

Treating the brain from the gut

The most common reason for which US Americans visit the emergency room is visceral pain. This is often due to intestinal hypersensitivity to foods or stimuli in the gut. The consequences include local intestinal inflammation as well as behavioral changes, specifically in food intake and anxiety. Here, we propose to develop an animal model in which these behaviors are characterized by manipulating a specific sensory cell in the colon. This animal model will serve to test potential therapies before translating them for clinical trials.

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