



ALTERACIONES EN ACTIVIDAD CEREBRAL PROVOCADAS POR EL PROCESAMIENTO AFECTIVO EN LA FIBROMIALGIA

BRAIN ACTIVITY ELICITED BY AFFECTIVE PROCESSING IS ALTERED IN FIBROMYALGIA

Pedro Montoya

Research Institute of Health Sciences (IUNICS),
University of Balearic Islands

Clinical and experimental research indicates that patients with fibromyalgia have enhanced somatic pain sensitivity, together with abnormal activation of pain-related brain regions. Psychophysical and neurophysiological studies further suggest the existence of specific disturbances in affective and cognitive processing and indicate that affective mood can modulate central nervous excitability thresholds without conscious cognitive processing in these patients. All these findings point toward the importance of considering a biopsychosocial model, integrating affective, cognitive, and social factors, to understand the brain mechanisms involved in the origin and maintenance of chronic widespread pain. The present work will review some data about abnormalities in brain information processing associated with the maintenance of pain over time in patients with fibromyalgia and will discuss new ideas about the implementation of such knowledge for the management of persistent chronic pain.

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