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Prior Commitment: Its Effect on Suboptimal Choice in a Gambling-Like Task

Running head: COMMITMENT AND SUBOPTIMAL CHOICE

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Highlights

- Animals choose suboptimally when provided with cues that signal reinforcement
- This task is analogous to gambling commercial gambling by humans
- In delay discounting, prior commitment results in less impulsivity
- Delay between choice and signal for reinforcement decreases suboptimal choice

Abstract

Animals choose suboptimally when provided with cues that signal whether reinforcement is coming or not. For example, pigeons do not prefer an alternative that always provides them with a signal for reinforcement over an alternative that provides them with a signal for reinforcement only half of the time and a signal for the absence of reinforcement the rest of the time. In the present research, we tested the

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