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Education and Training

Diploma, Psychology, Hamburg University, Germany

M.Sc., Neuroscience, Institute of Psychiatry, King' s College London, UK

Ph.D., Behavioral Pharmacology, Institute of Psychiatry, King' s College London, UK

Biosketch

My lab investigates the neural correlates of cognition with particular emphasis on attentional functions, their impairment in people with schizophrenia, and their pharmacological modulation. Of particular interest is the cognitive-enhancing potential of nicotinic compounds, which may possess therapeutic utility in the context of disorders such as schizophrenia and Alzheimer' s disease. My research aims at pinpointing the neuroanatomical and pharmacological mechanisms responsible for these effects, finding ways to improve their effect size, and exploiting them to enhance the

benefits of cognitive training interventions. We also study mechanisms of nicotine dependence in smokers, including smokers with a diagnosis of schizophrenia. Our work employs behavioral pharmacology, functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging, computerized cognitive task paradigms, and preclinical models of cognition.

Research/Clinical Keywords

cognition, attention, nicotine, nicotinic, schizophrenia, dependence, fMRI, rat

Highlighted Publications

Hahn B, Stolerman IP (2005) Modulation of Nicotine-Induced Attentional Enhancement in Rats by Adrenoceptor Antagonists. *Psychopharmacology* 177: 438-447.

Hahn B, Ross TJ, Yang Y, Kim I, Huestis MA, Stein EA (2007) Nicotine Enhances Visuospatial Attention by Deactivating Areas of the Resting Brain Default Network. *Journal of Neuroscience* 27: 3477-3489.

Hahn B, Robinson BM, Kaiser ST, Harvey AN, Beck VM, Leonard CJ, Kappenman ES, Luck SJ, Gold JM (2010) Failure of Schizophrenia Patients to Overcome Salient Distractors During Working Memory Encoding. *Biological Psychiatry* 68: 603-9.

Hahn B, Harvey AN, Concheiro-Guisan M, Huestis MA, Holcomb HH, Gold JM (2013) A Test of the Cognitive Self-Medication Hypothesis of Tobacco Smoking in Schizophrenia. *Biological Psychiatry* 74: 436 - 443.

Hahn B, Harvey AN, Gold JM, Fischer BA, Keller WR, Ross TJ, Stein EA (2016) Hyperdeactivation of the Default Mode Network in People with Schizophrenia When Focusing Attention in Space. *Schizophrenia Bulletin* 42: 1158-66.

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