

Special Issue

Brain Correlates of Human Sexual Behavior: New Insight on Models, Theories, and Experimental Research

Message from the Guest Editors

During recent years, several scientific attempts have been made to decompose the processes and identify the brain regions involved in normal and pathological sexual behavior. It is now twenty years since the pioneering studies published by Stoleru described the cerebral basis of human sexual arousal. Afterward, additional brain imaging studies have shown a wider set of brain regions involved in different aspects of sexual stimuli processing in healthy participants and described the alterations of functional connectivity in sexual dysfunctions. This progress has been made possible by the methodological advances in the field of brain imaging and psychophysiological techniques, including the extensive use of EEG recordings. Despite these advances, even nowadays, the brain correlates of sexual behavior and its perturbations are poorly understood, representing both methodological and theoretical challenges for modern neuroscience. This Special Issue is thus dedicated to the sexual brain, with a special emphasis on neuroimaging and psychophysiological studies that attempt to untangle the complex role played by the human brain in functional and dysfunctional/altered sexual behavior.

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