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Title: Role of voltage-gated calcium channels on striatal dopamine release induced by inorganic mercury in freely moving rats.

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Abstract

The possible role of voltage-sensitive calcium channels (VSCC) activation on the HgCl₂-induced dopamine release was investigated using selective VSCC blockers and the dopamine levels were measured by HPLC from samples obtained by *in vivo* brain microdialysis. Infusion of HgCl₂ in nicardipine (10 or 100 μ M) or flunaricine (10 μ M) pretreated animals had no significant effect on dopamine release induced by HgCl₂. Pretreatment with 100 μ M flunaricine, 20 μ M ω -conotoxin MVIIC, or ω -conotoxin GVIA significantly decreased the HgCl₂-induced dopamine release over 61%, 88%, and

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