



Department of Psychology
The University of Hong Kong

香港大學心理學系

Brown Bag Lunchtime Seminar

Causally Mapping The Neural Circuits of Human Anxiety Processes/Symptoms

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | December 13, 2023 (Wednesday)
Rm 813, 8/F, The Jockey Club Tower | Centennial Campus | The University of Hong Kong



Ryan WEBLER

PhD candidate in Clinical Psychology
University of Minnesota

Abstract

Anxiety disorders are the most commonly occurring class of mental-health disorders. First-line treatments (i.e., serotonergic/noradrenergic agents and cognitive behavioral therapy) fail to promote response in approximately 50% of patients. Despite this, there have been no new FDA approved anxiety disorder treatments in more than 15 years. One factor complicating treatment development is our rudimentary understanding of the neurobiology of anxiety. Indeed, current neural models are grounded in causal rodent and correlative human neuroimaging data which have fundamental limitations. In this talk, I will highlight how causal human methods (i.e., transcranial magnetic stimulation, deep brain stimulation, and lesion network mapping) can be used to map anxiety circuits and generate novel anxiety disorder treatment targets.

About the speaker

Ryan is a 6th year University of Minnesota clinical psychology PhD candidate (dissertation successfully defended) currently on clinical internship at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center. Following completion of his clinical internship, Ryan will begin a postdoctoral research fellowship in Dr. Shan Siddiqi's lab at the Center for Brain Circuit Therapeutics at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School. His research uses causal methods to map human anxiety circuits.

Zoom (For participants who couldn't attend the Seminar in person)

<https://hku.zoom.us/j/3951550048?pwd=SncvL3RYakEycUtpL29vdDJEEdlEwdz09>

Meeting ID: 395 155 0048 | Password: psyc



~All are Welcome~

Enquiry: rpsyc@hku.hk