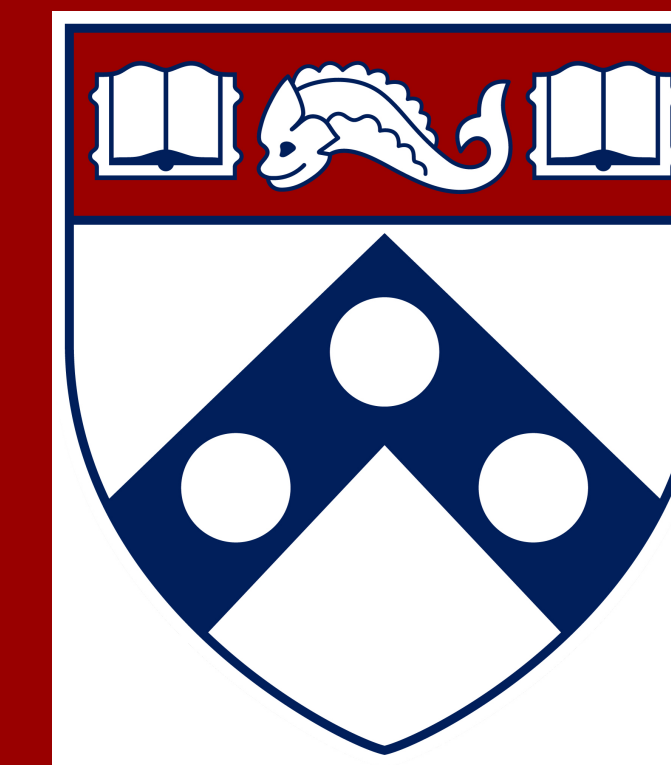


Anhedonia and Confidence

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INTRO

- Anhedonia is the inability to feel pleasure in most activities¹
- Important for cognitive dysfunctions, treatment response, suicidality^{2,3}
- Anhedonia may be related to reward abnormalities⁴
- Polania et al. (2019) found that framework for subjective value also encodes confidence⁵
- However, the link between anhedonia and choice confidence is unclear

GOALS

- To develop an online experimental paradigm designed to examine confidence and consistency of preference (Study 1)
- To test the association between anhedonia and confidence/consistency of preference (Study 2)

STUDY 1

- Methods

- Participants: n = 18 | Mean = 39.5 | SD = 15.847 | Range = 20 – 70 | 50% male, 50% female
- Adapted Leeds Food Preference Questionnaire to increase variability in food preferences and to make it suitable for US sample⁶
- Added trial-by-trial confidence ratings to all 49 foods

STUDY 2

- Methods

- Same as study 1, also introduced a binary choice task and self-reported depression (BDI) and anhedonia (MAP) and second round of preference ratings^{7,8}
- Depression and anhedonia were correlated ($r=0.22$, $p = 0.02$)
- Depression was correlated with reduced consistency of preference ratings ($r=-0.53$, $p < 0.02$)

DISCUSSION

- It is feasible to adapt an existing paradigm for an online experiment and a U.S. sample
- Correlation between MAP/BDI and overall ratings of food

Anhedonic individuals are less confident and consistent in their choices in food.

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