Karla B.

"Nicotine's Rewarding Effects in Knockout Mice"

Major: Biology

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Tobacco addiction is associated with many health problems. This double blind experiment examined the conditions that promoted nicotine addiction in mice. Animals were housed in individual cages with two bottles per cage. One bottle contained water with 0.2% saccharine, while the other contained water with 0.2% saccharine and increasing concentrations of nicotine (25, 50, 100, 200 and 500 µg/ml).  The fluid content of the bottles was measured daily and the mice weighed every four days.  Results showed that mice had no significant difference in nicotine consumption among the three types (wild vs. knockout mice), and that 200µg/ml is the preferred nicotine concentration.