Invitation

Glucocorticoid levels reflect variation in metabolic rate, not 'stress'



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Seminarraum Botanik (GA building, 2nd entrance, 4th floor)

Abstract

Variation in glucocorticoid hormones (GCs) is often interpreted as reflecting 'stress'. However, GCs induce gluconeogenesis, and we hypothesized therefore that alternatively GC variation can be explained by changes in current and anticipated metabolic rate (MR). Using a novel experimental design, we tested this hypothesis, and complemented this with a meta-analysis. We infer from our findings that GC variation primarily reflects variation in energy expenditure, independent of psychological stress.

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