizophrenia remains unclear. Furthermore, there are no biological markers for the diagnosis of schizophrenia, and patient diagnosis is only based on an established set of clinical symptoms [16, 17]. In addition, medication selection and assessment of treatment, prognosis, and life functioning of people with schizophrenia are primarily focused on clinical signs [18, 19]. Hence, the confir-

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mation of these clinical symptoms in human patients is of the utmost importance. Various animal models are needed to aid in the identification of these diverse symptoms, which may be achieved through more rapid monitoring of disease progression than is feasible in humans [4]. Nonetheless, it is difficult to fully reproduce symptoms of schizophrenia in experimental animals [8]. Although there are individual variances in the overall brain anatomy, the gross anatomy of the brain, including long-range neural projections as well as many of the neuronal and molecular pathways underlying brain function, is evolutionarily conserved among rodents and humans [7, 20]. Moreover, there remain commonalities in behavioral abnormalities between rodents and humans, with conserved circuitry [20]. Animal models of schizophrenia should fulfill the three main criteria of face, construct, and predictive validity for the disorder [21]. Face validity represents how well the animal model mimics the symptoms of schizophrenia in human patients; construct validity describes the conformity of the model's pathophysiology and etiology with those proposed in human schizophrenia; and predictive validity indicates the expected response to established and novel therapeutics [4, 5, 21, 22]. Consequently, animal models of schizophrenia should be devised based on construct validity and evaluated according to both face and predictive validities [5]. In particular, face and predictive validities are confirmed by subjecting the model animals to various behavioral tasks [23]. Preclinical and clinical studies have thus established similar behavioral tasks for laboratory animals and human patients with the primary objective of correctly studying homologous actions in both organisms [7]. Within the past 10 years, multiple review papers have examined the ways in which schizophrenia is constructed and modeled in animals [4, 21, 24-37]. In contrast, to the authors' knowledge, no review papers have attempted to elucidate the various behavioral tasks employed to evaluate these animal models in the same encompassing scope and detail. The primary goal of this review paper was to fill this gap by providing a comprehensive but concise account of how to confirm schizophrenia-like behavior in animal models.

2. BEHAVIORAL TASKS MEASURING POSITIVE SYMPTOMS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

Schizophrenia's key positive symptoms include paranoia, visions, disorganized perception, and traits that are uniquely human. A subgroup of patients with schizophrenia also shows psychomotor agitation, which includes hyperactivity or increased stereotypic movements [38, 39]. Due to its face validity and simple quantification compared to other positive symptoms, the measurement of locomotor activity has been extensively used to elucidate the positive symptom of schizophrenia in preclinical fields [23]. However, this symptom is not exclusive to schizophrenia, as patients with several neuropsychiatric disorders such as attention deficit disorder and bipolar disorder also exhibit psychomotor agitation [20, 40]. The involvement of dopamine in movement control is well known, and psychomotor agitation in schizophrenia could be caused by hyperdopaminergic activity. Thus, enhanced dopaminergic activity in rodents results in hyperlocomotion, including greater horizontal movement, rearing, and a range of stereotyped behaviors [23]. Furthermore, patients with schizophrenia show a deficit in sensorimotor gating, which is widely accepted as an endophenotype of schizophrenia [41]. The impairment causes oversensitivity to sensory stimulation resulting in cognitive fragmentation and cognitive disorders [42]. The deficit in sensorimotor gating is thus considered to be an "interface of psychosis and cognition" rather than a simple positive symptom [43]. Here, we describe the behavioral tasks most commonly used to measure positive symptoms, namely the open field test for evaluating locomotor activity and prepulse inhibition (P-PI) for evaluating sensorimotor gating.

2.1. Open Field Test

Locomotor activity describes the ambulatory movement of a species in a given environment. Usually, it is measured by using the open field test, which tests subjects by placing them in a confined space and subsequently determining the distance they traveled and time they spent traveling over the total duration of the experiment [40]. This can be conveniently measured using automated photocell cages or scored by observation. More complex methodology includes measurement of the ethological range of natural behaviors and qualitative analysis of behavior patterns and perseverative features [44]. In mouse models, a typical method of locomotor activity measurement entails the placement of the animal in a rectangular acrylic arena, with transparent walls, that is completely novel to the animal. Mice are allowed to freely explore the area for a set amount of time while their movements are manually or automatically recorded [44].

In various established models of schizophrenia, animals display increased locomotor activity, either at the baseline level or in response to a novel environment. Table 1 lists recent articles on locomotor activity in several types of animal models, including developmental, genetic, and pharmacological models. In the developmental model, maternal immune activation (MIA) by the inflammatory agent polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid (poly(I:C)) during pregnancy [45] and perinatal levodopa (L-dopa) treatment in juvenile female mice [46] induced hyperlocomotion in the offspring. Various genetic models of schizophrenia have also shown different locomotion results depending on which gene is manipulated. Most genetically induced animal models of schizophrenia display an increase in locomotor activity in various conditions. Such conditions include Sterol regulatory element-binding protein 1c (SREBP1c) knockout (KO) mice [47], G protein-coupled receptor 88 (GPR88) KO mice [48], dystrobrevin binding protein 1 (Dtnbp1) deficiency mice [49], knockdown of metabotropic glutamate receptor 5 (mGluR 5) mice [50], N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor ablation mice [51], brain-specific collapsin response mediator protein 2 (CRMP2) KO mice [52], lq21.1 hemizygous microdeletion (hemizygotic Df(h1q21)/+) mice + amphetamine [53], dopamine transporter (DAT) KO mice [54], and glial glutamate and aspartate transporter (GLAST) KO mice [55]. However, no effect on locomotor activity was observed in animal models with reduced solute carrier family 1

Paradigm	Animal Model	Experimental Manipulation	Results	References
Open field	Developmental	Poly(I:C)-induced MIA mouse offspring	↑ increased locomotion	[45]
test		Perinatal L-Dopa treatment in female juvenile mice	↑ increased locomotion	[46]
	Genetic	SREBP1c KO mice	↑ increased locomotion	[47]
		GPR88 KO mice	↑ increased locomotion	[48]
		Dtnbp1 deficient mice	↑ increased locomotion	[49]
		mGlu5 KO mice	↑ increased locomotion	[50]
		NMDA receptor ablated mice	↑ increased locomotion	[51]
		Brain-specific CRMP2 KO mice	↑ increased locomotion	[52]
		Df(h1q21)/+ mice (1q21.1 hemizygous microdeletion)	↑ increased locomotion	[53]
		DAT KO mice	↑ increased locomotion	[54]
		GLAST KO mice	↑ increased locomotion	[55]
		Reduced SLC1A1 expression in mice	NE	[56]
		GAS7 deficient mice	NE	[57]
		Type III NRG1 ^{+/-} male mice from the mutant fathers	NE	[58]
		Selective mPFC PLC-	NE	[59]
	Pharmacological	Amphetamine (1 and 5 mg/kg) or MK-801 (0.01 and 0.05 mg/kg), Higher doses of amphetamine (25 mg/kg) or MK-801 (0.25 mg/kg) administration in mice	↑ increased locomotion NE	[23]
		Administration of Catha edulis forsk extract in mice	↑ increased locomotion	[60]
		hM4D-mediated inhibition of GAD65 interneurons in the mouse vHPC	↑ increased locomotion	[61]
		PCP + Δ 9-THC treated mice	↑ increased locomotion	[62]
Prepulse	Developmental	Poly(I:C)-induced MIA mouse offspring	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[70]
inhibition	Genetic	SREBP1c KO mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[47]
		NAc-TMEM mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[80]
		GPR88 KO mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[48]
		Dtnbp1 deficient mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[49]
		<i>Df(h1q21)/+</i> mice (1q21.1 hemizygous microdeletion + amphetamine)	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[53]
		Chakragati mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[72]
		mGlu5 KO mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[50]
		GAS7 deficient mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[57]
		DAT KO mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[54]
		Nlgn2 R215H KI homozygous mice	\uparrow increased inhibition	[73]
		Selective mPFC PLC-	NE	[59]
		Type III NRG1 ^{+/−} □male mice from mutant fathers	NE	[58]
		Reelin-deficient + corticosterone-treated mice	NE	[71]
	Pharmacological	hM4D-mediated inhibition of parvalbumin interneurons in the mouse vHPC	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[61]
		PCP+ Δ 9-THC treated mice	\downarrow decreased inhibition	[62]
		hM4D-mediated inhibition of GAD65 interneurons in the mouse vHPC	NE	[61]

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Abbreviations: CRMP2 = collapsin response mediator protein 2; DAT = dopamine transporter; Dtnbp1 = dystrobrevin binding protein; GAD65 = glutamic acid decarboxylase 65; GAS7 = growth arrest-specific 7; GLAST = glial glutamate and aspartate transporter; GPR88 = G protein-coupled receptor 88; KO = knockout; L-dopa = levodopa; mGluR5 = metabotropic glutamate receptor 5 = MIA, maternal immune activation; mPFC = medial prefrontal cortex; NAc-TMEM mice = Tmem168 vector was injected into the NAc of C57BL/6J mice; Nlgn2 R215H = missense mutation R215H of neuroligin 2; NMDA = N-methyl-D-aspartate; NRG1 = neuregulin-1; PCP = phencyclidine; PLC- β 1 = phospholipase C- β 1; poly(1:C) = polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid; SLC1A1 = Solute Carrier Family 1 Member 1; SREBP1c = sterol regulatory element-binding protein 1c; vHPC = ventral hippo-campus; Δ 9-THC = Δ 9-tetrahydrocannabinol; NE = no effect.

member 1 (SLC1A1) expression [56], growth arrest-specific 7 (GAS7) deficiency mice [57] (however, this model has decreased sensorimotor gating, as measured by PPI), type III neuregulin-1 (NRG1) +/- male mice from mutant fathers [58] (however, this model has increased sociability in the three-chamber test), and selective knockdown mice of phospholipase C- β 1 (PLC- β 1) in the medial prefrontal cortex (mPFC) [59]. Pharmacologically, several drugs, including amphetamine and MK-801 (NMDA receptor (NMDAR) antagonist) increase locomotor activity but can inversely lead

to a decrease at higher doses due to sedative and anesthetic effects [23]. Recently, *Catha edulis forsk* (khat plant) extract [60], hM4D-mediated inhibition of glutamic acid decarboxy-lase 65 (GAD65) neurons in the ventral hippocampus (vH-PC) [61], and phencyclidine (PCP) + Δ 9-tetrahydrocannabinol (Δ 9-THC) treatment [62] were also shown to induce schizophrenia-like hyperlocomotion behavior.

In most of these recent studies, the consensus finding was an increase in locomotor activity. This hyperlocomotion

phenotype was generated through varied means, mostly genetic manipulations and environmental alterations, or the interaction between the two. Genetic manipulations have mainly focused on the alteration of genes that were previously implicated as risk factors for schizophrenia in human patients [47-49, 52, 56, 59] or shown to play a role in NMDAR dysfunction [50, 51]. Additionally, some studies have also suggested the involvement of alterations in the dopaminergic [53, 54] and γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA)ergic systems [61] in inducing schizophrenia-linked hyperlocomotion. The locomotor phenotype of rodent models of schizophrenia has been further elucidated by previous review papers [40, 63, 64] where other mechanisms are discussed in detail.

2.2. Prepulse Inhibition

As a common measure of sensorimotor gating, PPI is extensively accepted as one of the most important parameters in assessing the genetic base of schizophrenia [65]. PPI is the level of startle reflex reduction when a non-startling (weak initial) acoustic stimulus is presented prior to a startling (strong) stimulus [42, 66, 67]. In brief, PPI can be measured by recording the animal response in the presence or absence of a weaker, non-startling prepulse that precedes the startling pulse by a short delay. One of the primary advantages of PPI measurement is its translatability between mice and humans, as it is one of the few tests that are essentially conserved across all vertebrate species [41]. PPI results are reproducible and convenient to measure, as most set-ups are automatic. Furthermore, experiments do not require prior subject training or any special preparation [40, 68]. Although there is general agreement in the literature regarding the protocols and equipment used, it is important to note that some factors may confound the results of PPI such as environment, age, sex, inter-stimulus intervals, stimulus modalities, treatment doses, and animal strains [23, 69].

The various factors found to be associated with deficiency in sensorimotor gating include the developmental stage [70], stress [71], as well as risk factors of various types [48] including genetic risk factors previously established in patients with schizophrenia [53, 71-73]. Previous reviews have extensively summarized and discussed the use of PPI in animal models of schizophrenia in terms of genetic [23, 41, 65, 74-77] and pharmacological [78, 79] manipulations. Many recent studies have also clarified schizophrenia-like behaviors by measuring the deficiency of sensorimotor gating through PPI in several types of animal models (Table 1).

A recent report has found that a developmentally-induced animal model of BALB/c mouse offspring by poly(I:C) maternal injection exhibited impaired PPI [70]. Moreover, most recent studies involving genetically induced animal models of schizophrenia have revealed a deficit in PPI. The animal models included SREBP-1c KO mice [47], C57BL/6J mice with adeno-associated virus Tmem168 vector injected into the nucleus accumbens (NAc-TMEM mice) [80], GPR88 KO mice [48], Dtnbp1 deficient mice [49], lq21.1 hemizygous microdeletion (hemizygotic Df(h1q21)/+mice) plus amphetamine [53], chakragati mice [72], mGlu5

KO mice [50], GAS7-deficient mice [57], and DAT KO mice [54]. However, some genetically manipulated models have revealed an increase in PPI or no effect. These models include missense mutation R215H of neuroligin 2 (Nlgn2 R215H) knock-in (KI) homozygous mice [73], selective knockdown mice of phospholipase C-β1 (PLC-β1) in the medial prefrontal cortex (mPFC) [59], type III neuregulin-1 (N-RG1) +/- male mice from fathers with the mutation (however, this model shows increased sociability in the three-chamber test) [58], and reelin-deficient and corticosterone-treated mice (however, this model shows increased sociability in the three-chamber test and decreased spontaneous alternation in the Y-maze) [71]. Pharmacologically, hM4D-mediated inhibition of parvalbumin neurons in vHPC [61] and phencyclidine (PCP) + Δ 9-THC treatment [62] also resulted in decreased PPI in mice. However, some pharmacological animal models of schizophrenia show no change in PPI, such as mice with hM4D-mediated inhibition of GAD65 interneurons in the vHPC (however, this model shows increased locomotor activity and decreased spontaneous alternation in the Y-maze) [61].

Table 1 shows that various developmental, genetic, or pharmacological animal models of schizophrenia that exhibit positive symptoms, including hyperlocomotion and deficiency of sensorimotor gating. In general, within the past 10 years, most studies of animal models utilizing the locomotor activity and PPI paradigms have employed genetic followed by pharmacological and developmental models. Numerous studies attempting to characterize their animal models of schizophrenia primarily measure locomotor activity and sensorimotor gaiting using the open field test and PPI, respectively (Fig. 1), to prove the presence of positive symptoms or congruent behaviors [42, 75, 81]. Particularly, PPI is considered a gold standard for measuring schizophrenia-like impairment in animal models [82]. Hence, among the symptoms of schizophrenia, behavioral tests measuring positive symptoms have been well described. The neural basis for these has been well reported through the development of different animal models and subsequent drug trials.

3. BEHAVIORAL TASKS MEASURING NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

Negative symptoms, also known as defect symptoms of schizophrenia, are characterized by a reduction in normal functioning, which leads to disability and reduced quality of life [83]. These symptoms are generally considered to reflect features such as anhedonia (inability to experience pleasure from positive stimuli), avolition (decreased goal-directed motivational behavior), asociality (social withdrawal), alogia (paucity of speech), and blunted affect (diminished facial and emotional expression) [84-87]. Although the mechanisms underlying the negative symptoms are complex and not well elucidated, recent studies have suggested the hypofunction of NMDA, more specifically, the reduced activation of the NMDAR subtypes as a mechanism implicated in the pathophysiology of negative symptoms [88, 89]. NMDA hypofunction of cortical interneurons could lead to the activation of GABAergic interneurons in the ventral tegmental

Neurobehavioral correlations between clinical symptoms of human schizophrenia and behavioral paradigms of schizophrenia animal models

	Clinical symptom	Behavioral paradigm
Positive Symptom	✓ Hyperactivity/ stereotypic movement	→ ✓ Open field test
	✓ Impairment of sensory motor gaiting	→ ✓ PPI
Negative	✓ Anhedonia	→ ✓ FST, TST, Sucrose preference test
Symptom	✓ Avolition (decrease of goal-directed motivational behavior)	→ ✓ FST, TST
	✓ Asociality (social withdrawal)	→ ✓ Three-chamber sociability test
	✓ Alogia (paucity of speech)	→ ✓ Sucrose preference test, EPM
	✓ Blunted affect (diminished facial and emotional expression)	→ ✓ Sucrose preference test, EPM
Cognitive	✓ Impairment of spatial working memory	→ ✓ RAM, Y-maze, MWM
Symptom	✓ Impairment of non-spatial working memory	→ ✓ Odor span task, Novel object recognition test
	✓ Attention impairment	→ 🗸 ASST, 5-CSRTT
	✓ Impairment of executive function	→ ✓ ASST, 5-CSRTT

Fig. (1). Schematic flow diagram of neurobehavioral correlations between clinical symptoms of human patients with schizophrenia and behavioral paradigms of schizophrenia animal models. Symptoms of schizophrenia in human patients have been translated into behavioral versions in various animal models to elucidate the etiology and precise mechanisms of schizophrenia. Abbreviations: PPI, prepulse inhibition test; FST, forced swim test; TST, tail suspension test; EPM, elevated plus maze; RAM, radial arm

maze; MWM, Morris water maze; ASST, attentional set-shifting task; 5-CSRTT, 5-choice serial reaction time task.

area [90]. The increased interneuron activity could decrease adequate dopamine release in the PFC by inhibiting stimulation of the mesocortical dopaminergic pathway, and could thus contribute to the negative symptoms [91]. Because most therapeutic drugs for schizophrenia are dopaminergic antagonists, they are mainly effective against positive symptoms, only showing low efficacy against negative symptoms [5, 92, 93]. Therefore, cautiously proven animal models combined with suitable evaluations of negative symptoms are key to the development of new therapeutic strategies for these symptoms [94]. Certain negative symptoms, such as alogia, however, are virtually impossible to reproduce in laboratory animals; thus, such behavior may be uniquely human [83]. In contrast, at least theoretically, anhedonia, avolition, and asociality may be experienced by both humans and animals and can therefore be replicated in a mouse model [84]. Here, we describe several common tasks to assess negative symptoms in animal models of schizophrenia, such as the forced swim test (FST), tail suspension test (TST), sucrose preference test, three-chamber sociality test, and elevated plus maze (EPM).

3.1. Forced Swim Test

Swimming, or the lack thereof, in the FST is one of the most well-known animal behavioral tasks utilized for assessing the effect of potential anti-depressant drugs [95]. Trained observers measure the immobility time of subject animals in a transparent acrylic vessel containing water over a period of several minutes. The animal is considered immobile when it remains floating only performing the movements necessary to stay afloat and retain its head above water [96]. The FST and other behavioral paradigms used to evaluate depression-like behaviors have also been applied to assess negative symptoms of schizophrenia, including anhedonia and avolition [84].

Many studies have utilized the FST in past years, and numerous factors have been associated with increased immobility in animal models of schizophrenia. Such factors include prenatal MIA [97], genetic factors that were found to be related to schizophrenia in human patients, such as transcription factors [98], other schizophrenia-associated genes [99], receptor-associated proteins [100], compromised glutathione synthesis [101], reduced brain serotonin levels [102], dereg-

Paradigm	Animal Model	Experimental Manipulation	Results	References
Forced swim test	Developmental	LPS-treated NMRI mouse offspring	↑ increased immobility	[97]
	Genetic	En2 null mutant mice	↑ increased immobility	[98]
		EPRAP KO mice	↑ increased immobility	[100]
		NCS-1 KO mice	↑ increased immobility	[105]
		NT KO mice	↑ increased immobility	[104]
		Heterozygous reeler mice + corticosterone	↑ increased immobility	[99]
		GRIA1 KO mice	\downarrow decreased immobility	[106]
		ALK KO homozygous mice	↓ decreased immobility	[103]
		GCLM KO mice	↓ decreased immobility	[101]
		DBA/2J mice	↓ decreased immobility	[102]
		PTPRG KO mice	↓ decreased immobility	[107]
		Grin1 ^(Rgsc174) /Grin1 ⁺ mice	NE	[108]
	Pharmacological	Chronic administration of ketamine in mice	↑ increased immobility	[109]
		Subchronic treatment with ketamine in mice	↑ increased immobility	[110]
		13-day treatment with MK-801 in mice	↑ increased immobility	[112]
		15-day treatment with MK-801 in mice	↑ increased immobility	[111]
		PCP treatment in mice	↑ increased immobility	[113]
Tail suspension test	Developmental	LPS-treated NMRI mouse offspring	↑ increased immobility	[97]
		Prenatal LPS-exposed mice	↑ increased immobility	[122]
	Genetic	SREBP1c KO mice	↑ increased immobility	[47]
		Forebrain-specific NCAM-deficient mice	↑ increased immobility	[123]
		Male MB-COMT deficient mice	↑ increased immobility	[124]
		NCS-1 KO mice	↑ increased immobility	[105]
		NT KO mice	↑ increased immobility	[104]
		GRIA1 KO mice	↓ decreased immobility	[106]
		DBA/2J mice	\downarrow decreased immobility	[102]
		Grin1 ^(Rgsc174) /Grin1 ⁺ mice	NE	[108]
	Pharmacological	Subchronic treatment with ketamine in mice	↑ increased immobility	[110]
		Chronic administration of ketamine in mice	NE	[119]
		Subchronic PCP administration in mice	NE	[125]
Sucrose preference test	Developmental	Viral mimic Poly(I:C)-induced MIA mouse offspring	\downarrow decreased preference	[129]
		Perinatal L-Dopa treatment in male juvenile mice	\downarrow decreased preference	[46]
	Genetic	CD2 KO mice	\downarrow decreased preference	[130]
		G72/G30 Tg mice	\downarrow decreased preference	[131]
		$Grin1(\Delta PV)$ mice + MK-801	\downarrow decreased preference	[132]
		Grik4 KO mice	↑ increased preference	[133]
		Ahi1 +/- KO mice + chronic unpredictable stress	NE	[134]
		GluA1 KO mice	NE	[135]
		NRG1 mutant mice + stress	NE	[136]
	Pharmacological	JNJ chronic administration in mice	↓ decreased preference	[137]

Table 2. Recent studies using behavioral paradigms that measure negative symptoms of schizophrenia in rodent models.

(Table 2) contd....

Paradigm	Animal Model	Experimental Manipulation	Results	References
Three-chamber sociality test	Genetic	Brain-specific CRMP 2 knockout (cKO) mice	↓ decreased social interaction	[52]
		Pcm1+/- mice	↓ decreased social interaction	[140]
		SREBP1c KO mice	↓ decreased social interaction	[47]
		CPB-K mice	↓ decreased social interaction	[141]
		Glu-CB1(-/-) female mice	↓ decreased social interaction	[142]
		Reelin deficiency + corticosterone in male mice	\downarrow decreased social interaction	[71]
		Sarm1 knockdown mice	↓ decreased social interaction	[143]
		V1aR KO mice	\downarrow decreased social interaction	[144]
		Type III NRG1+/- male mice from mutant fathers	\uparrow increased social interaction	[58]
		Selective knockdown of PLC-\beta1 in mPFC of male mice	NE	[59]
		NRG1 mutant mice	NE	[146]
	Pharmacological	Ketamine treatment in mice	\downarrow decreased social interaction	[145]
		PCP treatment in mice	\downarrow decreased social interaction	[113]
		Administration of Catha edulis forsk extract	\downarrow decreased social interaction	[60]
Elevated plus maze	Genetic	Nlgn2 R215H knock-in homozygous mice	↑ increased anxiety-like behavior	[73]
		Heterozygous Ank3 KO mice	↑ increased anxiety-like behavior	[152]
		Female DISC1(D453G) mice	↑ increased anxiety-like behavior	[153]
		Kynurenine 3-monooxygenase-deficient mice	↑ increased anxiety-like behavior	[154]
		NAc-TMEM mice	\uparrow increased anxiety-like behavior	[80]
		FFAR1-/- female mice	↓ decreased anxiety-like behavior	[155]
		Forebrain knockout of DNMT1 in mice	↓ decreased anxiety-like behavior	[156]
		CRMP2 deficient mice	↓ decreased anxiety-like behavior	[157]
		Mutant DISC1 male mice	NE	[158]
		Pcm1(+/-) mice	NE	[140]
		Type III NRG1+/- male mice from mutant fathers	NE	[58]

Abbreviations: Ahi1 = Abelson helper integration site 1; ALK = anaplastic lymphoma kinase; Ank3 = ankyrin 3; CD2 = cyclin-D2; CRMP2 = collapsin response mediator protein 2; DISC1 = disrupted-in-schizophrenia 1; DNMT1, DNA methyltransferase 1; En2 = engrailed-2; EPRAP = EP4 receptor-associated protein; FFAR1 = free fatty acid receptor 1; GCLM = glutamate-cysteine ligase modifier; GLAST = glial glutamate and aspartate transporter; GluA1 = glutamate A1; Glu-CB1 = cannabinoid receptor type 1 in glutamergic neurons; GRIA1 = glutamate ionotropic receptor AMPA type subunit 1; Grik4 = glutamate receptor, ionotropic, kainate 4; Grin1 = glutamate ionotropic receptor NMDA type subunit 1; JNJ = JNJ-28871063; KO = knockout; L-dopa = levodopa; LPS = lipopolysaccharide; MB-COMT = membrane-bound catechol-O-methyltransferase; MIA = maternal immune activation; mPFC = medial prefrontal cortex; NAc-TMEM mice = Tmem168 vector injected into the NAc of C57BL/6J mice; NCAM = neural cell adhesion molecule; NCS-1 = neuronal calcium sensor; Nlgn2 R215H = missense mutation R215H of neuroligin 2; NMRI = Naval Medical Research Institute; NRG1 = neuregulin-1; NT = neurotensin; Pcm1 = pericentriolar material 1; PCP = phencyclidine; PLC-B1 = phospholipase C-B1; poly(I:C) = polyionsinic-polycytidylic acid; PTPRG = receptor protein tyrosine phosphatase gamma; SAR-M1 = sterile alpha and TIR motif-containing 1; SREBP1c = sterol regulatory element-binding protein 1c; Tg = transgenic; V1AR = vasopressin receptor 1A; NE = no effect.

ulated monoaminergic signaling [103], and prefrontal cortex dysfunction [104]. As shown in Table 1, recent studies using animal models of schizophrenia have shown various results with the FST. Developmentally, lipopolysaccharide (LP-S)-treated Naval Medical Research Institute (NMRI) mouse offspring also exhibited increased immobility time [97]. A general increase in immobility time was observed in genetically induced animal models, including Engrailed-2 (En2) KO mice [98], prostaglandin E_2 type 4 (EP4) receptor-associated protein (EPRAP) KO mice [100], neuronal calcium sensor-1 (NCS-1) KO mice [105], neurotensin (NT) KO mice [104], and heterozygous reeler mice with corticosterone [99]. However, several genetic schizophrenic models have shown decreased immobility time in the FST, namely GRI-A1 KO mice [106], anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) KO homozygous mice [103], glutamate-cysteine ligase modifier (GCLM) KO mice [101], DBA/2J mice [102], and receptor protein tyrosine phosphatase gamma (PTPRG) KO mice [107]. Lastly, Grin1^(Rgsc174)/Grin1⁺ mice, a heterozygous mutant strain with a non-synonymous mutation of the C to T transition in exon 18 of the coding ionotropic glutamate receptor NMDA1 (*Grin1*) gene, revealed no effect on immobility time [108]. Pharmacologically induced models that exhibited an increase in immobility time include ketamine [109, 110], MK-801 [111, 112], and PCP [113], which are all non-competitive NMDAR antagonists. Overall, taking into consideration the 10-year span of the review article, most animal studies utilizing the FST employed mainly genetic followed by pharmacological and developmental models.

Consequently, previous studies have evaluated and discussed in detail the specific factors usually affecting the FST and providing justification for its common use in measuring negative symptoms of schizophrenia, whereas others have argued about its "validity" as a measure of depression-like behavior [114]. Yet, other studies have explored the validity of this test through the use of several antidepressants [115] but have also discussed its ability to measure psychomotor retardation [116].

3.2. Tail Suspension Test

Similar to the fst, the tst is used as an evaluation paradigm for depression-like behavior [117] and anhedonia and avolition, which are negative symptoms of schizophrenia in mice [84]. Mice are suspended by their tails with tape in such a way that they cannot escape or hang on nearby surfaces [118]. The principal response of animals is to struggle, but this is followed by periods of immobility when mice are dangling passively and entirely stationary [119]. Previous reviews have evaluated this test in animal models of depression [120], detailed the methodology [118], and evaluated the effects of several antidepressants and opioids in this assay [121].

Recently, in some developmental animal models of schizophrenia, increased immobility time was observed in LP-S-treated NMRI mouse offspring [97] and prenatal LPS-exposed mice [122]. Genetically, increased immobility time was observed in SREBP1c KO mice [47], forebrain-specific conditional neural cell adhesion molecule (NCAM)-deficient mice [123], male membrane-bound catechol-O-methyltransferase (MB-COMT)-deficient mice [124], NCS-1 KO mice [105], and NT KO mice [104]. Conversely, decreased immobility was observed in GRIA1 KO [106] and DBA/2J mice [102]. However, no effect was seen in Grin1^(Rgsc174)/Grin1⁺ mice [108]. Pharmacologically, increased immobility was seen in mice treated with a subchronic ketamine regimen (5 days, 10 mg/kg/day, intraperitoneal) [110], whereas no effect was observed in mice with chronic administration of ketamine (10 days, 100 mg/kg/day, intraperitoneal) [119] and subchronic PCP administration (10 days, 10 mg/kg/day, subcutaneous) (however, this model shows decreased spontaneous alternation in the Y-maze and decreased working memory in the novel object test) [125]. Collectively, there was a general increase in immobility time in the schizophrenia-related animal models discussed above (Table 2). As with the other behavioral assays for negative symptoms, genetic risk factor alterations were the prime cause of the increase in immobility time followed by pharmacological and developmental alterations.

3.3. Sucrose Preference Test

The sucrose preference test is a compensation dependent test that aims to assess anhedonia, *i.e.*, the failure to feel pleasure, depression, and anxiety [5, 126]. Rodents have been shown to naturally prefer consuming sweet food and sucrose solutions when given a free choice between sucrose solution and plain water [127]. However, when showing signs of stress and depression, rodents fail to show a preference for sweetened water to regular water [127]. The rodents are routinely given the choice of two drinking bottles, one containing plain drinking water and the other containing a sucrose solution. The intake of water and sucrose solutions is then assessed regularly, and sucrose preference is determined as the proportion of the intake of sucrose over the total volume of both sucrose and plain water consumption [126, 128].

Recent studies involving animal models of schizophrenia have shown various responses to this test (Table 2). Decreases in sucrose preference were seen in prenatal immune activated mice using viral mimic poly(I:C) [129], perinatal levodopa (L-dopa) treatment in juvenile male [46], cyclin-D2 (CD2) KO mice [130], G72/G30 transgenic (Tg) mice [131], and parvalbumin interneuron-specific NMDAR 1 (NR1) KO mice (Grin1(Δ PV) mice) with MK-801 treatment [132]. Conversely, an increased preference for sucrose was exhibited in glutamate ionotropic receptor, kainate type subunit 4 KO mice [133]. Meanwhile, no effect was shown in Abelson helper integration site 1 +/- KO mice coupled with chronic unpredictable stress [134], GluA1 KO mice [135], and NRG1 +/- KO mice with repeated psychosocial stress [136]. Pharmacologically, a decreased sucrose preference was seen in adolescent mice chronically treated with JNJ-28871063 (JNJ), a pan-ErbB kinase inhibitor [137].

Recent studies employing this task have reported a general decrease in sucrose preference in animal models related to schizophrenia. The factors that have been identified to lead to this decrease in sucrose preference include increased dopamine levels [46], prenatal immune activation [129], hippocampal parvalbumin-interneuron dysfunction [130], candidate genes for schizophrenia [131], the functional deficit in NMDARs on parvalbumin (PV)-positive interneurons (PV-NMDARs) [132], and pharmacological blocking of the ErbB signaling pathway [137]. An increase in sucrose preference was reported by studies testing novel antidepressants in animal models of schizophrenia [138] and models with dysregulation of glutamatergic signaling [133]. Interestingly, some studies involving schizophrenia models have not reported changes in sucrose preference, including studies employing schizophrenia-related gene mutation [134], glutamergic dysfunction [135], and gene-environment interaction models of schizophrenia [136].

3.4. Three-chamber Sociability Test

Reduced social interaction, lower desire to engage in social communication, and socio-cognitive function deficiencies are among the negative symptoms of schizophrenia related to asociality [85]. While the concepts underlying social interaction measurement in humans and rodents are similar, the measured social interaction contents differ. Thus, social behavior in humans involves a wide range of cognitive structures classified as agonistic, romantic, and affiliate, while sensory modalities in rodents are expressed as visual, olfactory, and auditory in nature [85]. The three-chamber sociability test is a commonly used method to measure sociability function in neuropsychiatric and neurological animal models, including those of schizophrenia [139]. The apparatus consists of three communicating chambers, with both end chambers having wire cups. Under each wire cup, a stranger mouse and inanimate novel object, or a familiar and stranger mouse may be placed. Social interaction is measured as the number and duration of interactions with the stranger mouse and object, or a familiar and stranger mouse. Interactions include time spent in each chamber, sniffing the stranger mouse or novel object, and entries into each chamber as a locomotor control [6].

Most animal models of schizophrenia exhibit a decrease in social interaction (Table 2). Genetically, animal models including CRMP2 KO mice [52], pericentriolar material 1 +/-(Pcm1 +/-) mice [140], SREBP-1c KO mice [47], CPB-K strain mice [141], deletion of cannabinoid receptor type 1 on cortical glutamatergic neurons of female mice [142], reelindeficient mice treated with corticosterone [71], sterile alpha and TIR motif-containing 1 protein knockdown mice [143], and vasopressin receptor 1A KO mice [144] have shown a decrease in social interaction. Similarly, pharmacologically induced animal models using ketamine treatment [145], PCP [113], and *Catha edulis forsk* administration [60] have also displayed a decrease in social interaction. Conversely, increased social interaction behavior was found in genetically induced-type III NRG1 +/- males mice from mutant fathers [58]. Meanwhile, no effect in social interaction behavior was found in mice with heterozygous NRG1 mutation [146] and selective knockdown of PLC-B1 in the mPFC [59].

Previous reviews have discussed this paradigm in detail, discussing the methodology [92, 139] and possible strain differences [147]. Moreover, novel assays measuring sociability in mice have also been proposed with the aim of producing an ethologically valid version of the behavioral paradigm [148]. Recent studies have come to the same general conclusion of decreased sociability in rodent models of schizophrenia. The factors causing these impairments in social interaction include the deletion of schizophrenia risk genes [52, 58, 59, 144, 146], including microtubule anchoring proteins [140], innate immunity-related protein alterations [143] in dopaminergic and serotonergic parameters such as neuron number, neuron density, and volume in subregions [141]; cannabinoid receptor deletion [142], stress [71], amygdala dysfunction related to NMDAR-mediated hypofunction [145], and plant extracts with psychoactive components similar to amphetamine [60].

3.5. Elevated Plus Maze

It is challenging to model decreased facial and emotional gestures as negative symptoms of schizophrenia in rodents. Therefore, researchers have reported anti-anxiety behavior in tasks and consider this a measure of blunted affect [84]. The EPM task is seen as the gold standard for measuring rodent anxiety. The test is based on rodents' natural dislike for open and high areas, and their innate spontaneous exploratory behavior in new environments [149-151]. The experimental apparatus consists of open and closed arms that perpendicularly cross each other and share a common center area at their midway. Generally, mice are placed in the center area at the beginning of the trial and thereafter allowed to move freely between areas. The ratios of the frequency and time

spent on the open arms versus the closed arms reflect spaceinduced anxiety in mice [150, 151]. In contrast to other behavioral assays that measure anxiety through the use of noxious stimuli (*e.g.*, electrical stimulation, food/water scarcity, loud noises, interaction with predator odors) and typically triggered programmed reactions, this task relies on the mice's inherent desire to explore new conditions and their propensity toward dim, enclosed areas, normal height, and open-space terror [150].

Changes in anxiety in the EPM in recent studies have been observed mainly in genetic models of schizophrenia (Table 2). Animal models used in recent studies that presented increased anxiety-like behavior was detected in several genetic models, including Nlgn2 R215H KI mice [73], heterozygous ankyrin G-deficient mice [152], missense mutated female mice of D465G in disrupted-in-schizophrenia 1 (DISC1) gene [153], kynurenine 3-monooxygenase-deficient mice [154], and NAc-TMEM mice [80]. Conversely, animal models exhibiting anxiolytic behavior include free fatty acid receptor 1 -/- female mice [155], forebrain KO mice of DNA methyltransferase 1 [156], and CRMP2-deficient mice [157]. Conversely, no effect on anxiety-like behavior was seen in mutant DISC1 male mice [158], Pcm1 +/- mice (however, this model has decreased sociability in the three--chamber test) [140], and type III NRG1 +/- male mice from mutant fathers (however, this model shows increased sociability in the three-chamber test) [58].

Previous reviews have described the methodology [159] of this behavioral assay in detail with the additional assessment of ethological parameters [150, 160]. Others have argued that the fear of heights plays the main role in creating the phobic anxiety state measured in the behavior assay [161]. Yet, another group has recently adapted this task to measure anxiety-like behavior in fish [162]. Recent studies have found that manipulations in schizophrenia risk-related genes involved in neuronal morphogenesis [157], neuronal development, and maintenance of neuronal function [155] and DNA methylation catalytic enzymes [156] have resulted in anxiolytic behavior, as measured by the EPM. In contrast, risk factors causing anxiety include previously reported genetic mutations in patients with schizophrenia [80, 152, 153] and postsynaptic adhesion proteins [73].

Table 2 shows that various developmental, genetic, or pharmacological animal models of schizophrenia that exhibit negative symptoms, including anhedonia, avolition, blunted affect and asociality. Overall, considering the 10-year scope of the review article, most animal studies utilizing the FST and TST have mainly employed genetic followed by pharmacological and developmental models. Conversely, studies utilizing the sucrose preference test were predominantly genetic, followed by studies employing developmental and pharmacological models. In contrast, the three-chamber sociability test has been predominantly utilized for genetic models followed by developmental models. Finally, the EPM has been solely utilized for genetic animal models of schizophrenia. For the negative symptoms of schizophrenia, many tasks have been designed to attempt to replicate the de-

ficiency in normal functioning usually found in patients with schizophrenia [5, 83, 163] (Fig. 1). Among various behavioral paradigms, the FST, TST, and sucrose preference test can be selected for measurement of anhedonia. The FST and TST can be also used for confirming avolition. Additionally, the sucrose preference test and EPM and three-chamber sociability test can be used as measures of blunted affect and asociality, respectively. To confirm phenotypes of anhedonia and blunted affect, the FST and TST and EPM, respectively, have been extensively used as gold standards. Although the sucrose preference test is also widely applied, there is a limitation of the task measuring the behavioral response to a reward because the consumed sucrose levels can be affected by the interest in reward. Variability in the results of behavioral assays falling under this category has been reported in recent years. Although various developmental, genetic, and pharmacological animal models of schizophrenia have presented negative symptoms, there have also been some opposite results. Possibly, the low face validity of animal models for the negative symptoms of schizophrenia might be due to the difficulty in interpreting the results due to various confounding elements. As such, there is a continuous need for better assessments that can lead to improved reliability, validity, and characterization of models for negative symptoms.

4. BEHAVIORAL TASKS MEASURING COGNITIVE SYMPTOMS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA

According to some reports, almost 98% of people with schizophrenia experience cognitive impairment, which is one of the main symptoms of schizophrenia [164]. The cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia reflect deficiencies in different cognitive capacities such as information processing, abstract categorization, executive function, cognitive flexibility, attention, memory, and visual processing [165, 166]. For adequate cognitive control, the coordination of multiple brain regions, including the PFC, medial frontal cortex, and parietal regions, is required [167]. Among them, the PFC is considered to serve a primary role in combining different types of incoming information sourced from various brain regions and supplying top-down processing to coordinate behaviors because it extensively interconnects with sensory, motor, and subcortical brain regions [167]. However, in patients with schizophrenia, occurrence of various structural or molecular defects, such as neurodevelopmental abnormality, changes in synaptogenesis and neuroplasticity, alteration in neuronal maturation, and imbalance of neurotransmitters, has been confirmed in the relevant brain regions [165]. Although the precise mechanisms inducing cognitive symptoms are unclear, the suggested hypothesis is similar to that for negative symptoms. Hypofunctional NMDARs on cortical GABAergic interneurons could lead to an imbalance of neuronal excitation/inhibition and reduced cortical y-oscillation, associated with the cognitive impairment seen in schizophrenia [168, 169]. Cognitive symptoms are resistant to therapeutics and greatly influence patient routine functioning, therefore providing the best predictor of a patient's functional status [8, 20, 42, 170].

Meanwhile, the National Institute of Mental Health in the United States of America has defined seven functional areas that are important in the diagnosis of schizophrenia. Such functional areas include attention/vigilance, working memory, logic and problem solving, speed of thinking, visual and memory learning, verbal and memory performance, and social cognition [171]. For use in preclinical studies, specific rodent tasks have been designed in each of these fields to recapitulate the cognitive processes underlying the effective performance of homologous tasks in humans [8, 42]. While parallel tasks between rodents and humans use different sensory modalities, temporal schedules, rewards, and motor requirements, both types require PFC function [42]. In this section, we described several common rodent tasks used to study cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia in all seven proposed cognitive domains, except the previously described one, *i.e.*, social cognition.

4.1. Maze Tests, for Spatial Working Memory

Working memory, one of the key memory functions, is the ability to quickly form memories from unique events and thus discriminate against fresh valid information from older and already invalid memorized evidence [172]. Working memory is dependent on the integrity of prefrontal cortical function and is important for human reasoning and judgment [173]. In patients with schizophrenia, working memory is commonly impaired, which can be measured by clinical working-memory tasks [174]. Preclinical research on rodents employs both spatial and non-spatial working-memory tasks (Table 3). Spatial working-memory tasks include the radial arm maze (RAM), T-maze or Y-maze alternation tasks, Morris water maze (MWM), radial arm water maze, Barnes circular maze, and spatial span task [175-177]. Nonspatial working-memory tasks include the delayed match to sample, delayed non-match to sample, delayed stimulus discrimination task, and odor span task [42, 178]. Performance deficiency in these tasks may signify not only impairments in working memory, but also decreased behavioral adaptability or heightened persistence, which can also be observed in patients with schizophrenia [20, 179].

RAM is one of the best known spatial memory measures for different species including rodents, birds, and even humans [42]. RAM usually involves an eight-armed, octagonal central chamber. Each arm is baited, and the animal is required to enter each arm and receive a reward. The spatial working memory of the subject is generally measured by the number of baited arms reached prior to the re-entry of an already explored arm. If the subject does not re-enter an arm that was previously visited, the maximum number of eight is reached [180], although this may vary depending on the experimental setup and the numbers of bait and reward arms. Most of the recent studies employing this behavioral assay have shown a cognitive deficit in various animal models, including alpha-CaMKII +/- mice [181], Grin1^(Rgsc174)/Grin1⁺ mice [108], heterozygous reeler mice [182], Homer1-KO mice [183], and heterozygous KO mice of YWHAE, a gene encoding 14-3-3 epsilon [184]. Conversely, no effect has

Paradigm	Animal Model	Experimental Manipulation	Results	References
RAM	Genetic	Alpha-CaMKII+/- mice	↓ decreased working memory	[181]
		Grin1 ^(Rgsc174) /Grin1 ⁺ mice	↓ decreased working memory	[108]
		HRM + dizocilpine	↓ decreased working memory	[182]
		Homer1 KO mice	↓ decreased working memory	[183]
		Ywhae (+/-) mice	↓ decreased working memory	[184]
		NRG1 TM HET mice	NE	[185]
		α7-nAChR KO mice	NE	[186]
	Pharmacological	Chronic PCP administration in mice	NE	[187]
Y-maze/	Genetic	mGlu5 KO mice	↓ decreased spontaneous alternation	[50]
T-maze		Inhibition of GAD65 neurons in mice	↓ decreased spontaneous alternation	[61]
		Corticosterone-treated HRM	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[71]
	Pharmacological	Subchronic PCP administration in mice	↓ decreased spontaneous alternation	[125]
MWM	Developmental	Neonatal lesioning of the vHPC in mice	NE	[201]
	Genetic	Dys1B (+/+) mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[197]
		mGlu5 KO mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[50]
		Nlgn2 R215H knock-in homozygous mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[73]
		NRG1 HET mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[198]
		Intraflagellar Transport 88 (Ift88) gene KO mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[199]
		ZnT3 KO mice	NE	[202]
	Pharmacological	Administration of Catha edulis forsk extract in mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[60]
		MK-801 treatment in mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[200]
		PCP + Δ 9-THC treatment in mice	↓ decreased spatial learning and memory	[62]
Novel object	Developmental	MIA in mice	↓ decreased performance	[208]
recognition	Genetic	Ift88 gene KO mice	↓ decreased performance	[199]
		Null mutation in pallid and dysbindin in mice	↓ decreased performance	[209]
		Spp homozygous mutant mice	↓ decreased performance	[210]
		Alpha7-nAChR KO mice	↓ decreased performance	[186]
	Pharmacological	Antagonism of the muscarinic acetylcholine system in mice	↓ decreased performance	[212]
		L-Methionine in mice	↓ decreased performance	[211]
		PCP + Δ 9-THC in mice	↓ decreased performance	[62]
		Subchronic PCP administration in mice	↓ decreased performance	[113, 125]
Odor span	Genetic	α7-nAChR KO mice	↓ decreased working memory	[213]
task	Pharmacological	Subchronic treatment with ketamine (10 mg/kg and 30 mg/kg) rats	↓ decreased performance	[216]
Attentional set-shifting	Developmental	Neonatal treatment with nuclear progesterone receptor an- tagonist in rats	↓ decreased adult performance	[228]
task		Postnatal administration (PND, 7, 9, & 11) of ketamine 30 mg/kg in mice	↓ decreased performance	[230]
	Pharmacological	Cuprizone administration in rats	↓ the specific decrease in the ability to shift between perceptual dimensions	[229]
		Sertindole (2.5 mg/kg) administration in mice	prevented ketamine-induced cognitive inflexibility	[231]
		Neurotoxic damage to orbitofrontal and medial prefrontal cortical areas in mice	\downarrow decreased affective and attentional sets	[232]
5-choice serial	Developmental	Gestational exposure to high-fat diet in mice	↑ increased impulsivity	[238]
reaction task		Gestational exposure to a low-protein diet in mice	↑ marked inattention	[238]
	Genetic	Alpha7-nAChR KO mice	↑ increased omission levels	[213]
		Increased NRG3 gene expression in mice mPFC	↑ increased impulsivity	[239]
		Map2k7 +/- mice	↑ increased attentional deficit	[240]
		Df(h15q13)/+ mice	↓ decreased accuracy	[241]
	Pharmacological	Chronic oral, but not acute injections of nicotine in mice	↓ decrease phencyclidine-induced impulsivity	[242]

Table 3. Recent studies using behavioral paradigms that measure cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia in rodent models.

Abbreviations: 5-HT7 = 5-hydroxytryptamine 7, serotonia 7, CaMKII = calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II; Dys1B = dysbindin-1B; GAD65 = glutamic acid decarboxylase 65; Grin1 = glutamate ionotropic receptor NMDA type subunit 1; HRM = heterozygous reeler mice; Ift88 = intraflagellar transport 88; KO = knockout; Map2k7 = mitogen-activated protein kinase 7; mGluR = metabotropic glutamate receptor 5; MIA = maternal immune activation; mPFC = medial prefrontal cortex; Nlgn2 R215H = missense mutation R215H of neuroligin 2; NRG1 = neuregulin-1; NRG3 = neuregulin-3; PCP = phencyclidine; vHPC = ventral hippocampus; ZnT3 = zinc transporter 3; α 7-nAChR = alpha7-nicotinic acetyl-choline receptor; Δ 9-THC = Δ 9-tetrahydrocannabinol; NE = no effect.

been observed in RAM studies using heterozygous transmembrane domain Nrg1 mutant mice [185], alpha7-nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (a7-nAChR) KO mice (however, this model shows decreased working memory, as tested in the novel object recognition task) [186], and mice with chronic PCP administration [187]. Previous reviews have discussed the methodology and factors affecting the results of the RAM [180, 188, 189]. More recent studies have found various factors causing a deficit in working memory as measured by the RAM, including deficiency in schizophrenia candidate genes involved in synaptic plasticity and cognitive function-related factors [108, 181-184]. However, some schizophrenia risk factors such as manipulations in receptor expression [186], and genes [185], as well as drugs used to elicit symptoms of schizophrenia [187] in animal models did not cause performance deficiencies in the RAM.

The Y-maze is commonly used to measure both general activity and spatial working memory, as it is based on the natural tendency of rodents to alternate non-reinforced choices in the Y-maze on consecutive chances [190]. In brief, the subject is placed in one of the arm compartments and allowed to move freely to other arm compartments for several minutes, while the sequences of arm compartment entries are being recorded. An alternation is defined as an entry into the three designated arm compartments consecutively [190, 1911. Recent studies involving the use of the Y-maze have found that several animal models of schizophrenia displayed impaired spontaneous alternation and thus deficit in working memory. These models include mGlu5 KO mice [50], hM4D-treated mice for GAD65 neuron inhibition [61], heterozygous reelin-deficient mice with corticosterone treatment [71], and mice with subchronic PCP administration [125]. Previous reports have detailed the methodology and apparatus needed for this behavior assay [192-195]. Recent studies involving animal models of schizophrenia implicated genetic risk factors as the main cause of impairment in this task.

First described by Morris [177], the MWM has been used to evaluate spatial working memory and visual learning and memory abilities in rodents. The subject is arbitrarily positioned in a circular labyrinth arena filled with opaque water with a small hidden platform accessible to avoid the water. The experiment lasts for several days, with several trials conducted each day. After the training trials, a probe trial is performed without the hidden platform to evaluate reference memory and perseverance. The interval between the training and probe trials may vary from a few hours to a few months. A "reversal" variant of the task involves training the subject thoroughly in one quadrant with the hidden platform and moving the platform to a different quadrant in subsequent trials to assess the erasure of original spatial memory and relearning [196]. Most recent studies involving the use of this behavioral task have shown impaired spatial working memory and visual learning and memory in genetic or chemically-induced schizophrenia animal models, including dysbindin-1B (+/+) mice [197], mGlu5 KO mice [50], Nlgn2 R215H KI homozygous mice [73], heterozygous mice deleted of NRG1 [198], conditional deletion of the intraflagellar

transport 88 gene in mice [199], subchronic Catha edulis forsk extract or mice orally treated with ketamine [60], MK-801 treated mice [200], and PCP + Δ 9-THC treated mice [62]. Meanwhile, neonatal lesioning of the vHPC [201] and female zinc transporter 3 KO mice [202] did not show any difference in spatial learning and memory. Previous reviews have detailed the methodology and factors affecting results in the MWM [203-205]. Such factors include the type of apparatus and training procedure [203], environmental variables [205], and measuring indices [204]. Most factors leading to the expected decrease in spatial learning and memory in animal models of schizophrenia include genetic risk factors implicated in human patients [197, 198], abnormalities in glutamatergic signaling [50], postsynaptic adhesion protein [73], disrupted ciliogenesis in the cortex and hippocampus [199], administration of plant extracts [60], and drugs blocking the NMDAR channels [62, 200]. Conversely, recent studies involving developmental manipulations in neonatal mice [201] and deletion of neuronal synaptic vesicle transporter [202] reported no changes in spatial learning and memory as measured by the MWM task.

4.2. Novel Object Recognition Test, for Visual Learning and Memory

Also known as spontaneous object recognition or visual pair-comparison test, this test is widely used as a visual learning and memory test in rats and mice [206]. This behavioral activity requires a brief exposure of the animal to two items. One of the items is first presented to the animal placed in a chamber, which the subject will visit again after a break that can vary from a few minutes to a few days. At this point, the subject is introduced to the initial object and to a second, new object. Rodents have the tendency to explore the new object more than the familiar one; therefore, no rule learning or pre-training is usually required prior to the performance of this behavioral task [206, 207].

Recent studies employing this behavior analysis have revealed cognitive impairment in various developmental, pharmacological, and genetic rodent models of schizophrenia (Table 3) including mice subjected to MIA by LPS on embryonic day 8 (E8) [208], conditional deletion of the intraflagellar transport 88 gene in mice [199], mice with null mutation in the pallidin or dysbindin gene, both of which comprise the biogenesis of lysosome-related organelles complex 1 [209]; dysbindin salt and pepper mice, which possess a single point mutation on the *Dtnbp1* gene [210]; mice treated with the muscarinic acetylcholine system antagonist, scopolamine (2 mg/kg, intraperitoneal), 1-methionine treated mice [211]; PCP + Δ 9-THC treated mice [62], mice treated subchronically with PCP [113, 125], and alpha7-nicotinic acetylcholine receptor (a7-nAChR) KO mice [186]. Recent studies using animal models of schizophrenia have found that various factors could lead to decreased visual learning and memory. These factors include neonatal manipulations via MIA [208], neuronal cilia disruption [199], mutations in biogenesis of lysosome-related organelle proteins [209], schizophrenia risk-related genes [210], psychostimulant administration [212], methylation modulation [211], cannabis potentiation of phencyclidine administration [62], and NMDAR blockage or hypofunction [113, 125].

4.3. Odor Span Task, for Non-spatial Working Memory

The task of odor span is designed to assess the contribution of the hippocampus to non-spatial working memory [176]. This behavioral task has been used with both rats [176] and mice [213]. Briefly, the task requires the animal to dig a food reward in a scented bowl. Afterward, two bowls are presented to the animal-one bowl containing the familiar scent from the previous task, and another one with a novel scent. The bowl is baited with a novel smell aiming for the animal to ignore the previously baited bowl and search only in the fresh scented bowl. The animal is then presented with three scented bowls-the first two bowls previously presented to the animal, and a third, novel one. Again, the animal should remember the first two scents and therefore avoid digging in those bowls in favor of the bowl with the novel scent. The number of different scents can be increased up to 24, and the subject must always remember the previously encountered bowls and thus only commence digging in the novel bowl. The bowls are always arranged in a random order to ensure that the subject cannot use any visual signals when selecting the novel odor. The number of odors that the subject is able to successfully remember before making its first mistake (digging in an old scent) is considered the "span" of the trial. To date, few studies have employed the odor span task in rodent models of schizophrenia [213-215] (Table 3). Subchronic treatment of ketamine (10 mg/kg and 30 mg/kg daily for 5 consecutive days) induced a substantial deficit of odor span detection [216]. In contrast, a7-nAChR KO mice exhibited impaired olfactory working memory, as shown by the higher number of sessions required to attain the span length criteria in training trials, and reduced span length and lower span completion rates in test trials [213].

The odor span task may also serve to test the verbal learning and memory domains. Although there is no absolute homolog of verbal information between humans and rodents, the main principle in the animal models of psychiatric disorders is to maximally reenact a subset of processes damaged by the diseases. As odor-based interactions between rodents are important in various communication types [217], perhaps olfactory data comprise the closest analogue for rodents to verbal information [42]. If the controversy surrounding this concept can be overcome, this task could be classified under the verbal learning and memory domains [42]. In the past 10 years, animal experiments that have utilized the odor span task have employed genetic and pharmacological models.

4.4. Attentional Set-shifting Task, for Reasoning and Problem Solving

The attentional set-shifting task (ASST) is a method developed for use with animal models to measure cognitive flexibility. ASST was first described by Birrell and Brown [218] but it was later revised for mice [219]. For the animal to discriminate relevant from unnecessary prompts, an atten-

tional set is formed whereby the subject acquires that a set of rules may be applied to complex stimuli [218]. The ASST necessitates that the subject inhibit previously learned responses that are unsuitable to the present conditions [220]. Patients with schizophrenia often have poor set-shifting capabilities, which translates to poor executive functioning [221-223]. This symptom is generally called executive inflexibility or a diminished ability to shift focus [223, 224]. In ASST, a cognitive set is formed by creating a reinforced rule in a subject. For example, in certain conditions, a relevant cue such as a digging medium should be remembered by the subject, while an irrelevant cue such as an odor should be ignored. Such correlation is then strengthened by subsequent activities where the recipient must remember the specific shape of the digging medium and the irrelevant cue, such as odor varies. The relevance of the shape of the digging medium is reinforced by food rewards. Cognitive versatility could be tested using a reversal or extradimensional move. In the reversal shift, the previously irrelevant cue is now set to be relevant (previous "relevant" digging medium to another type of digging medium, e.g., paper to woodchips), which tests the subject's capability to ignore the positive stimuli from the first set of experiments, and thus the animal's flexibility in maintaining the previously formed attentional set. While in the extradimensional shift, the animal's cognitive flexibility is once again challenged by changing the previously learned attentional set by adding another dimension and shifting the relevance. For example, if the previous relevant cue was the digging medium, now it will be some type of odor (e.g., the relevant cue is transferred from the paper medium to a cinnamon odor). Failure to change choices from the previously learned attentional set in either test suggests a deficit in cognitive flexibility [225-227]. Recent studies utilizing this behavioral assay have found general impairment in cognitive flexibility, as illustrated by impaired reversal learning and extradimensional set-shifting, in animal models of schizophrenia (Table 3). Such models include mice undergoing neonatal treatment with nuclear progesterone receptor antagonist [228], adolescent rats that were administered cuprizone, a copper chelator known to cause demyelination [229]; ketamine (30 mg/kg)-treated mice on postnatal days 7, 9, and 11 [230]; mice subjected to administration of ketamine (10 or 20 mg/kg) [231], and mice with NMDA-induced neurotoxic damage to orbitofrontal and medial prefrontal cortical areas [232]. Factors leading to impairment in problem solving and reasoning, as measured by the ASST, include disruption of the mesocortical dopamine pathway [228], abnormalities in brain white matter and oligodendroglia [229], dysfunctions in the GABAergic system by the blockade of NMDARs [230], and neurotoxic damage to the orbitofrontal and medial prefrontal cortical areas [232]. Conversely, the administration of NMDAR 2B (NR2B) subunit-selective antagonists improves the performance of animal models in the ASST [231]. Previous reviews have detailed the methodology [219, 233] as well as species-specific variations [225, 234] involved in this behavioral test. Collectively, within the 10-year scope of the study, most animal experiments utilizing the ASST employed pharmacological followed by developmental models.

4.5. 5-choice Serial Reaction Time Task, for Attention/Vigilance and Speed of Processing

The 5-choice serial reaction time task (5-CSRTT) was designed to measure visuospatial attentional processes and motor impulsivity in animals [235]. The task has begun to clarify the basic neural circuitry and neuromodulation of executive and cognitive prefrontal functions [236] and to clarify disrupted neuropsychological mechanisms in attentional dysfunctions including schizophrenia, Alzheimer and Parkinson's diseases, aging, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder, as an analogue of the human continuous performance task [42, 237]. Briefly, in the 5-CSRTT chamber, there are at least five holes, which can be illuminated and laden with food for reward on the opposite side. The rodents are required to perceive a pseudo-randomly illuminated hole among the five holes and to provide a nose-poke response in the correct aperture to obtain the food reward. The attentional capacity and speed of response are assessed as the percentage of responses to the right location and the mean latency to respond correctly after detecting the light stimulus, respectively. Additionally, premature responses made before the stimulus presentation are interpreted as impulsive behavior [237].

Recent application of the 5-CSRTT to mouse models of schizophrenia has found general attentional impairment and impulsivity (Table 3). Increased impulsivity was observed in male mice raised from female mice exposed to a high-fat diet during gestation [238], while marked inattention was found in the offspring of female mice fed a low-protein diet during gestation [238]. Moreover mice exhibiting significantly higher omission levels include α 7-nAChR KO mice [213], mice with overexpressed neuregulin-3 gene in the mPFC [239], mice haploin sufficient for dual specificity mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase 7 gene, encoding MKK7 [240]; and mice with 15q13.3 microdeletion (Df[h15q13]/+) [241], while significant increase in attentional impairment, through premature or perseverative responding, was found in neonatal and adult mice treated with PCP [242] and mice with 5-HT7 receptor downregulation in the mPFC. Factors causing impairments in attention and processing speed include manipulations in maternal diet and subsequent gestational growth disturbances in the offspring [238], schizophrenia-associated genetic risk factors [213, 241], overexpression of genes regulating impulsivity [239], and impairment of genes strongly linked to synaptic plasticity and neocortex development [240]. Previous reviews have detailed and discussed the variations in methodology involved in the 5-CSRTT [243-246]. They have also reviewed the strengths of this task, which include its high translational value and adaptability to task modifications [243, 245], and the various factors, such as sedation, motivation deficits, and locomotor impairments [247], which can affect results. In general, within the past 10-years, most animal experiments utilizing the 5-CSRTT employed developmental followed by genetic and pharmacological models.

Table 3 shows that various developmental, genetic, or pharmacological animal models of schizophrenia exhibit

cognitive symptoms, including spatial and non-spatial working memory and impairment of attention and executive function. In general, within the 10 year scope of the study, most recent animal experiments utilizing the RAM maze test have employed genetic followed by pharmacological models, while the Y-maze test has employed genetic followed by pharmacological models, and the MWM test has been primarily used in studies employing genetic followed by pharmacological and developmental models. Conversely, the novel object test has been mostly used with pharmacological followed by genetic and finally developmental models. In contrast, the odor span task has been primarily only employed for both genetic and pharmacological models of schizophrenia, while the ASST paradigm has been predominantly utilized by both pharmacological and developmental models. Finally, most animal experiments utilizing the 5-CSRTT have employed developmental followed by genetic and pharmacological models. Behavioral tasks measuring cognitive symptoms have been developed to attempt to elucidate each of the cognitive domains affected in patients with schizophrenia, with a focus on (spatial, non-spatial, and visual) memory and attention [8, 130, 163, 164, 167, 171] (Fig. 1). Most recent studies of animal models of schizophrenia induced by genetic, pharmacological, and developmental applications have reported impairment in performing these tasks. For spatial and non-spatial working-memory tests, maze tests, including the RAM, Y-maze, and MWM, and the odor span task can be respectively selected. Among the spatial working-memory tests, the MWM is more realistic and complex than the other maze tests and is thus considered the gold standard, although less stressful tasks including the RAM and Y-maze are also widely applied. The MWM and novel object recognition test can be applied for visual learning and memory testing. Additionally, attention and more complex executive function can be assessed using the ASST and 5-CSRTT paradigms. Researchers need to be cautious that alterations in behavioral output could also be induced by non-cognitive elements such as olfaction, vision, anxiety, and locomotor activity.

Based on the most recent advances in the field, it is apparent that a myriad of behavioral tests is needed to confirm and evaluate the congruency of animal models with the numerous behaviors and clinical signs exhibited by patients with schizophrenia. Animal models have been developed to mimic schizophrenia-associated behaviors and serve as preclinical models in drug research. As such, some behavioral tests used to measure schizophrenia-associated behaviors in human patients have been translated into animal versions to allow further confirmation of preclinical trials and better comprehension of the underlying neural basis of the disorders [248, 249]. These animal behavioral tasks are key to filling the gap between preclinical and clinical research [250, 251]. Intrinsically, deciding which behavioral task best describes an animal model is challenging. While, in principle, an exhaustive battery of tasks seems best to fully comprehend and reliably characterize an animal model, this approach, if ever possible, would require excessive time and resources [251]. Thus, researchers are faced with the task of selecting the appropriate behavioral assays that can best describe their animal model. There are no established rules to help guide the selection of the appropriate behavioral tasks. Moreover, suitable behavioral tasks may vary depending on the researchers' goal.

5. CONCLUSION

At present, most analyses concerning the modeling of schizophrenia in animals have only focused on the identification of the different means through which scientists are manipulating, generating, and developing these animal models; however, a gap remains to be filled in the narrative scrutinizing the behavioral tasks being extensively employed in the quest to characterize these models. This review provided an overview of the behavioral tasks currently used to assess the validity of the available animal models of schizophrenia and the recent findings of studies that have employed these behavioral paradigms.

In assessing positive symptoms in animal models of schizophrenia, measurement of locomotor activity, followed by the measurement of PPI, remain the standard behavioral tasks that have been employed by studies in recent years, while the FST, followed by the EPM, TST, three-chamber sociality test, and sucrose preference test were the behavioral paradigms most utilized in detecting negative symptoms of schizophrenia. Lastly, novel object recognition, followed by the MWM, RAM, 5-CSRTT, ASST, Y-maze, or T-maze, and finally the odor span task, were the behavioral tasks preferred by the latest studies that evaluated the cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia in their respective animal models.

Collectively, these tests reproduce dysfunctions found in patients with schizophrenia and may reveal meaningful theoretical and neurobiological correlations between preclinical and clinical findings. Fundamentally, the formulation and application of these behavioral tasks allow the advancement of research using animal models, which, in turn, furthers the elucidation of schizophrenia's etiology and exact mechanisms.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

5-HT7	=	5-hydroxytryptamine 7, serotonin 7
Ahi1 +/- KO	=	Abelson helper integration site 1 +/- KO
ALK	=	Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase
Ank3	=	Ankyrin 3
CaMKII	=	Calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II
CD2	=	Cyclin-D2
CRMP2	=	Collapsin Response Mediator Protein 2
CUB	=	for Complement C1r/C1s, Uegf, Bmp1
DAT	=	Dopamine Transporter
DISC1	=	Disrupted-in-Schizophrenia 1

DNMT1	=	DNA Methyltransferase 1
Dtnbp1	=	Dystrobrevin Binding Protein 1
Dys1B	=	Dysbindin-1B
En2	=	Engrailed-2
EPRAP	=	EP4 Receptor-associated Protein
FFAR1	=	Free Fatty Acid Receptor 1
GAD65	=	Glutamic Acid Decarboxylase 65
GAS7	=	Growth Arrest-specific 7
GCLM	=	Glutamate-cysteine Ligase Modifier
GLAST	=	Glial Glutamate and Aspartate Transporter
GluA1	=	Glutamate A1
Glu-CB1	=	cannabinoid receptor type 1 in glu- tamergic neurons
GPR88	=	G Protein-Coupled Receptor 88
GRIA1	=	Glutamate Ionotropic Receptor AMPA type subunit 1
Grik4	=	Glutamate receptor, ionotropic, kainate 4
Grin1	=	Glutamate Ionotropic Receptor NMDA Type Subunit 1
HRM	=	Heterozygous Reeler Mice
Ift88	=	Intraflagellar Transport 88
JNJ	=	JNJ-28871063
КО	=	Knockout
L-dopa	=	Levodopa
LPS	=	Lipopolysaccharide
Map2k7	=	Mitogen-activated protein kinase ki- nase 7
MB-COMT	=	Membrane-bound catechol-O-methyl- transferase
mGlu5	=	metabotropic glutamate receptor 5
MIA	=	Maternal Immune Activation
mPFC	=	medial prefrontal cortex
NAc-TMEM mice	=	Tmem168 vector was injected into the NAc of mice
NCAM	=	Neural Cell Adhesion Molecule
NCS-1	=	Neuronal Calcium Sensor
Nlgn2 R215H	=	missense mutation R215H of neuroli- gin 2
NMDA	=	N-methyl-D-aspartate

NMRI	=	Naval Medical Research Institute
NRG1	=	Neuregulin-1
NRG3	=	Neuregulin-3
NT	=	Neurotensin
Pcm1	=	Pericentriolar material 1
PCP	=	Phencyclidine
PLC-β1	=	Phospholipase C-β1
poly(I:C)	=	polyinosinic-polycytidylic acid
PTPRG	=	receptor protein tyrosine phosphatase gamma
SARM1	=	Sterile Alpha and TIR Motif-Contain- ing 1
SLC1A1	=	Solute Carrier Family 1 Member 1
SREBP1c	=	Sterol Regulatory Element-binding Protein 1c
Tg	=	Transgenic
V1AR	=	Vasopressin Receptor 1A
vHC	=	ventral Hippocampus
vHPC	=	entral hippocampus
ZnT3	=	Zine transporter 3
α7-nAChR	=	alpha7-nicotinic acetylcholine receptor
$\Delta 9$ -THC	=	$\Delta 9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol

CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest, financial or otherwise. The present manuscript has not been previously published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

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