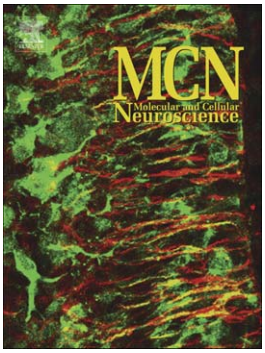

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Nicotine Recruits Glutamate Receptors to Postsynaptic Sites

Jing-jing Duan[1, 2], Adrian F. Lozada[2], Chen-yu Gou[1], Jing Xu[3], Yuan Chen[1*], Darwin K. Berg[2*]

[1]Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology; Zhongshan School of Medicine, Sun Yat-sen University; Guangzhou, 510080, China.

[2]Neurobiology Section, Division of Biological Sciences; University of California, San Diego; 9500 Gilman Drive; La Jolla, CA 92093-0357.

[3]Pain Research Center and Department of Physiology; Zhongshan School of Medicine, Sun Yat-Sen University; Guangzhou, 510080, China.

[*]Corresponding authors:

Darwin K. Berg; Neurobiology Section, Division of Biology, 0357; University of California, San Diego; 9500 Gilman Drive; La Jolla, CA 92093-0357. Phone: 858-534-4680; Fax: 858-534-7309; Email: dberg@ucsd.edu. Yuan Chen; Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology; Zhongshan School of Medicine, Sun Yat-sen University; Guangzhou, 510080. Phone: 86-020-87332238; Fax: 86-020-87332238; E-mail: cheny33@mail.sysu.edu.cn.

ABSTRACT

Cholinergic neurons project throughout the nervous system and activate nicotinic receptors to modulate synaptic function in ways that shape higher order brain function. The acute effects of nicotinic signaling on long-term synaptic plasticity have been well-characterized. Less well understood is how chronic exposure to low levels of nicotine, such as those encountered by habitual smokers, can alter neural connections to promote addiction and other lasting behavioral effects. We show here that chronic exposure of hippocampal neurons in culture to low levels of