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Areas of Investigation with Respect to Reserve and Resilience

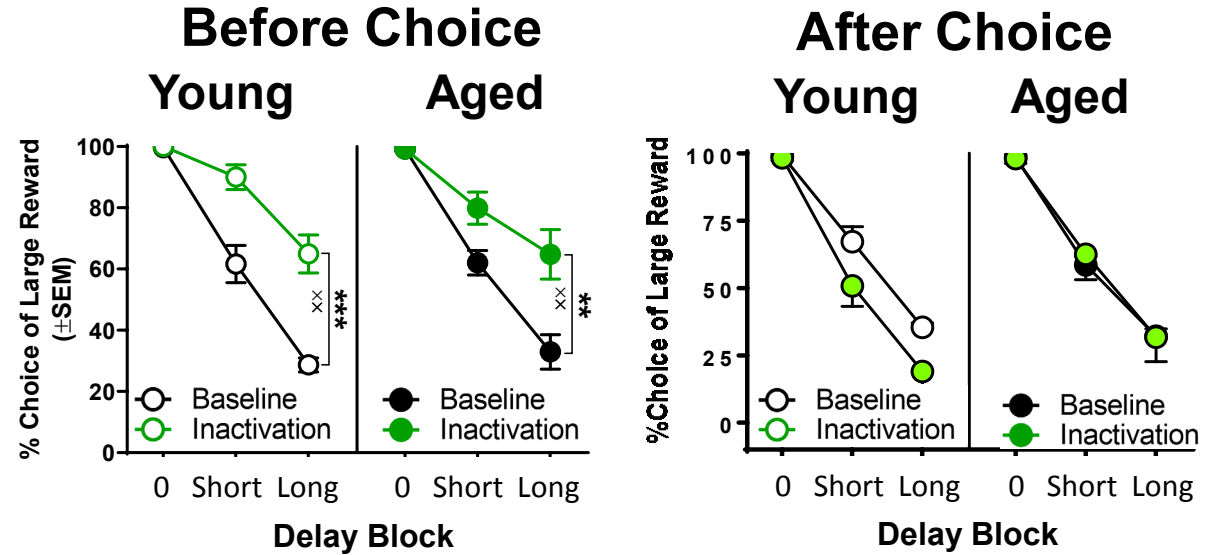
- **Population Studied:** Young adult and aged rats
- **Methods:** in vivo optogenetics
- I use optogenetic methods in order to define temporally specific contributions of distinct brain regions to executive function and decision making in young adult and aged rats

Concepts Used In Research

- **Neural Adaptation** → Age-associated changes in the brain circuits used to perform a given cognitive operation
- **Neuroplasticity** → Neuronal alterations in response to an internal or environmental stimulus

- **Concept:** Neural adaptation
- **Measure:** Behavioral consequences of regional optogenetic inhibition during decision making tasks
- **Operational Definition:** Under conditions in which choice preference is matched, regionally-specific neuronal inactivation has distinct behavioral effects in young and aged rats.

Basolateral Amygdala



Prelimbic Cortex

