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There is growing evidence that impaired sensory-processing significantly contributes to the cognitive deficits found in schizophrenia. For example, the mismatch negativity (MMN) and P3a event-related potentials (ERPs), neurophysiological indices of sensory and cognitive function, are reduced in schizophrenia patients and may be used as biomarkers of the disease. In agreement with glutamatergic theories of schizophrenia, NMDA antagonists, such as ketamine, elicit many symptoms of schizophrenia when administered to normal subjects, including reductions in the MMN and the P3a. We sought to develop a nonhuman primate (NHP) model of schizophrenia based on NMDA-receptor blockade using subanesthetic administration of ketamine. This provided neurophysiological measures of sensory and cognitive function that were directly comparable to those recorded from humans. We first developed methods that allowed recording of ERPs from humans and rhesus macaques and found homologous MMN and P3a ERPs during an auditory oddball paradigm. We then investigated the effect of ketamine on these ERPs in macaques. As found in humans with schizophrenia, as well as in normal subjects given ketamine, we observed a significant decrease in amplitude of both ERPs. Our findings suggest the potential of a pharmacologically induced model of schizophrenia in NHPs that can pave the way for EEG-guided investigations into cellular mechanisms and therapies. Furthermore, given the established link between these ERPs, the glutamatergic system, and deficits in other neuropsychiatric disorders, our model can be used to investigate a wide range of pathologies.

brain | psychiatry | neurology | monkey | medicine

Schizophrenia is a multifaceted disorder that may originate from neuronal pathology in multiple brain systems (1). Current theories suggest that some of the sensory and cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia may, at least partially, result from dysfunction of the glutamate neurotransmitter system (2). In support of this theory, it has been found that acute subanesthetic doses of the *N*-methyl-D-aspartate receptor (NMDAR) antagonist ketamine induces sensory and cognitive deficits akin to those experienced by schizophrenia patients, as well as decreases of the mismatch negativity (MMN) and P3 event-related potential (ERP) amplitudes (3).

The MMN is thought to reflect preattentive detection of a deviant stimulus (4), whereas the P3 is thought to reflect the redirection of attention to that deviant stimulus (5). In an odd-ball paradigm, responses to deviant (or "oddball") stimuli occurring among a sequence of standard stimuli are measured. The MMN is obtained by subtracting the ERP to the standard stimulus from the ERP to the deviant stimulus, whereas the P3a is typically observed in the ERP to deviants.

Schizophrenia patients appear less able to detect and direct attention to novel stimuli than healthy controls (6). Consistent with this behavioral deficit, the amplitudes of both the MMN (7) and the P3 (8) have been found to be reduced in schizophrenia patients, leading to the proposals that reduced MMN is a marker of progressive pathology (7) and that reductions in both MMN and P3a are markers of vulnerability for this disorder (8, 9).

Given the homology of human and rhesus macaque brains (10), the development of a nonhuman primate (NHP) model of schizophrenia holds great potential for understanding the underlying cellular pathophysiologies and for exploring potential treatments. Of particular importance is the development of methods that allow comparison of neurophysiological correlates of sensory and cognitive functions in NHPs and humans. To this end, we developed a noninvasive electroencephalography (EEG) system that uses common recording hardware and analyses for the two species. Our system uses a noninvasive EEG cap in NHPs, with electrode density identical to that used in humans. Our approach allows for the calculation of topographic voltage maps and localization of activity generators in the NHP brain.

To determine the utility of our NHP EEG system, we recorded ERPs from humans (64-electrode array) (Fig. S1A) and NHPs (22-electrode array) (Fig. S1B) during a passive auditory intensity oddball paradigm. For both species, we established that ERPs had timing and topographic distributions consistent with previous reports, and source localization suggested homologous neural generators. Next, we investigated the effect of transient administration of subanesthetic doses of ketamine on these components in NHPs. These experiments revealed transient but selective reductions of MMN and P3a components, which mimicked those previously seen in human subjects similarly treated with NMDAR blockers. Most significantly, they also mimicked the chronic MMN and P3a reductions characteristic of schizophrenia.

Our findings, thus, support the utility of this NHP EEG system, used in conjunction with a ketamine-administration model of schizophrenia, to assay sensory and cognitive deficits. Our approach can, thus, be used to facilitate understanding of neural circuit dysfunctions characteristic of schizophrenia. Additionally, a wealth of previous evidence has shown a significant correlation between behavioral deficits and modulations of the MMN and P3a ERPs in a variety of neurological and neuropsychiatric pathologies (e.g., Alzheimer's disease, dementia, Parkinson disease, affective disorders, and disorders of consciousness, etc.) (7, 11–13). Thus, our approach may also enable exploration, at neuronal and behavioral levels, of therapies targeted at this collection of pathologies.

**PSYCHOLOGICAL AND
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Comparison of MMN in Humans and Monkeys. The MMN is obtained by subtracting the ERP to the standard stimulus from the ERP to the deviant stimulus (see *Materials and Methods*). In humans, the auditory MMN is well documented as a fronto-central negative potential with a latency of 100–250 ms after the onset of stimulus presentation and has sources in auditory cortices and in the inferior frontal gyrus (14). Consistent with

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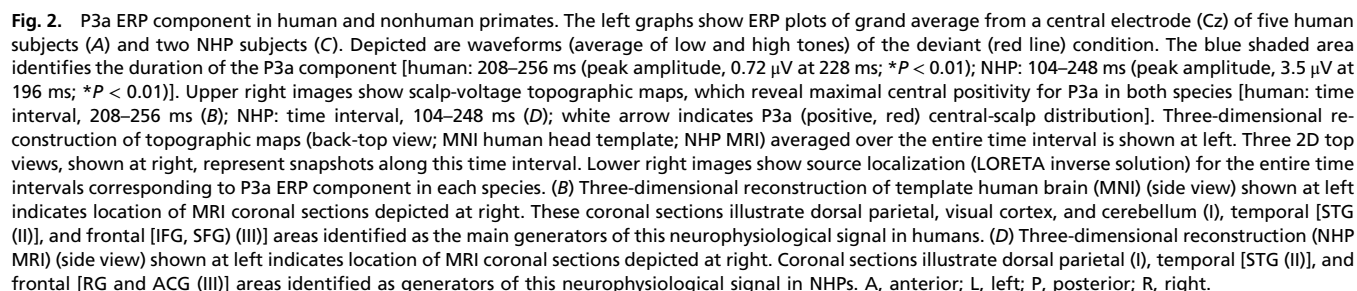
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paradigm under three conditions: (i) acute subanesthetic ketamine injection (1 mg/kg); (ii) saline control injection; and (iii) 5 h postketamine injection [after 5 h, ketamine levels are expected to be very low (18)]. Ketamine (brown line) led to a significant reduction of both MMN (Fig. 3) [ketamine vs. saline; $F(1,290) = 43.98$; $P < 0.001$; additional information is in [Tables S1 and S2](#)] and P3a (Fig. 4) [ketamine vs. saline; $F(1,301) = 27.73$; $P < 0.001$; additional information is in [Tables S3 and S4](#)] amplitudes compared with saline (green line). This reduction is apparent in topographic voltage maps [MMN in Fig. 3A and P3a in Fig. 4A; white arrow indicates MMN (negative, blue) and P3a (positive, red) central-scalp distributions, respectively] and in the waveforms (MMN in Fig. 3B and P3a in Fig. 4B).

It has been reported previously that schizophrenia-like symptoms, such as impairments in task switching (19, 20), disappear relatively rapidly (<1 h) after ketamine administration. As an additional control, we, thus, examined MMN and P3a components 5 h after ketamine injection. The drug effects were no longer significant after this delay (orange line), as shown for the MMN in Fig. 3 and for the P3a in Fig. 4 [MMN ketamine vs. 5 h



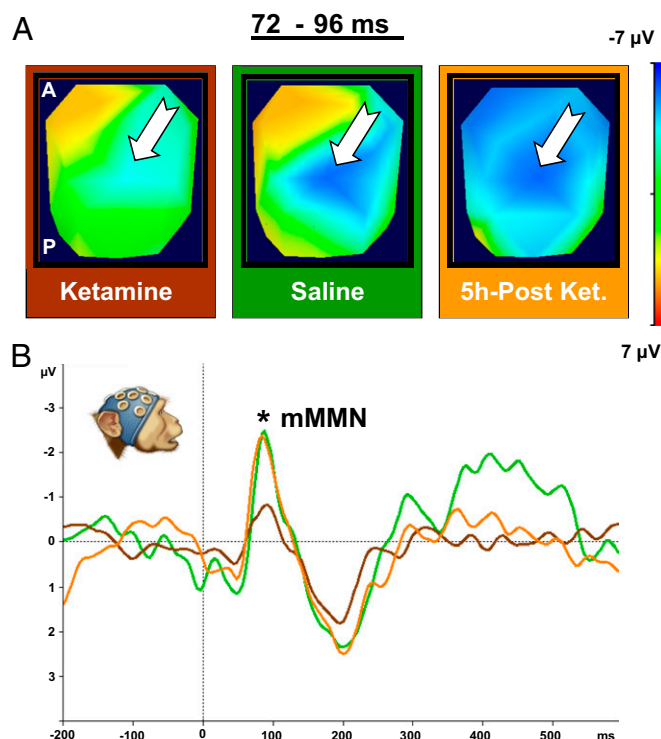


Fig. 3. Acute subanesthetic ketamine effect on the MMN in NHPs. (A) Scalp-voltage topographic maps (2D top view) illustrating MMN effect under three conditions (*Materials and Methods*): ketamine, saline, and 5 h postketamine for the time interval of maximum MMN amplitude (72–96 ms). White arrow indicates MMN (negative, blue) central-scalp distributions. (B) ERP plot of grand average for difference waves (MMN) from a central electrode (Cz) of two NHPs. Data are plotted separately for three conditions: ketamine, brown curve (60–116 ms; peak amplitude, $-0.94 \mu\text{V}$ at 88 ms); saline, green curve (68–136 ms; peak amplitude, $-2.79 \mu\text{V}$ at 84 ms); and 5 h postketamine, orange curve (60–128 ms; peak amplitude, $-2.62 \mu\text{V}$ at 84 ms). Topographic maps and ERP plots reveal marked and highly significant reduction of MMN magnitude under ketamine, relative to saline (ketamine vs. saline: $P < 0.001$). The ketamine effect reversed after 5 h of recovery (ketamine vs. 5 h postketamine: $P < 0.001$). The MMN magnitude for saline does not differ from that seen following ketamine washout (5 h postketamine vs. saline: $P > 0.05$).

postketamine ($F(1,403) = 58.48$; $P < 0.001$); 5 h postketamine vs. saline ($F(1,290) = 0.15$; $P > 0.05$); P3a ketamine vs. 5 h postketamine ($F(1,411) = 44.34$; $P < 0.001$); 5 h postketamine vs. saline ($F(1,301) = 0.06$; $P > 0.05$); additional information is in [Tables S1–S4](#)].

Taken together, our findings demonstrate that the NMDAR antagonist ketamine significantly reduces the amplitude of the MMN and P3a ERP components in the macaque, as monitored by a high-density scalp EEG system. Our results parallel those seen in human ERP studies of the effects of ketamine and, thus, offer a NHP model to investigate potential therapies and cellular mechanisms that underlie deficits seen in schizophrenia patients and in healthy subjects administered ketamine.

Discussion

The Etiology of Schizophrenia: The Dopamine and Glutamate Hypotheses.

Over the past 50 y, a wide range of studies have given rise to two main neurotransmitter hypotheses regarding the pathophysiology of schizophrenia: the dopamine (DA) and glutamate hypotheses. Since the 1970s, the DA hypothesis of schizophrenia has provided the dominant framework for the understanding and treatment of schizophrenia (21). There are, however, numerous limitations to this framework including: (i) limited efficacy of DA antipsychotic drugs (which modulate DA levels) in treatment of

negative symptoms and cognitive deficits (22); (ii) positive symptoms (for which DA antipsychotics are usually efficacious) persist in some cases despite aggressive treatment with DA antipsychotics (23); and (iii) lack of explanatory power for widespread sensory and cognitive deficits (24), including those indexed by disruptions of MMN and P3a (24).

The discovery of glutamate's role in schizophrenia dates to the demonstration that the dissociative anesthetics phencyclidine (PCP) and ketamine can induce psychosis (25). This was followed by discovery of the "PCP receptor" (26) and later by the realization that both PCP and ketamine act by blocking the NMDAR channel (2). Since then, strong correlations between the action of NMDA antagonists and various stereotypical deficits observed in schizophrenia patients, including executive functioning, attention/vigilance, verbal fluency, and visual and verbal working memory (27), have been reported. The glutamate model reformulates how we think about psychosis and suggests a different set of targets for treatment than does the DA model. Whereas the DA model suggests a localized dysfunction reflecting the limited range of dopaminergic projections, glutamate is the main excitatory neurotransmitter of the brain and any dysfunction of that transmitter system would be expected to have widespread effects. This expectation is consistent with the sensory

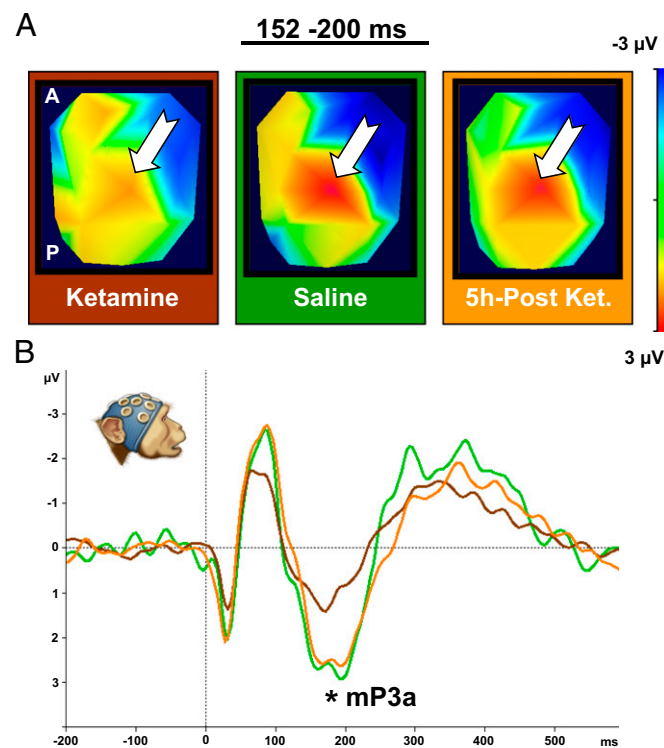


Fig. 4. Acute subanesthetic ketamine effect on the P3a in NHPs. (A) Scalp-voltage topographic maps (2D top view) illustrating P3a component under three conditions: ketamine, saline, and 5 h postketamine for the time interval of maximum P3a amplitude (152–200 ms). The white arrow indicates P3a (positive, red) central-scalp distributions. (B) ERP plot of grand average for deviant condition from a central electrode (Cz) of two NHPs. Data are plotted separately for three conditions: ketamine, brown line (108–232 ms; peak amplitude, $1.55 \mu\text{V}$ at 168 ms); saline, green line (108–244 ms; peak amplitude, $3.04 \mu\text{V}$ at 200 ms); and 5 h postketamine, orange line (120–268 ms; peak amplitude, $2.78 \mu\text{V}$ at 192 ms). Topographic maps and ERP plots reveal marked and highly significant reduction of P3a magnitude under the ketamine, relative to saline (ketamine vs. saline: $P < 0.001$). The ketamine effect reversed after 5 h of recovery (ketamine vs. 5 h postketamine: $P < 0.001$). P3a magnitude for saline does not differ from that seen following ketamine washout (5 h postketamine vs. saline: $P > 0.05$). mP3a indicates monkey P3.

Nonetheless, no single pharmacologic approach can fully mimic the constellation of impairments present in heterogeneous disorders like schizophrenia, because perturbations of one transmitter system necessarily impact other systems (28). For example, it has been argued that the mimicry of schizophrenia symptoms by NMDAR antagonists may be attributable, in part, to secondary DA effects (29). The development of NHP models will aid in elucidating neurotransmitter interactions that underlie schizophrenia-related pathophysiology and development of therapeutics for this devastating disorder.

As noted above, however, neurotransmitter systems do not work in isolation, and it would be surprising if other pharmacological agents did not also impact MMN and P3a ERPs. There is some evidence, for example, that nicotinic agents modulate the MMN (14). The emerging view, however, is that the most important and reliable modulation of the MMN is exerted through NMDARs (3, 30, 31). Furthermore, whereas dopaminergic antipsychotics, such as haloperidol, do not reliably affect the MMN, there is some evidence that they modulate the P300 (32), although this is still controversial (24). It is hoped that the NHP model offered here will help resolve some of these uncertainties.

Other prior studies reveal associations between physiological measures and behavioral deficits: (i) both humans (34) and monkeys exhibit schizophrenia-like deficits on task-switching (19) when treated with ketamine; and (ii) the amplitude reduction of MMN has been correlated with behavioral deficits present in schizophrenia patients (1, 7), and the reduction of both MMN and P3 has been associated with vulnerability for schizophrenia (8, 9). Here, to further explore these relationships and the suitability of the rhesus macaque as an animal model for schizophrenia, we studied the amplitude of MMN and P3a ERP responses in NHPs in relation to the administration of ketamine.

integrate findings made at the systems level in both species, with findings from the cellular level in NHPs.

In the current study, we have used this approach to compare human and NHP ERPs elicited in an auditory oddball paradigm and to examine feasibility of an NHP-ketamine model of schizophrenia. We found ERP components in NHPs that appear homologous to those found in humans. Moreover, the distributed neural architecture for MMN and P3a identified by source analysis is consistent with a recent report by Takahashi et al. (35) describing the use of an advanced version of LORETA source analysis (eLORETA) in large cohorts of nonpsychiatric subjects and schizophrenia patients.

We next examined the influence of acutely administered ketamine on ERP components in NHPs. We found decreases in the amplitudes of both MMN and P3a components, which are nearly identical to those seen in patients with schizophrenia and in normal volunteers given comparable subanesthetic doses of ketamine. These results are consistent with previous evidence that failures of glutamate neurotransmission underlie many of the symptoms of schizophrenia and that acute ketamine administration provides a good model of prodromal or acute incipient schizophrenia (3). Moreover, our findings support the validity of an NHP-ketamine model of schizophrenia.

Our results extend previous findings in several ways. Because our EEG NHP methods are the same as those used in our human work, we can directly compare NHP and human findings. These comparisons include dynamics, electrode identity, scalp distributions, and source localization. Moreover, because we use a high-density full-scalp cap, we have no requirement for a priori assumptions about optimal electrode placement, and we can detect unexpected components and source contributions. Our study opens the door to detailed studies of neural mechanisms of cognitive function, such as the predictive-coding model of the MMN (36).

Future directions may include the use of this system in NHPs to monitor pharmacological “treatment,” of ketamine-induced psychotomimesis, allowing for examination of changes in the distribution of electrical activity that accompany treatments and to identify potential sources. These sources can subsequently be targeted in “EEG-guided” investigation of neuronal signals at the cellular level. The same approach may also be extended to explore pathophysiology of other neuropsychiatric disorders.

For additional information, please see [SI Materials and Methods](#).

Subjects. Humans. Five adult male subjects (20–36 y old) were used in this study. All subjects reported being free of neurological and psychiatric disorders and informed consent was obtained. All procedures were conducted in accordance with the Salk Institute Institutional Review Board (IRB).

***Rhesus macaques* (M. mulatta).** Two adult male monkeys (8–9 y old) were used in this study. All procedures and animal care were approved by the Salk Institute Animal Care and Use Committee, and the research was carried out in accordance with the US National Institutes of Health *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*.

Stimuli Presentation. We used a passive auditory-intensity oddball paradigm [100-ms (10 ms rise/fall) pure sinusoidal tones (1,500 Hz)] to present tones of different intensities (low, 60 dB; high, 80 dB) to subjects in a sound-insulated, dimly lit room. Frequent ("standard") and infrequent ("deviant") stimuli were presented 80 and 20% of the time, respectively. Interstimulus interval was 700 ms. Twelve-hundred standard and 300 deviant stimuli were presented in each recording session. Both high-deviant (low-standard) and low-deviant (high-standard) conditions were used to allow comparison of responses to identical stimuli (low or high) in different contexts (standard or deviant). Stimulus presentation was controlled by Cogent 2000 (University College London Functional Imaging Laboratory and Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience MATLAB toolbox) using a personal computer. Tones were presented using a Yamaha RX 397 amplifier and a Sony SS-F7000P speaker for NHPs and an Advent AV570 speaker for humans. To minimize movement artifacts, human subjects were asked to maintain central fixation, and NHPs

were trained to maintain central fixation. The fixation target was a red circle (1° in diameter) on a black background presented using a 21-inch Sony GDM-C520 CRT monitor at a 40-cm viewing distance.

EEG Data Collection/Recordings. For both human and NHP subjects, EEG scalp recordings were acquired with the Vision Recorder software (Brain Products) using a BrainAmp MR amplifier (Brain Products). We used a 64-channel EEG cap BrainCap MR (Brain Products) with Ag/AgCl electrodes for human subject data collection and customized 22-channel EEG caps, also with Ag/AgCl electrodes, for NHPs. Collection of NHP EEG data required several additional steps (*SI Materials and Methods*). NHPs were restrained in the chair in a sphinx-like position with head protruding, stabilized, and facing forward.

EEG Data Analysis. EEG data were analyzed using Analyzer 2.0 software (Brain Products). The analysis procedure included preprocessing (rereferencing the datasets, band-pass filtering, down-sampling, segmentation, etc.) before calculating ERPs for each condition. The same analyses were applied for humans and NHPs.

Identification of Human and NHP ERPs. We first identified MMN and P3a components in humans and then searched for homologous components in NHPs before pharmacological manipulation. ERP components were identified using established criteria. MMN was defined as the difference wave obtained by subtracting ERPs for standard from ERPs for deviant stimuli. The P3a was identified and analyzed from deviant stimulus trials. We ascertained the timing, electrode location, voltage scalp distribution, and neural generators for these ERP components. A 40-ms time window was placed around the maximal amplitude in the average ERP waveforms of each species and was used to extract mean amplitude values per subject from single trials. These values were used for statistical analysis [MMN, two-way repeated-measures ANOVA (factor 1, standard vs. deviant; factor 2, high vs. low); P3a, *t* test of response to deviants] (STATISTICA data analysis software, 2007; StatSoft).

Ketamine and Saline Injections. Using the same passive auditory intensity oddball paradigm EEG data were collected from two NHPs under three

physiological conditions: (i) “ketamine” (injection of ketamine; 1 mg/kg); (ii) “saline” (injection of saline solution); and (iii) “5 h postketamine” (injection of ketamine; 1 mg/kg). All injections were i.m. Recording began 12 min after injection for ketamine and saline conditions and 5 h after injection for 5 h postketamine condition. All recording sessions lasted 18 min. NHPs showed no behavioral signs of ketamine effects (i.e., no signs of drowsiness and no differential behavior between ketamine and saline conditions). A 40-ms time window was established around the maximal amplitude in the average ERP (MMN and P3a) waveforms and was used to extract mean amplitude values per subject from single trials. These values were used for statistical analysis [MMN, three-way repeated-measures ANOVA (factor 1, physiological condition; factor 2, standard vs. deviant; factor 3, high vs. low tone); P3a two-way repeated-measures ANOVA (factor 1, physiological conditions; factor 2, high vs. low)] (STATISTICA data analysis software, 2007; StatSoft).

Topographic Voltage Maps and Source Analysis. Topographic voltage-distribution maps for both human and NHP data were calculated in Cartool 3.43 (D. Brunet, Functional Brain Mapping Laboratory, Geneva, Switzerland) using previously acquired electrode-position files for the 64-channel human and 22-channel NHP caps. Estimation of intracranial generators for MMN and P3a was performed using Cartool 3.43 software with LORETA. Neural generators were estimated across two time intervals per species: human (56–188 ms and 208–256 ms) and NHP (48–120 ms and 104–248 ms) corresponding to the MMN and P3a components, respectively.

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