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V. APENDICE.

I.

PROCEDIMIENTO DEL EXPERIMENTO: "Efectos conductuales del tratamiento con choque eléctrico previsible o imprevisible en ratas".

Sujetos y material.

Se utilizaron 23 ratas macho Sprague-Dawley (Estabulario de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona) de 355-418 gr al inicio del experimento, mantenidas en condiciones de estabulación similares a las descritas para el resto de experimentos de esta Tesis.

A efectos de administrar las sesiones de choque eléctrico se usaron jaulas de Skinner modificadas, cuyos módulos de control se hallaban conectados al "interface" de un ordenador ZX-Spectrum por el que se administraban los diferentes programas de choque.

Se usó, asimismo, el test de "natación forzada" (18 cm de agua a 25 °C).

Procedimiento.

Los sujetos experimentales fueron divididos al azar en tres grupos: IMPR (n=7); al que se administró una sesión de 40 minutos de choque imprevisible en las patas, siendo aleatoria la duración del choque y de los intervalos de descanso. PR (n=8);

recibió choque de la misma intensidad, pero con duración fija y señalado por una luz que se encendía 5 segundos antes. Asimismo el intervalo entre choques fue fijo y la sesión duró 40 minutos. Los dos grupos anteriores habían recibido, al final de la sesión, idéntica cantidad (en minutos) de choque. CONT (n=8); grupo control que no recibió choque. Se confinó a los animales, individualmente, en la cámara experimental durante 40 minutos.

El procedimiento experimental fue el siguiente:

- Colocación del animal en la jaula de Skinner para recibir el tratamiento al cuál estaban adscritos.

- A las 24 horas de la sesión de choque se administraba el 'pretest' (15 minutos) del modelo de "natación forzada".

- A las 48 horas de la sesión de choque se realizaba el 'test' (5 minutos) de dicho modelo.

II.

PROCEDIMIENTO DEL EXPERIMENTO: "Efecto del tratamiento con diazepam sobre la conducta en el test de 'natación forzada' en ratas".

Sujetos y fármacos.

Se utilizaron 29 ratas Sprague-Dawley (Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona) de 250-300 gr al inicio del experimento, que fueron divididas en los siguientes grupos experimentales (compensados en cuanto al peso corporal): CONT (n=10); cuyos animales recibieron una inyección de carboximetilcelulosa (al 1%) a un volumen de 1 ml/kg. DZ2 (n=9); al que se administró una inyección de diazepam (1 ml/kg; suspendido en carboximetilcelulosa) de 2 mg/kg. DZ4 (n=10); tratado con una inyección de diazepam a 4 mg/kg, preparado de igual modo y a idéntico volumen que el grupo anterior.

Procedimiento.

Los animales fueron todos inyectados intraperitonealmente con el fármaco correspondiente, y, 30 minutos más tarde les fue administrado el pretest (15 minutos) del modelo de "natación forzada" (17 cm de agua; 25 °C), al que siguió 24 horas después el test natatorio de 5 minutos. Entre ambas sesiones natatorias no se realizó tratamiento adicional alguno.

