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Modulation of the endocannabinoid system by sex hormones: Implications for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

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Highlights

- PTSD can be characterised by dysregulation of negative feedback of the HPA axis, abnormally consolidated emotional memories and impaired fear extinction learning and recall.
- Modulation of the endocannabinoid system is a promising emerging avenue for treating PTSD, as it underlies all of these processes.
- However, marked sex and sex-hormone differences are apparent in PTSD aetiology, and these extend to the endocannabinoid system.
- The current review finds evidence of hormone-dependent mechanisms that may drive the PTSD gender disparity through the endocannabinoid system, with implications for treatment development.

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