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OF CONTEXTUAL FEAR CONDITIONING IN
ADOLESCENT RATS

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DIFFERENTIAL INVOLVEMENT OF AMYGDALAR NMDA RECEPTORS ACROSS VARIANTS OF CONTEXTUAL FEAR CONDITIONING IN ADOLESCENT RATS

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Highlights

- In the CPFE, encoding and retention of contextual fear depends on BLA NMDARs.
- In standard context conditioning, only retention of fear depends on BLA NMDARs.
- Adolescents and adults share common mechanisms of contextual fear conditioning.

ABSTRACT

In standard contextual fear conditioning (sCFC), learning of the context and formation of the context-shock association occur in the same training session whereas in the context preexposure facilitation effect (CPFE) learning the context (preexposure) and the context-shock association (training) are separated by 24 hours. In both procedures conditioned freezing can be measured immediately (post-shock test) or during a 24-hour retention test. In adult rats, disrupting basolateral amygdala (BLA) activity or plasticity

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