

Citation: Jang K-I, Lee S-H, Huh HJ, Chae J-H (2015) Influence of the 5-HT3A Receptor Gene Polymorphism and Childhood Sexual Trauma on Central Serotonin Activity. PLoS ONE 10(12): e0145269. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0145269

Editor: Judith Homberg, Radboud University Medical Centre, NETHERLANDS

Received: July 7, 2015

Accepted: December 2, 2015

Published: December 23, 2015

Copyright: © 2015 Jang et al. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the <u>Creative Commons Attribution License</u>, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Data Availability Statement: All relevant data are within the paper.

Funding: This work was supported by the grant of the Korea Health Technology R&D project through the Korea Health industry Development Institute (KHIDI) (grant number: HM15C1054). The funders had no role on study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Competing Interests: The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Influence of the 5-HT3A Receptor Gene Polymorphism and Childhood Sexual Trauma on Central Serotonin Activity

Kuk-In Jang^{1,3©}, Seung-Hwan Lee^{2,3©}, Hyu Jung Huh⁴, Jeong-Ho Chae^{1,4}*

 Department of Biomedicine & Health Sciences, The Catholic University of Korea, College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea, 2 Department of Psychiatry, Inje University College of Medicine, Ilsan Paik Hospital, Goyang, Korea, 3 Clinical Emotion and Cognition Research Laboratory, Inje University, Goyang, Korea,
Department of Psychiatry, Seoul St. Mary's Hospital, The Catholic University of Korea, College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea

• These authors contributed equally to this work.

* alberto@catholic.ac.kr

Abstract

Background

Gene-environment interactions are important for understanding alterations in human brain function. The loudness dependence of auditory evoked potential (LDAEP) is known to reflect central serotonergic activity. Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the 5-HT3A serotonin receptor gene are associated with psychiatric disorders. This study aimed to investigate the effect between 5-HT3A receptor gene polymorphisms and childhood sexual trauma on the LDAEP as an electrophysiological marker in healthy subjects.

Methods

A total of 206 healthy subjects were recruited and evaluated using the childhood trauma questionnaire (CTQ) and hospital anxiety and depression scale (HADS). Peak-to-peak N1/ P2 was measured at five stimulus intensities, and the LDAEP was calculated as the linear-regression slope. In addition, the rs1062613 SNPs of 5-HT3A (CC, CT, and TT) were analyzed in healthy subjects.

Results

There was a significant interaction between scores on the CTQ-sexual abuse subscale and 5-HT3A genotype on the LDAEP. Subjects with the CC polymorphism had a significantly higher LDEAP than T carriers in the sexually abused group. In addition, CC genotype subjects in the sexually abused group showed a significantly higher LDAEP compared with CC genotype subjects in the non-sexually abused group.

Conclusions

Our findings suggest that people with the CC polymorphism of the 5-HT3A gene have a greater risk of developing mental health problems if they have experienced childhood

sexual abuse, possibly due to low central serotonin activity. Conversely, the T polymorphism may be protective against any central serotonergic changes following childhood sexual trauma.

Introduction

Childhood trauma appears to be a crucial etiological factor in the development of many serious mental and behavioral disorders across the lifespan [1]. Epidemiological studies indicate that children exposed to early adverse experiences have an increased risk of developing depression and/or anxiety disorders. Early life stress can persistently sensitize central nervous system (CNS) circuits that are integrally involved in regulating stress and emotion, and this mechanism may be an underlying biological substrate of increased vulnerability to subsequent stress and the development of depression and anxiety [2].

Childhood sexual abuse (CSA) has been extensively studied and has been suggested its linkage with health problems and mental illnesses [3-6]. Individuals who have experienced CSA show an increased prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which has been reported in 37%–53% of cases [7]. CSA is also associated with chronic fatigue, psychosis, anxious attachment, and depression [8-10]. Girls are more exposed to sexual abuse than boys and have an increased suicide attempt rate [11]. In addition, CSA can cause sexual dysfunction and adult sexual trauma by re-victimization [12-14]. Individuals with CSA also exhibit psychosocial problems such as a lack of self-esteem and lower social support and positive self-worth [15]. Additionally, women with a history of CSA are more likely to present with hypothalamicpituitary-adrenal axis dysfunction [16].

Gene-environment interactions have been extensively studied to understand the underlying pathophysiology of psychiatric disorders. Bellani et al. [17] reported a significant interaction among childhood physical and sexual abuse and several genetic polymorphisms associated with the development of psychiatric disorders in adulthood. The rs1062613 single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) C178T in the upstream regulatory region of the 5-HT3A gene was identified to be functionally important in psychiatric disorders [18]. Iidaka et al. [19] found greater activity in the amygdala and dorsal and medial prefrontal cortices during the face recognition test in healthy subjects with the CC allele compared to those with the CT allele. CC carriers also had faster reaction times. When CC and T carriers are exposed to stress, the former exhibit a loss of gray matter in the hippocampus [20], elevated emotion-elicited heart rate, and high alpha band activity in the right frontal area on electroencephalography (EEG) recordings, all of which are correlates of major depression [21]. In addition, the CC genotype is associated with increased anxiety and amygdala hyper-responsiveness in patients with irritable bowel syndrome [22]. This polymorphism may affect the personality trait of harm avoidance in women; TT carriers have lower ratings on harm avoidance and nonconformity [23]. Nonetheless, there are null associations between major depression in women and haplotype blocks in the 5-HT3A gene in 180 unrelated patients with mood disorders [24].

The loudness dependence of auditory evoked potential (LDAEP) is considered a electrophysiologic biomarker of central serotonergic neurotransmission [25] and a possible marker of serotonin transmission; a high LDAEP reflects low central serotonergic neurotransmission and *vice versa* [25, 26]. Previous studies have shown that the LDAEP is closely related to altered serotonin levels in patients with mood and anxiety disorders [27–35]. It has also been suggested as a marker of serotoninergic function in patients with schizophrenia [34, 36]. In addition, The LDAEP is associated with brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) gene polymorphisms in healthy subjects [37]. In this study, we aimed to investigate the interaction between rs1062613 SNPs of the 5-HT3A receptor gene polymorphism and CSA on the LDAEP, an possible electrophysiological marker for serotonin activities. We hypothesized that there would be a significant interaction between CSA and 5-HT3A genotype on the LDAEP. Second, among subjects who experienced CSA, those with the CC genotype would produce a higher LDAEP compared with T carriers. Third, T carriers would exhibit preserved serotonin activity as indicated by a low LDAEP.

Methods

Subjects

The subjects were 206 healthy adults (110 men and 96 women). The mean age was 24.05 ± 3.25 years (range: 19–32 years). All subjects were recruited through advertisements in local newspapers. They were native Koreans with Korean parents. Subjects were invited for a comprehensive interview that included the Structured Clinical Interview for the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition (SCID I and SCID II) to exclude current and/or lifetime Axis I and II psychiatric disorders [38, 39]. Subjects with hearing problems, organic brain disease, left-handedness, any history of cigarette smoking within a year of the study timepoint, or family history of mental disorders were excluded. The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Seoul Saint Mary's Hospital, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea. All subjects provided signed informed consent.

Electrophysiological assessment

To avoid any possible hormonal effects on the LDAEP, measurements in female subjects were taken during the 2nd-5th day of menstruation [40]. Participants were seated in a comfortable chair in a sound-attenuated room. The auditory stimulation comprised 1000 stimuli with an interstimulus interval randomized to 500-900 ms. Tones of 1000 Hz and 80-ms duration (with a 10-ms rise and fall) were presented at five intensities (55, 65, 75, 85, and 95 dB SPL) via headphones (MDR-D777, Sony, Tokyo, Japan). These stimuli were generated by the E-Prime software (Psychology Software Tools, Pittsburgh, PA, USA). EEG data were recorded from 32 scalp sites using silver/silver-chloride electrodes according to the International 10-20 system (impedance, 5 k Ω) using an Auditory Neuroscan NuAmp amplifier (Compumedics USA, El Paso, TX, USA). Data were collected at a sampling rate of 1000 Hz using a bandpass filter of 0.5-100 Hz. In addition, four electrodes were used to measure both horizontal and vertical electrooculograms. The ground and reference electrodes were placed on the forebrain and bilateral mastoids, respectively. Data were reanalyzed using Scan 4.5 software with a bandpass filter of 1-30 Hz, and ocular contamination was removed using standard blink correction algorithms [41]. Event-related potential sweeps with artifacts exceeding 70 μ V were rejected at all electrode sites. For each intensity and participant, the N1 (most negative amplitude 80-130 ms after the stimulus) and P2 peak (most positive amplitude 130-230 ms after the stimulus) were determined at the Fz, Cz, Pz, C3, and C4 electrodes. The peak-to-peak N1/P2 amplitudes were calculated for each stimulus intensity, and the LDAEP was calculated by the slope of the linear regression [26]. The mean LDAEP value (averaged from the Fz, Cz, C3, C4, and Pz) was used in further analysis.

Rating scale

Hospital anxiety and depression scale. Anxiety and depression symptoms were assessed by the Hospital anxiety and depression scale (HADS) [42], a self-report, 14-item questionnaire

that is composed of two 7-item subscales of anxiety and depression. Each item is answered on a 4-point (0-3) response category and the possible scores of the two subscales range from 0-21.

Childhood trauma questionnaire. We assessed traumatic childhood experiences using the short form of the childhood trauma questionnaire (CTQ). The CTQ-short form is a self-report questionnaire consisting of 28 items (25 clinical and 3 validity items) [43]. It measures five categories of childhood maltreatment including emotional, physical neglect, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse. Each subscale has 5 items with a 5-point frequency of occurrence, and subscale scores range from 5–25. For clinical samples, researchers have usually used the moderate to severe cut-off scores for each subscale to classify subjects as positive for a history of childhood trauma in that category. The cut-off scores are ≥ 10 , ≥ 13 , ≥ 8 , ≥ 10 , and ≥ 15 for physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, physical neglect, and emotional neglect, respectively [44, 45]. However because the cut-offs are too high for the normative sample of the present study, we used lower cut-off scores: ≥ 8 for physical abuse, ≥ 11 for emotional abuse, ≥ 6 for sexual abuse, ≥ 8 for physical neglect, and ≥ 13 for emotional neglect. Although the distributions of CTQ scores differ according to age and sex, these cut-off scores were higher than the 90th percentiles of data from the previous community sample study [46].

Genotyping

We collected blood samples (5–10 ml) in EDTA tubes, and genomic DNA was isolated using a NucleoSpin Blood DNA Extraction Kit (Macherey-Nagel, Düren, Germany) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Genotyping was performed by high-resolution melting (HRM) curve analysis. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) was performed in a 20-µl reaction volume using the 96-well Bio-Rad CFX96 Real time PCR system (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA). Reaction mixtures included 1.5 µl of genomic DNA as a template, 200 mM of each primer for the rs1062613 SNP of HTR3A (forward 5'-CAT GAG GTT GGC AGA GGG-3'; reverse 5'-TCC CGA AGT CTG CTT ACC-3'; BMS, Daejeon, South Korea), 1× Sso Fast EvaGreen SuperMix (Bio-Rad), and sterile H₂O. The amplification protocol started with a 98°C step for 3 min followed by 39 cycles of 98°C for 10 s and 58°C for 20 s. After an initial step of 95°C for 10 s and 65°C for 10 s, melting curves were generated from 65–95°C in increments of 0.3°C/cycle. Melting profiles were analyzed with Bio-Rad Precision Melt software.

The genotype frequencies of CC, CT, and TT polymorphisms in the 5-HT3A SNPs were 55.8% (n = 115), 39.3% (n = 81), and 4.9% (n = 10), respectively. The group size of the TT genotype (n = 10) was too small to examine between-subject effects [21]. The allele frequencies are in line with previous studies that concluded that the T allele is less frequent than the C allele in European and Asian populations [47, 48]. Hammer et al. reported that genotype frequencies were CC (n = 2,555), CT (n = 1,369), and TT (n = 202) in European subjects [47]. Kang et al. described the following 5HTR3A C178T (rs1062613) genotype groups in Korean subjects with schizophrenia: CC (n = 146), CT (n = 110), and TT (n = 24) [48]. Therefore, T (CT and TT, n = 91) and CC (n = 115) carrier groups were categorized for further statistical analysis.

Statistical analyses

We compared demographic variables using χ^2 and independent *t*-tests. A repeated measures analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used independently with subscales of childhood trauma (yes *vs.* no) and genotype (CC *vs.* T carriers) as between-subject factors; the outcome variables were LDAEP's five electrodes (Fz, Cz, C3, C4, and Pz) as within-subject factors. Gender and age were considered as covariates. The mean LDAEP value was the outcome variable in the absence or presence of childhood trauma and in CC and T carriers. We examined the betweensubject effect in post hoc analyses by univariate ANOVA with age and gender as covariates. Statistical significance was set at p < 0.05 (two-tailed). Multiple tests were corrected by the Bonferroni method, and p < 0.01 was considered significant. The power of genetic association was calculated by using G*Power 3.1.7 software [49].

Results

There were no significant differences in age, education, sex, or scores on two subscales of the HADS or five CTQ categories between CC and T carriers (<u>Table 1</u>).

Sexual abuse showed a significant gene-environmental interaction as measured by repeated measures ANOVA (<u>Table 2</u>). There was a significant interaction between CSA and 5-HT3A polymorphism on LDAEP (F = 7.101, df = 1, p = 0.008; Fig 1) (Bonferroni-corrected p < 0.01).

The post hoc analysis revealed a significantly higher mean LDAEP in the CC carriers compared with the T carriers in the CSA group (F = 8.170, d.f. = 1, p = 0.006; Fig_2A). Within the CC genotype group, the LDAEP was significantly higher in subjects who experienced CSA compared with those who did not (F = 6.278, d.f. = 1, p = 0.014; Fig_2B).

There were no significant gene-environmental interactions associated with physical/emotional abuse or physical/emotional neglect.

The power of genetic association was calculated for sexual abuse category because it had a significant interaction. The power was 0.77 to detect an effect size of 0.19 in the genotype and allele frequency analyses.

Discussion

In this study, we examined the gene-environment interaction between childhood trauma and 5-HTR3A gene polymorphisms on the LDAEP, a biological correlate of central serotonin activity. We observed a significant gene-environment interaction; a history of CSA significantly interacted with 5-HT3A polymorphism to affect the LDAEP value. Among those who had experienced CSA, CC carriers had an increased LDAEP compared with T carriers. Furthermore, the LDAEP was higher in subjects who had experienced CSA versus those who had not in the CC genotype group.

Table 1. Characteristics of the study population according to 5-HT3A genetic polymorphism

Variables		CC(n = 115)	Tcarrier(n = 91)	Genotype comparison	
				t or χ2	P-value
Age (yea	rs)	23.90 ± 3.53	24.24 ± 3.13	0.74	0.461
Sex (male/female)		60/55	50/41	0.16	0.692
Education (years)		14.70 ± 2.02	14.74 ± 1.74	0.15	0.879
HADS					
	Anxiety	5.32 ± 3.08	5.32 ± 3.45	0.01	0.995
	Depression	4.97 ± 1.76	5.42 ± 2.25	1.54	0.124
CTQ					
	Physical abuse	8.16 ± 3.32	8.13 ± 3.40	0.52	0.958
	Emotional abuse	6.47 ± 2,71	6.89 ± 3.02	1.05	0.294
	Sexual abuse	5.97 ± 1.90	5.70 ± 1.69	1.03	0.304
	Physical neglect	7.23 ± 2.36	6.88 ± 2.20	1.11	0.270
	Emotional neglect	9.81 ± 4.15	9.62 ± 4.20	0.32	0.751

HADS, hospital anxiety and depression scale; CTQ, childhood trauma questionnaire

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0145269.t001



CTQ Category(Yes, %)	CC(n = 115)	Tcarrier(n = 91)	F	df	P-value
Physical abuse	50.4%	42.9%	2.738	1	0.100
Emotional abuse	9.6%	11.0%	3.010	1	0.084
Sexual abuse	31.3%	27.5%	7.101	1	0.008
Physical neglect	38.3%	30.8%	0.009	1	0.924
Emotional neglect	25.2%	24.1%	0.075	1	0.785

Table 2. Between-subject effect of repeated measures ANOVA for each category of the childhood trauma questionnaire (CTQ) on LDAEP (Fz, Cz, C3, C4, and Pz) as outcome variables.

CTQ, childhood trauma questionnaire; LDAEP, loudness dependence of auditory evoked potential

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0145269.t002

The major finding of the present study was that a history of CSA was significantly involved in the interaction between 5-HT3A polymorphism status and LDAEP value. This significant interaction was only present in those with a history of childhood sexual abuse, not other types of childhood trauma. Previous studies have revealed that sexual trauma has a greater biopsychosocial impact than other types of child abuse and neglect. Sheffield et al. [50] investigated



Fig 1. The effect of the interaction between CSA and 5-HTR3A gene polymorphism on averaged LDAEP.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0145269.g001





Fig 2. Results of univariate comparison of averaged LDAEP values between T carriers and CC genotype of the 5-HTR3A gene in people with CSA (A). With and without CSA among CC genotype subjects (B). Covariates were gender and age.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0145269.g002

the association between childhood abuse types and auditory hallucinations in patients with psychotic disorders and control subjects. They found that subjects with auditory hallucinations were significantly associated with CSA. In the absence of sexual abuse, emotional and physical abuse was not related to a higher rate of auditory hallucinations. Subica [51] found that CSA exposure had a significant impact on PTSD and depression compared with exposure to physical abuse. They showed that CSA uniquely predicts PTSD, depression, and physical health problems; therefore, the presence of CSA adversely affects mental illnesses compared with other types of child abuse and neglect. These previous findings are in line with our results.

Among subjects who had experienced childhood sexual trauma, we found that LDAEP was higher in subjects with a CC genotype than in T carriers. These results suggested that serotonin function is significantly influenced by gene-environmental interactions. Several studies have provided evidence that an interaction between CSA and serotonin gene polymorphisms is related to mental illness. Cicchetti et al. [52] found that sexual abuse and the 5-HTT short/ short allele genotype predicts higher rates of depression, anxiety, and somatic symptoms. Aguilera et al. [53] reported that CSA has a greater impact on depressive symptoms in Met allele carriers of the BDNF gene and S carriers of the 5-HTTLPR polymorphism. Furthermore, Fisher et al. [54] found an interaction between the 5-HTTLPR polymorphism and childhood maltreatment on recurrent depressive disorder.

In addition, 5-HT3A is known to interact with childhood trauma in the development of various psychopathologies. The 5-HT3A receptor is a cation-selective ion channel expressed in the amygdala, hippocampus, and caudate [18]. Gatt et al. [20] investigated the effect of 5-HT3A gene polymorphisms and early trauma on brain networks and depressed mood in 397 healthy subjects and observed a significant reduction in hippocampal gray matter in CC genotype subjects compared with T carriers. Additionally, the interaction between 5-HT3A SNP status and childhood maltreatment predicts a depressed mood. Another study reported that individuals with both BDNF methionine and HTR3A CC genotypes and early life stress exposure demonstrated elevated emotion-elicited heart rate and right frontal hyper-activation with right parietotemporal hypoactivation on EEG [21]. They interpreted this as a brain-arousal profile indicative of a higher risk of developing depression. Iidaka et al. [19] showed greater activity in the amygdala and dorsal and medial prefrontal cortices during a face-recognition test in healthy subjects with the CC genotype compared to those with a CT genotype; subjects with a CC genotype also had faster reaction times. However, studies in Asian population have yielded inconsistent results; in Japanese subjects, major depression showed an association with 5-HT3B but not 5-HT3A gene polymorphisms [24].

Compare with those who had no experienced CSA, subjects with the CC genotype had a higher LDAEP if they had experienced CSA. A high LDAEP can be interpreted as low central serotonergic activity in the brain [26]. In their single-photon emission computed tomography study, Lee et al. [55] found that healthy controls with a higher LDAEP showed low serotonin transporter availability that is (indicative of low serotonin tone). Low serotonergic activity in patients with major depressive disorder has been associated with suicide attempts [56–58] and more severe somatic symptoms of depression, such as a loss of appetite, insomnia, and sexual dysfunction [59]. It was recently hypothesized that serotonin plays a role in behavioral inhibition [60]. Evidence from an animal study suggests the involvement of serotonin depletion in a failure of response inhibition [61]. Collectively, these findings indicate that people with the 5HT3A CC genotype may show increased impulsivity and have a higher suicide risk when they have history of childhood sexual trauma.

Limitation

It should be considered that the samples in the present study were healthy subjects without any mental disorders, so there were no symptomatic differences among the subgroups. Moreover, we could not confirm any pathological characteristics between subjects with low and high LDAEPs when CSA was excluded as a variable. The results of this study could explain the interaction between CSA and 5-HT3A on serotonin function in the general population. However, the CTQ may not precisely reflect the participants' traumatic childhood experiences because it is subjective and a retrospective self-report. Future clinical studies should be conducted with a large sample size and consider genetic characteristics corresponding to mental illness prevalence in the gene-environmental model. Furthermore, investigations should compare the magnitudes of the averaged LDAEPs in individuals who experienced CSA and subjects with the CC genotype to patient populations.

Conclusions

The results of this study confirmed that LDAEP magnitude is clinically useful to indicate the Gene × Environment effect. The mean LDAEP value of the CC + CSA group in the present study was similar to depressed patients who had made suicide attempts in an earlier investigation [29]. The results were similar in healthy *vs.* healthy and healthy *vs.* schizophrenia in a case-control study [36] (S2 Table). The present study suggests that the CC genotype could be a genetic risk factor for a higher LDAEP, reflecting low central serotonergic function. Conversely, the T allele may play a role in preventing psychophysiological conditions in subjects who have experienced CSA.

Supporting Information

S1 Table. Raw data. (PDF)

S2 Table. The mean LDAEP magnitude in comparison with previous studies. (DOCX)

Author Contributions

Conceived and designed the experiments: JHC SHL. Performed the experiments: KIJ. Analyzed the data: KIJ SHL HJH. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: KIJ SHL. Wrote the paper: KIJ SHL.

References

- Terr LC. Childhood traumas: an outline and overview. Am J Psychiatry. 1991; 148(1):10–20. doi: <u>10.</u> <u>1176/ajp.148.1.10</u> PMID: <u>1824611</u>.
- 2. Heim C, Nemeroff CB. The role of childhood trauma in the neurobiology of mood and anxiety disorders: preclinical and clinical studies. Biol Psychiatry. 2001; 49(12):1023–39. PMID: <u>11430844</u>.
- Coles J, Lee A, Taft A, Mazza D, Loxton D. Childhood Sexual Abuse and Its Association With Adult Physical and Mental Health: Results From a National Cohort of Young Australian Women. J Interpers Violence. 2014. doi: <u>10.1177/0886260514555270</u> PMID: <u>25411233</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC25411233.
- Sigurdardottir S, Halldorsdottir S, Bender SS. Consequences of childhood sexual abuse for health and well-being: gender similarities and differences. Scand J Public Health. 2014; 42(3):278–86. doi: <u>10.</u> <u>1177/1403494813514645</u> PMID: <u>24345814</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC24345814.
- Spataro J, Mullen PE, Burgess PM, Wells DL, Moss SA. Impact of child sexual abuse on mental health: prospective study in males and females. Br J Psychiatry. 2004; 184:416–21. PMID: <u>15123505</u>.
- Irish L, Kobayashi I, Delahanty DL. Long-term physical health consequences of childhood sexual abuse: a meta-analytic review. J Pediatr Psychol. 2010; 35(5):450–61. doi: <u>10.1093/jpepsy/jsp118</u> PMID: 20022919; PubMed Central PMCID: PMCPMC2910944.
- Cummings M, Berkowitz SJ, Scribano PV. Treatment of childhood sexual abuse: an updated review. Curr Psychiatry Rep. 2012; 14(6):599–607. doi: <u>10.1007/s11920-012-0316-5</u> PMID: <u>23011785</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23011785.
- Kempke S, Luyten P, De Coninck S, Van Houdenhove B, Mayes LC, Claes S. Effects of early childhood trauma on hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis function in patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Psychoneuroendocrinology. 2014; 52C:14–21. doi: <u>10.1016/j.psyneuen.2014.10.027</u> PMID: <u>25459889</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC25459889.
- Addington J, Stowkowy J, Cadenhead KS, Cornblatt BA, McGlashan TH, Perkins DO, et al. Early traumatic experiences in those at clinical high risk for psychosis. Early Interv Psychiatry. 2013; 7(3):300–5. doi: 10.1111/eip.12020 PMID: 23343384; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23343384.
- Smith PN, Gamble SA, Cort NA, Ward EA, Conwell Y, Talbot NL. The relationships of attachment style and social maladjustment to death ideation in depressed women with a history of childhood sexual abuse. J Clin Psychol. 2012; 68(1):78–87. doi: <u>10.1002/jclp.20852</u> PMID: <u>22125120</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC22125120.
- Isohookana R, Riala K, Hakko H, Räsänen P. Adverse childhood experiences and suicidal behavior of adolescent psychiatric inpatients. Eur Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2013; 22(1):13–22. doi: <u>10.1007/</u> <u>s00787-012-0311-8</u> PMID: <u>22842795</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC22842795.
- Staples J, Rellini AH, Roberts SP. Avoiding experiences: sexual dysfunction in women with a history of sexual abuse in childhood and adolescence. Arch Sex Behav. 2012; 41(2):341–50. doi: <u>10.1007/</u> <u>\$10508-011-9773-x</u> PMID: <u>21667232</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC21667232.
- Blain LM, Muench F, Morgenstern J, Parsons JT. Exploring the role of child sexual abuse and posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms in gay and bisexual men reporting compulsive sexual behavior. Child Abuse Negl. 2012; 36(5):413–22. doi: <u>10.1016/j.chiabu.2012.03.003</u> PMID: <u>22622224</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC22622224.
- Lau M, Kristensen E. Sexual revictimization in a clinical sample of women reporting childhood sexual abuse. Nord J Psychiatry. 2010; 64(1):4–10. doi: <u>10.3109/08039480903191205</u> PMID: <u>19883187</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC19883187.

- Wondie Y, Zemene W, Tafesse B, Reschke K, Schröder H. The psychosocial consequences of child sexual abuse in Ethiopia: a case-control comparative analysis. J Interpers Violence. 2011; 26 (10):2025–41. doi: <u>10.1177/0886260510372937</u> PMID: <u>20587451</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC20587451.
- Bublitz MH, Stroud LR. Childhood sexual abuse is associated with cortisol awakening response over pregnancy: preliminary findings. Psychoneuroendocrinology. 2012; 37(9):1425–30. doi: <u>10.1016/j.</u> psyneuen.2012.01.009 PMID: <u>22341730</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC22341730.
- Bellani M, Nobile M, Bianchi V, van Os J, Brambilla P. G × E interaction and neurodevelopment I. Focus on maltreatment. Epidemiol Psychiatr Sci. 2012; 21(4):347–51. doi: <u>10.1017/s2045796012000418</u> PMID: <u>23174344</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23174344.
- Barnes NM, Hales TG, Lummis SCR, Peters JA. The 5-HT3 receptor—the relationship between structure and function. Neuropharmacology. 2009; 56(1):273–84. doi: <u>10.1016/j.neuropharm.2008.08.003</u> PMID: <u>18761359</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC18761359.
- Iidaka T, Ozaki N, Matsumoto A, Nogawa J, Kinoshita Y, Suzuki T, et al. A variant C178T in the regulatory region of the serotonin receptor gene HTR3A modulates neural activation in the human amygdala. The Journal of neuroscience: the official journal of the Society for Neuroscience. 2005; 25(27):6460–6. doi: 10.1523/JNEUROSCI.5261-04.2005 PMID: 16000636.
- Gatt JM, Williams LM, Schofield PR, Dobson-Stone C, Paul RH, Grieve SM, et al. Impact of the HTR3A gene with early life trauma on emotional brain networks and depressed mood. Depress Anxiety. 2010; 27(8):752–9. doi: 10.1002/da.20726 PMID: 20694966; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC20694966.
- Gatt JM, Nemeroff CB, Schofield PR, Paul RH, Clark CR, Gordon E, et al. Early life stress combined with serotonin 3A receptor and brain-derived neurotrophic factor valine 66 to methionine genotypes impacts emotional brain and arousal correlates of risk for depression. Biol Psychiatry. 2010; 68(9):818– 24. doi: 10.1016/j.biopsych.2010.06.025 PMID: 20728877; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC20728877.
- Kilpatrick LA, Labus JS, Coveleskie K, Hammer C, Rappold G, Tillisch K, et al. The HTR3A polymorphism c. -42C>T is associated with amygdala responsiveness in patients with irritable bowel syndrome. Gastroenterology. 2011; 140(7):1943–51. doi: <u>10.1053/j.gastro.2011.03.011</u> PMID: <u>21420406</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC21420406.
- Melke J, Westberg L, Nilsson S, Landen M, Soderstrom H, Baghaei F, et al. A polymorphism in the serotonin receptor 3A (HTR3A) gene and its association with harm avoidance in women. Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2003; 60(10):1017–23. doi: <u>10.1001/archpsyc.60.10.1017</u> PMID: <u>14557147</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC14557147.
- 24. Yamada K, Hattori E, Iwayama Y, Ohnishi T, Ohba H, Toyota T, et al. Distinguishable haplotype blocks in the HTR3A and HTR3B region in the Japanese reveal evidence of association of HTR3B with female major depression. Biol Psychiatry. 2006; 60(2):192–201. doi: <u>10.1016/j.biopsych.2005.11.008</u> PMID: <u>16487942</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC16487942.
- Juckel G, Molnár M, Hegerl U, Csépe V, Karmos G. Auditory-evoked potentials as indicator of brain serotonergic activity—first evidence in behaving cats. Biol Psychiatry. 1997; 41(12):1181–95. PMID: 9171909; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC9171909.
- Hegerl U, Juckel G. Intensity dependence of auditory evoked potentials as an indicator of central serotonergic neurotransmission: a new hypothesis. Biological psychiatry. 1993; 33(3):173–87. PMID: 8383545.
- Lee K-S, Park Y-M, Lee S-H. Serotonergic dysfunction in patients with bipolar disorder assessed by the loudness dependence of the auditory evoked potential. Psychiatry Investig. 2012; 9(3):298–306. doi: <u>10.4306/pi.2012.9.3.298</u> PMID: <u>22993531</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC22993531.
- Lee S-H, Park Y-C, Yoon S, Kim J-I, Hahn SW. Clinical implications of loudness dependence of auditory evoked potentials in patients with atypical depression. Prog Neuropsychopharmacol Biol Psychiatry. 2014; 54:7–12. doi: <u>10.1016/j.pnpbp.2014.05.010</u> PMID: <u>24865151</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC24865151.
- Min J-A, Lee S-H, Lee S-Y, Chae J-H, Lee C-U, Park Y-M, et al. Clinical characteristics associated with different strengths of loudness dependence of auditory evoked potentials (LDAEP) in major depressive disorder. Psychiatry Res. 2012; 200(2–3):374–81. doi: <u>10.1016/j.psychres.2012.06.038</u> PMID: 23021319; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23021319.
- Park Y-M, Kim D-W, Kim S, Im C-H, Lee S-H. The loudness dependence of the auditory evoked potential (LDAEP) as a predictor of the response to escitalopram in patients with generalized anxiety disorder. Psychopharmacology (Berl). 2011; 213(2–3):625–32. doi: <u>10.1007/s00213-010-2061-y</u> PMID: <u>21057773</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC21057773.
- Park Y-M, Lee B-H, Lee S-H. The association between serum lipid levels, suicide ideation, and central serotonergic activity in patients with major depressive disorder. J Affect Disord. 2014; 159:62–5. doi: <u>10.1016/j.jad.2014.01.016</u> PMID: <u>24679391</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC24679391.

- Park Y-M, Lee S-H. Clinical Usefulness of Loudness Dependence of Auditory Evoked Potentials (LDAEP) in Patients with Bipolar Disorder. Psychiatry Investig. 2013; 10(3):233–7. doi: <u>10.4306/pi.</u> <u>2013.10.3.233</u> PMID: <u>24302945</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC24302945.
- Park Y-M, Lee S-H. Can the Loudness Dependence of Auditory Evoked Potentials and Suicidality Be Used to Differentiate between Depressive Patients with and without Bipolarity. Psychiatry Investig. 2013; 10(2):143–7. doi: <u>10.4306/pi.2013.10.2.143</u> PMID: <u>23798962</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23798962.
- 34. Park Y-M, Lee S-H, Kim S, Bae S-M. The loudness dependence of the auditory evoked potential (LDAEP) in schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, anxiety disorder, and healthy controls. Prog Neuropsychopharmacol Biol Psychiatry. 2010; 34(2):313–6. doi: <u>10.1016/j.pnpbp.2009.</u> <u>12.004</u> PMID: <u>20005279</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC20005279.
- Park Y-M, Lee S-H, Park EJ. Usefulness of LDAEP to predict tolerability to SSRIs in major depressive disorder: a case report. Psychiatry Investig. 2012; 9(1):80–2. doi: <u>10.4306/pi.2012.9.1.80</u> PMID: 22396689; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC22396689.
- Wyss C, Hitz K, Hengartner MP, Theodoridou A, Obermann C, Uhl I, et al. The loudness dependence of auditory evoked potentials (LDAEP) as an indicator of serotonergic dysfunction in patients with predominant schizophrenic negative symptoms. PLoS One. 2013; 8(7):e68650. doi: <u>10.1371/journal.pone.</u> <u>0068650</u> PMID: <u>23874705</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23874705.
- Park Y-M, Lee S-H, Lee H-J, Kang S-G, Min J-A, Chae J-H. Association between BDNF gene polymorphisms and serotonergic activity using loudness dependence of auditory evoked potentials in healthy subjects. PLoS One. 2013; 8(4):e60340. doi: <u>10.1371/journal.pone.0060340</u> PMID: <u>23593198</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC23593198.
- **38.** First M. User's guide for the structured clinical interview for DSM-IV axis II personality disorders: SCID-II. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press; 1997.
- **39.** First M. User's guide for the Structured clinical interview for DSM-IV axis I disorders SCID-I: clinician version. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press; 1997. 132 p.
- Oliva JL, Leung S, Croft RJ, O'Neill BV, Stout JC, Nathan PJ. Evidence for sex differences in the loudness dependence of the auditory evoked potential in humans. Hum Psychopharmacol. 2011; 26 (2):172–6. doi: 10.1002/hup.1187 PMID: 21455974; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC21455974.
- Semlitsch HV, Anderer P, Schuster P, Presslich O. A solution for reliable and valid reduction of ocular artifacts, applied to the P300 ERP. Psychophysiology. 1986; 23(6):695–703. PMID: <u>3823345</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3823345.
- Bjelland I, Dahl AA, Haug TT, Neckelmann D. The validity of the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale. An updated literature review. J Psychosom Res. 2002; 52(2):69–77. PMID: <u>11832252</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC11832252.
- Bernstein DP, Stein JA, Newcomb MD, Walker E, Pogge D, Ahluvalia T, et al. Development and validation of a brief screening version of the Childhood Trauma Questionnaire. Child Abuse Negl. 2003; 27 (2):169–90. PMID: 12615092; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC12615092.
- 44. Bernstein D, Fink L. Manual for the childhood trauma questionnaire: a retrospective self-report. The Psychological Corporation. Harcourt Brace, San Antonio; 1998.
- Heim C, Nater UM, Maloney E, Boneva R, Jones JF, Reeves WC. Childhood trauma and risk for chronic fatigue syndrome: association with neuroendocrine dysfunction. Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2009; 66 (1):72–80. doi: <u>10.1001/archgenpsychiatry.2008.508</u> PMID: <u>19124690</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC19124690.
- Scher CD, Stein MB, Asmundson GJ, McCreary DR, Forde DR. The childhood trauma questionnaire in a community sample: psychometric properties and normative data. J Trauma Stress. 2001; 14(4):843– 57. doi: <u>10.1023/a:1013058625719</u> PMID: <u>11776429</u>.
- Hammer C, Cichon S, Mühleisen TW, Haenisch B, Degenhardt F, Mattheisen M, et al. Replication of functional serotonin receptor type 3A and B variants in bipolar affective disorder: a European multicenter study. Transl Psychiatry. 2012; 2:e103. doi: <u>10.1038/tp.2012.30</u> PMID: <u>22832903</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMCPMC3337070.
- Kang SG, Lee HJ, Yoon HK, Cho SN, Park YM, Kim L. There is no evidence for an association between the serotonin receptor 3A gene C178T polymorphism and tardive dyskinesia in Korean schizophrenia patients. Nord J Psychiatry. 2013; 67(3):214–8. Epub 2012/11/07. doi: <u>10.3109/08039488.2012</u>. 732114 PMID: 23126479.
- 49. Faul F, Erdfelder E, Buchner A, Lang A-G. Statistical power analyses using G*Power 3.1: tests for correlation and regression analyses. Behav Res Methods. 2009; 41(4):1149–60. doi: <u>10.3758/brm.41.4.</u> <u>1149</u> PMID: <u>19897823</u>.

- Sheffield JM, Williams LE, Blackford JU, Heckers S. Childhood sexual abuse increases risk of auditory hallucinations in psychotic disorders. Compr Psychiatry. 2013; 54(7):1098–104. doi: 10.1016/j. comppsych.2013.05.013 PMID: 23815887; PubMed Central PMCID: PMCPMC3779472.
- Subica AM. Psychiatric and physical sequelae of childhood physical and sexual abuse and forced sexual trauma among individuals with serious mental illness. J Trauma Stress. 2013; 26(5):588–96. doi: 10.1002/jts.21845 PMID: 24115301.
- Cicchetti D, Rogosch FA, Sturge-Apple ML. Interactions of child maltreatment and serotonin transporter and monoamine oxidase A polymorphisms: depressive symptomatology among adolescents from low socioeconomic status backgrounds. Dev Psychopathol. 2007; 19(4):1161–80. doi: <u>10.1017/</u> <u>s0954579407000600</u> PMID: <u>17931441</u>.
- Aguilera M, Arias B, Wichers M, Barrantes-Vidal N, Moya J, Villa H, et al. Early adversity and 5-HTT/ BDNF genes: new evidence of gene-environment interactions on depressive symptoms in a general population. Psychol Med. 2009; 39(9):1425–32. doi: 10.1017/s0033291709005248 PMID: 19215635.
- 54. Fisher HL, Cohen-Woods S, Hosang GM, Korszun A, Owen M, Craddock N, et al. Interaction between specific forms of childhood maltreatment and the serotonin transporter gene (5-HTT) in recurrent depressive disorder. J Affect Disord. 2013; 145(1):136–41. doi: <u>10.1016/j.jad.2012.05.032</u> PMID: <u>22840631</u>; PubMed Central PMCID: PMCPMC3825663.
- 55. Lee IH, Yang YK, Chen PS, Huang HC, Yeh TL, Lu RB, et al. Loudness dependence of auditory evoked potentials (LDAEP) correlates with the availability of dopamine transporters and serotonin transporters in healthy volunteers-a two isotopes SPECT study. Psychopharmacology. 2011; 214(3):617–24. doi: 10.1007/s00213-010-2064-8 PMID: 21072504.
- Chen TJ, Yu YW, Chen MC, Wang SY, Tsai SJ, Lee TW. Serotonin dysfunction and suicide attempts in major depressives: an auditory event-related potential study. Neuropsychobiology. 2005; 52(1):28–36. doi: 10.1159/000086175 PMID: 15942261.
- Kim DH, Park YM. The association between suicidality and serotonergic dysfunction in depressed patients. Journal of affective disorders. 2013; 148(1):72–6. doi: <u>10.1016/j.jad.2012.11.051</u> PMID: 23312213.
- Uhl I, Illes F, Grassnickel V, Echterhoff S, Norra C, Juckel G. Loudness dependence of auditory evoked potentials (LDAEP) in clinical monitoring of suicidal patients with major depression: a pilot study. European archives of psychiatry and clinical neuroscience. 2012; 262(6):487–92. doi: <u>10.1007/s00406-012-0297-8</u> PMID: <u>22350533</u>.
- Linka T, Sartory G, Gastpar M, Scherbaum N, Muller BW. Clinical symptoms of major depression are associated with the intensity dependence of auditory event-related potential components. Psychiatry research. 2009; 169(2):139–43. doi: 10.1016/j.psychres.2008.06.009 PMID: 19700202.
- 60. Drueke B, Schlaegel SM, Seifert A, Moeller O, Grunder G, Gauggel S, et al. The role of 5-HT in response inhibition and re-engagement. European neuropsychopharmacology: the journal of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology. 2013; 23(8):830–41. doi: <u>10.1016/j.euroneuro.2013.05.</u>005 PMID: 23816061.
- Eagle DM, Bari A, Robbins TW. The neuropsychopharmacology of action inhibition: cross-species translation of the stop-signal and go/no-go tasks. Psychopharmacology. 2008; 199(3):439–56. doi: <u>10.</u> <u>1007/s00213-008-1127-6</u> PMID: <u>18542931</u>.