

Hormones and Disgust: A Systematic Review of Gender-Related Differences

Thursday, September 11, 2025 2:10 PM (20 minutes)

Hormones play a crucial role in shaping the sensitivity and intensity of disgust responses, with these effects varying based on sex and other physiological factors. These mechanisms are deeply rooted in evolutionary processes, where disgust serves as a protective function, helping to avoid potential physical or social harm. Literature highlighted that women tend to exhibit higher disgust sensitivity than men. These differences hold across diverse nations, suggesting they are unlikely to be driven only by cultural factors. However, the specific antecedents of these differences remain unclear. A widely shared hypothesis states that sexual hormones are pivotal in this evolutionary path. This review aims to encompass the literature on the relationship between sexual hormones and sensitivity to disgust to shed light on the actual role played by the hormones in this association. Following PRISMA guidelines, a systematic search of Scopus (114 results), PubMed (66 results), Web of Science (94 results), and PsychInfo (62 results) was conducted. Two reviewers will independently screen all studies and evaluate the risk of bias using the Critical Appraisal Skills Programme checklists. Results will be synthesized narratively, with emphasis on the methodological quality of the included studies to ensure a rigorous interpretation of the findings.

If you're submitting a symposium talk, what's the symposium title?

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Session Classification: Lunch and poster 1

Track Classification: Emotions and motivation