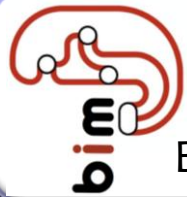


# Pain.



BodyinMind.org



UniSA

Sansom Institute  
for Health Research



**Neuroscience  
Research Australia**

*Discover. Conquer. Cure.*

**Lorimer Moseley**

Professor of Clinical Neurosciences & Chair in Physiotherapy  
University of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia

Senior Research Fellow  
Neuroscience Research Australia, Sydney, Australia





# Out with the old....



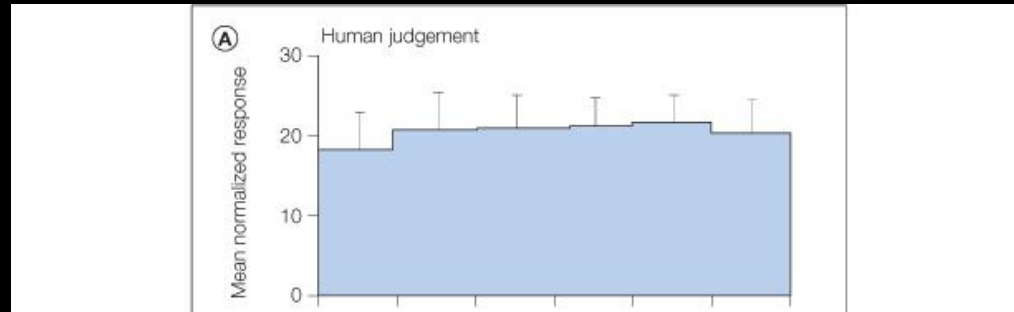
1654



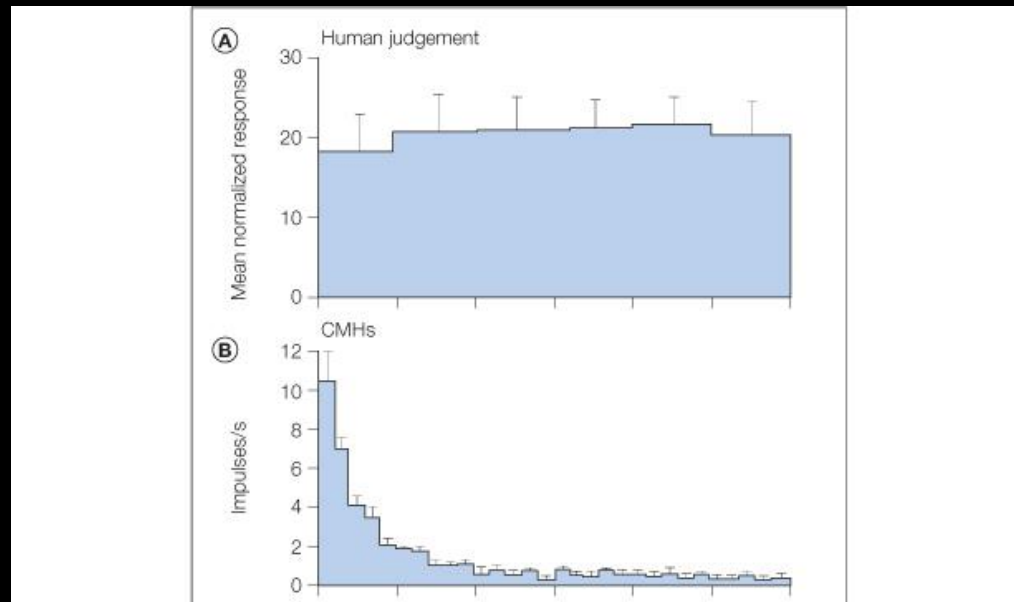
# Nociception & pain.



# Hold 53° C on skin for 30 sec



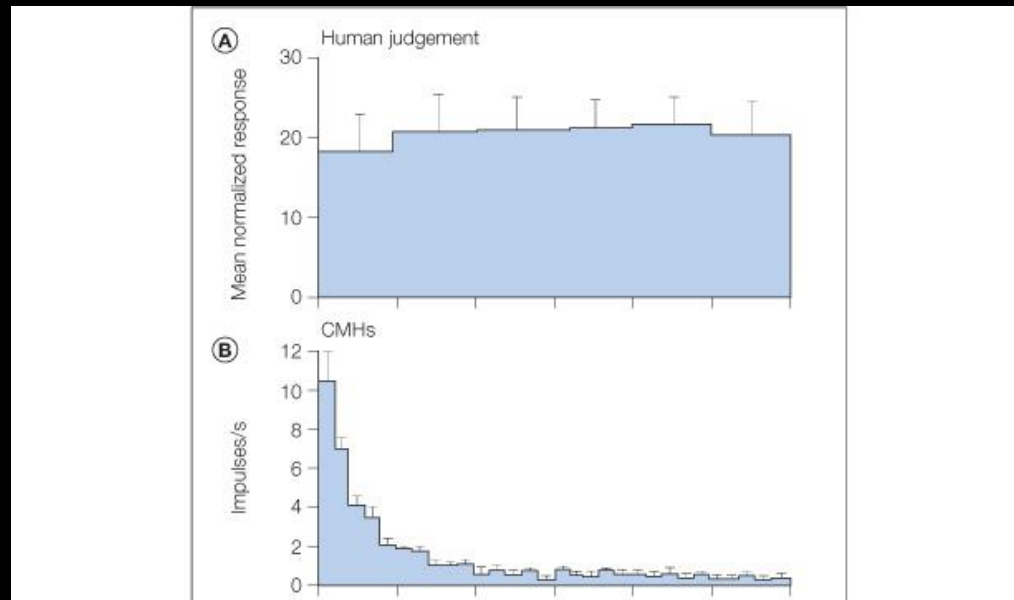
# Hold 53° C on skin for 30 sec



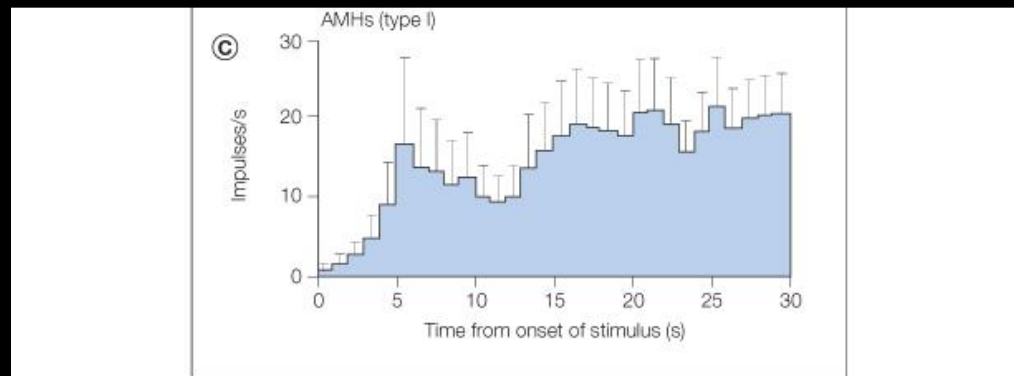
## Record activity in C fibres



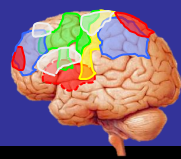
# Hold 53° C on skin for 30 sec



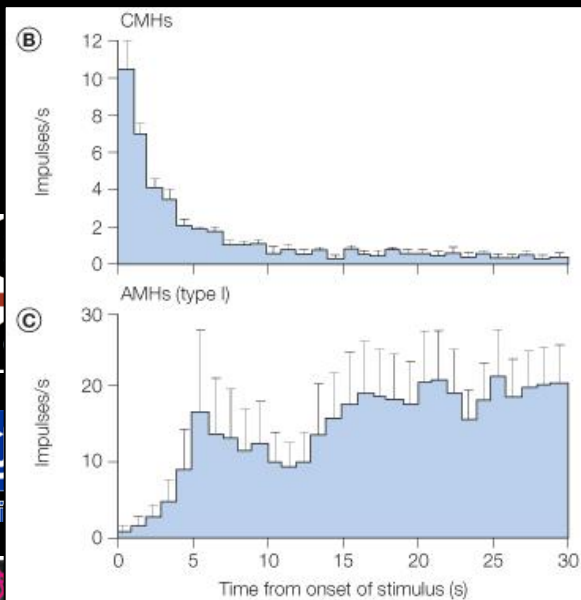
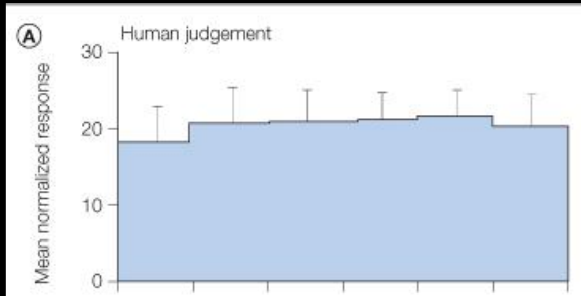
## Record activity in C fibres and A<sup>TM</sup> fibres







# Is nociception sufficient or necessary for pain?



Pain

If so, we should see no change in pain without change in nociception.

C fibres

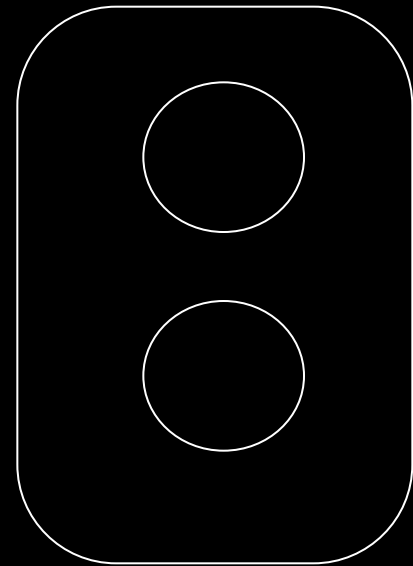
And no change in nociception without a change in pain.

A $\delta$  fibres

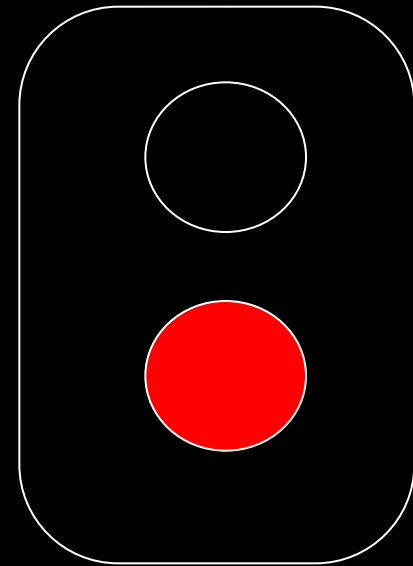
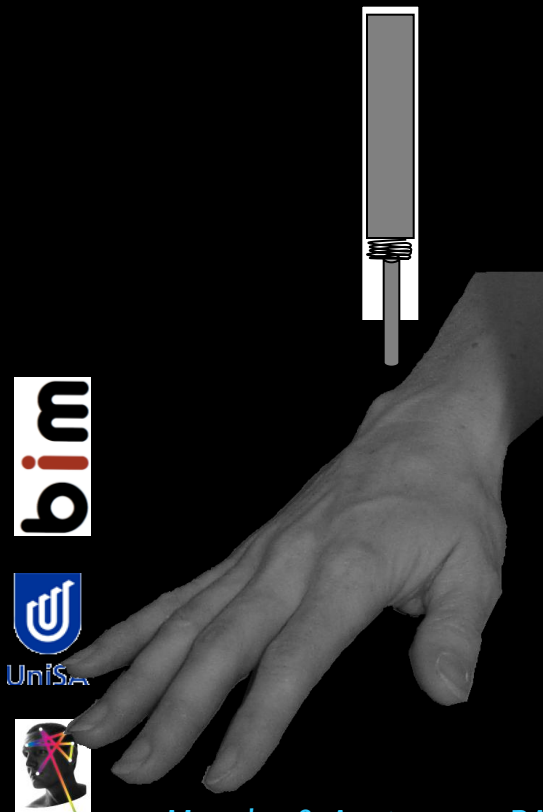


# Manipulated meaning of nociceptive stimulus

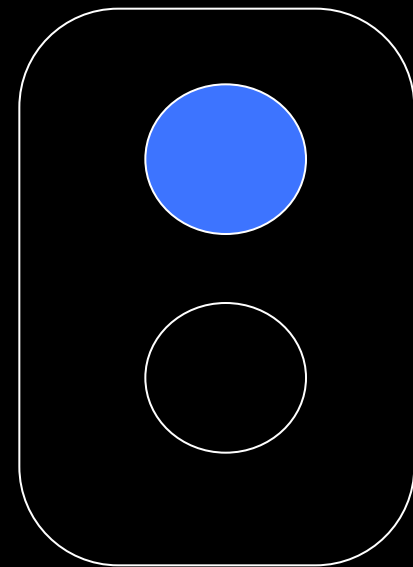
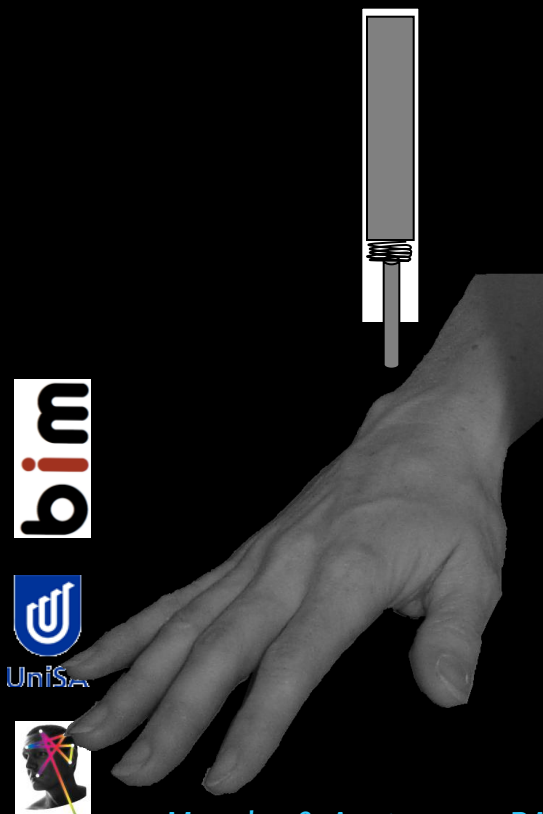
Very cold (-  
20°C) stimulus  
associated with  
a red or a blue  
light



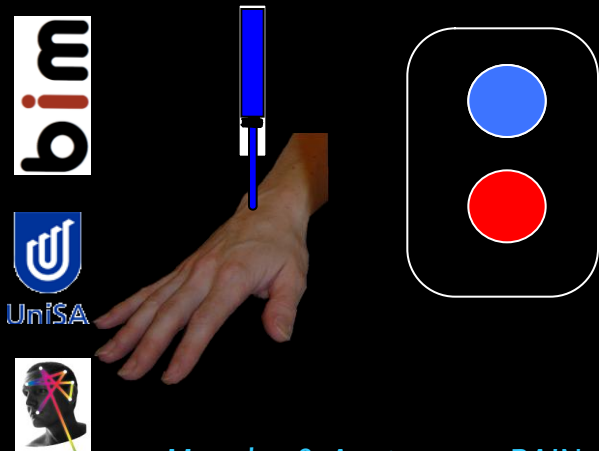
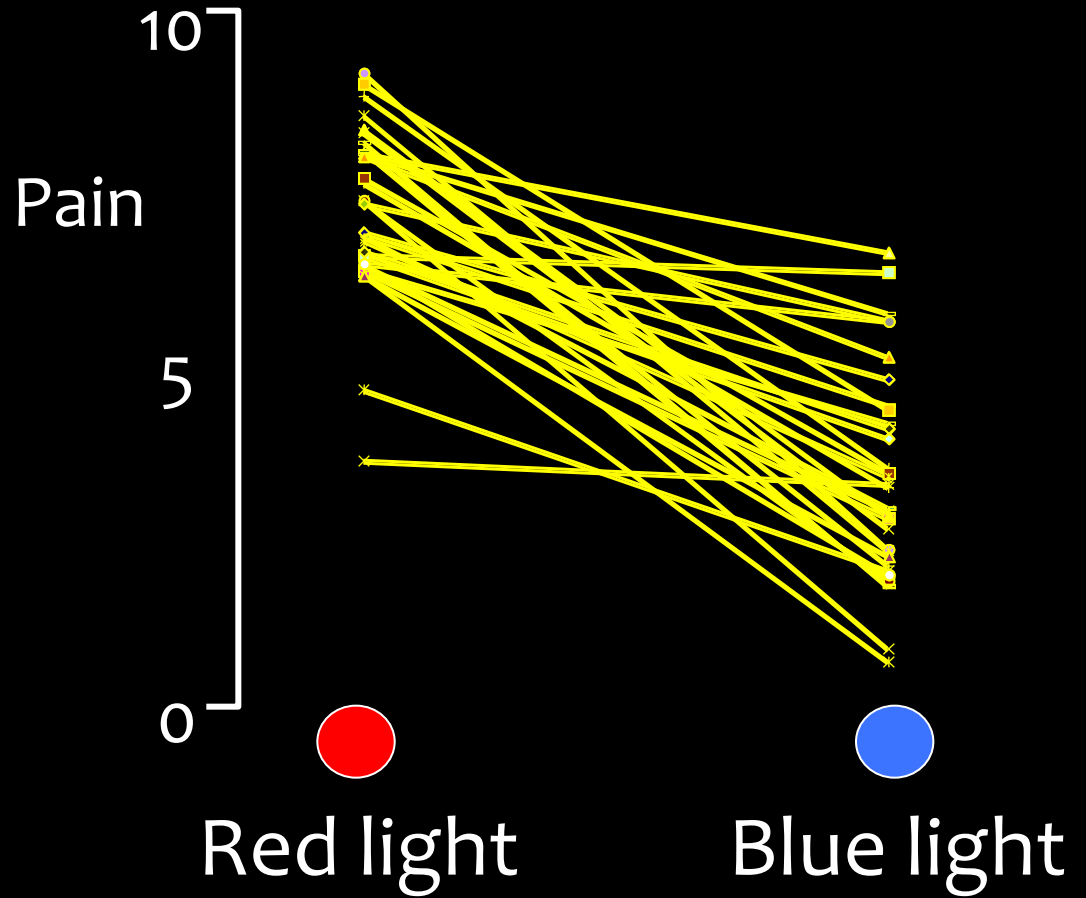
# Manipulated meaning of nociceptive stimulus - HOT



# Manipulated meaning of nociceptive stimulus - COLD



Very cold (-20°C) stimulus associated with a red or a blue light



Visual cue  
= 'safe'

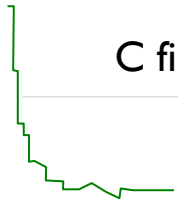
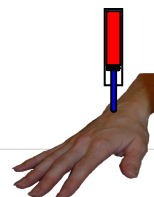
Visual cue  
= 'danger'



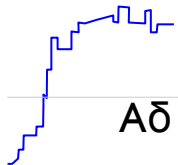
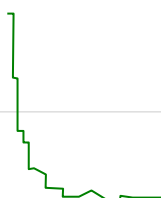
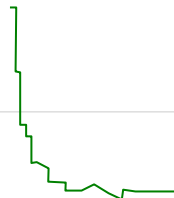
← This is a change in  
pain without a  
change in  
nociception.



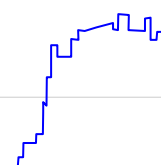
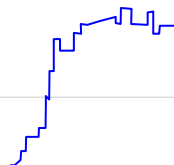
Pain



C fibres



A $\delta$  fibres



Beliefs, knowledge & logic can also be **non-specific**

e.g. blue placebo pills sedate, red stimulate

*Blackwell et al 1972 Lancet 1; 1279-82*



Beliefs, knowledge & logic can also be **non-specific**

e.g. **blue** placebo pills sedate, **red** stimulate

*Blackwell et al 1972 Lancet 1; 1279-82*

Except Italian men, in whom the opposite is true

*Luchelli et al 1978 Euro J Clin Pharm 13; 153-5*





Beliefs, knowledge & logic can also be **non-specific**

e.g. **blue** placebo pills sedate, **red** stimulate

*Blackwell et al 1972 Lancet 1; 1279-82*

Except Italian men, in whom the opposite is true

*Luchelli et al 1978 Euro J Clin Pharm 13; 153-5*



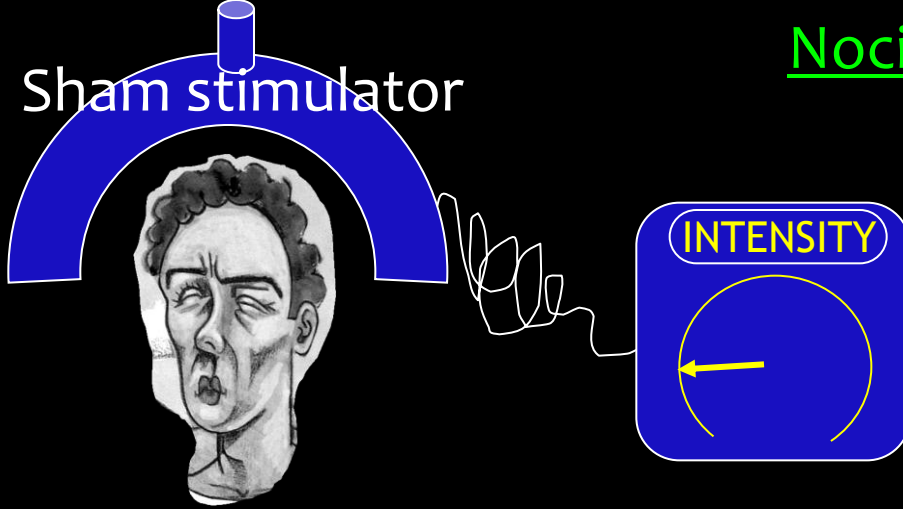
Why might this be the case?





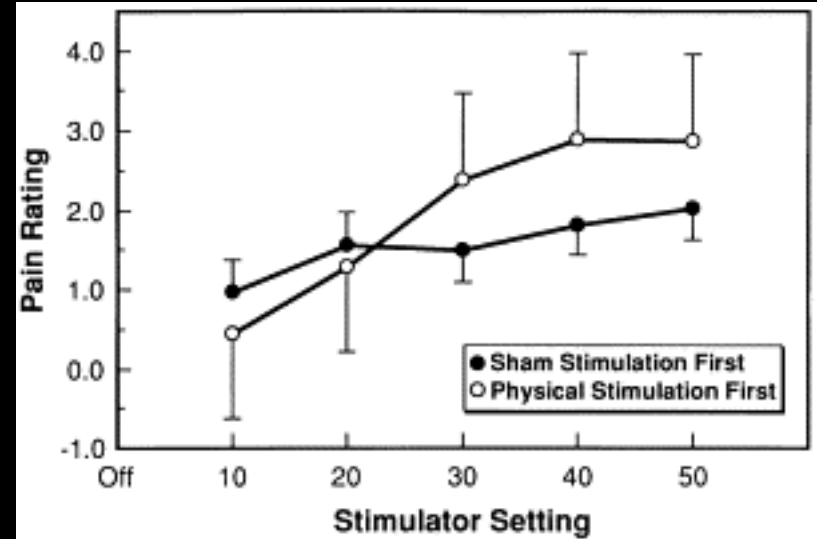
Sham stimulator

Nociception is not necessary for pain

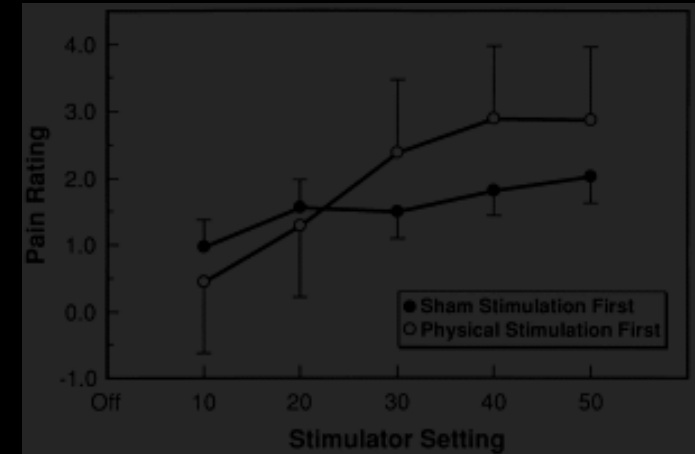


Bayer et al PAIN 74; 327-31 (1998)

“Normal” volunteers



# Nociception is not necessary for pain

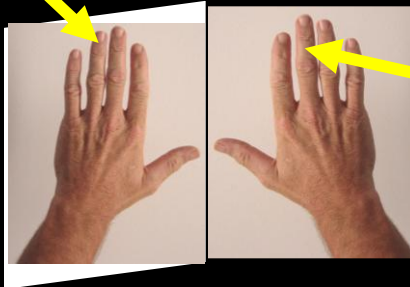


Pain



Touch

Visual input of a tactile stimulus



Tactile stimulus

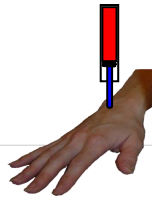
Visual cue  
= 'safe'

Visual cue  
= 'danger'

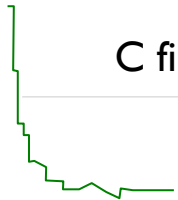
Credible  
evidence of  
danger



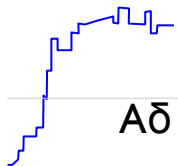
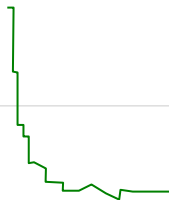
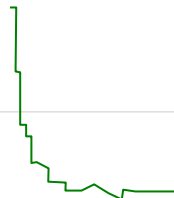
Pain



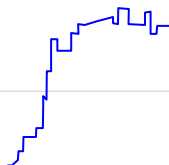
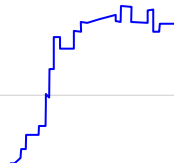
This is pain  
without  
nociception.



C fibres



A $\delta$  fibres



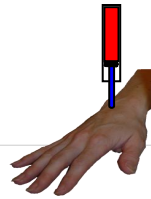
Visual cue  
= 'safe'

Visual cue  
= 'danger'

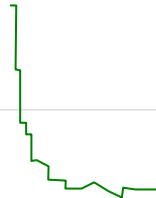
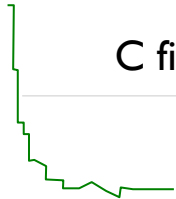
Credible  
evidence of  
danger

Pain-free  
trauma

Pain



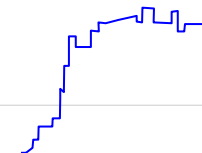
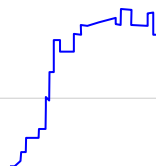
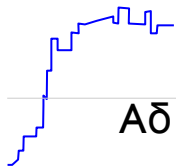
C fibres



This is  
nociception  
without pain.



Aδ fibres





# Experimental studies...

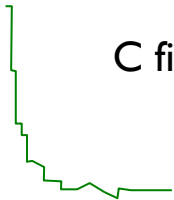


Pain

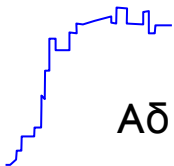
Are the participants normal?

Is the stimulus normal?

Is *anything* normal?



C fibres

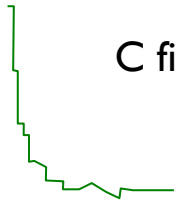


A $\delta$  fibres

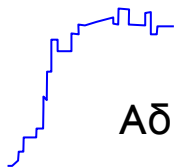




Pain



C fibres

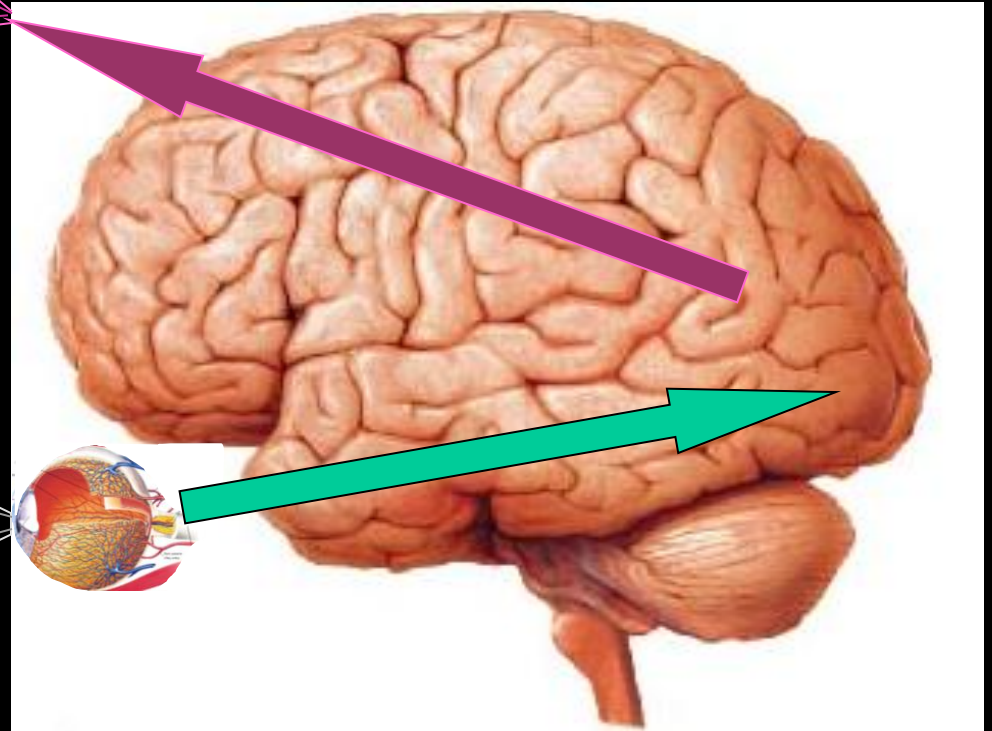


A $\delta$  fibres

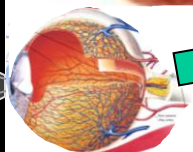
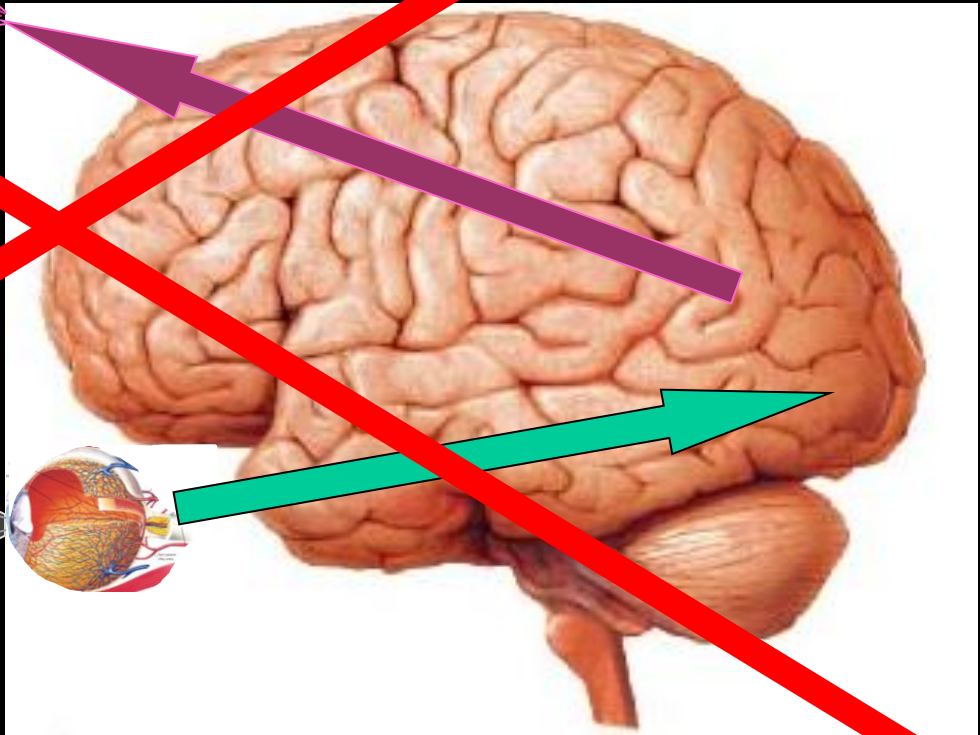


Ed Miracle, c 1970

Vision research – RIGHT?



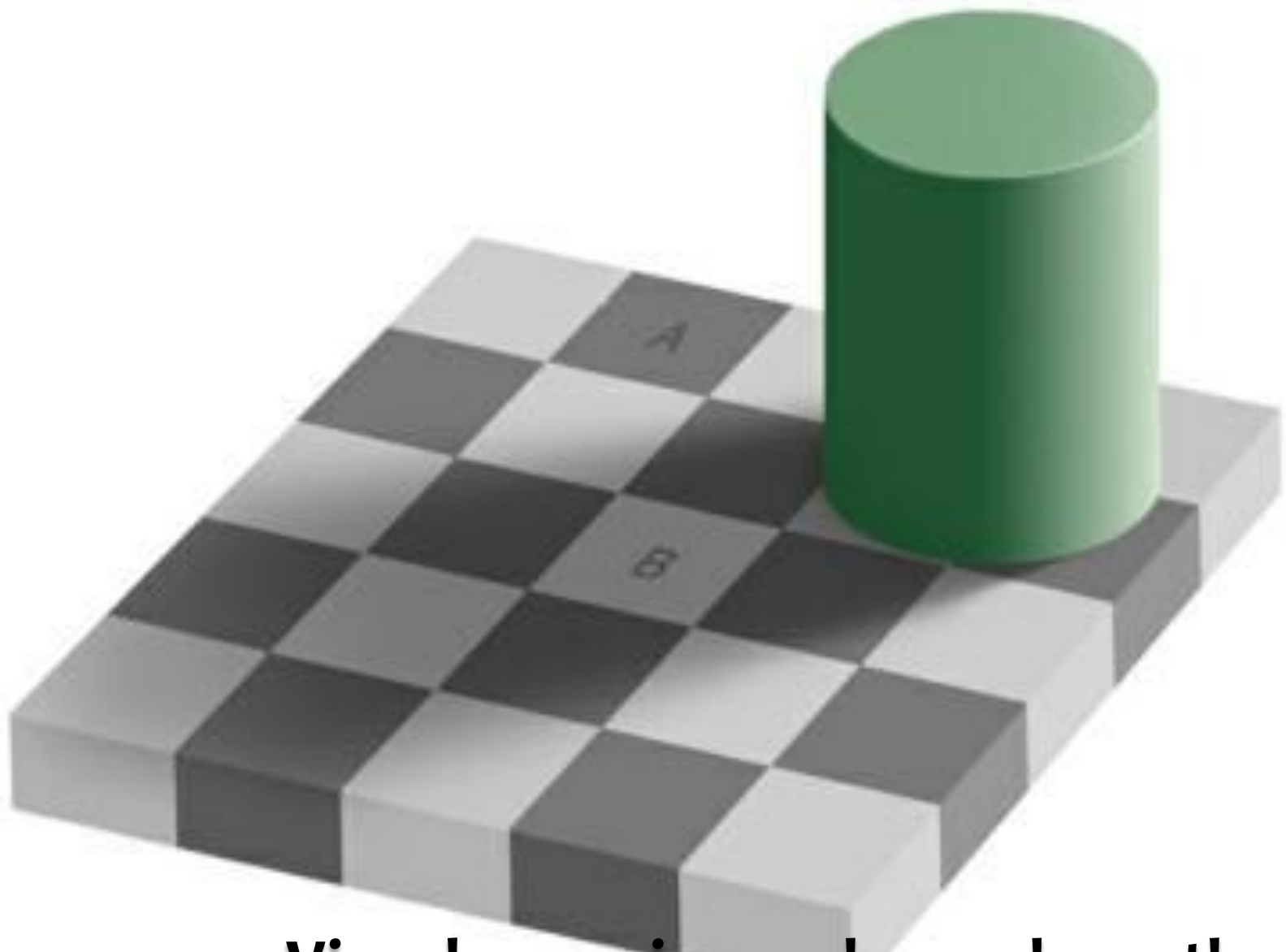
WRONG



bim

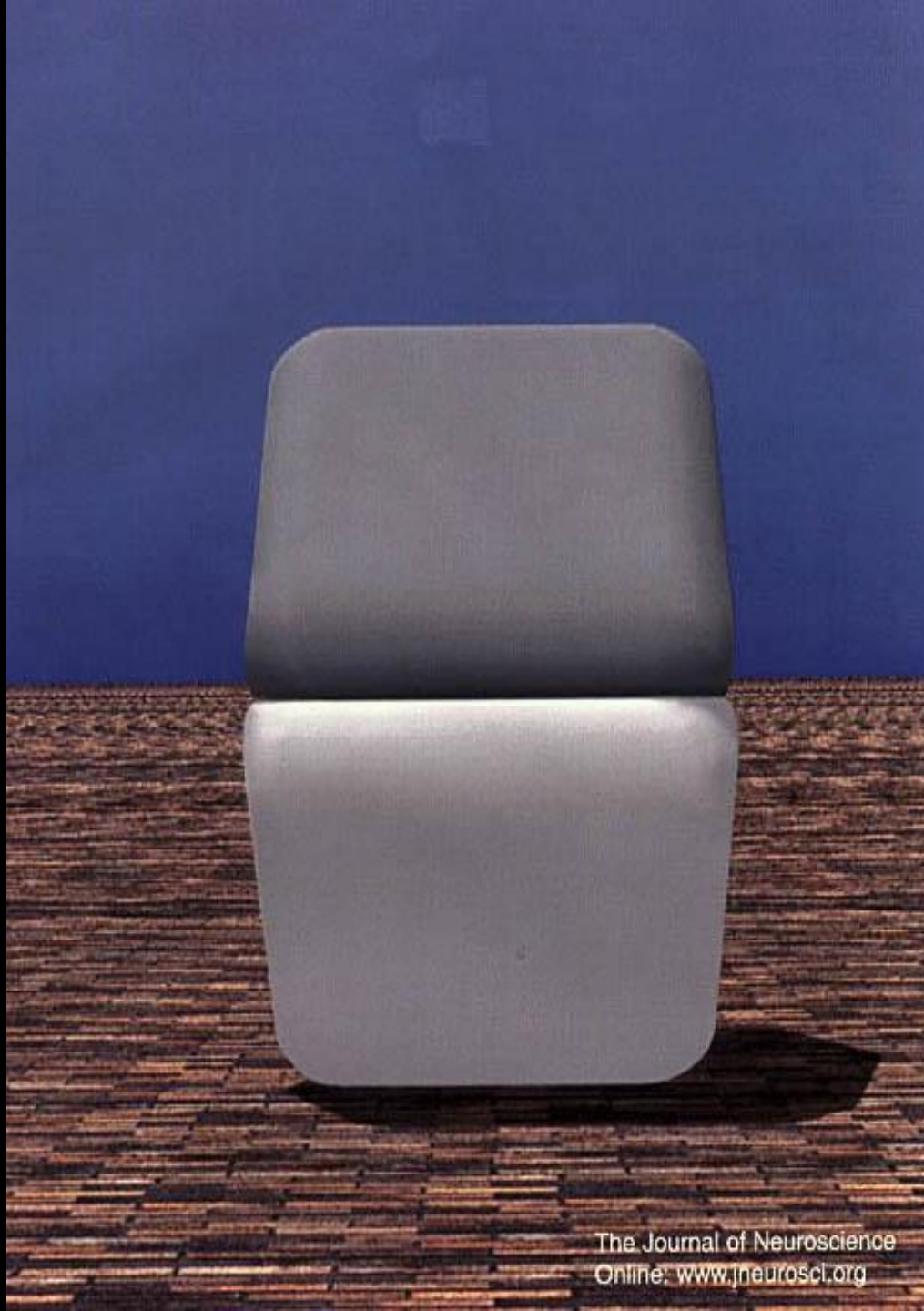
UniSA





**Visual experience depends on the  
*evaluation* of sensory input**

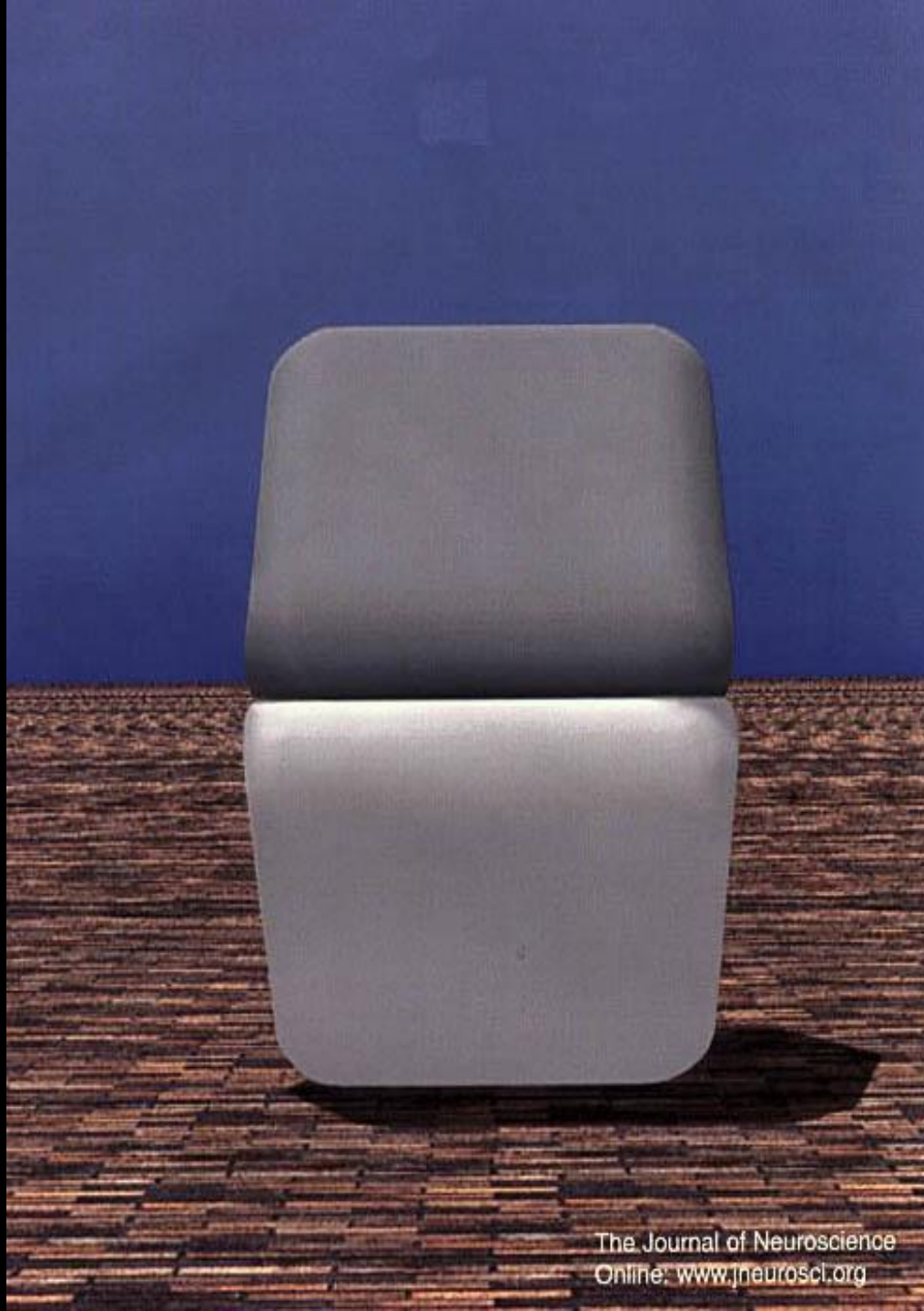






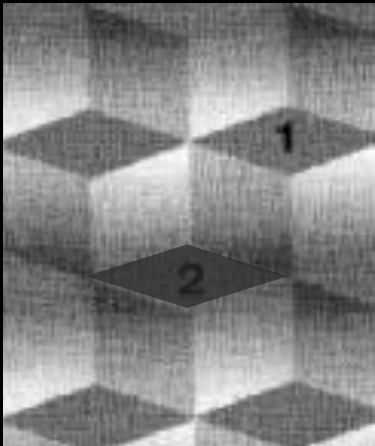
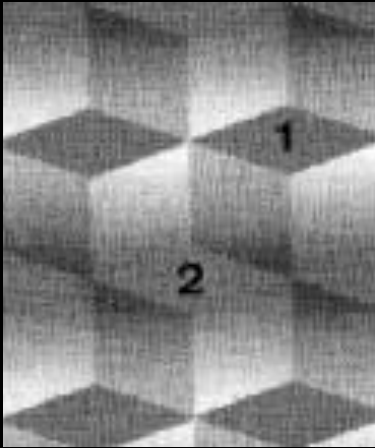
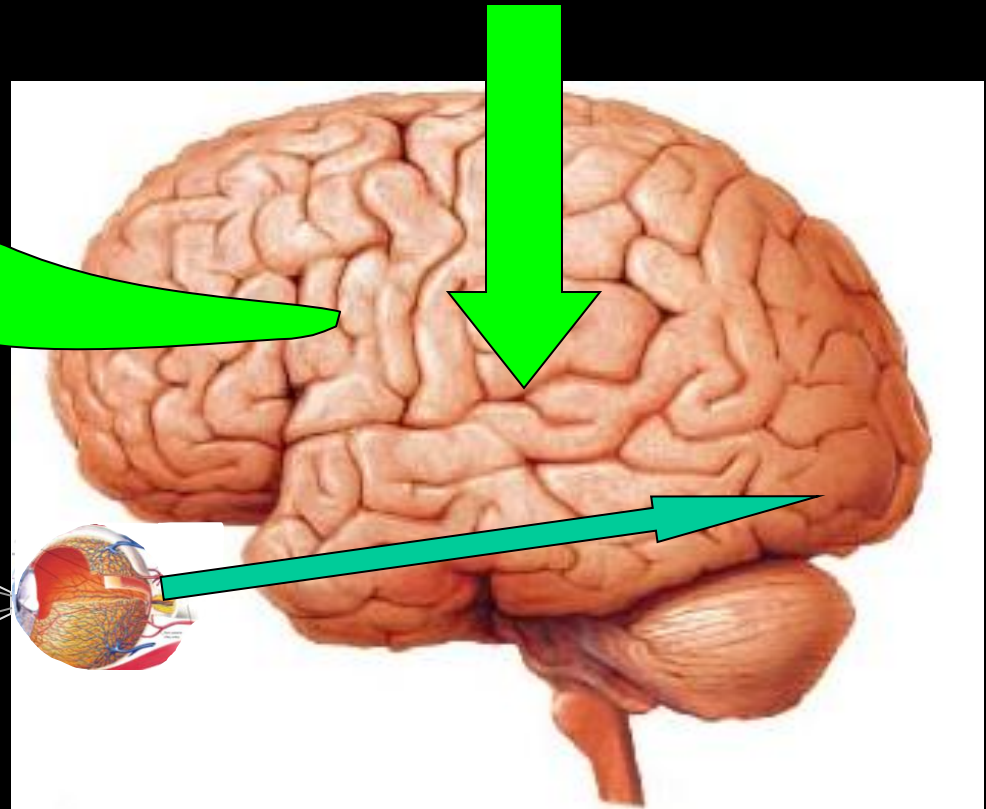
UnISA







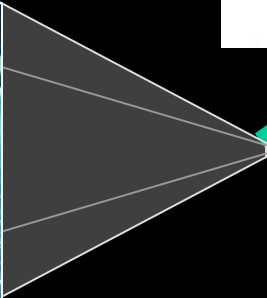
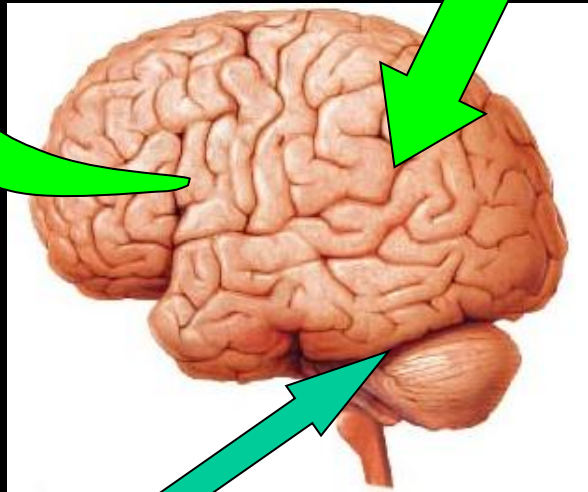
Complex reasoning  
mechanisms based on  
experience, context,  
environment...MEANING



The same thing applies to pain

pain

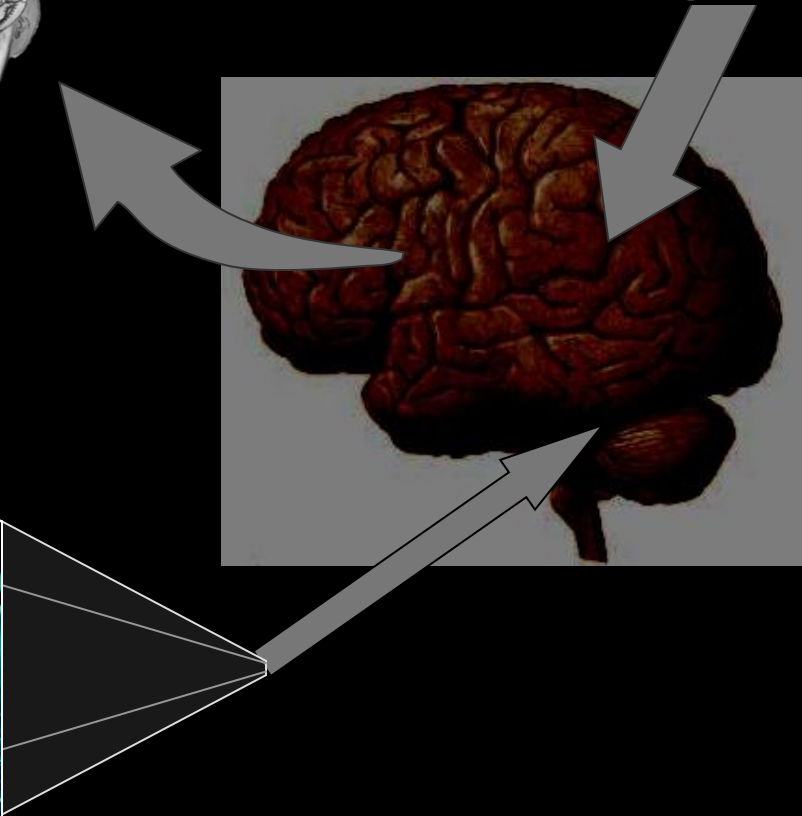
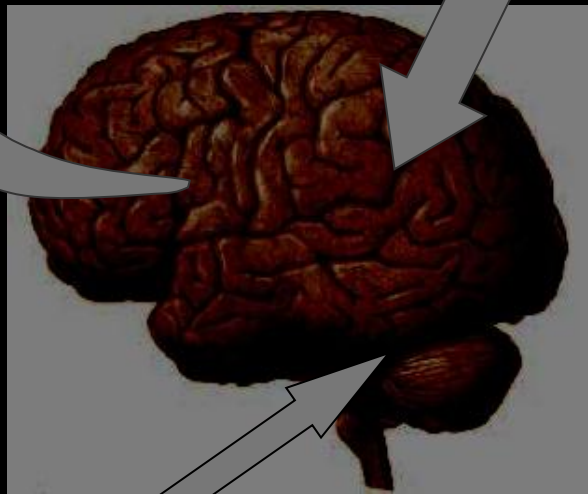
Complex reasoning  
mechanisms based on  
experience, context,  
environment...MEANING



# The same thing applies to pain

Complex reasoning  
mechanisms based on  
experience, context,  
environment...MEANING

“How dangerous  
is this really?”





# Nociception & pain.

Nociception is activity in high threshold primary fibres (C and A $\delta$ ) & their projections.

Pain is an emergent conscious experience that serves to evoke a behavioural protective response.



# Some nonsense terms:

Pain stimulus

Pain receptor

Pain pathway

Descending pain control





# Modulators of nociception

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

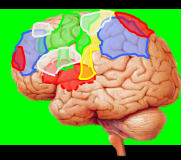
Primary nociceptors in tissue

In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn



# Nociception

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

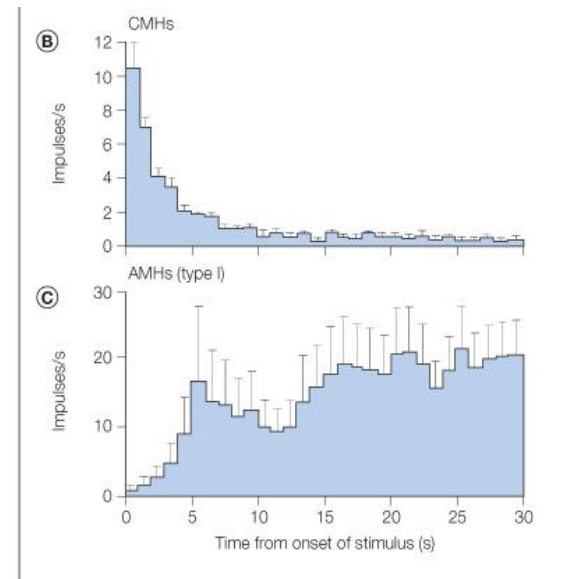
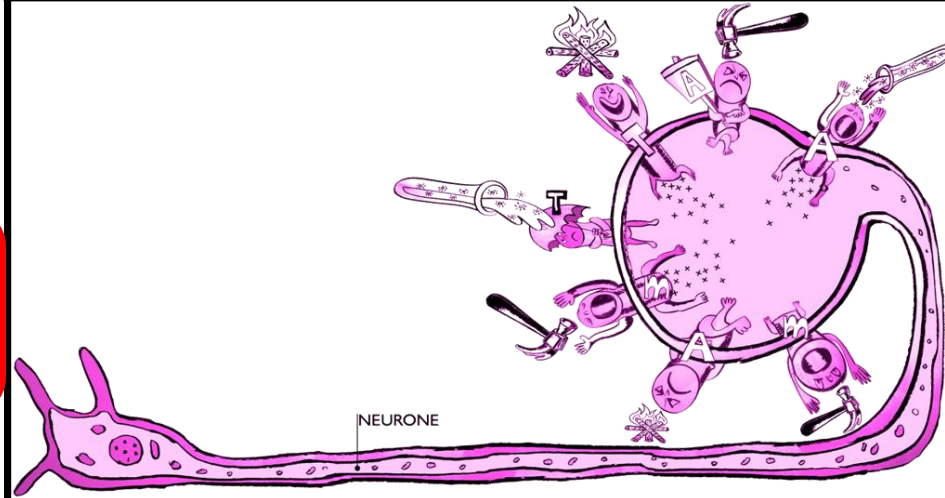
## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

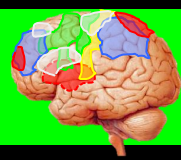
In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)  
In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn







# Nociception & pain.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

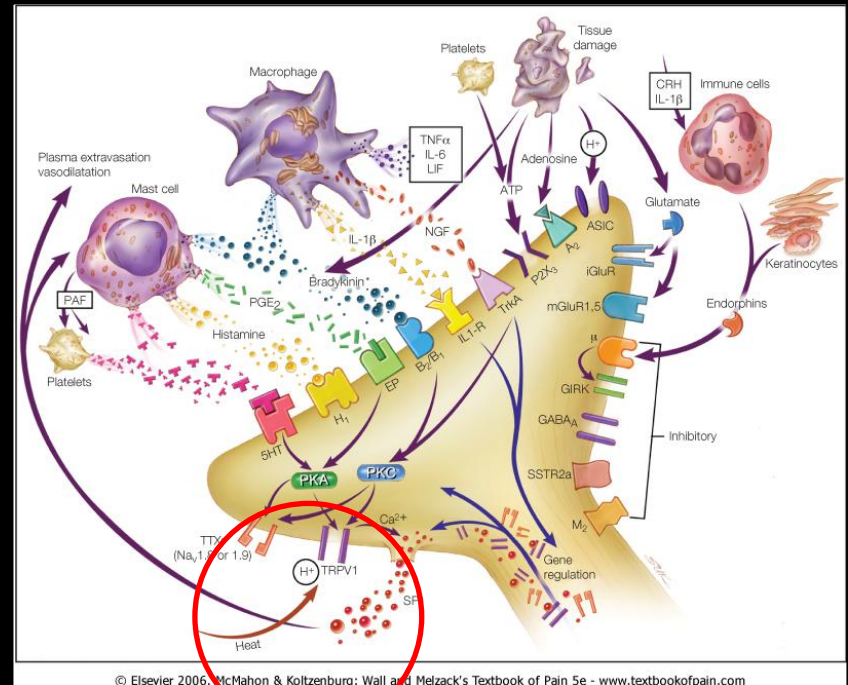
## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

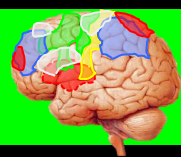
In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)  
In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn



Heat sensitive  
Mechanically sensitive



# Nociception & pain.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

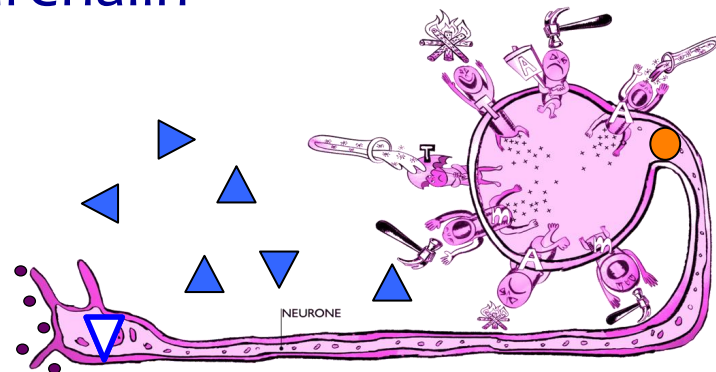
In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

## Adrenalin



Primary nociceptor becomes adrenosensitive



# Nociception & pain.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

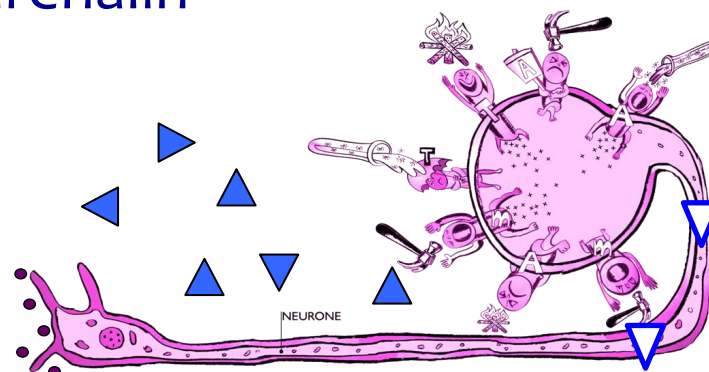
In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

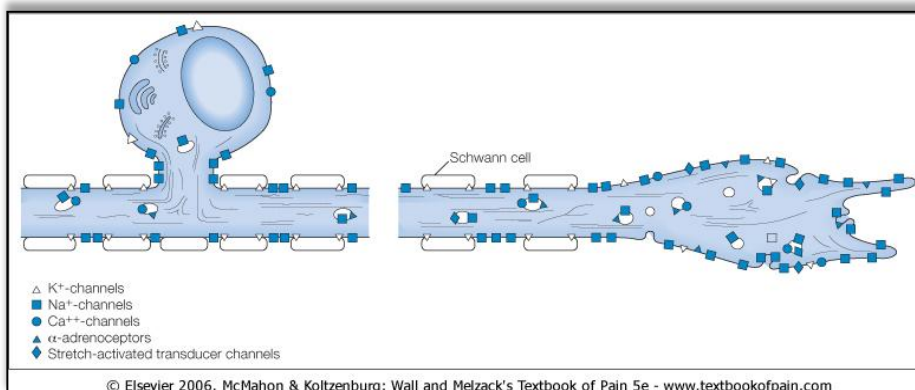
In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

## Adrenalin



Primary nociceptor becomes adrenosensitive



© Elsevier 2006. McMahon & Koltzenburg: Wall and Melzack's Textbook of Pain 5e - [www.textbookofpain.com](http://www.textbookofpain.com)



# Nociception & pain - targets.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

In tissue

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

## Modulators of pain

Nociception

Anything relevant

## Where?

Brain

Brain

## Endocrine sensitivity

(mood & meaning – context, consequences etc)





# Nociception & pain.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

Spinal nociceptor

Normal



Sensitised



Primary nociceptor



NOT heat sensitive  
Mechanically sensitive



# Nociception & pain.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

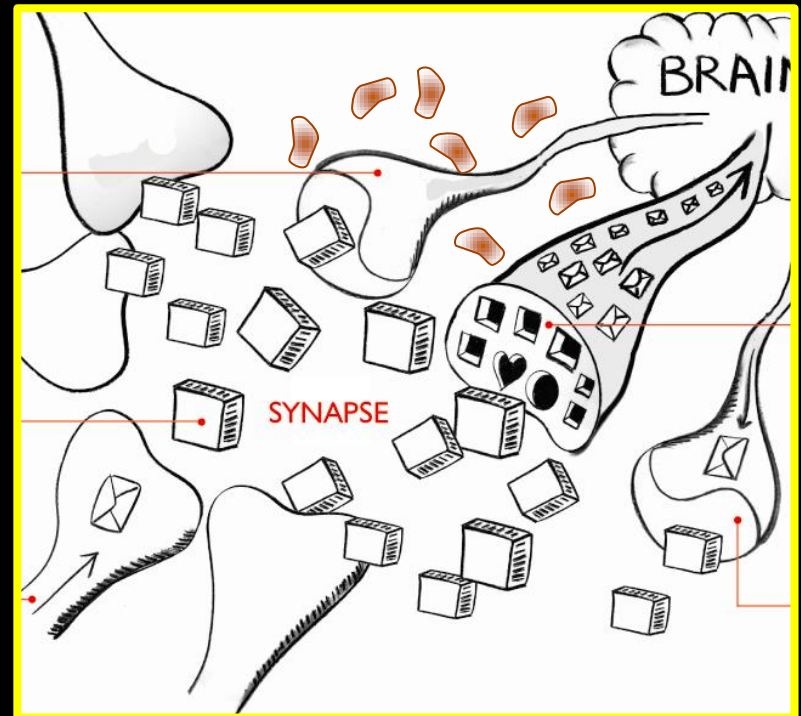
In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

## Immune mediators (cytokines)





# Nociception & pain - targets.

## Modulators of nociception

Sensory stimuli

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

Primary nociceptors in tissue

In tissue

In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

## Modulators of pain

Nociception

Anything relevant to the need to protect body tissue (mood & meaning –

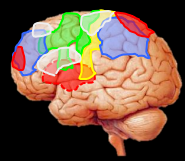
## Where?

Brain

Brain

Immune sensitivity

Endocrine sensitivity



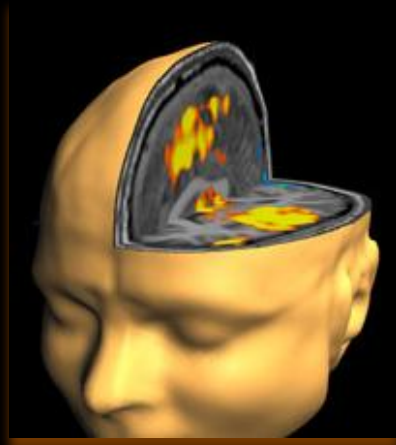
# Modulators of pain:

1. Nociception

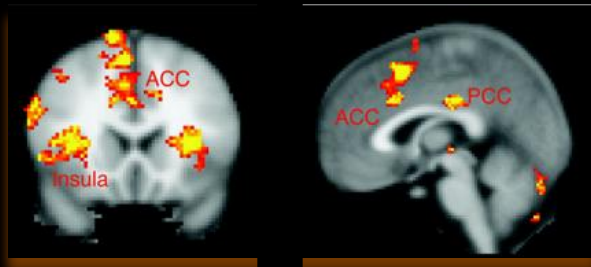
2. *Anything* relevant to the need to protect body tissue (mood & meaning – context, consequences etc)



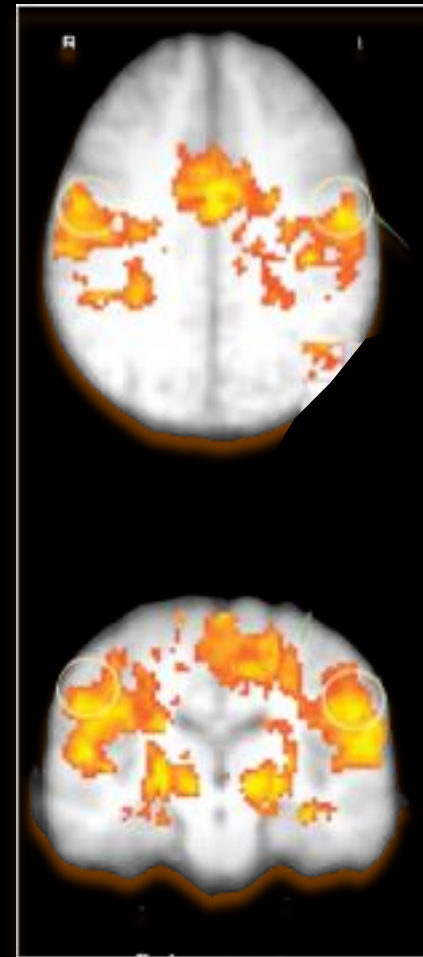
# Pain emerges with activation of the pain 'neurotag'



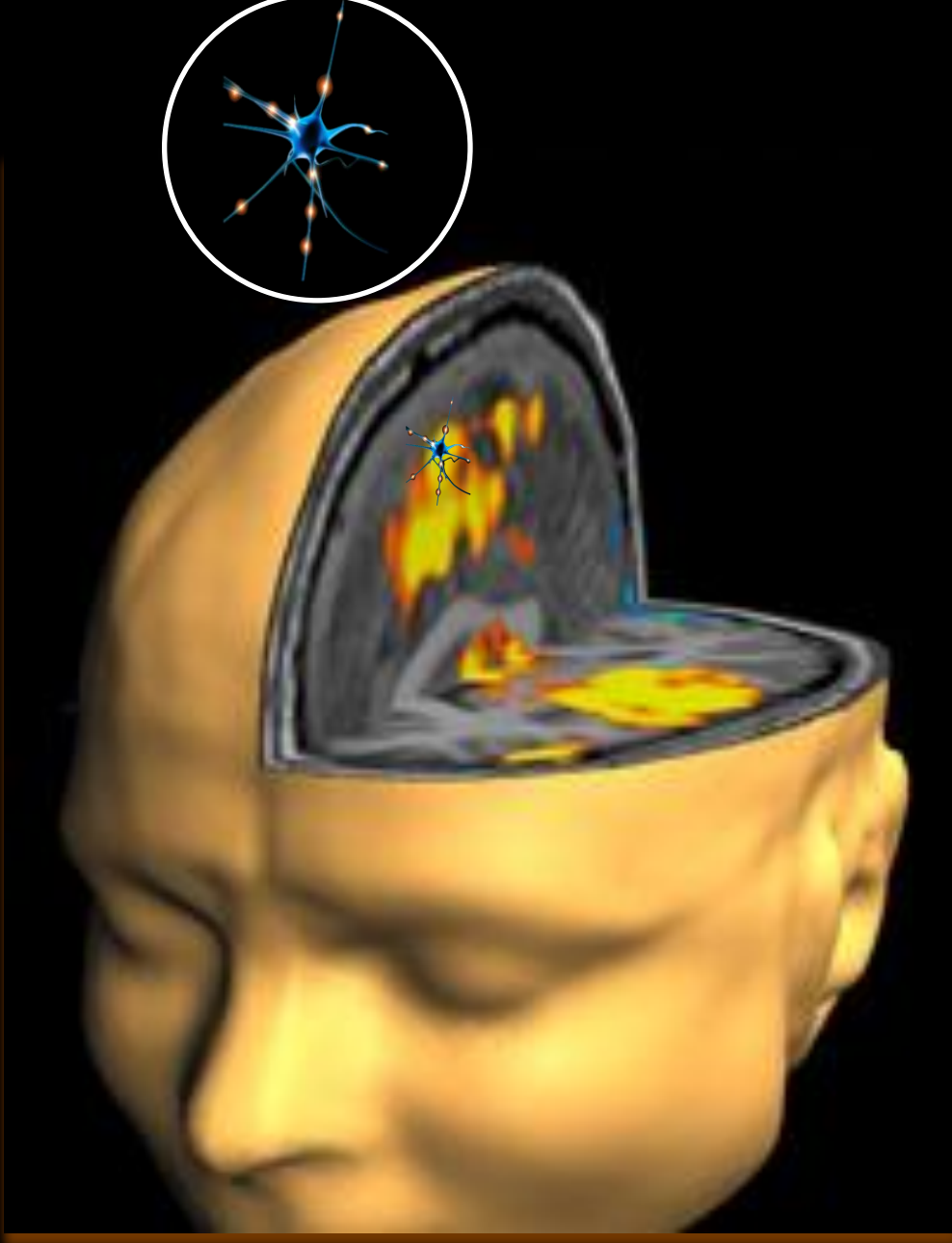
Hoffman et al (2004) *NeuroReport*

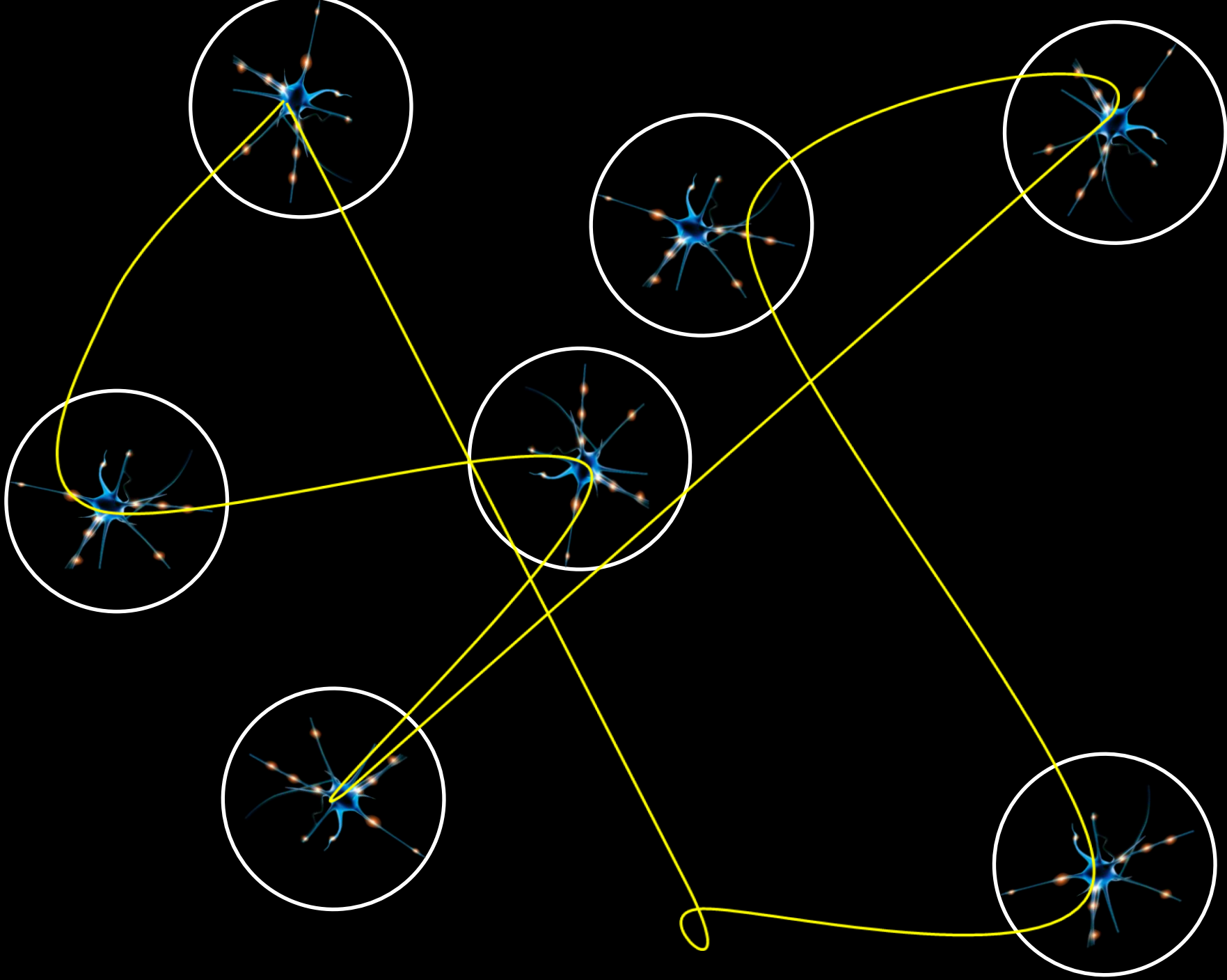


Professor Wiki Pedia (2010)



MacIver et al (2008) *Brain*

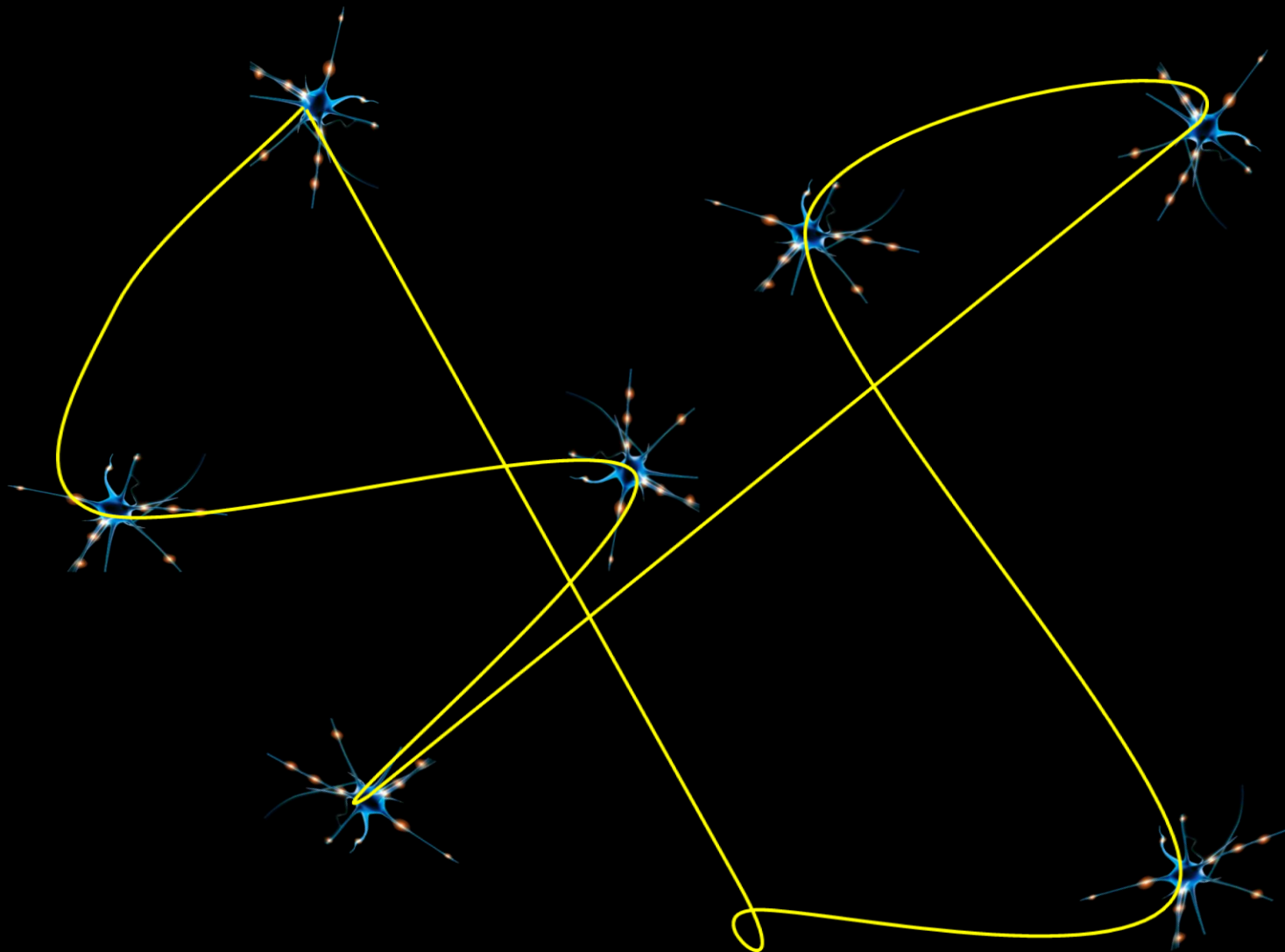






# Related tags share neurones

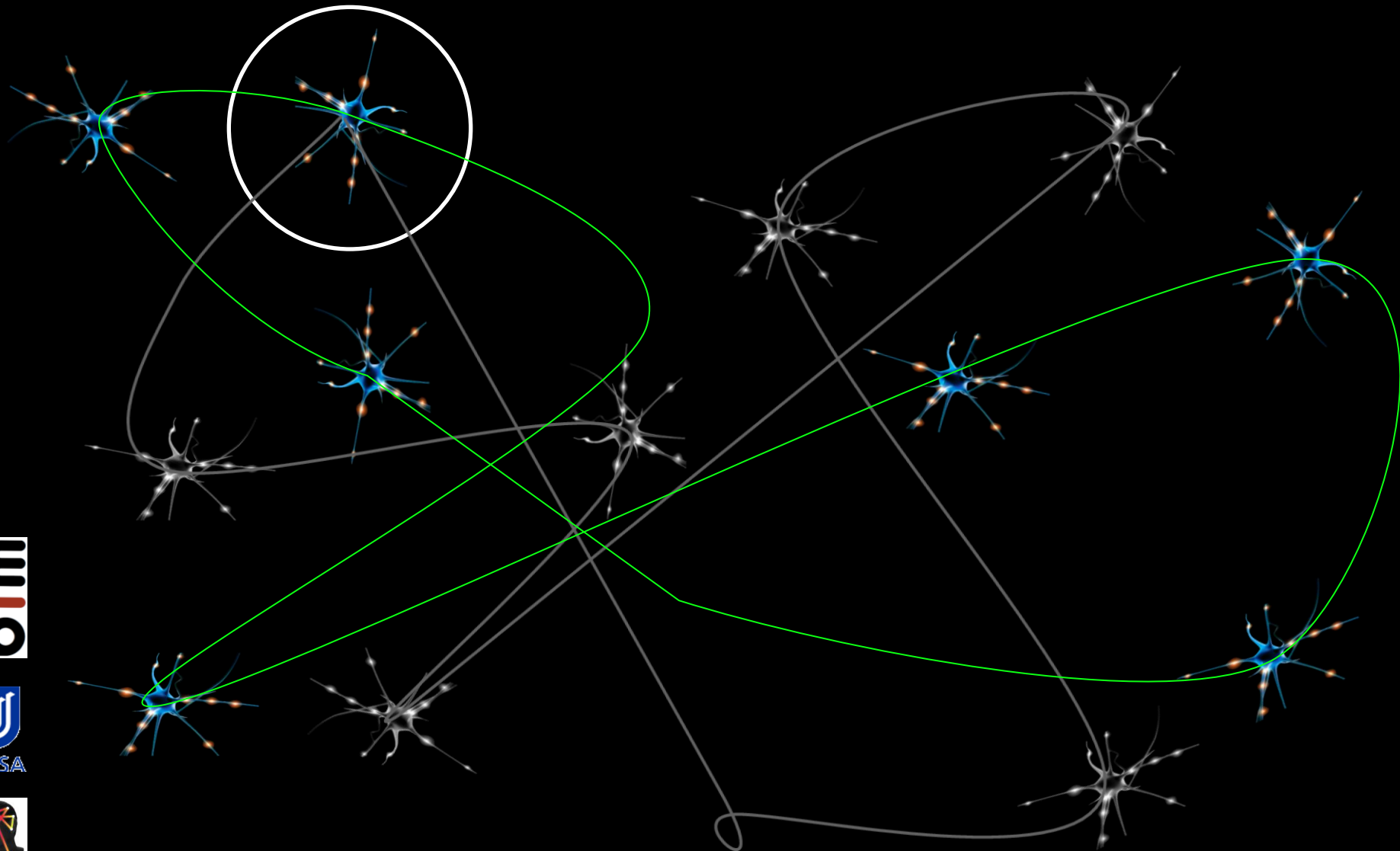
Pelvic pain.





# Related tags share neurones

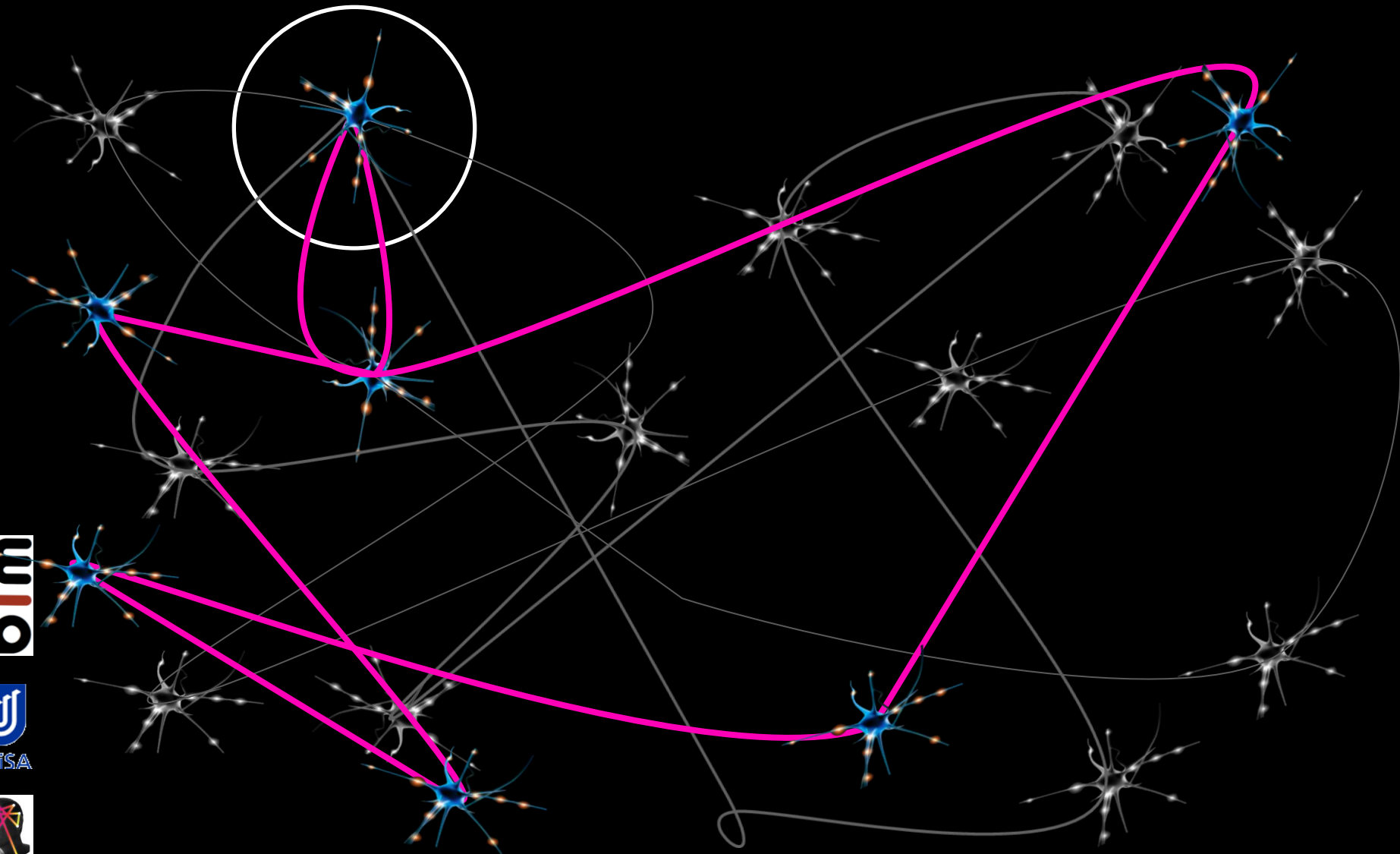
Pelvic pain, its MY pelvis





# Related tags share neurones

Pelvic pain, it's my pelvis, **sex**.



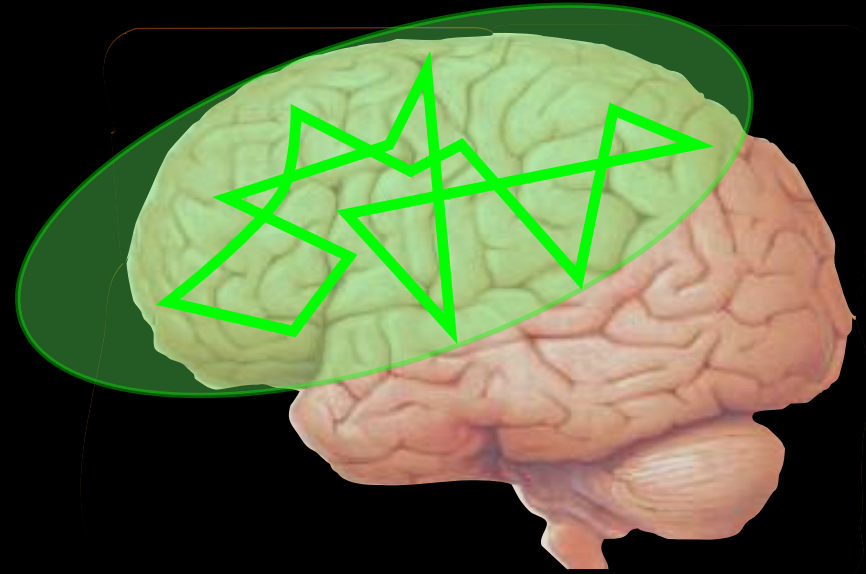


# Related tags share neurones

Pelvic pain, it's my pelvis, sex, beliefs about sex



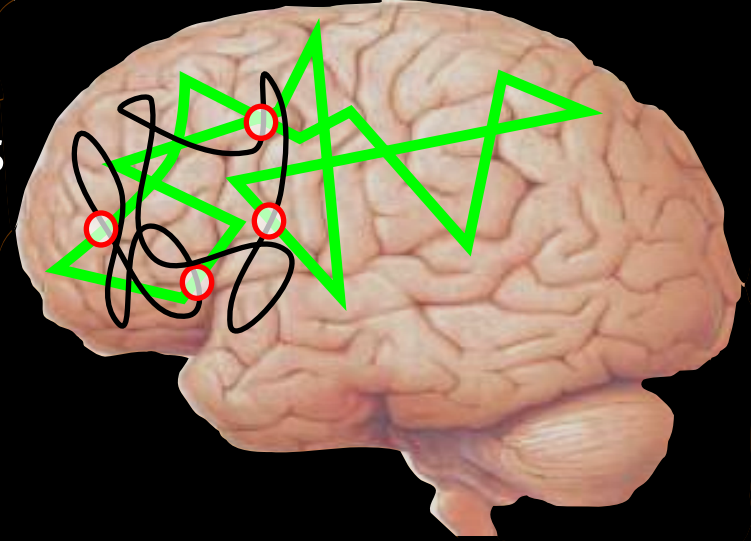




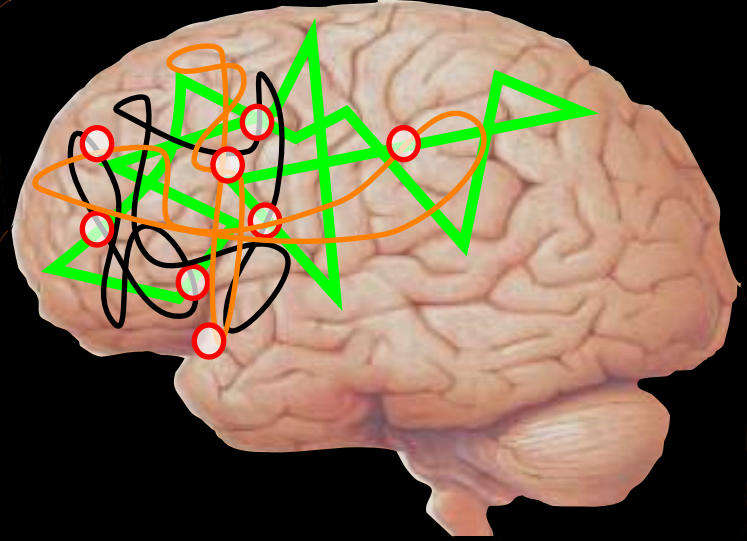


- Shared neurones/synapses

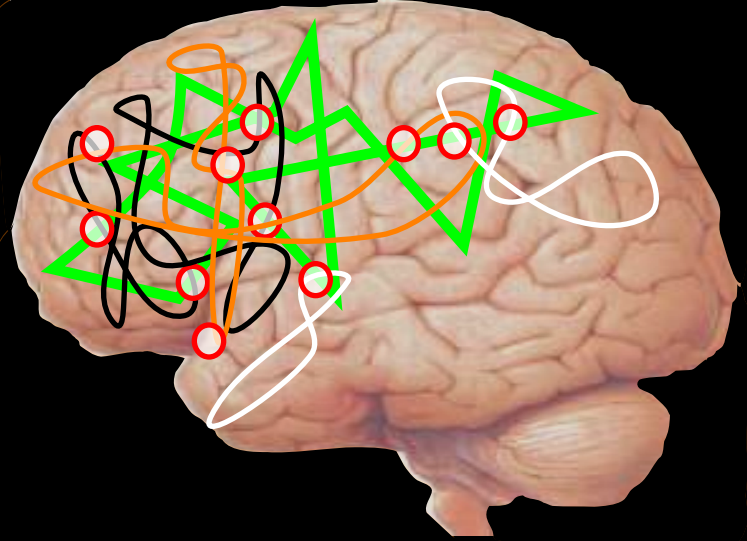
Beliefs



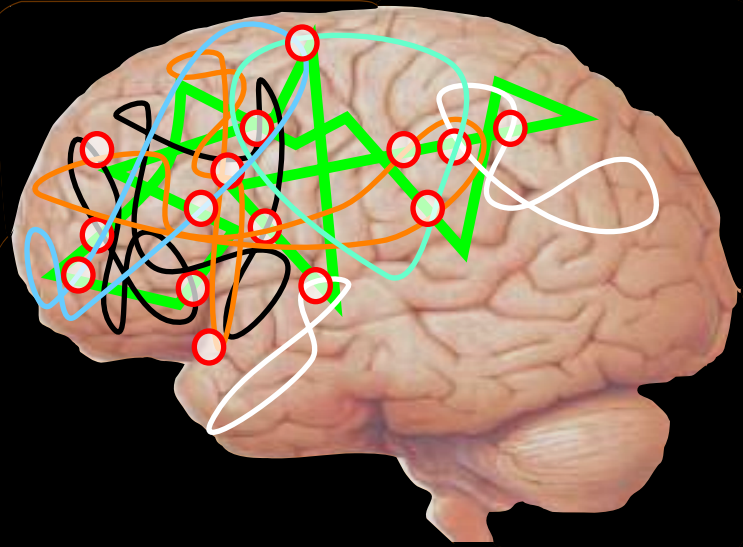
Beliefs  
Knowledge, logic



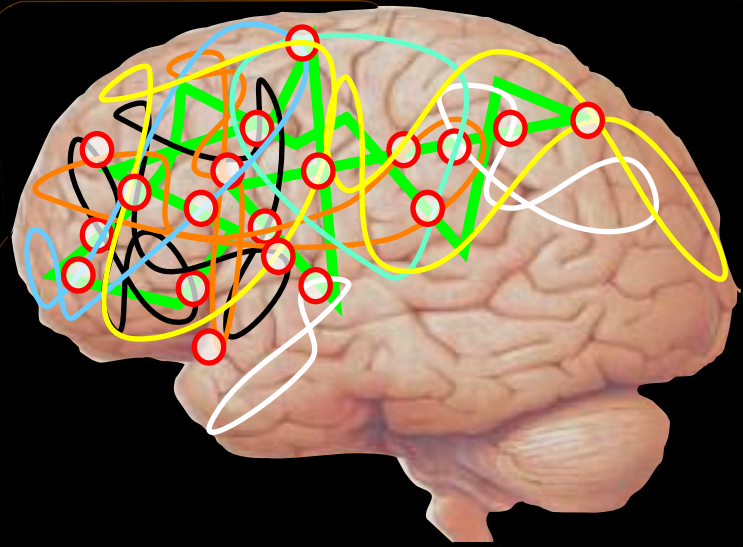
Beliefs  
Knowledge, logic  
Other sensory cues



Beliefs  
Knowledge, logic  
Other sensory cues  
Social context

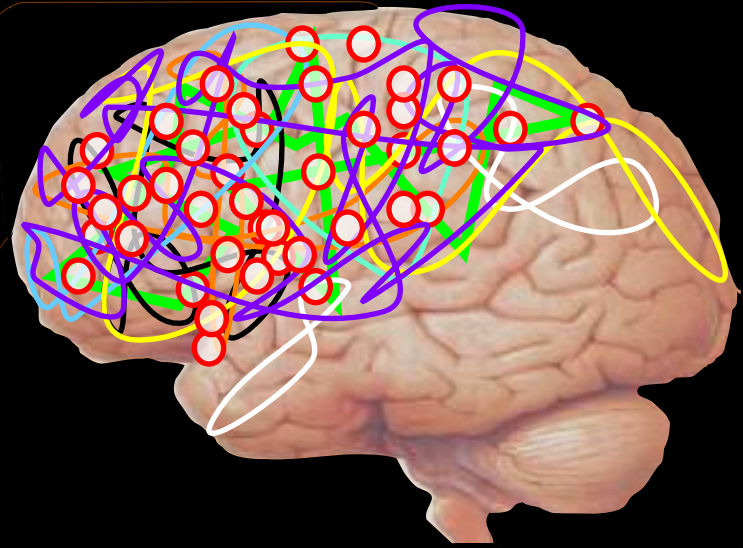


Beliefs  
Knowledge, logic  
Other sensory cues  
Social context  
Anticipated consequences



Beliefs  
Knowledge, logic  
Other sensory cues  
Social context  
Anticipated consequences

Family  
media  
previous history  
culture  
GP  
work  
physiotherapist  
education  
activity self-efficacy  
access  
exposure



Pain

Beliefs  
Knowledge, logic  
Other sensory cues  
Social context  
Anticipated consequences

Family  
media  
previous history  
culture  
GP  
work  
physiotherapist  
education  
activity self-efficacy  
access  
exposure

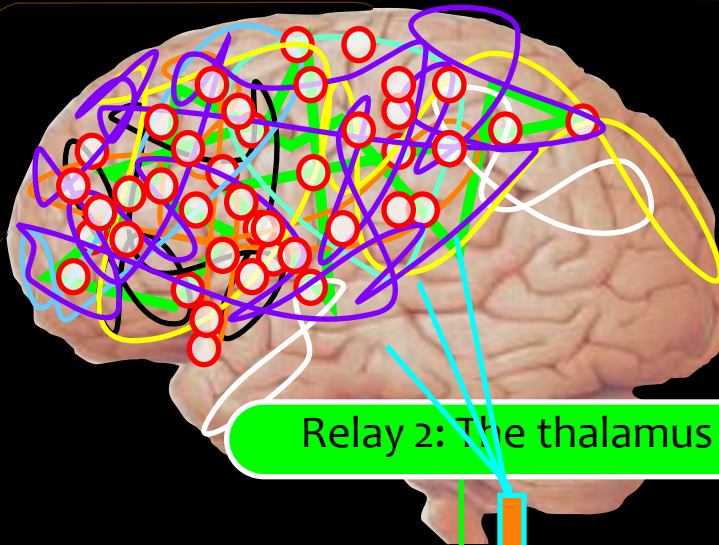


# The brain corrects any 'error'.





Beliefs  
 Knowledge, logic  
 Other sensory cues  
 Social context  
 Anticipated consequences  
 Family  
 media  
 previous history  
 culture  
 GP  
 work  
 physiotherapist  
 education  
 activity self-efficacy  
 access  
 exposure



Relay 2: The thalamus

Relay 1: The dorsal horn

Danger

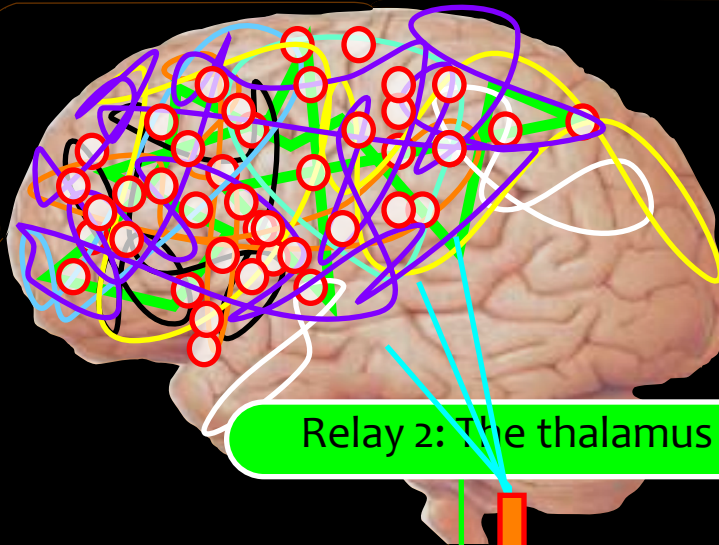


Pain

It's not that dangerous



Beliefs  
 Knowledge, logic  
 Other sensory cues  
 Social context  
 Anticipated consequences  
 Family  
 media  
 previous history  
 culture  
 GP  
 work  
 physiotherapist  
 education  
 activity self-efficacy  
 access  
 exposure



Relay 2: The thalamus

Relay 1: The dorsal horn

Danger



Pain

It's MORE dangerous than that!

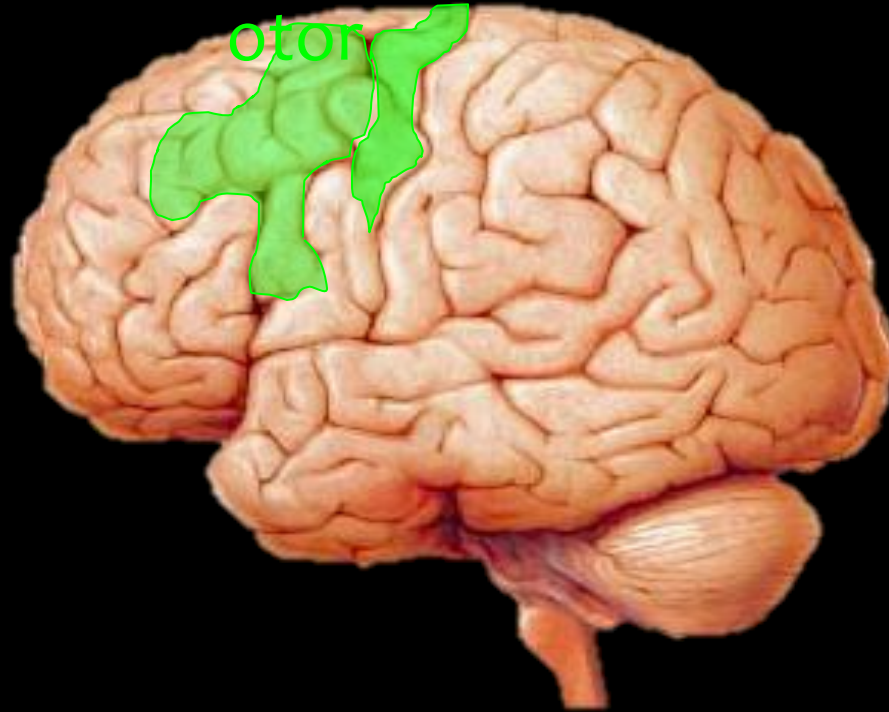




# Constructing the cortical body matrix

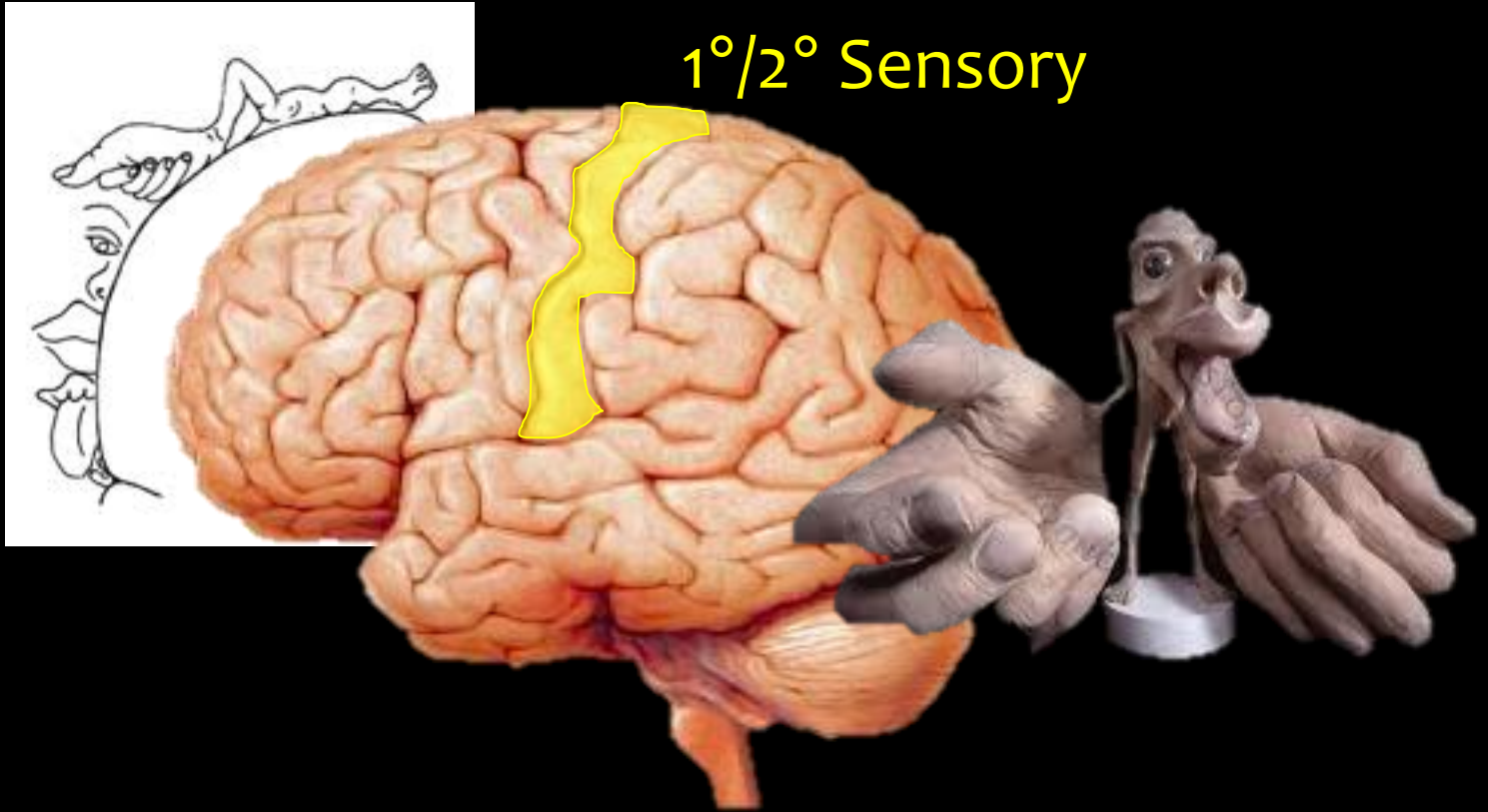


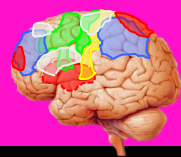
1°  
Motor/SMA/prem



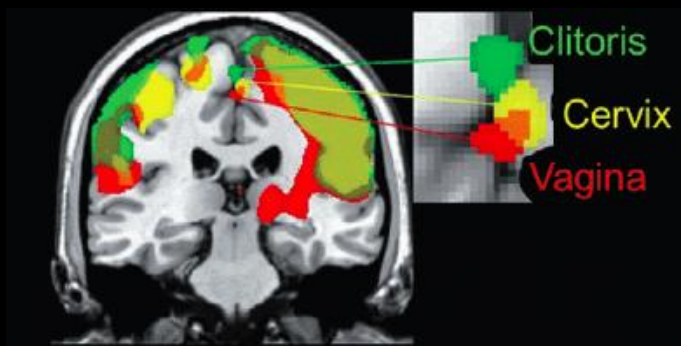
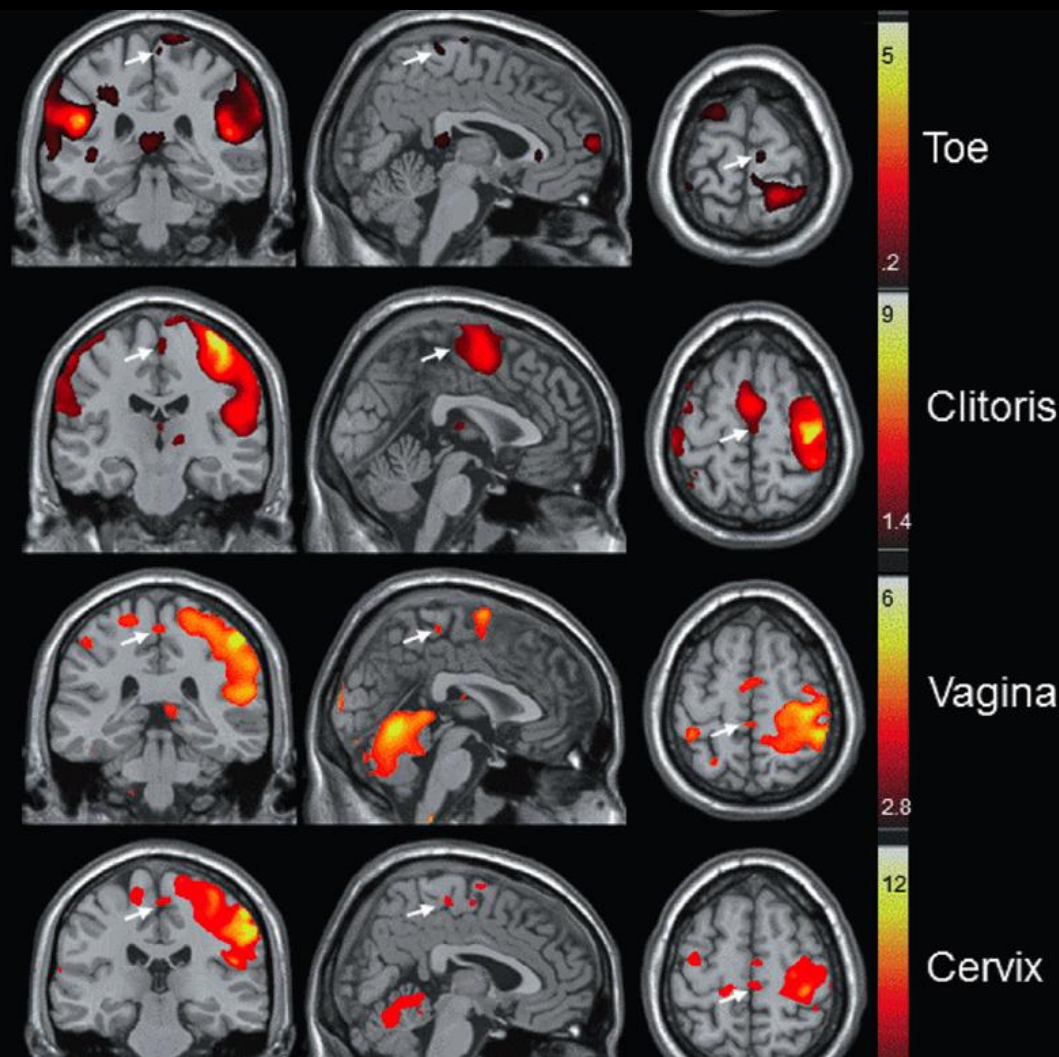
Motor

1°/2° Sensory



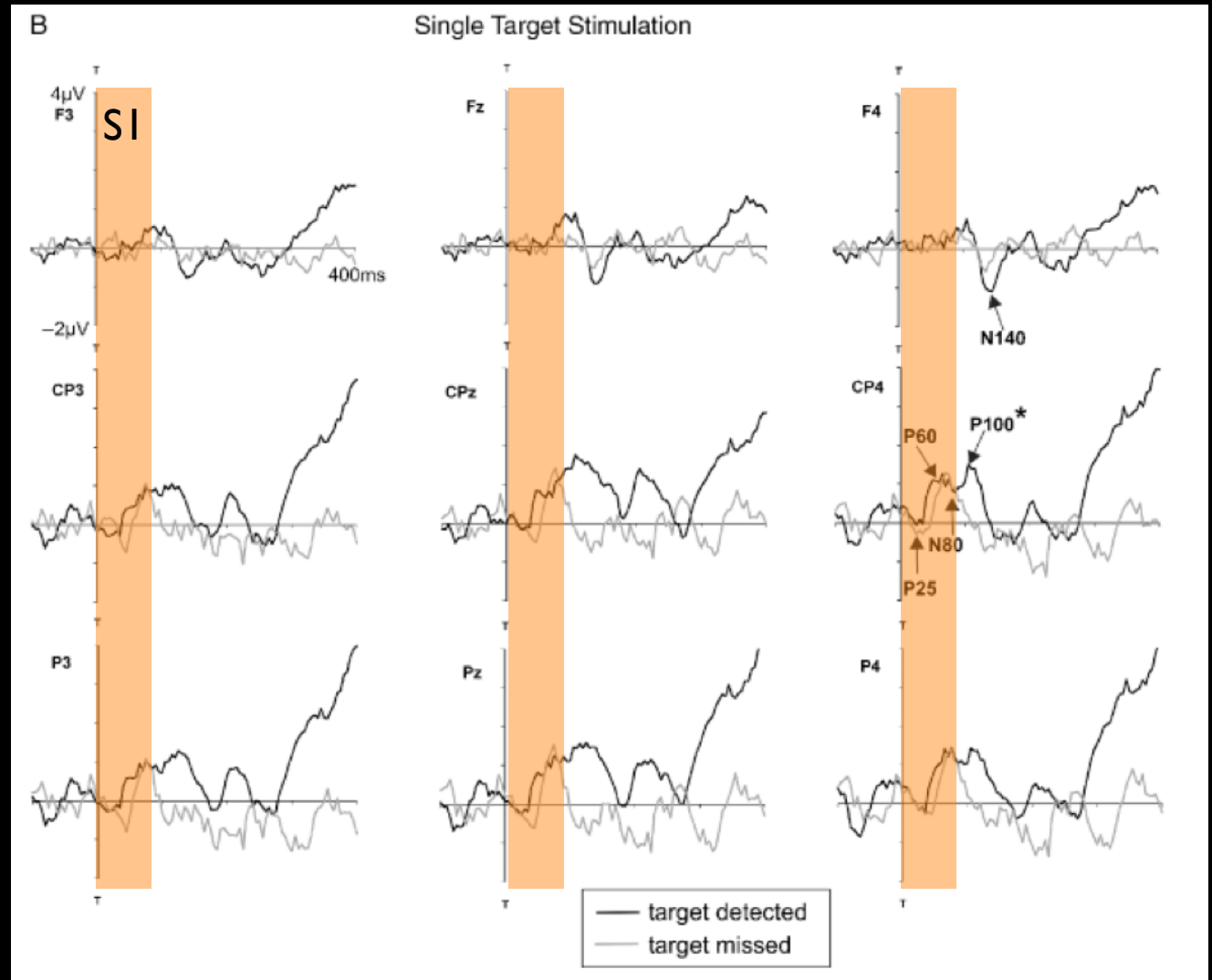


# The hermunculus



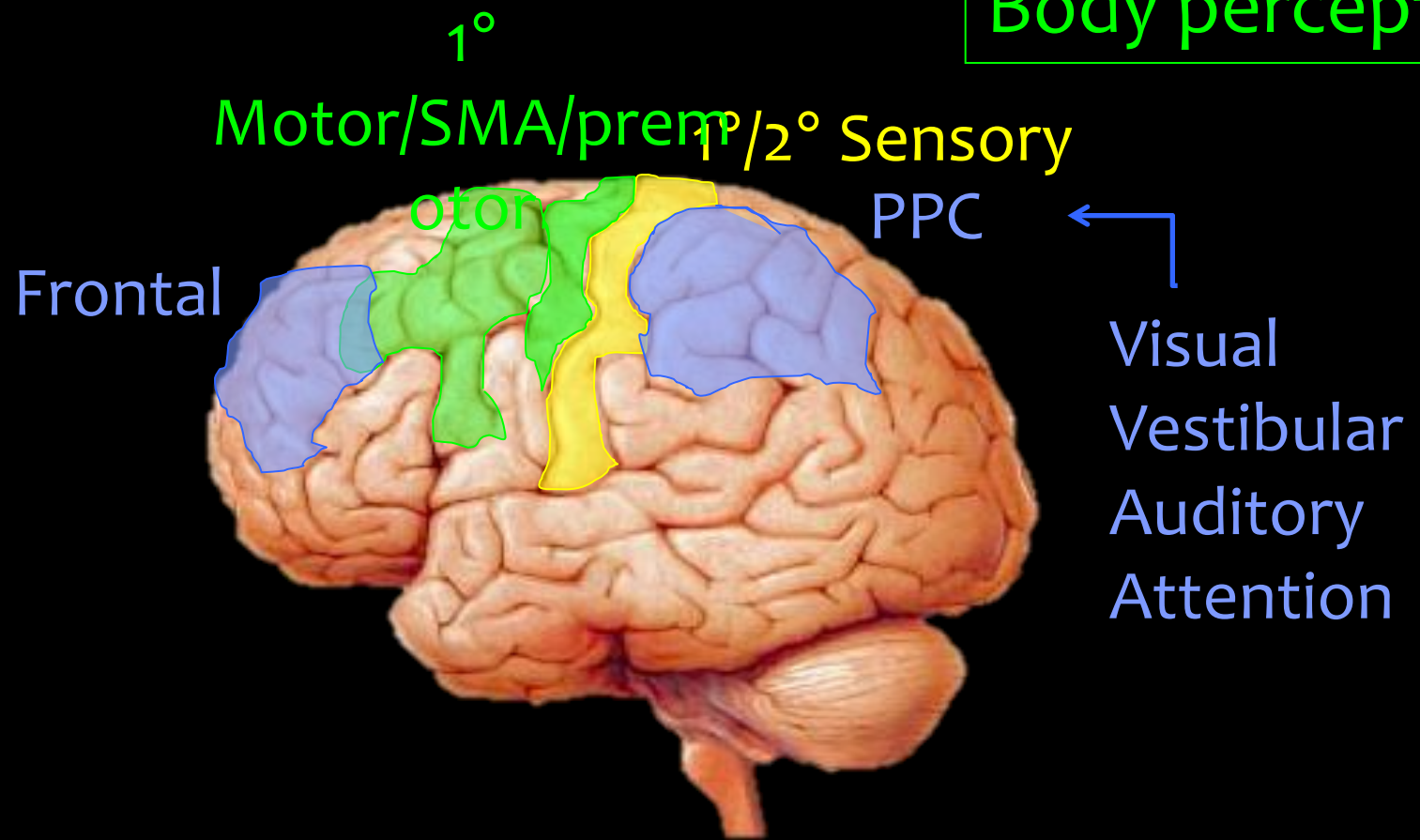


# S1 is not the seat of perception



Schubert et al 2006 Psychophysiol

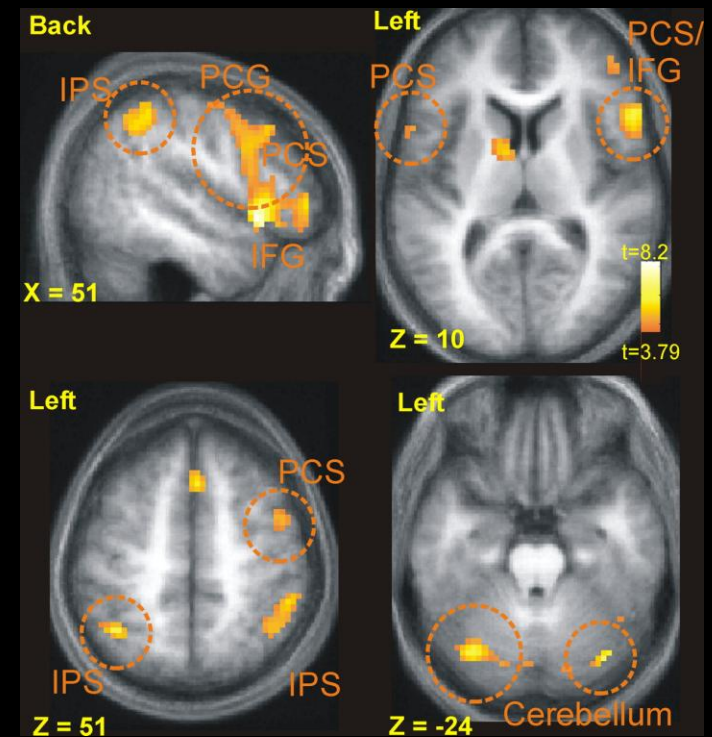
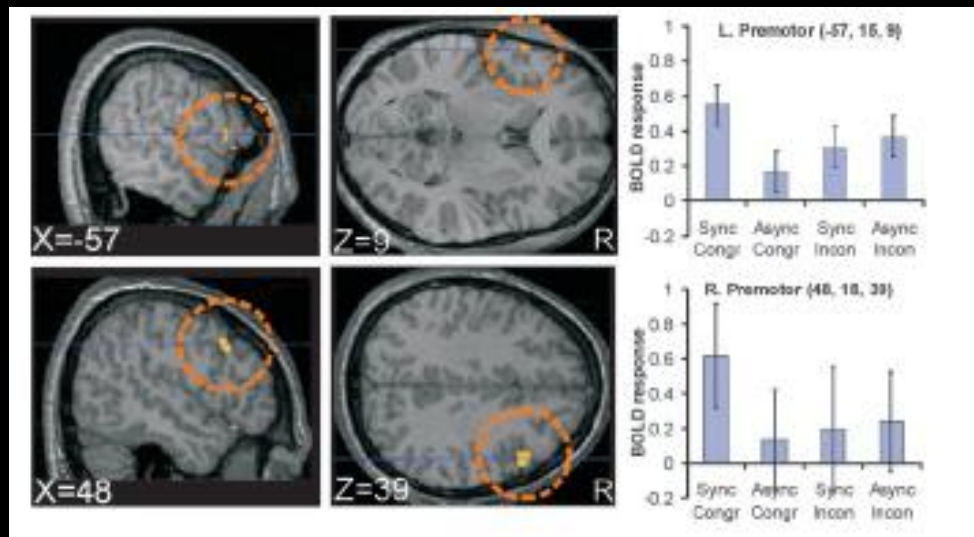
# Body percept



But how do you know it is yours?



Ehrsson et al. Science 2006



Ehrsson et al. J. Neurosci. 2005

Body percept

1°  
Motor/SMA/premotor  
1/2° Sensory

Motor

PPC

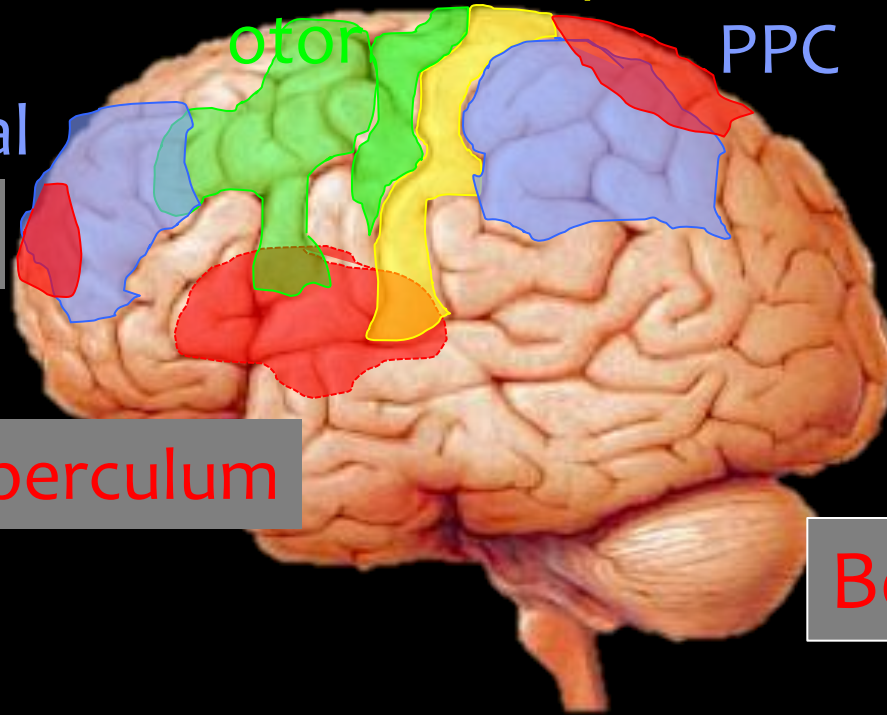
Frontal

Frontal

Visual  
Vestibular  
Auditory

Insula & operculum

Body ownership



Body percept

1°  
Motor/SMA/premotor  
1/2° Sensory

Motor

PPC

Frontal

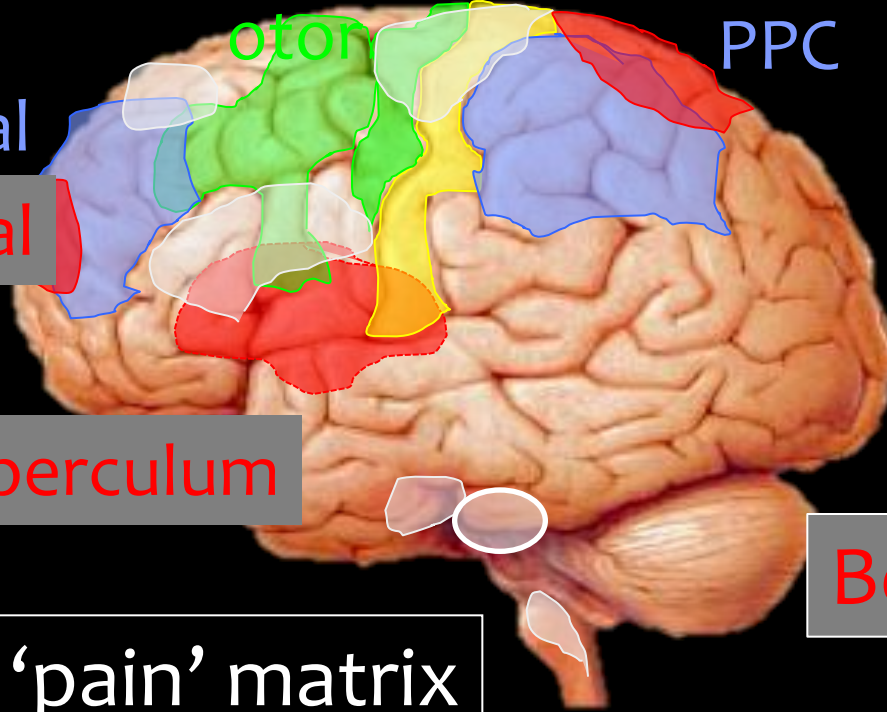
Frontal

Visual  
Vestibular  
Auditory

Insula & operculum

Body ownership

The 'pain' matrix

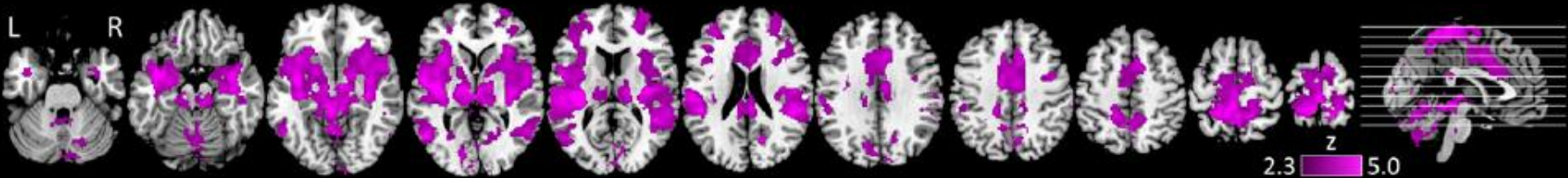




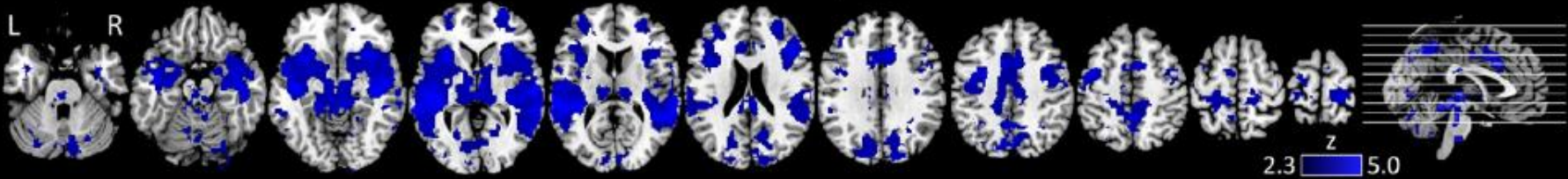
nociceptive somatosensory



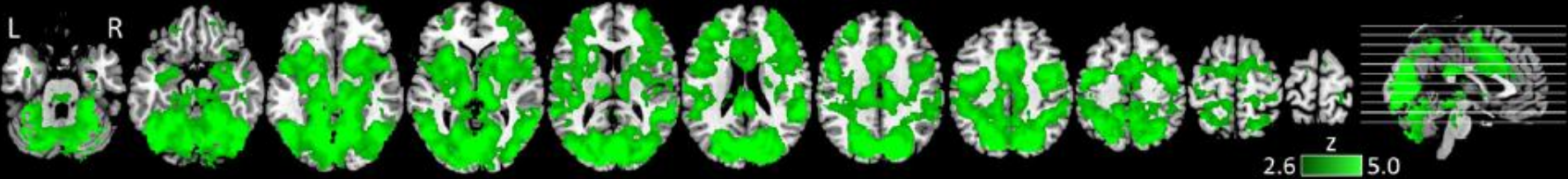
non-nociceptive somatosensory



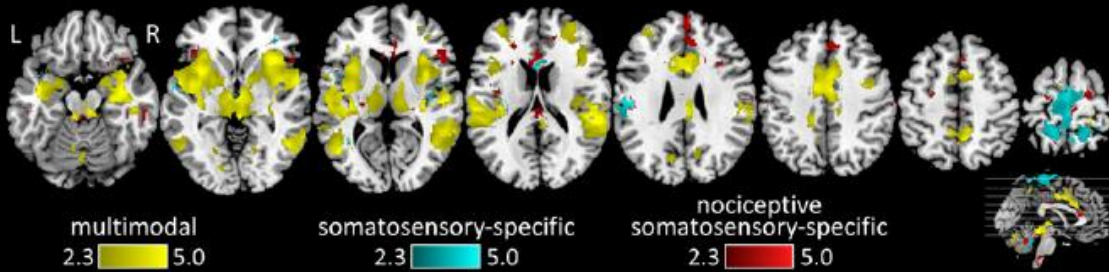
auditory



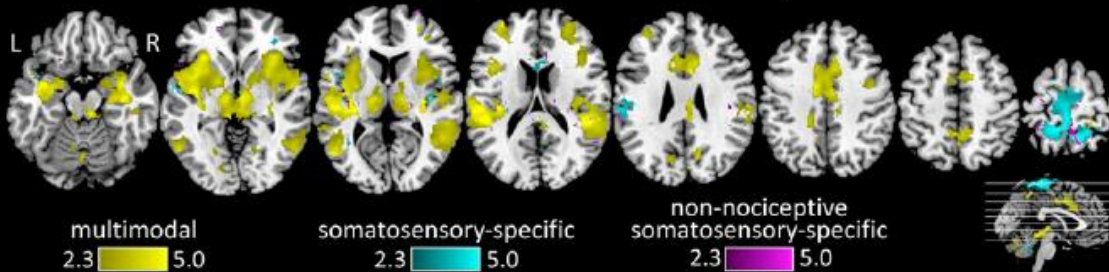
visual



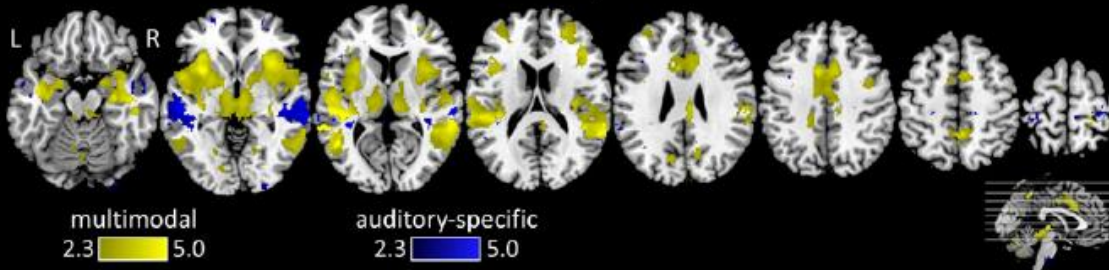
nociceptive somatosensory



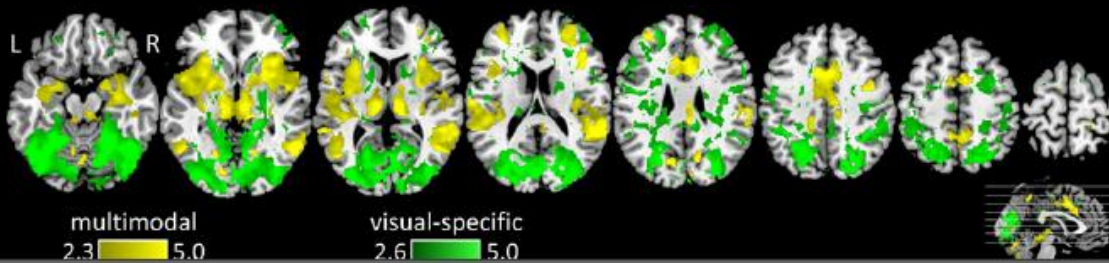
non-nociceptive somatosensory



auditory



visual





Body percept

1°  
Motor/SMA/premotor  
1°/2° Sensory

Frontal  
Frontal

PPC

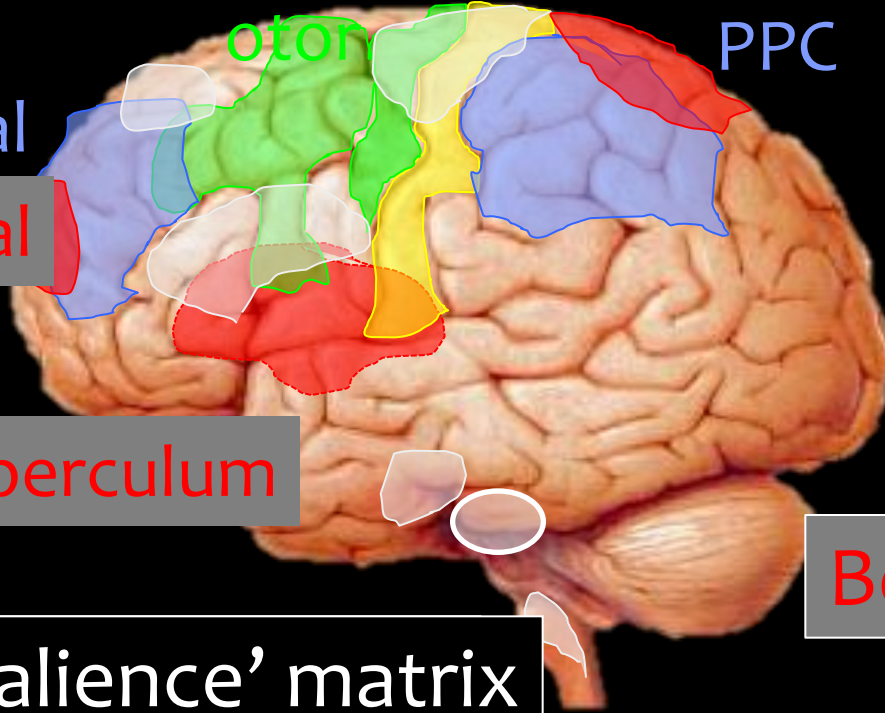
Visual  
Vestibular  
Auditory

Insula & operculum

Body ownership

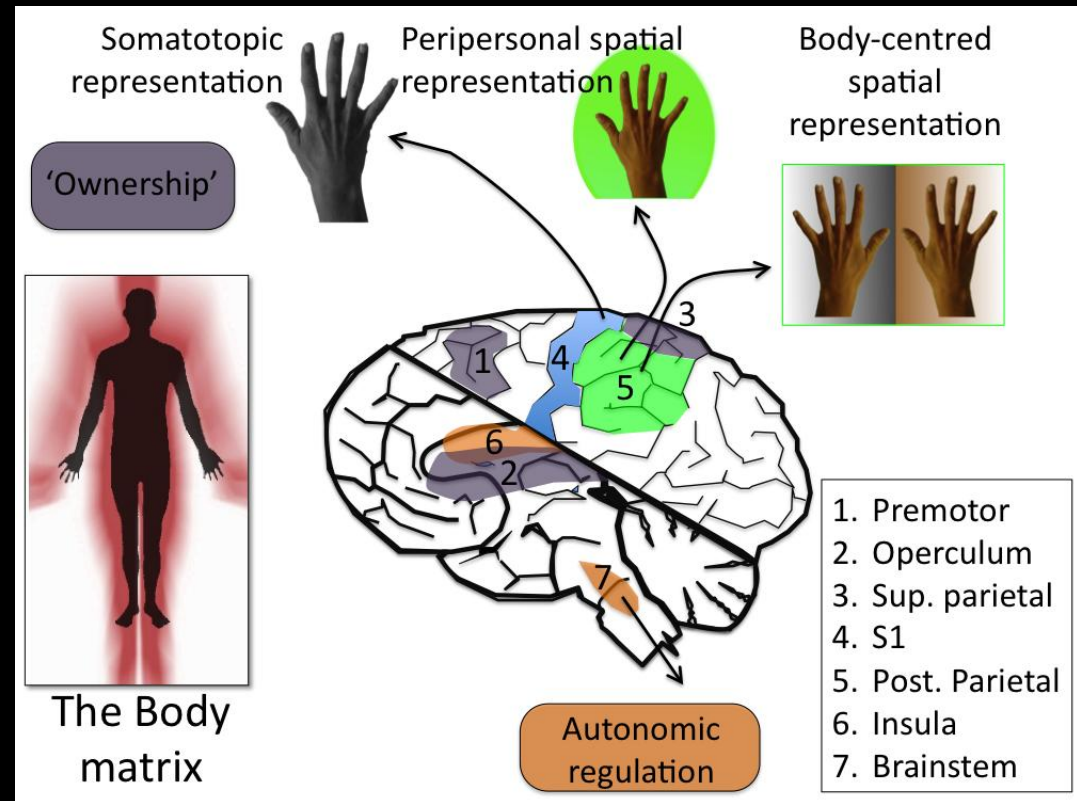
The 'salience' matrix

Body protection & regulation

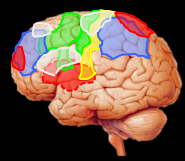


# The cortical body matrix:

A network of neural loops that subserves the protection and regulation of the body, both physiologically and psychologically.

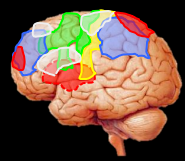


*Moseley et al 2012 Neurosci Biobeh Reviews*

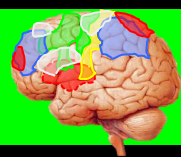


# Facilitation & disinhibition





# Facilitation



# Facilitation (= sensitisation)

## Modulators of nociception

Sensitivity of primary nociceptors

Sensitivity of spinal nociceptors

Sensitivity of supraspinal networks

Descending modulation

## Where?

In tissue (peripheral sensitisation)  
In dorsal horn (central sensitisation)

In brain (cortical sensitisation)

In dorsal horn

Spinal nociceptor

Normal



Sensitised

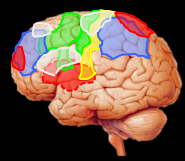


Primary nociceptor

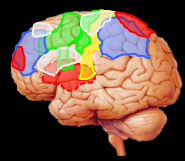


NOT heat sensitive  
Mechanically sensitive



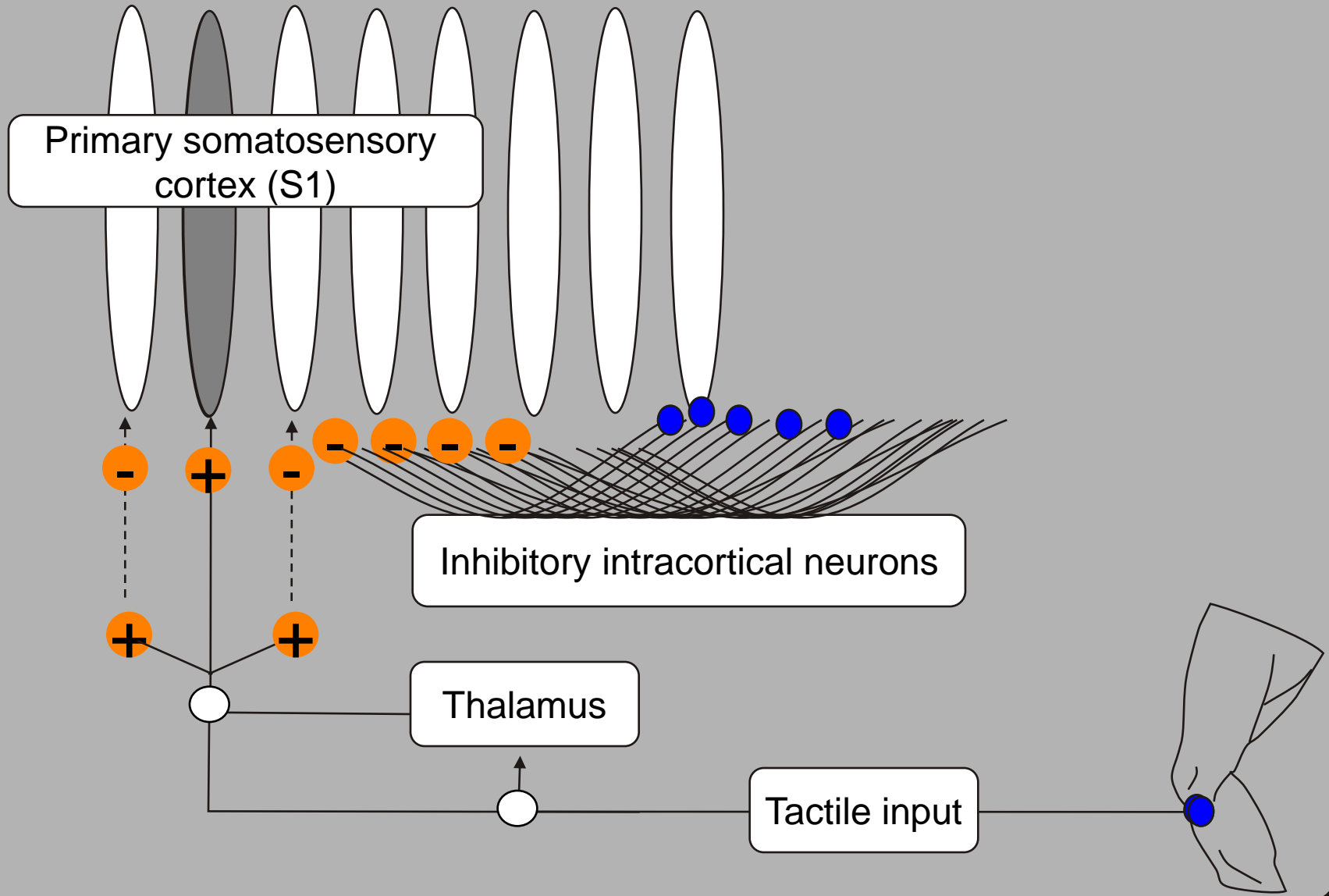


# Facilitation & disinhibition

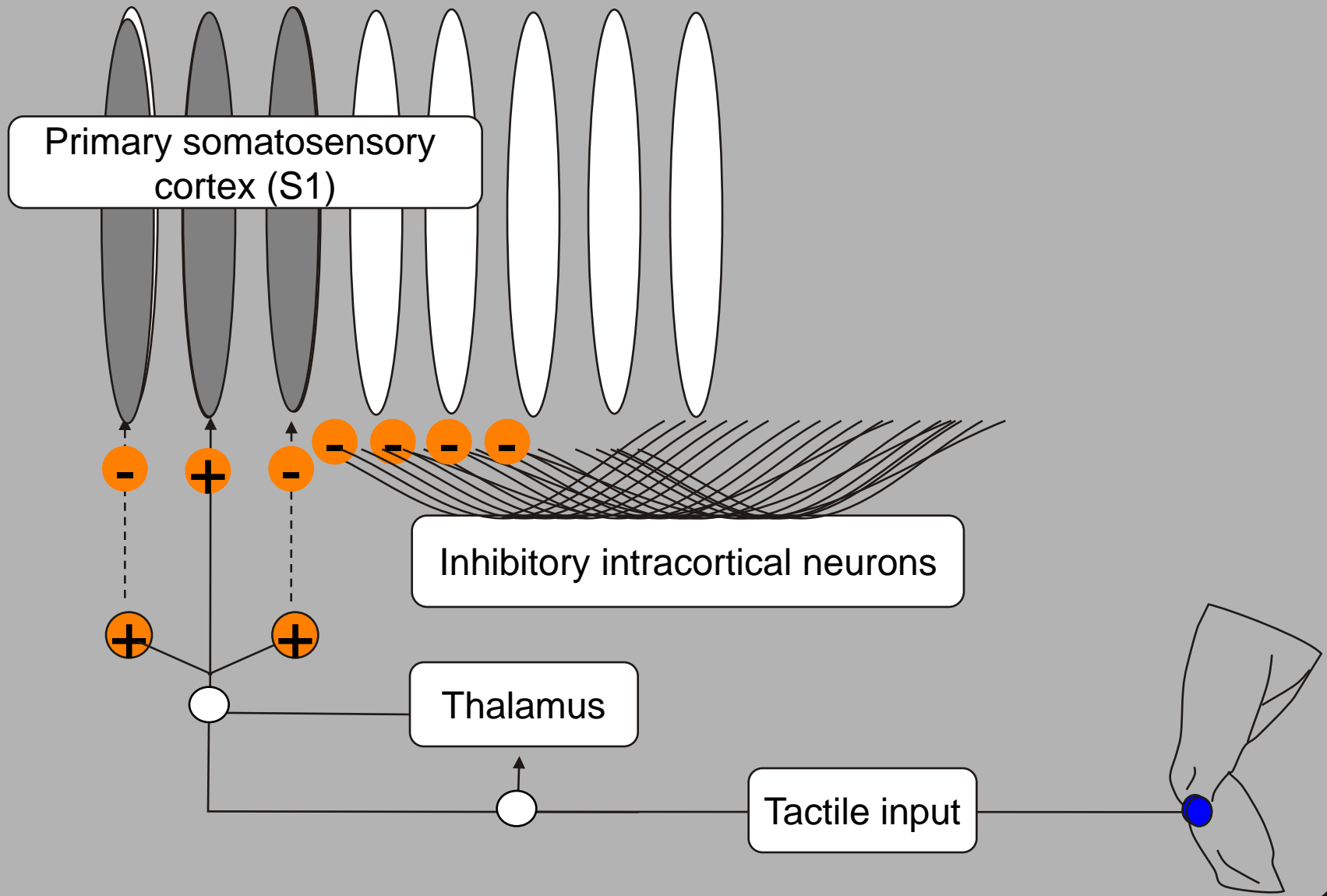


# Disinhibition

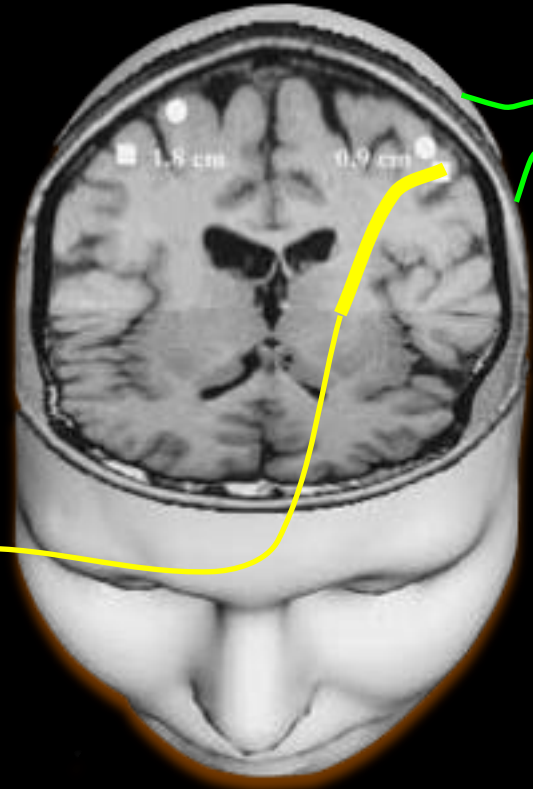
# Inhibition = precision.



# DISinhibition = IMprecision.



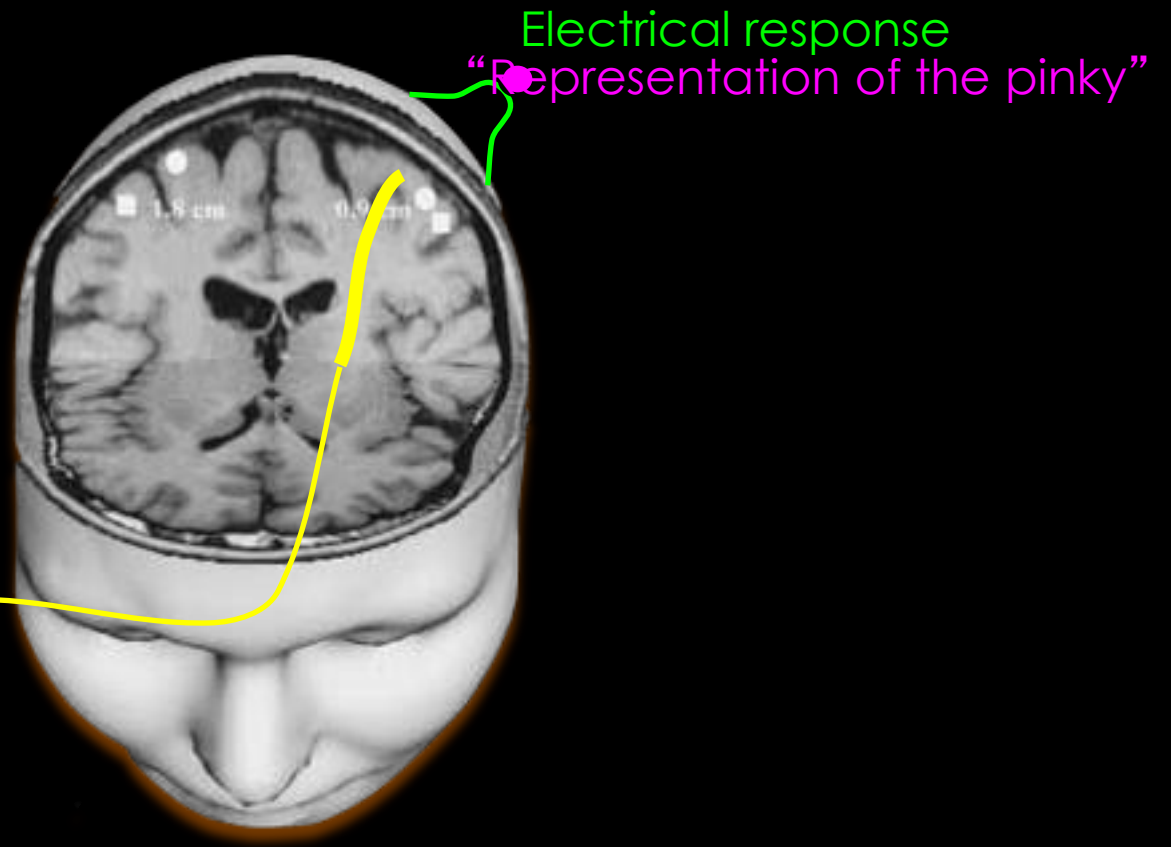
Normal



Electrical response  
● "Representation of the thumb"

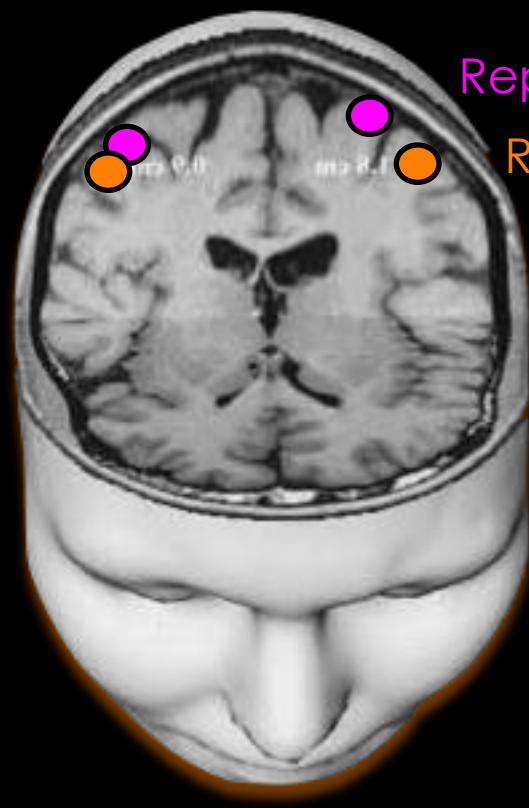


Normal





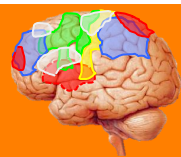
Normal



Representation of the pinky

Representation of the thumb

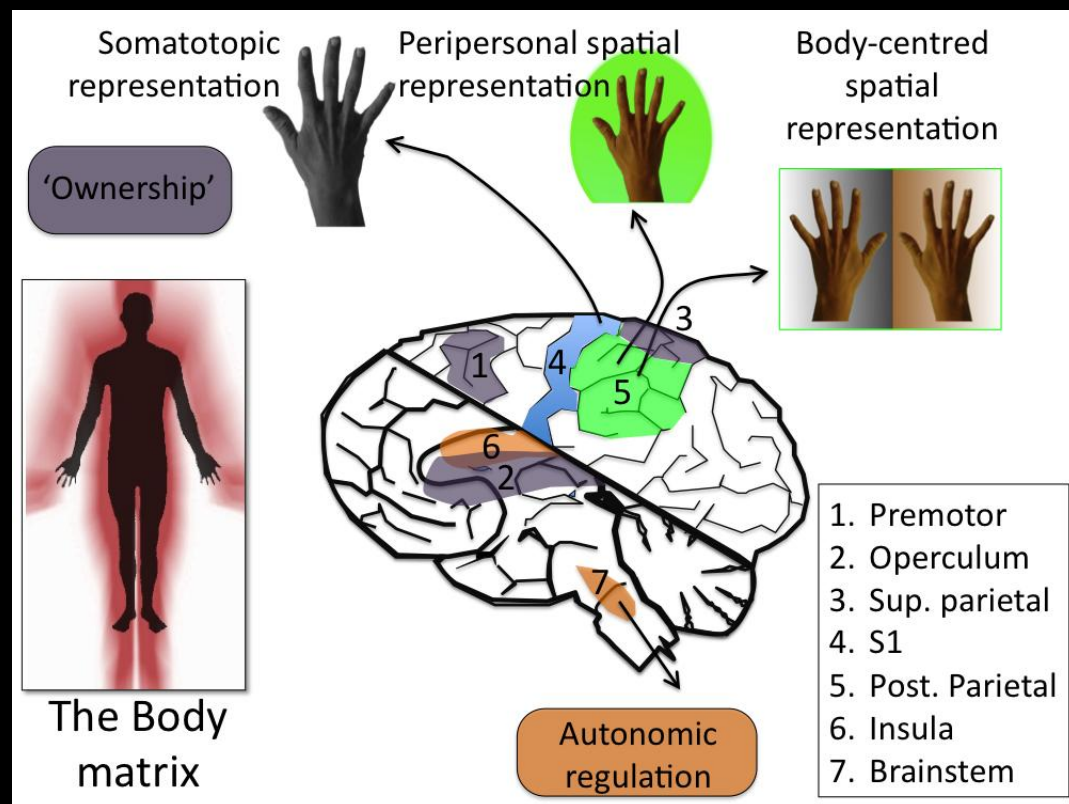




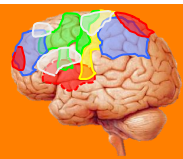
# Imprecision within cortical body matrix – multiple system dysfunction

## The cortical body matrix:

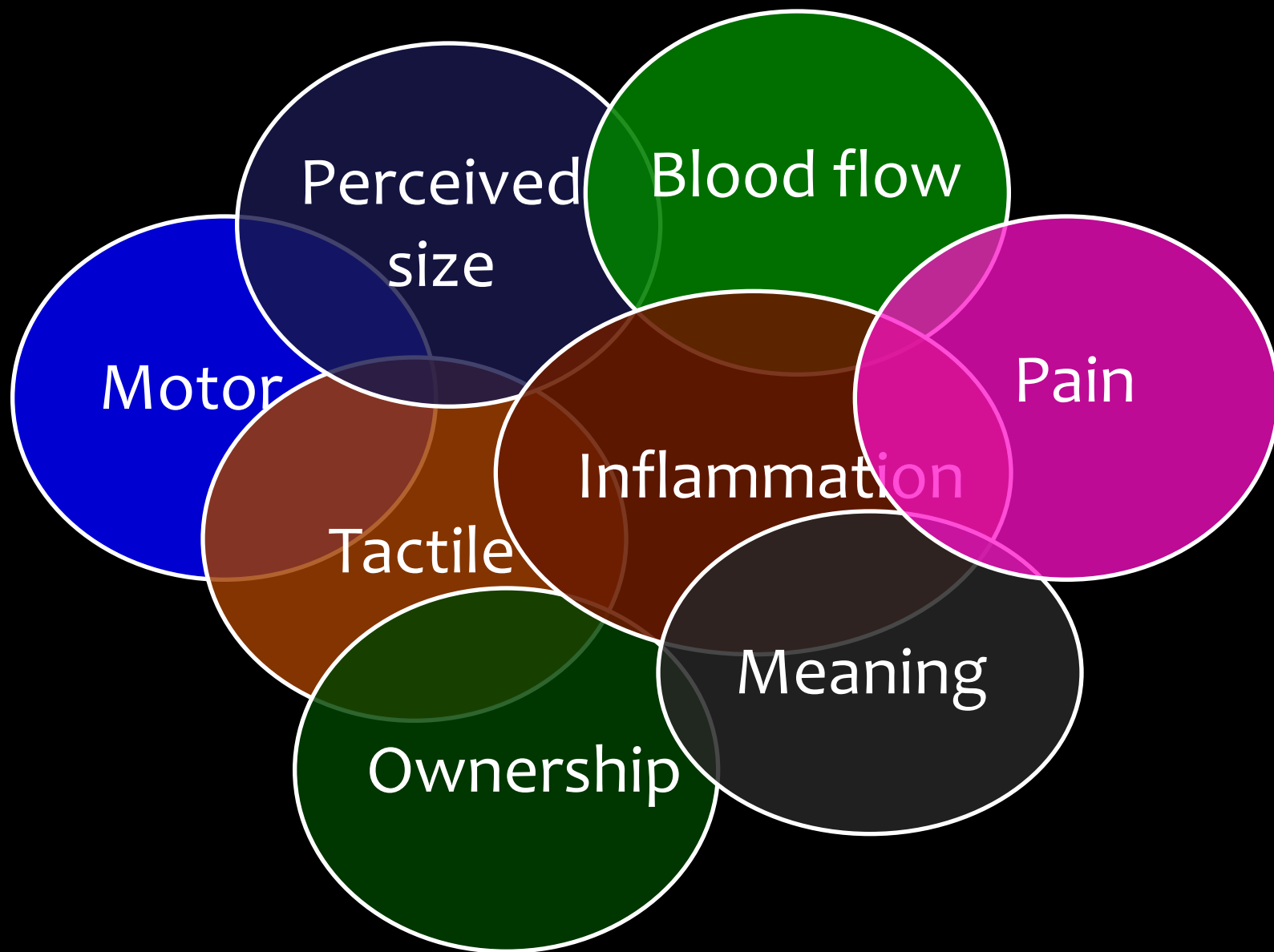
- A network of neural loops that subserves the protection and regulation of the body, both physiologically and psychologically.



*Moseley et al 2012 Neurosci Biobeh Reviews*



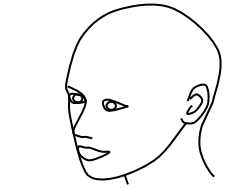
# Imprecision within cortical body matrix – multiple system dysfunction



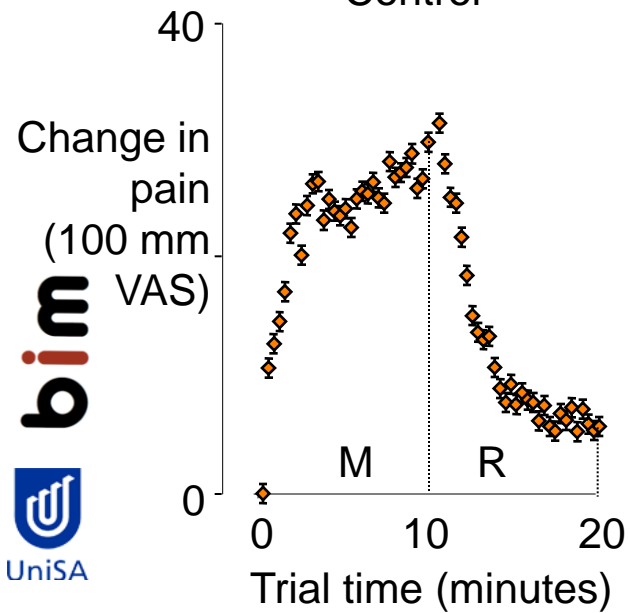


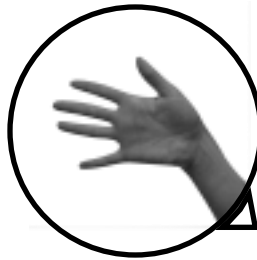
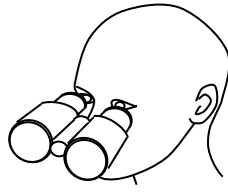
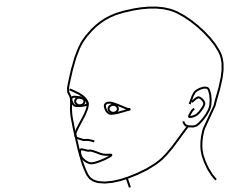
# Top-down effects of cortical body matrix dysfunction





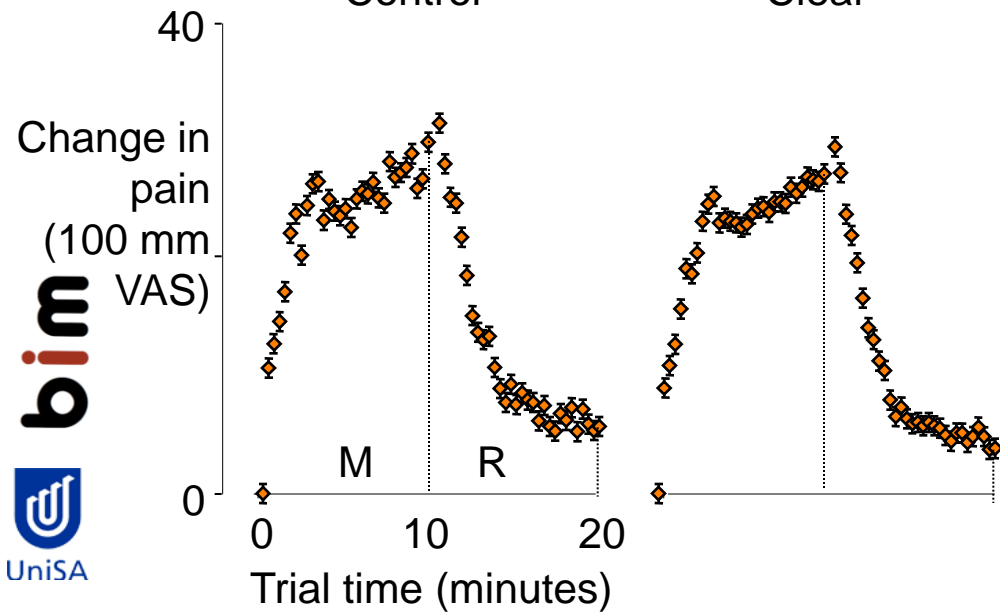
Control

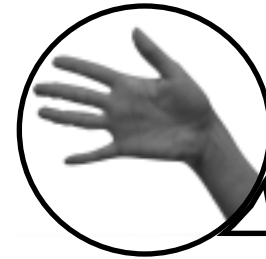
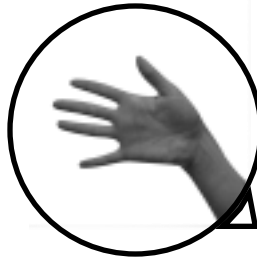
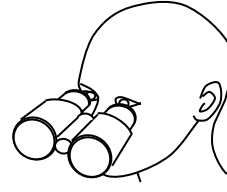
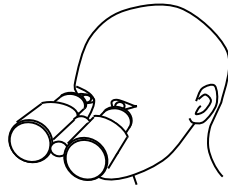
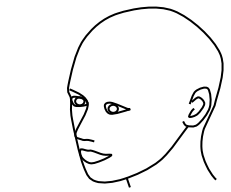




Control

Clear

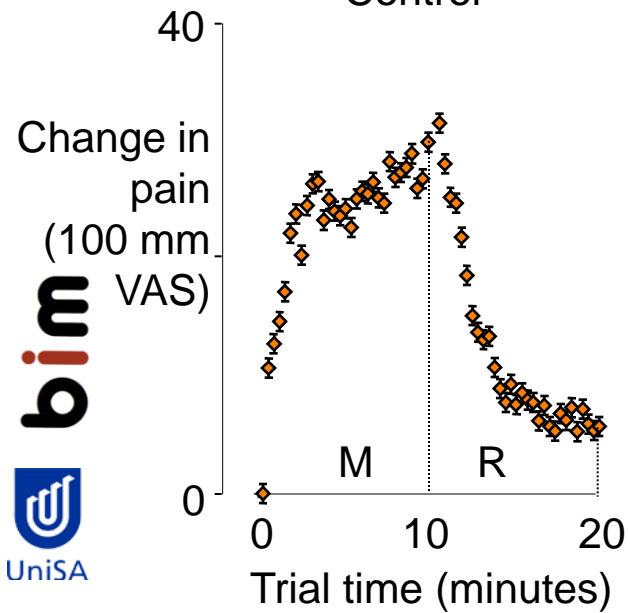




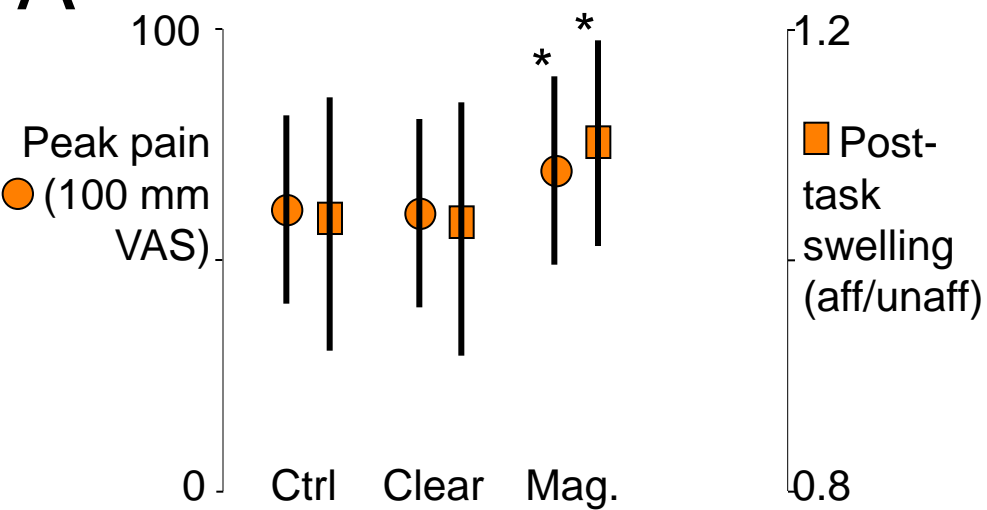
Control

Clear

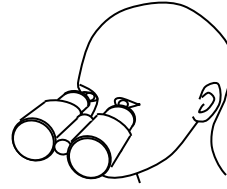
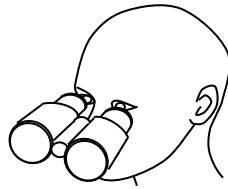
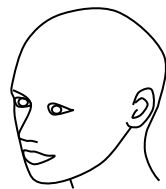
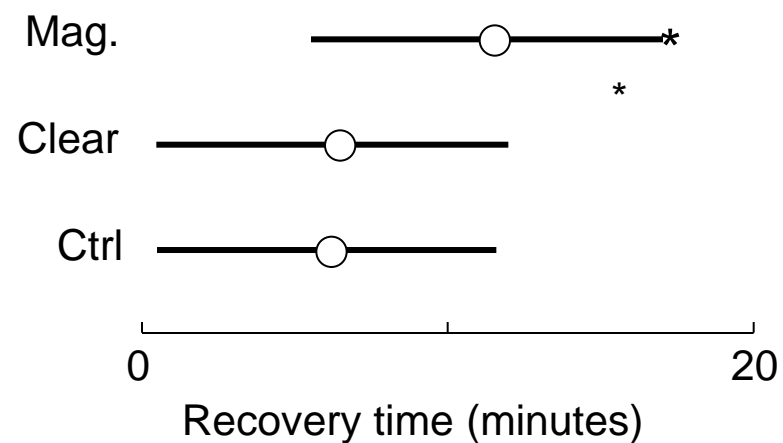
Magnified



# A



# B



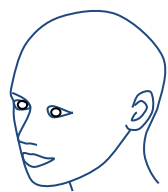
Control

Clear

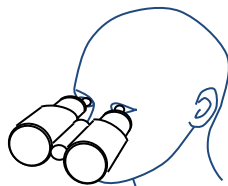
Magnified



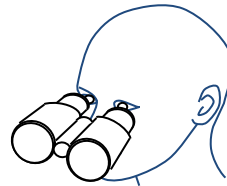




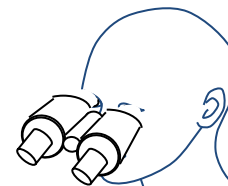
Control



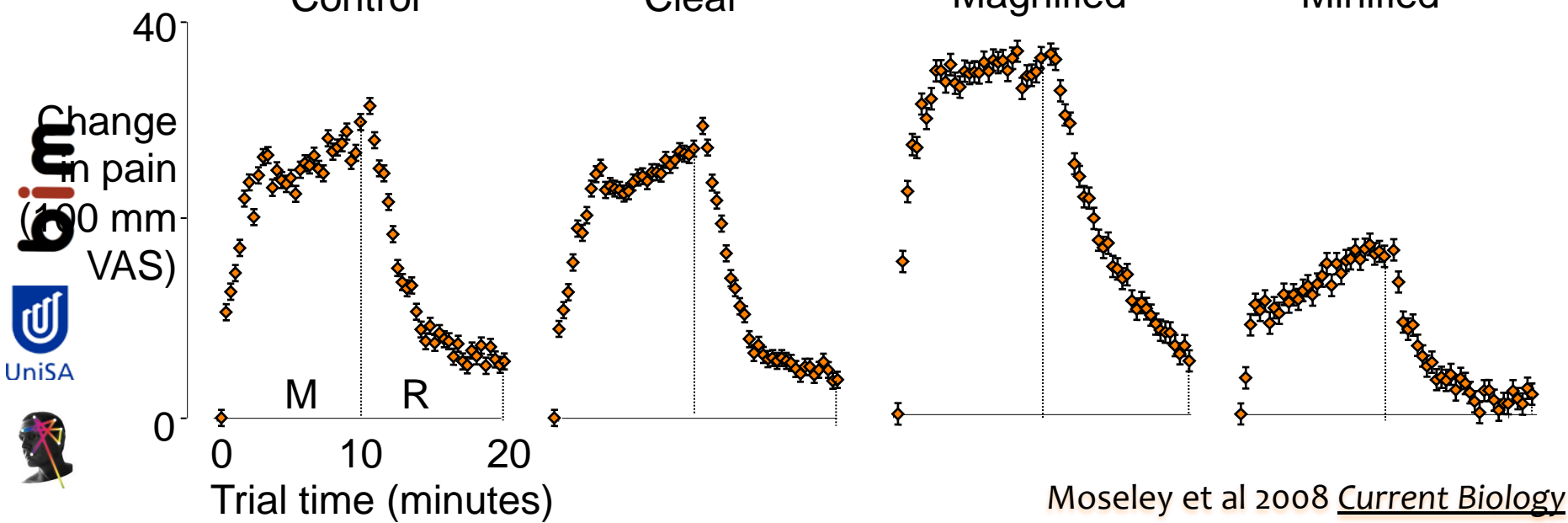
Clear

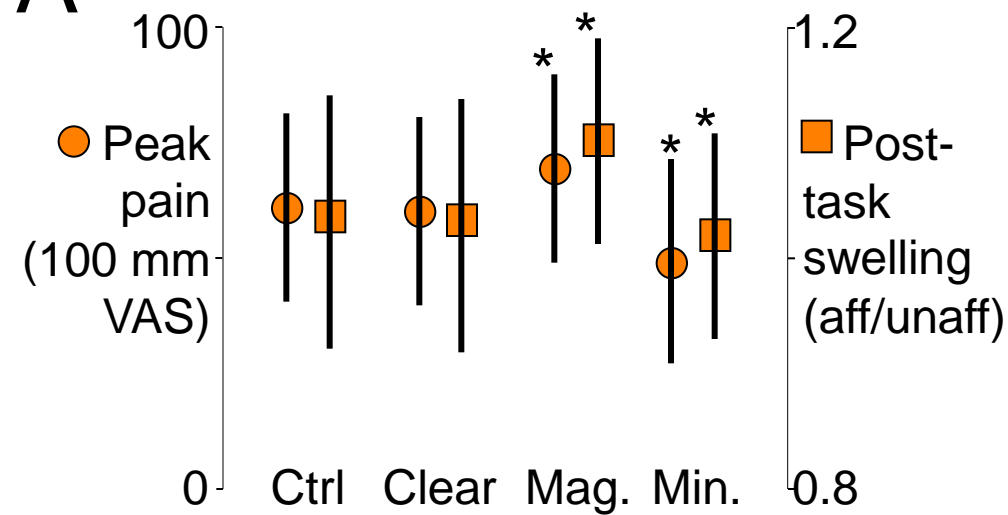
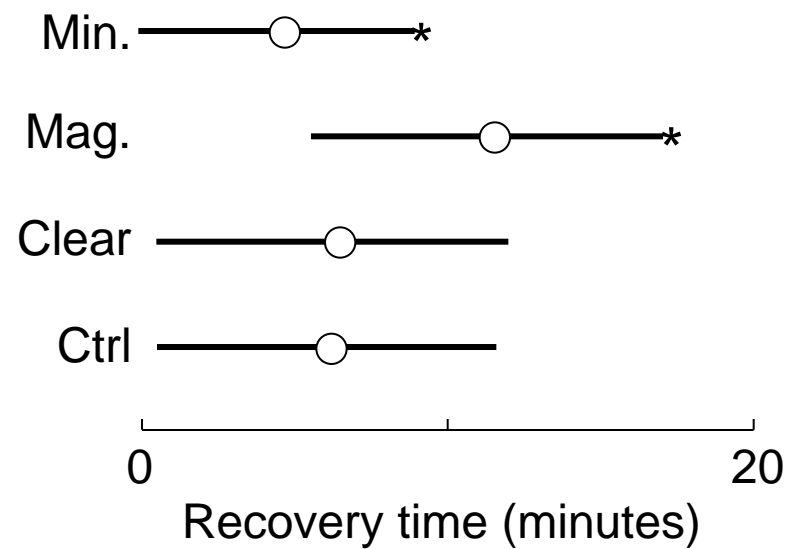


Magnified

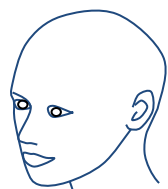


Minified

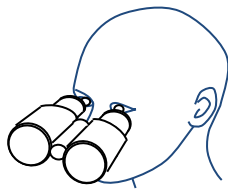


**A****B****bim**

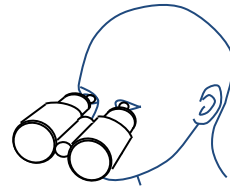
UniSA



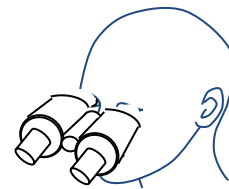
Control



Clear



Magnified



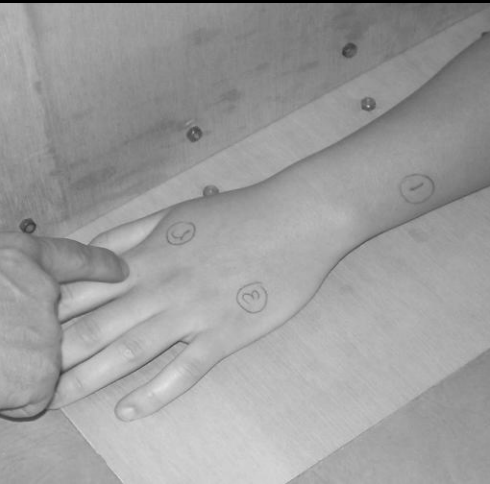
Minified



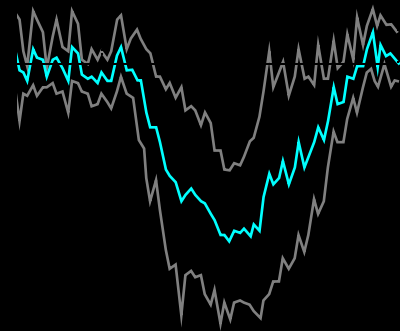
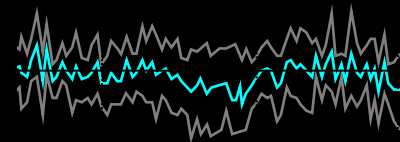
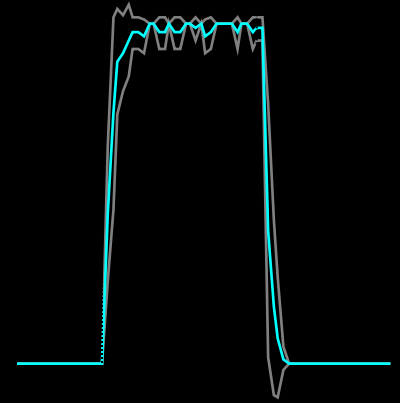
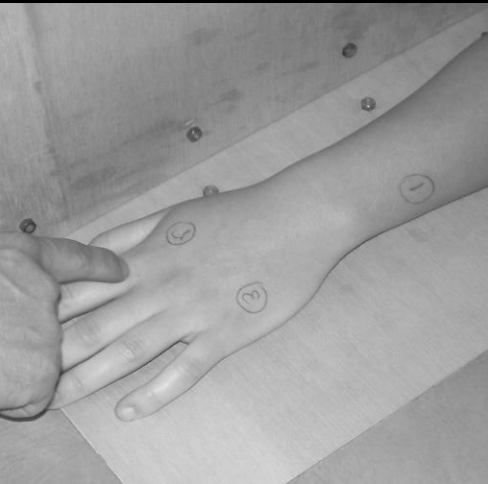
# Disownership

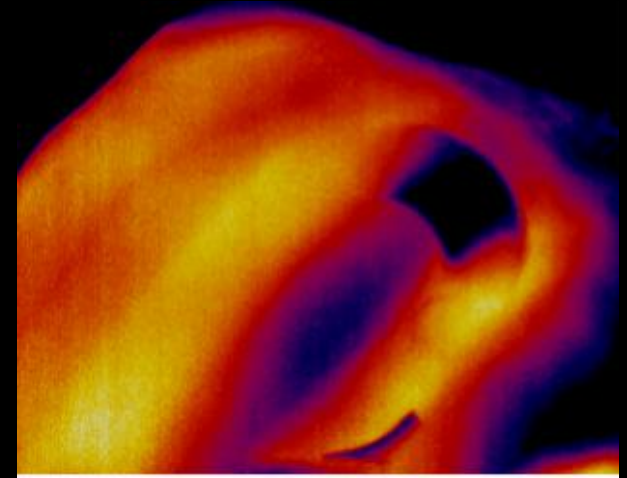
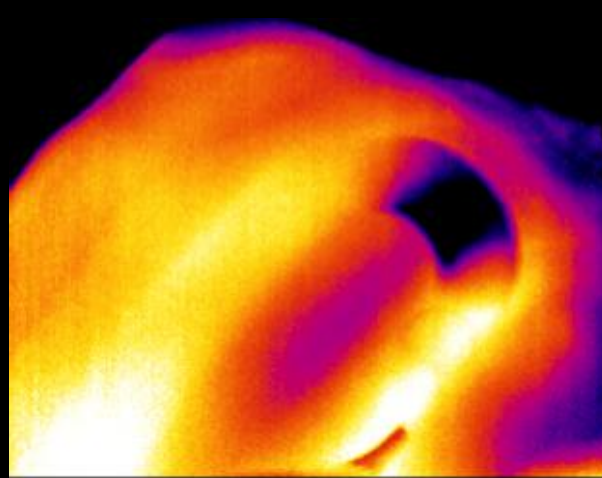


# The rubber hand illusion

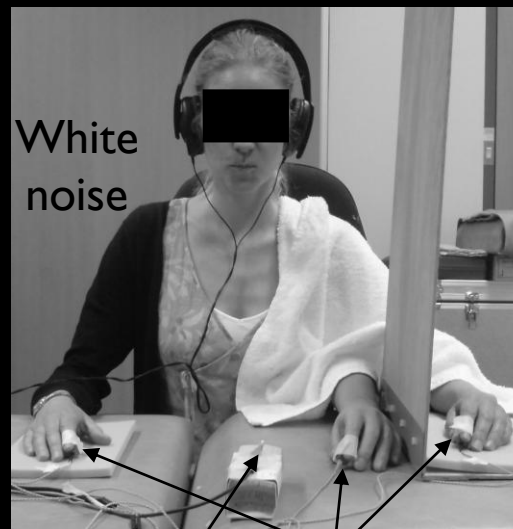


# The rubber hand illusion

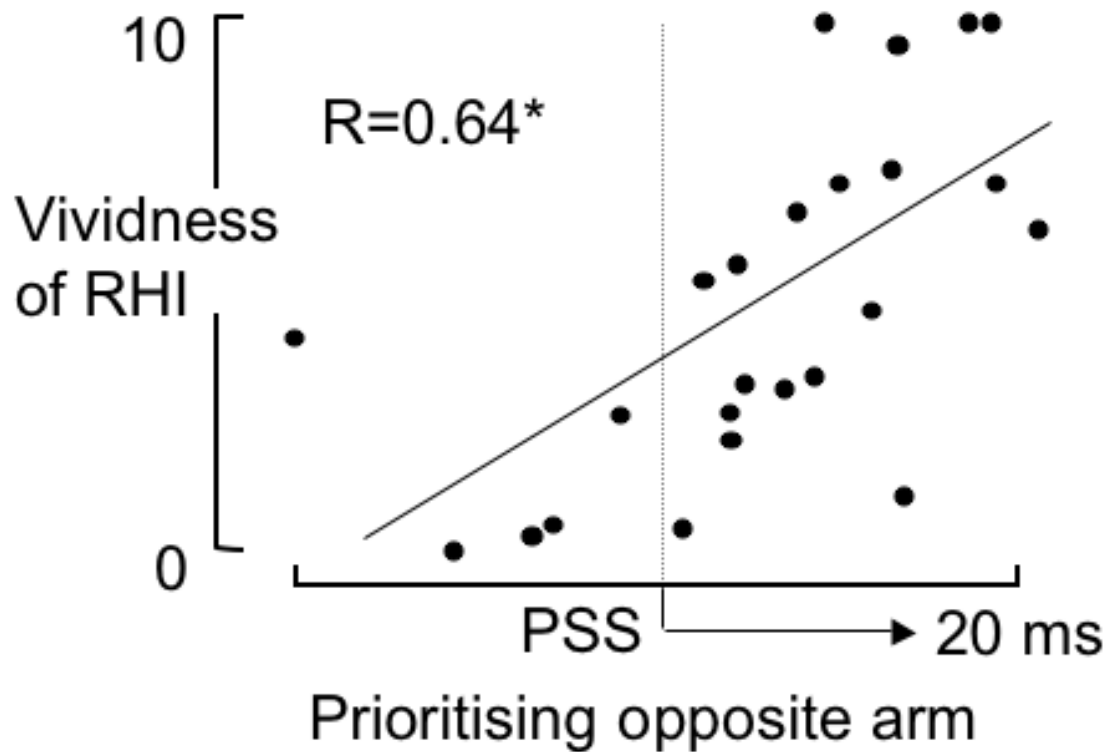




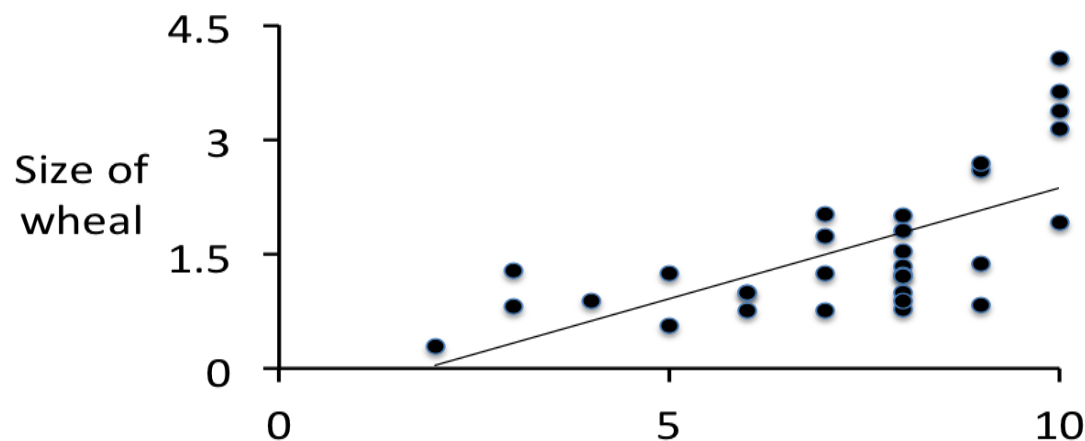
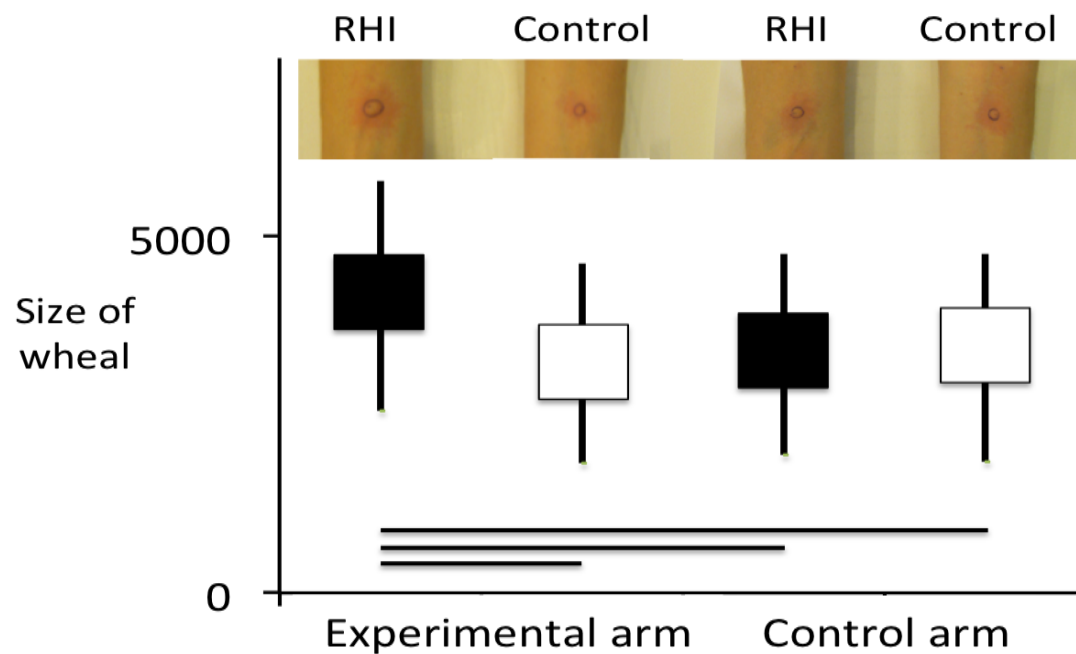
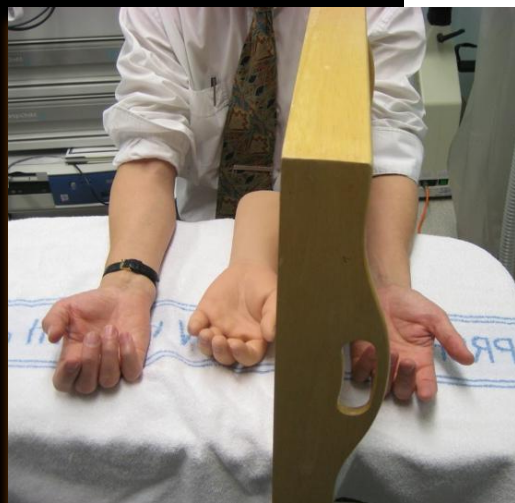
Moseley et al 2008 PNAS 105(35), 13169-73



Moseley et al 2008 PNAS 105(35), 13169-73





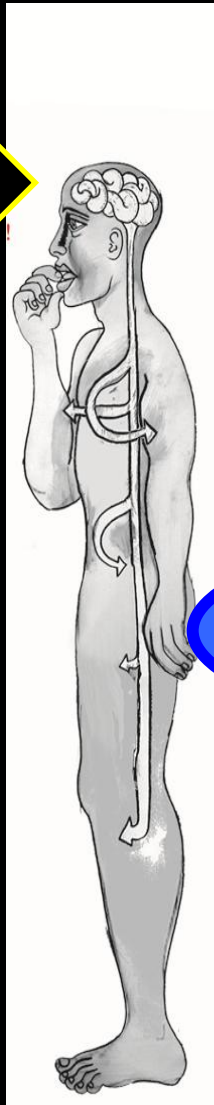


Vividness of RHI  
Barnsley et al. 2012 *Current Biology* 21:R945-6.



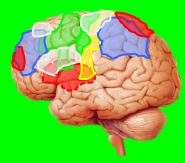
# The key: Pain is an *output* related to perceived threat to body tissue

Nociception  
Other cues  
Beliefs  
Logic  
Knowledge  
Previous exposure  
Social context  
Culture  
Expectation



consciousness

Concerted  
behavioural  
response



*Understanding this helps.*

Nociception  
Other cues  
Beliefs  
Logic  
Knowledge  
Previous  
exposure  
Social context  
Culture  
Expectation  
  
'Meaning, mood  
& biological  
advantage'



# Therapeutic targets



1. *Understand pain*

2. Identify & defuse all threats

3. Normalise the cortical body matrix



# Therapeutic targets

1

## 1. Understand pain



Metaphors  
& stories

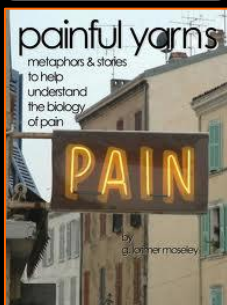
Get under  
the  
conceptual  
radar

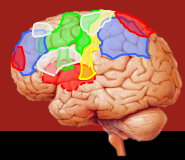
Randomised controlled trial  
*Gallagher et al 2012 Clin J Pain*

**Decrease** catastrophising

**Increase** pain-related  
knowledge

**Increase** participation in  
subsequent intervention





# Therapeutic targets

1

## 1. Understand pain

Metaphors  
& stories

Get under  
the  
conceptual  
radar

Explain pain  
biology

Reconceptualise  
pain

### Randomised controlled trials

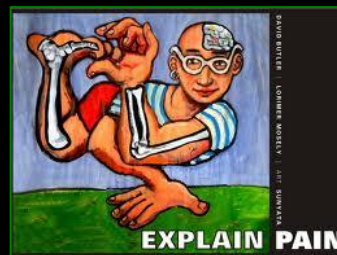
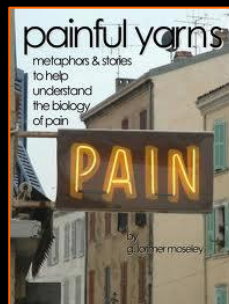
Moseley et al., 2004 Clin J Pain  
Moseley 2004 Euro J Pain  
Moseley 2005 Aus J Physioth  
Moseley 2006 J Man Manip Ther  
Meeus et al., 2007 Clin Rheumatol  
Meeus et al., 2010 Arch Phys Med Rehab  
Ryan et al., 2010 Man Ther  
Van Oosterjick et al., 2011 J Rehab Res Develop  
Louw et al., 2012 In press

### Systematic reviews/meta-an.

Clarke et al., 2011 Man Ther  
Louw et al., 2012 Arch Phys Med Rehab

**Decrease** pain & disability

**Increase** participation in  
subsequent intervention





# Therapeutic targets



1. *Understand pain*

2. Identify & defuse all threats

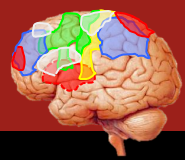
Truly  
biopsychosocial

Graded  
exposure

Cognitive  
behavioural  
principles

Coping skills

Continual and  
conservative



# Therapeutic targets



1. *Understand pain*

2. Identify & defuse all threats

3. Normalise the cortical body matrix

Graded  
motor  
imagery

Randomised controlled trials  
and Meta-analyses

**Decrease pain & disability**

*Moseley 2004 Pain*

*Moseley 2005 Neurology*

*Moseley 2006 Pain*

*Bowering et al., 2012 J Pain*

*Daly & Bialocerkowski 2009 Euro J Pain*

*Goebel et al., 2012 Euro J Pain*





# Therapeutic targets



1. *Understand pain*

2. Identify & defuse all threats

3. Normalise the cortical body matrix

Graded  
motor  
imagery

Tactile  
discrimination  
training

RCTs & replicated case series

**Decrease pain & disability**

*Flor et al., 2001 The Lancet*

*Moseley et al., 2008 Pain*

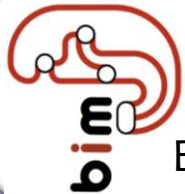
*Wand et al., 2011 Clin J Pain*



# Summary.



Nociception is neither sufficient nor necessary for pain



BodyinMind.org



UniSA

Sansom Institute  
for Health Research



**Neuroscience  
Research Australia**

*Discover. Conquer. Cure.*



# Summary.



Nociception is neither sufficient nor necessary for pain



Pain is an emergent property of the human





# Summary.



Nociception is neither sufficient nor necessary for pain



Pain is an emergent property of the human

Nociception refers to activity in nociceptors and their projections





# Summary.



Nociception is neither sufficient nor necessary for pain

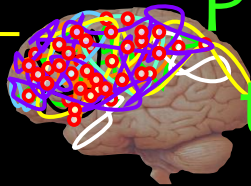


Pain is an emergent property of the human  
Nociception refers to activity in nociceptors and  
their projections



Pain relates to implicit evaluation of  
threat to body tissue and serves to  
protect

Pain





# Summary.



Nociception is neither sufficient nor necessary for pain

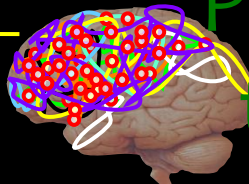


Pain is an emergent property of the human  
Nociception refers to activity in nociceptors and  
their projections

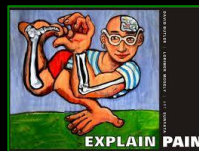
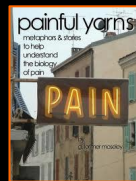


Pain relates to implicit evaluation of  
threat to body tissue and serves to  
protect

Pain



Understanding this helps





# Summary.



Nociception is neither sufficient nor necessary for pain



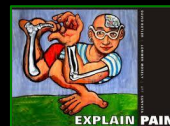
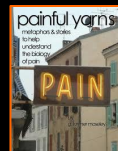
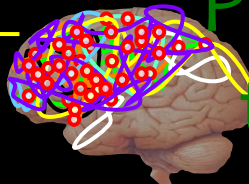
Pain is an emergent property of the human

Nociception refers to activity in nociceptors and their projections



Pain relates to implicit evaluation of threat to body tissue and serves to protect

Pain



Understanding this helps

Targets for treatment are: Meaning, exposure and the cortical body matrix



# Who we are.



Emily Carolyn Jane Heidi Helen Tracy Tasha Abby Flavia Luke James Laura



Owen Jackie Gaynor Daniel Sarah Ann John Mitra Valeria Audrey Hayley Luzia Mark Eva

# Our cortical prostheses.



Giando Alberto Charlie Andre Simon Mick Neil Ben David Frank Bob Han Herta Johan Jill

