

Neuroimaging Of Circuit-Specific Protein Synthesis In Human Subjects During Sleep-Dependent Memory Consolidation

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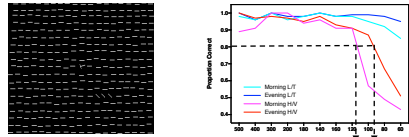
Material has been reviewed by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. There is no objection to its presentation and/or publication. The opinions or assertions contained herein are the private views of the author and are not to be construed as official or as reflecting true views of the Department of the Army or the Department of Defense.

1) Introduction

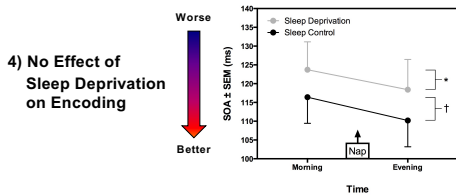
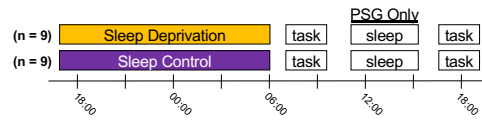
The notion that memory consolidation depends on protein synthesis is based on demonstrations that protein synthesis inhibitors prevent consolidation. We sought to demonstrate directly that protein synthesis is affected during sleep-dependent memory consolidation. We used L-[1-¹⁴C]leucine positron emission tomography (PET) to measure circuit-specific rates of cerebral protein synthesis (rCPS) during a daytime nap opportunity with simultaneous polysomnography (PSG).

2) Texture Discrimination Task

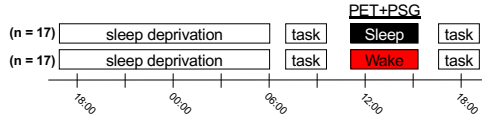
Subjects completed the texture discrimination task before and after the nap opportunity. The retinotopic specificity of this task allows the local state to vary. The trained hemisphere was compared to the contralateral, untrained hemisphere.



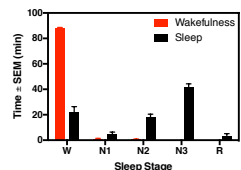
3) Behavior-Only Pilot Study (McWhirter, 2015)



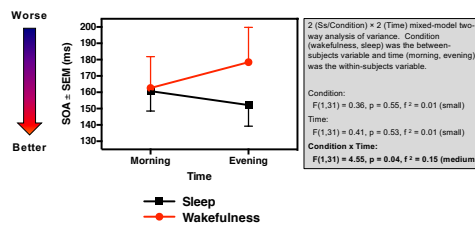
5) Current Study



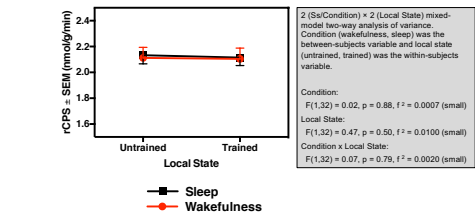
6) Sleep Results



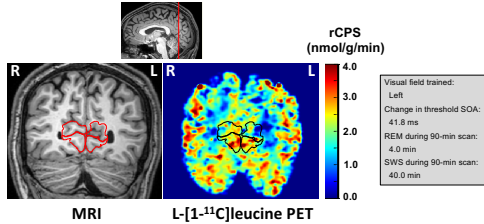
7) Memory



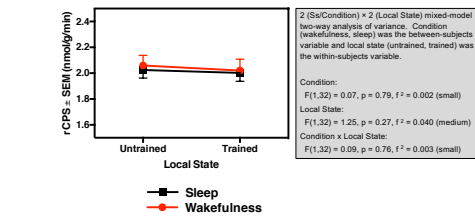
8) Protein Synthesis: Primary Visual Cortex



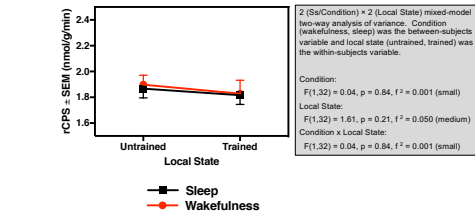
9) Protein Synthesis: Primary Visual Cortex (n = 1)



10) Protein Synthesis: Cuneate Gyrus



11) Protein Synthesis: Cuneate Gyrus (Most-Anterior Third)



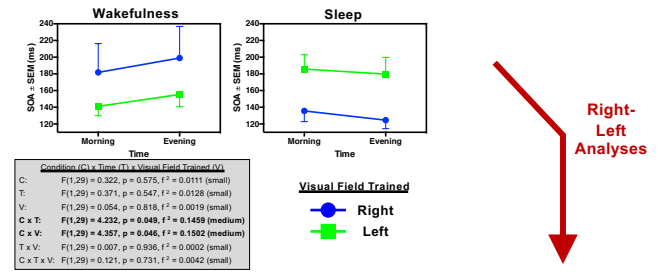
12) Discussion (Planned Analyses)

This may indicate that sleep-dependent memory consolidation depends on processes other than protein synthesis such as synaptic normalization.

It may also indicate that our assumption that the protein synthesis response would take place in the same locale as the known sensory response is not correct. Also, we assume that it is the visual response that is being trained, but it may be selective visual attention, which would have a neural substrate outside the primary visual cortex.

The remaining analyses are exploratory analyses, and thus must be viewed with caution.

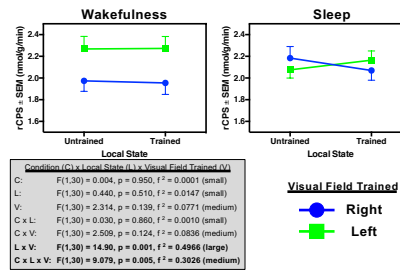
13) Memory



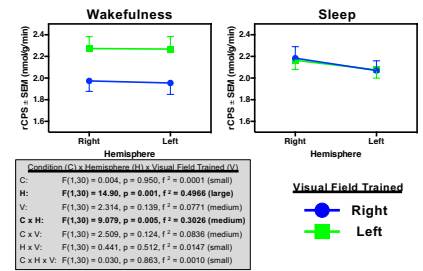
Untrained-Trained Analyses

Right-Left Analyses

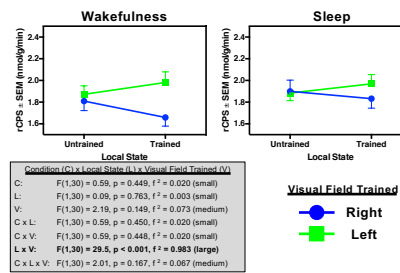
14a) Protein Synthesis: Primary Visual Cortex



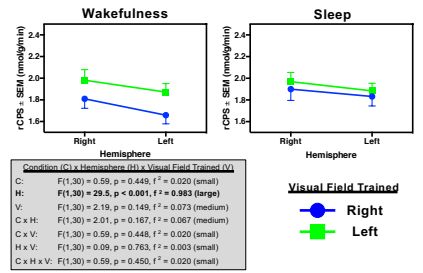
14b) Protein Synthesis: Primary Visual Cortex



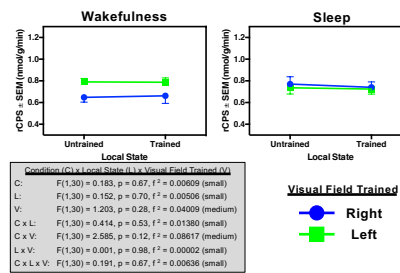
15a) Protein Synthesis: Parietal Cortex



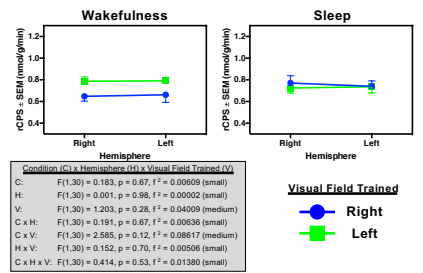
15b) Protein Synthesis: Parietal Cortex



16a) Protein Synthesis: Corona Radiata



16b) Protein Synthesis: Corona Radiata



17a) Discussion (Untrained-Trained Analyses)

This may indicate that each hemisphere has inherent properties requiring either reduced or elevated protein synthesis for memory consolidation to occur during sleep.

17b) Discussion (Right-Left Analyses)

Regardless of visual field trained, sleep after training may lead to higher protein synthesis in the right hemisphere.