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Division of Neuropsychopharmacology at the Department of Psychology of the University of Tartu is devoted to translational studies in psychopharmacology, neuroscience and psychiatry. It is located in the modern and fast growing campus of life sciences in the Tartu Maarjamõisa area. In the tradition of affective neuroscience, we aim at understanding the regulation of behaviour by the brain in the context of evolution. In the animal house both conventional methods of psychopharmacology as well as etho-experimental approaches are used, and behavioural studies are supported by a wide array of neurochemical and neurobiological techniques. We have established a number of original animal models to facilitate translation from and to human personality research and psychiatry. Research in humans is largely conducted on population-representative samples and with prospective longitudinal design. Our flagship investigation is the Estonian Children Personality Behaviour and Health Study (www.ecpbhs.ee) initiated in 1998, that allows family aggregation analysis of affective, anxiety and substance use disorders. We also examine impulsive and risk-taking behaviour in other samples with objective record of clinically significant impulsivity or anti-social behaviour. The group has received funding, in addition to national sources, from the FP6, FP7, Horizon 2020, and the Hope for Depression Research Foundation.

Further information:

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