Optical-Fiber-Induced Serotonin Secretion

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Have you grown patient these days? Are you trying to find the reason behind this change? Well, it could simply be attributed to the serotonin secreted in your body. Researchers at Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (OIST) used a technique called optogenetics that uses light energy to stimulate neurons. These neurons, on being stimulated, will produce serotonin and this, in turn, will make the person (mice in this experiment) wait longer for any reward (food in this experiment). Similarly, during the experiment, the neurons in mice are induced by light using optical fiber implanted in the brain. It results in serotonin secretion in mice. This hormone makes them wait in anticipation of the food. More the neurons are induced by light, more serotonin gets secreted. More production of the protein, more affected the judgment of the mice gets affected and the mice wait longer. In other words, serotonin is responsible for the patience in a person. This also partially explains why humans continue consuming medications for boosting neuron-induced serotonin secretion.



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Cite this article

Enago Academy, Optical-Fiber-Induced Serotonin Secretion. Enago Academy. 2018/08/05. https://www.enago.com/academy/optical-fiber-induced-serotoninsecretion/

