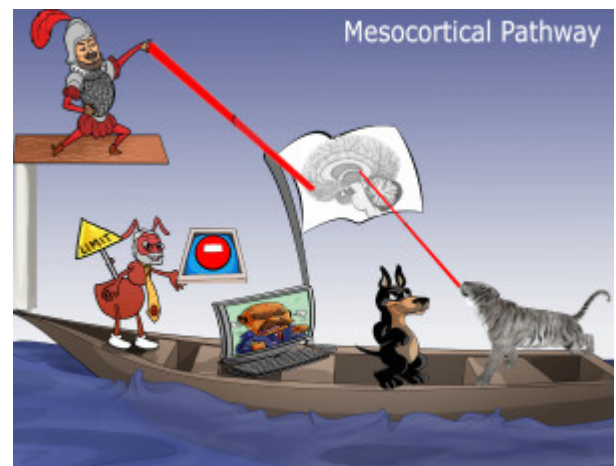


Mesocortical Pathway (Dopaminergic)



PLAY PICMONIC

Dopamine Pathway

[Doberman Pathway](#)

The mesocortical pathway is one of the four dopaminergic pathways involved in the release of dopamine.

Location

Ventral Tegmental Area

[Tiger-metal](#)

The mesocortical pathway begins in the ventral tegmental area (VTA) of the midbrain and extends to the prefrontal cortex of the frontal lobe.

Prefrontal Cortex

[Cortez-pointing to Prefrontal](#)

The mesocortical pathway begins in the ventral tegmental area (VTA) of the midbrain and extends to the prefrontal cortex of the frontal lobe.

Characteristics

Executive Function

[Executive who can't Function](#)

The mesocortical pathway is known to control the executive functioning of the brain. This functioning can involve planning, cognition, attention, motivation, and emotional response.

Defect

Negative Symptoms

[Negative-sign](#)

An inhibition or defect of the mesocortical pathway leads to the presentation of negative symptoms (e.g., lack of energy, flat affect, anhedonia, apathy) often seen in those with schizophrenia.

Limited Antipsychotic Efficacy

[Ant-tie-psychiatrist with Limit sign](#)

Overall, the mesocortical pathway has limited efficacy in terms of responding to antipsychotics.