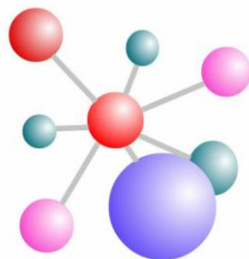


Inglês



Ciências Biológicas

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1	Confira se os dados contidos na parte inferior desta capa estão corretos e, em seguida, assine no espaço reservado para isso. Se, em qualquer outro local deste Caderno, você assinar, rubricar, escrever mensagem, etc., será excluído do Exame.
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8	Utilize para rascunhos, o verso de cada página deste Caderno.
9	Você dispõe de, no máximo, três horas, para responder as 5 questões que constituem a Prova.
10	Antes de retirar-se definitivamente da sala, devolva ao Fiscal este Caderno.

Assinatura do Candidato: _____

As questões de 01 a 05, cujas respostas deverão ser redigidas EM PORTUGUÊS, referem-se ao texto abaixo.

GENERALIZATION OF CONSCIOUS FEAR IS POSITIVELY CORRELATED WITH ANXIETY, BUT NOT WITH DEPRESSION

Doyoung Park, Hwa-Jin Lee and Sue-Hyun Lee

Generalization allows humans to extend their previous experiences to novel situations on the basis of the similarity with the experiences. Especially generalization of learned fear has been considered to be critical for our survival. By generalizing past fearful experiences, we can generate appropriate defensive responses to potentially dangerous contexts.

Abnormal fear generalization has been reported in patients with anxiety disorders. They showed irrational defensive or fear responses to not only fearful stimuli but also harmless stimuli that bear little similarity with the fearful stimuli. To examine fear responses to the learned threat in anxiety patients, researchers have used fear conditioning paradigm. In a typical fear conditioning, a neutral stimulus (conditioned stimulus (CS+)) predicts the occurrence of an aversive event (unconditioned stimulus (US)), whereas another neutral stimulus (CS-) is paired with the non-occurrence of the aversive event. Compared to healthy participants, the anxiety disordered patients displayed significantly reduced discrimination between CS+ and CS- in physiological fear responses such as skin conductance response (SCR). These results suggest the possibility that the patients with anxiety problems show overgeneralization of learned fear. In general, studies suggest that overgeneralization of conditioned fear is a pathogenic marker of anxiety disorder, and understanding fear overgeneralization process is critical for the treatments of anxiety disorders.

Emotional process involves both conscious feeling and change of physiological responses. Although fear conditioning studies including fear generalization have focused predominately on defensive physiological responses, which were assessed as fear, "fear" usually refers to the subjective awareness of being afraid (conscious feeling of fear) in our daily life. Moreover, clinical studies have reported that anxiety disordered patients are suffering from the subjective feeling of heightened fearfulness. Thus, not only physiological responses but also conscious feeling of fear should be taken into account in order to fully understand fear overgeneralization observed in the anxiety disordered patients. However, it has not been directly validated whether conscious feeling of fear can be generalized to similar contexts and whether this generalization depends on anxiety level. Although some emotional theories suggest that the conscious feeling is sequentially linked to the physiological responses, others argue that the conscious feeling and the physiological response are parallel, which implies the physiological responses are not directly responsible for the conscious feeling and vice versa. Further, both theories do not clearly support that the extent to which the conscious feeling changes depends on the change in the physiological response. In addition to the emotional process, the fear generalization studies also measured the explicit knowledge of the relationship between CS+ and US (Emotional process is not always consistent with the explicit knowledge about the emotional event. Thus, the effect of anxiety on the generalization of the explicit knowledge is controversial.

To directly investigate the effect of anxiety on the generalization of conscious feeling of fear, we developed a fear generalization paradigm based on natural scene image stimuli, which are a simplified version of the real complex contexts. The scene image stimuli consisted of images from continuously changing seven categories. The scene images from one extreme category served as conditioned stimuli (CS+), the images from the other extreme category were safety stimuli (CS-), and the images from intermediate categories were used as generalization stimuli (GSs). Here we focused on the effect of individual anxiety level in nonpatient participants, and assessed the relationship between subjective rating of conscious fear and individual anxiety level.

We find that conscious feeling of fear transfers to the GSs that are close to the CS+, and progressively decreases as the tested stimulus becomes less similar to the CS+. This generalization of conscious fear shows significantly positive correlation with the individual anxiety states. In addition, although anxiety and depression often occur together, the level of individual depression is more related to the strength of conditioned fear for CS+, but not to fear generalization.

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Questão 1

Explique, de acordo com o texto, como o mecanismo de generalização pode ser crucial para a nossa sobrevivência.

Espaço para Resposta

Questão 2

Descreva como o mecanismo de generalização está relacionado ao transtorno de ansiedade, de que forma os pesquisadores vem examinando essa relação e a que conclusão os estudos têm chegado.

Espaço para Resposta

Questão 3

Discorra sobre a controvérsia envolvendo as teorias emocionais e fisiológicas do medo e a sua relação com o transtorno de ansiedade.

Espaço para Resposta

Questão 4

Explique qual é o foco do estudo conduzido pelos autores do texto, o paradigma que eles desenvolveram para a investigação e o que encontraram.

Espaço para Resposta

