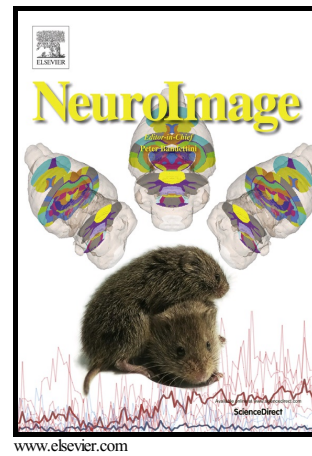


Author's Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S1053-8119(17)30509-8

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neuroimage.2017.06.040>

Reference: YNIMG14122

To appear in: *NeuroImage*

Received date: 21 December 2016

Revised date: 9 June 2017

Accepted date: 16 June 2017

Cite this article as: Jie Hu, Yue Li, Yunlu Yin, Philip R. Blue, Hongbo Yu and Xiaolin Zhou, How do self-interest and other-need interact in the brain to determine altruistic behavior?, *NeuroImage* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neuroimage.2017.06.040>

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How do self-interest and other-need interact in the brain to determine altruistic behavior?

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Abstract

Altruistic behavior, i.e., promoting the welfare of others at a cost to oneself, is subserved by the integration of various social, affective, and economic factors represented in extensive brain regions. However, it is unclear how different regions interact to process/integrate information regarding the helper's interest and recipient's need when deciding whether to behave altruistically. Here we combined an interactive game with functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) and transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) to characterize the neural network underlying the processing/integration of self-interest and other-need. At the behavioral level, high self-risk decreased helping behavior and high other-need increased

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