

AT&T Yahoo! Mail

Search:

Web Search



Welcome, [olivier.george@sb...](#)  
[[Sign Out](#), [Member Center](#)]

[News Home](#) | [Help](#)

[Home](#) [U.S.](#) [Business](#) [World](#) [Entertainment](#) [Sports](#) [Tech](#) [Politics](#) [Elections](#) [Science](#) [Health](#) [Most Popular](#)

[Health Video](#) [Weight Loss](#) [Sexual Health](#) [Medications/Drugs](#) [Parenting/Kids](#) [Seniors/Aging](#) [Diseases/Conditions](#)

Search:

All News

Search

[Advanced](#)

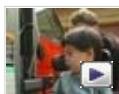
# Rat Study Gets at Root of Nicotine Addiction



## HEALTH VIDEO



**Europeans Healthier Than Americans**  
ABC News



**Insurance Denies Wheelchair Coverage**  
ABC News

[» All news video](#)

## ELSEWHERE ON THE WEB

**ABC News:** [OMG! Doc Opens IM Practice](#)

**CNN.com:** [X-ray colonoscopy may be more available soon](#)

**Time.com:** [Let's Chill About Global Warming](#)

## ADVERTISEMENT

CHECK OUT COMMUNITY SENTIMENT ON THE NEW YAHOO! FINANCE HOME PAGE.

**YAHOO! FINANCE** [Try It Now](#)

## FROM Y! HEALTH



**Health Questions?**  
Find answers on Yahoo! Health:

Search

[» More from Y! Health](#)

**Add headlines to your personalized My Yahoo! page**  
(About My Yahoo! and RSS)

Health - HealthDay

[» More news feeds](#)

## NEWS ALERTS

Wed Oct 3, 7:00 PM ET

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 3 (HealthDay News) -- Research in rats has pinpointed a brain mechanism linked to nicotine dependence and to the anxiety and cravings associated with [nicotine withdrawal](#).

Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif., said the findings may point to better drugs that can help smokers kick the habit.

In rats, chronic nicotine use recruits a major brain stress system -- the extrahypothalamic corticotropin releasing factor (CRF) system. This contributes to continued nicotine use by exacerbating anxiety and craving whenever nicotine is withdrawn, the researchers found.

The CRF system is located in the amygdala, a brain region that plays a major role in the processing of memory and emotional reactions. The CRF system is activated by CRF-1, an essential protein for coping with stressful events.

"These results suggest long-lasting neuroadaptations of the CRF system, possibly through gene regulation, that may help explain why many cigarette smokers relapse even after a long abstinence from smoking," Olivier George, a research associate at Scripps, said in a prepared statement.

The Scripps team also discovered that giving the rats a compound that blocked these receptors eased the rodents' withdrawal symptoms.

"We reduced the need to take nicotine by blocking CRF-1 receptors in the brain," George said. "We were surprised by the compound's dramatic effectiveness. We don't know yet if the same mechanism is involved in humans with tobacco dependence, but it is very promising."

The study was published this week in an advance online issue of the journal [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#).

## More information

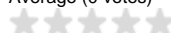
The American Academy of Family Physicians offers tips on how to [quit smoking](#).

[Email Story](#) [IM Story](#) [Printable View](#)

## RECOMMEND THIS STORY

Recommend It:

Average (0 votes)



[» Recommended Stories](#)

## ADVERTISEMENT

[LEARN MORE](#)

about managing your RA today.

[Rheumatoid Arthritis](#)

07A-64S-S874-5

Get an alert when there are new stories about:

- nicotine withdrawal  
 National Academy of Sciences

Add Selected Alerts

» More alerts

## Health News

Obesity a problem in HIV population AP  
 Kids' use of heartburn drugs surges AP  
 Studies endorse 'virtual colonoscopy' AP  
 Child health veto will be election issue AP  
 Medtronic stent expected to be approved AP

## Most Viewed - Health

First Puff Can Turn Kids Into Smokers: Study  
 HealthDay  
 Work stress tied to higher depression risk  
 Reuters  
 Studies endorse 'virtual colonoscopy' AP  
 Anesthesia method offers no pain, big gain  
 Reuters  
 Uganda confirms new outbreak of virus AP

## Health Video

Europeans Healthier Than Americans ABC  
 News - Wed Oct 3, 7:36 PM ET

Insurance Denies Wheelchair Coverage ABC  
 News - Wed Oct 3, 12:06 PM ET

Are Our Bad Habits to Blame for Pricey  
 Health Care ABC News - Wed Oct 3, 12:43 AM ET

Breast Cancer Notebook FOX News - Wed Oct  
 3, 6:02 PM ET

### Sponsored Links

( What's this? )

#### Fed Lowers Interest Rates

\$180,000 Mortgage only \$999/mo. See Rates: No SSN Required - Refi Now.

[www.LowerMyBills.com](http://www.LowerMyBills.com)

#### Refinance and Save \$1,000S

\$150,000 Mortgage for \$483/month. Compare up to 4 free quotes.

[www.pickamortgage.com](http://www.pickamortgage.com)

#### Ugly Credit? Attractive Card

Rebuild credit with our MasterCard. Apply online - instant decisions.

[www.OrchardBank.com](http://www.OrchardBank.com)

Search:

All News

Search

Advanced

Yahoo! - My Yahoo! - Mail

[Home](#) | [U.S](#) | [Business](#) | [World](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Sports](#) | [Tech](#) | [Politics](#) | [Science](#) | [Health](#) | [Travel](#) | [Most Popular](#) | [Odd News](#)  
[Opinion](#)

Copyright © 2007 HealthDay. All rights reserved.

The information contained above is intended for general reference purposes only. It is not a substitute for professional medical advice or a medical exam. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health professional before starting any new treatment. Medical information changes rapidly and while Yahoo and its content providers make efforts to update the content on the site, some information may be out of date. No health information on Yahoo, including information about herbal therapies and other dietary supplements, is regulated or evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration and therefore the information should not be used to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease without the supervision of a medical doctor.

Copyright © 2007 Yahoo! Inc. All Rights Reserved. [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [Send Feedback](#) | [Help](#)