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Serum cytokines levels and their correlations with the psychotic symptoms in chronic ketamine abusers

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Exposing to NMDAR receptor antagonists, ketamine, produces schizophrenia-like symptoms in humans and deteriorates symptoms in schizophrenia patients. Meanwhile, schizophrenia is associated with alterations of cytokines in the immune system. Serum cytokine levels in chronic human ketamine users were measured as compared to healthy subjects. The correlations between the serum cytokines levels with the demographic, ketamine use characteristics and psychiatric symptoms were assessed. Subjects who fulfilled the criteria of ketamine dependence and healthy control subjects were recruited. Serum cytokine levels were measured using an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). The psychiatric symptoms of the ketamine abusers were assessed using the Positive and Negative Syndrome Scale (PANSS). Serum levels of cytokines were altered in chronic ketamine abusers which may play a role in schizophrenia-like symptoms in chronic ketamine abusers.

Biography

Ni Fan, got her ph.D. from Louisiana State University Health Science Center at 2009 and continued her postdoc training at Yale University School of Medicine from 2009 to 2012. Currently she is the vice director of the neuropsychiatric research institute of Guangzhou Brain Hospital, the Affiliated Brain Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University. Her research was funded by National Nature Science foundation of China.

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