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Experience in an experimental medicine model of generalised anxiety disorder

The University Department of Psychiatry in Southampton would be happy to host an ECNP trainee, providing an introduction to the use of the 7.5% carbon dioxide (CO₂) inhalation experimental medicine model of generalised anxiety disorder (GAD).

The response to 7.5% CO₂ challenge in healthy volunteers mimics the subjective, autonomic and neurocognitive features of GAD, and is being used to identify potential novel psychological and pharmacological interventions in GAD and other anxiety disorders. Current studies include evaluation of 'repurposed' medications (including ibuprofen and amiloride) and exploration of the placebo response.

Exchangees would gain experience of administering the challenge and would be trained in the rating scales and other measures, as well as gain some understanding of how data from this challenge is analysed. The trainee would join a vibrant youthful department which currently includes 4 postgraduate research students, 3 post-doc research assistants, 8 academic clinical fellows and visiting researchers from other European countries and China.