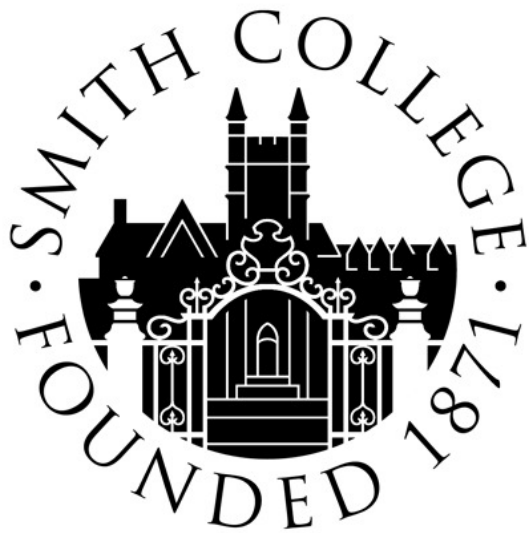


Transcutaneous Vagal Nerve Stimulation and Facial Emotion Processing in Healthy Adults

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About Me



Images courtesy: National Novel Writing Month, Six to Start

Theory of Mind

- Social intelligence
 - “mind reading”
- Distinct from empathy
- Impaired in autism, schizophrenia, ASPD, etc.
- Subclinical impairment in healthy adults?



tVNS: A Breakthrough?

- Noninvasive
- Direct
- Similar to Sham
- Temporary

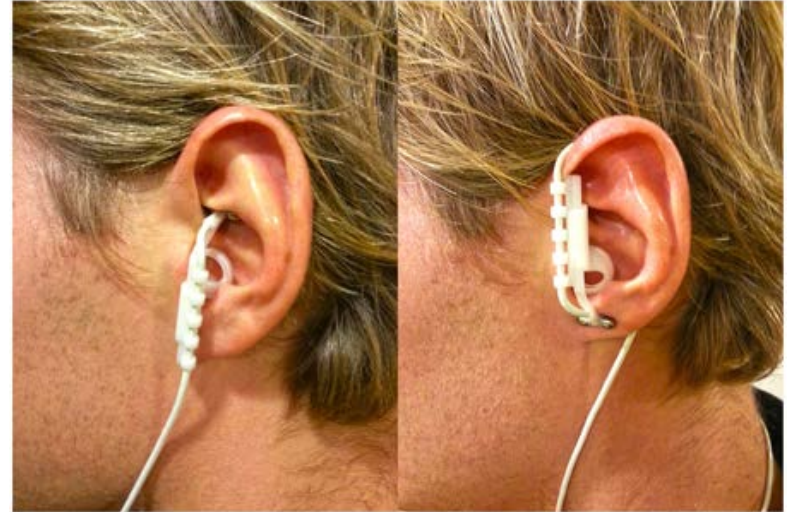


Image source: Van Leusden et.al 2015

- Neuromodulator
 - Norepinephrine
 - GABA
 - Acetylcholine
- Vagal Dysfunction -> Social Deficits
 - Autism

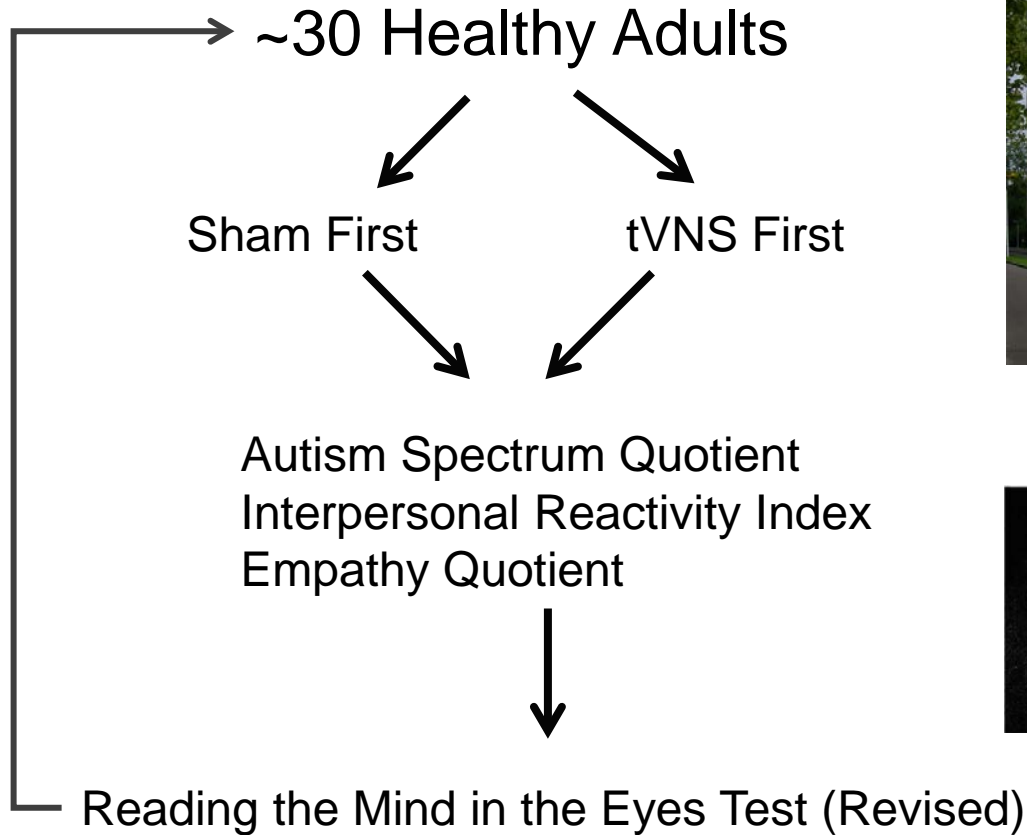


Potential Applications

- Epilepsy – *Confirmed!*
- Major Depression – *Confirmed!*
- Memory Encoding – *Confirmed!*

- Theory of Mind?

Methodology



Current Progress

- Preliminary data collected
- Replication in progress
- Isolating item difficulty effect



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Questions?