SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

The SDSU Center for Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience
presents its Student Seminar Series, featuring:

Maria Kryza-Lacombe
TEND Laboratory
Department of Psychology
San Diego State University

Neural Mechanisms of Pediatric and Adult Bipolar Disorder

Wednesday, August 9th
3:00 – 4:00 pm
6363 Alvarado Ct.
Suite 250, Conference Room

Characterizing developmental mechanisms in bipolar disorder (BD) is important for understanding etiology and treatment. Recent work suggests that aberrant time courses of brain activation to affective stimuli (e.g., repeated emotional faces) may contribute to the development of psychopathology. The objective of the current study was to examine age-related differences of the time course of neural response to emotional faces in BD vs. healthy controls. We found an abnormal developmental pattern in BD in prefrontal and temporal regions. While youths with BD show increasing activation to repeated presentation of emotional faces, adults with BD decrease in activation; by contrast, healthy youths decrease and healthy adults increase in activation over the task. These findings are corroborated using traditional analyses and amygdala connectivity. The results suggest that the developmental trajectory of brain function is altered in BD and that BD in youths and adults may be subserved by different neural mechanisms.

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