PhD position available

Project “Mal-adaptive consequences of early life social trauma on adult behaviour and neuronal circuitries” in the lab of Prof. Dr. Inga Neumann

The experience of social isolation, social trauma, or violence early in life has large impact on adult mental health. Based on previous results from our lab that social trauma in adolescent mice exerts acute and long-lasting effects on social behaviour, the PhD student will study in detail the brain circuits involved in these mal-adaptations. Using the established social fear conditioning paradigm (Menon et al. 2020), the student will reveal acute and chronic alterations in specific brain neuropeptide systems (e.g., oxytocin, CRF) and their connectivity involved in social behaviours and stress regulation.

Methods such as behavioural analyses, surgical approaches, e.g., viral vector infusions or cannula implantation, blood sampling and hormone analyses, immunohistochemistry, neuronal tracing, IMARIS, RNA scope, RNA and protein quantification will be used in combination with in vivo fiber-photometry (Calcium imaging), optogenetic or chemogenetic approaches, where appropriate.

Start of funding: August 2023

The position is funded for at least three years, according to the German pay scale TV-L E13 (65%). The project is part of the DFG Graduate Programme “Neurobiology of Social and Emotional Dysfunctions” GRK 2174

For application details please see our webpage:

https://www.uni-regensburg.de/research/grk-emotion/grk-home/index.html

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