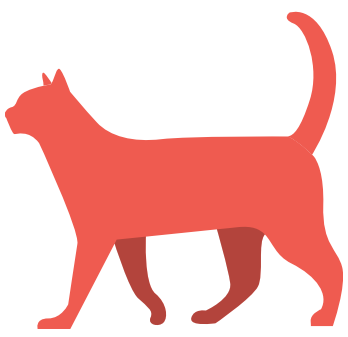


A BRIEF HISTORY OF OXYTOCIN

Oxytocin has garnered significant attention for its potential to treat a number of psychiatric disorders characterised by social functioning problems - but how did we get here?



1955

Biochemist **Vincent du Vigeaunud** wins the Nobel prize in chemistry for the isolation and synthesis of oxytocin



1906

Pharmacologist **Henry Dale** discovers oxytocin when he found that human pituitary extract induced contractions in the uterus of pregnant cats.

1962

U.S. FDA approves oxytocin for the **stimulation of milk ejection**

1965

Oxytocin has a profound effect on **memory and learning** in animals

1979

Virgin rats injected with oxytocin exhibit **maternal behavior**

1987

Oxytocin administration inhibits **drug tolerance** in rats



1992

Oxytocin receptor distribution associated with **social bonding** in the monogamous prairie vole

2003

Oxytocin **reduces repetitive behaviors** in autism

2005

Oxytocin reported to **increase trust** in humans (but later refuted)



2008

Oxytocin improves social behaviors such as **emotion recognition and eye gaze**



2014-2015

Mixed results on the impact of oxytocin on autism

Now

Oxytocin response depends on **context, individual differences & experimental methods**

