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### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Implication of regional brain serotonergic neurons in dorsal and median Raphé nuclei in adaptation to water lacking in *Gerbillus tarabuli*

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#### ABSTRACT

The objective of this work was to investigate the implication of serotonin (5-HT) produced in the dorsal and medial raphé nuclei (DRN and MRN) in water homeostasis in desert animal *Gerbillus tarabuli*. For that, we measured the density of 5-HT immunolabeled neurons in hydrated and dehydrated animals (over 1 and six months). In this work, 5-HT positive neurons showed some change in shape and colour intensity in dehydrated gerbils comparing with hydrated gerbils. Furthermore a differential increase of 5-HT neurons density was observed in DRN subregions and in MRN following 1 and 6 months of dehydration.

This study suggested that neurons in DRN and MRN contain 5-HT in various amounts, thus allowing an adapted response to hydration status. These neurons could mediate one of the adaptation mechanisms of this animal to its desert biotope.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Dorsal raphe nucleus; Median raphe nucleus; Serotonin; 5-hydroxytryptamine; 5-HT, *Gerbillus tarabuli*; dehydratation, immunohistochemistry

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**ABBREVIATIONS:** 5-HT, 5-hydroxytryptamine, serotonin; DRN: dorsal raphe nucleus; MRN: median raphe nucleus; Aq: aqueduct of sylvius; DRD: dorsal part of dorsal raphe nucleus; DRVL: ventro lateral part of dorsal raphe nucleus; DRV: ventral part of dorsal raphe nucleus; DRI: interfascicular part of dorsal raphe nucleus. Download English Version:

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