

## A Natural Model of Anxiety

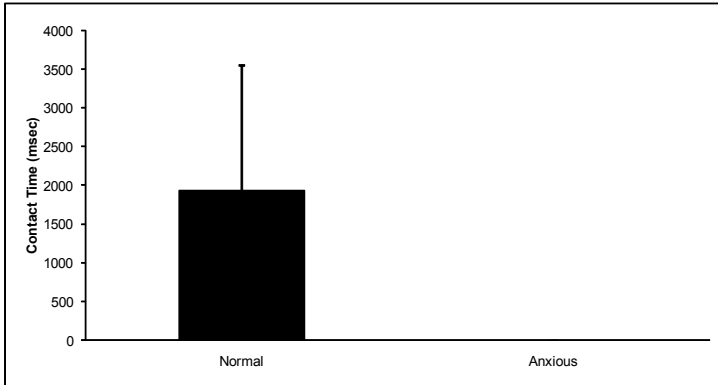


Figure 1. The Friendly Person Test.

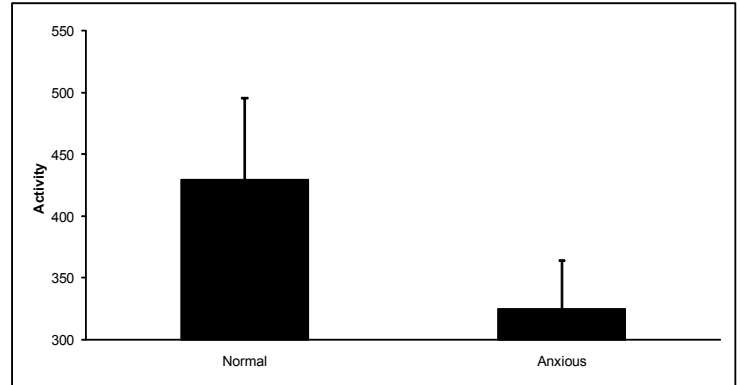


Figure 2. The Open Field Task.

“Anxious Dogs” comprise a subpopulation of beagle dogs that show ambivalence in approaching humans. When compared to non-anxious dogs, anxiety is quantitatively assessed by a decreased approach and interaction with human subjects in a “friendly person test (Figure 1) and a decrease in locomotion in an open field (Figure 2).

## An Induced Anxiety Model

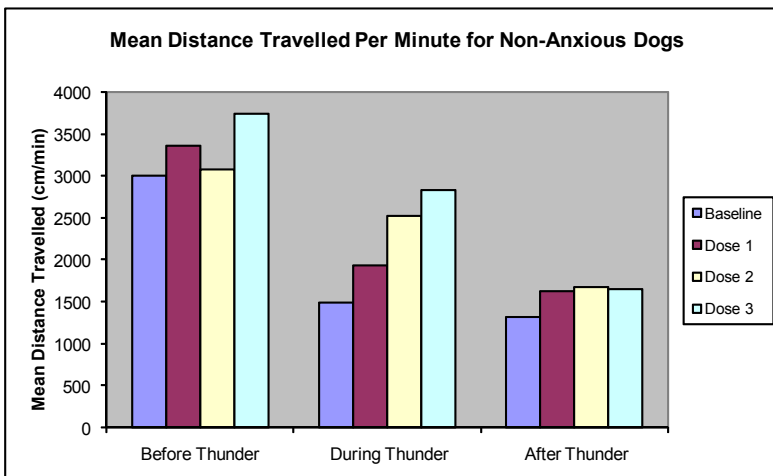


Figure 3. The Thunderstorm Test.

We developed the thunderstorm test as a model of induced anxiety. The animal is placed in an open field and is subjected to an audio recording of a thunderstorm. Anxiety is manifested in a decrease in activity during and following the thunderstorm (Figure 3). The behavioral suppression is partially counteracted by diazepam, an anxiolytic.

Also, 24-hr activity levels can be used to determine if the drug has sedative effects.

## Rodent Tests of Anxiety

- (a) Marble burying in the mouse
- (b) Elevated plus-maze in the rat