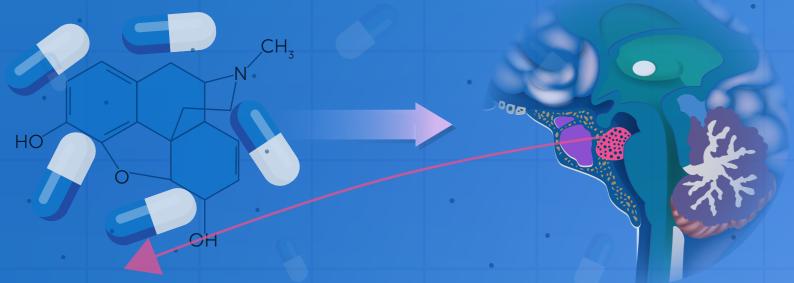
Morphine Injection into Right Amygdala Relieves Neuropathic Pain

Opioids are a class of drugs that offer pain relief

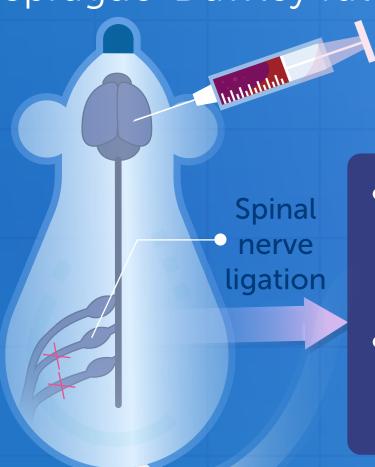


Amygdala has numerous opioid receptors



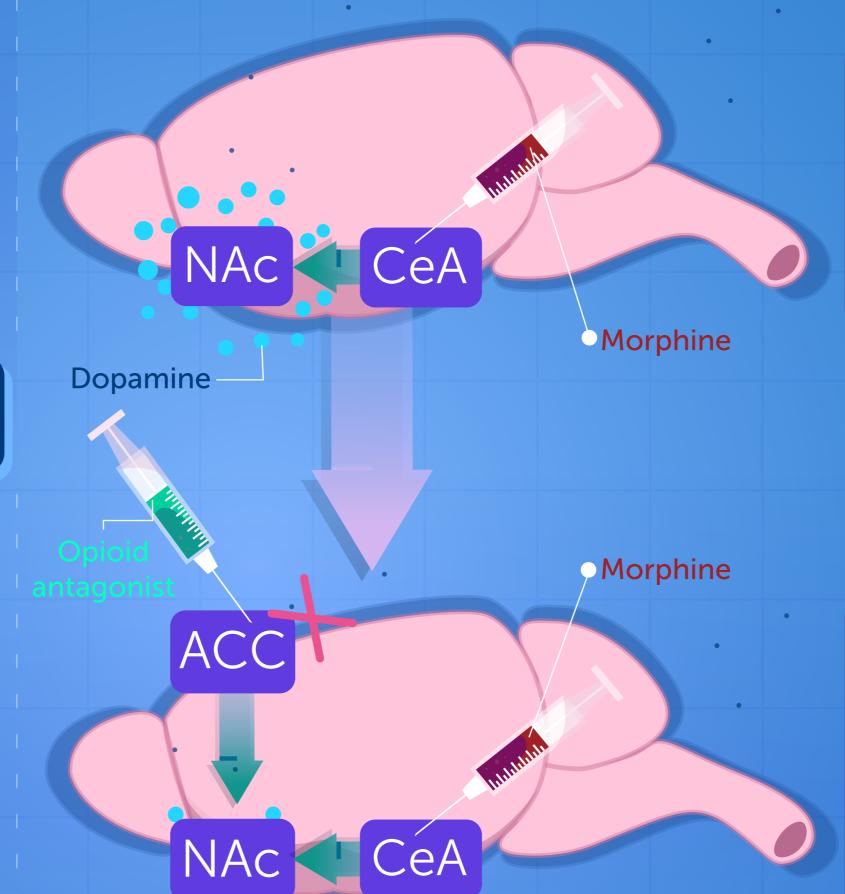
How does activation of opioid receptors in the amygdala elicit neuropathic pain relief?

Left spinal nerve litigation (SNL) in male Sprague-Dawley rats to induce neuropathic pain



Morphine into the amygdala

- Measurement of dopamine release in nucleus accumbens (NAc)
- Conditioned place preference (CPP)



Right central amygdala nucleus (CeA) morphine produced CPP and NAc dopamine release

Blocking opioid receptors in rostral anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) abolished NAc dopamine release and CPP from CeA morphine

Modulation of pain by morphine in the amygdala requires opioid signaling in the anterior cingulate cortex

Selective modulation of tonic aversive qualities of neuropathic pain by morphine in the central nucleus of the amygdala requires endogenous opioid signaling in the anterior cingulate cortex

Navratilova *et al.* (2019) | Pain

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