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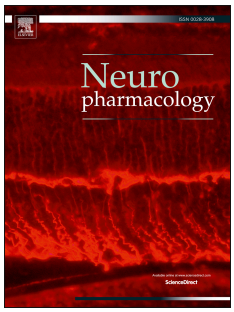

Overexpression of BDNF in the ventral tegmental area enhances binge cocaine self-administration in rats exposed to repeated social defeat

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Overexpression of BDNF in the ventral tegmental area enhances binge cocaine self-administration in rats exposed to repeated social defeat

Running title: VTA BDNF, social stress and cocaine

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Highlights:

- VTA BDNF overexpression enhanced cocaine binge intake in socially-defeated rats.
- VTA BDNF overexpression in the absence of stress had no effect on cocaine self-administration.
- VTA BDNF overexpression enhanced ΔFosB expression in the nucleus accumbens, but not the dorsal striatum.