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## cognitive psychology news APATHY - (BP : Medical Condition?)

Posted by Rob Wilkens - 2010/02/17 18:17

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have come out of what has been learned from that? IBM said once that there would never be a need for more than 2 or 3 computers in the entire world. Some people still think the space program is a complete waste of time. Pure research is never a waste of time, even if the benefits are not readily apparent. Why don't we want to know more about the world around us, the building blocks of matter, the nature of the universe?

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## cognitive psychology news APATHY - (BP : Medical Condition?)

Posted by Rob Wilkens - 2010/02/17 18:17

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Posted by Robert - 2010/02/17 18:17

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Thanks for posting that, I used to love to read science books. Web Page at: <http://www.robertpo.com>

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## cognitive psychology news APATHY - (BP : Medical Condition?)

Posted by vernon - 2010/02/17 18:17

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The preceding was edited down from references to the thought basis of mental illness to Rob's description of neuronal activity in the brain, which I think is accurate and interesting in the way it was presented. However I would express misgivings about adjusting thought to control mental illness, it seems well proven that chemical intervention works and is necessary in those individuals whose disorder responds to chemotherapy. It is generally acknowledged that meds are a lifetime proposition, because they do not cure the fault but mask or control the most troublesome symptoms, mania expressed as runaway thoughts, can be a serious problem if not under control of someone or something. Vern Rob Wilkens <rob\_Wilk...@hotmail.com wrote in message : : Ok. First : are you familiar with the concept of neural networks? (This is : really computer science, but cognitive psychology and neurology use the same : basic theory): : : I'll summarize the theory here (very oversimplified): : : Every individual idea, thought, word, letter of the alphabet, etc... is : represented by one neuron (and I may use the wrong terminology, if I do : such, I apologize).. : : Thoughts (and reasoning, and everything else) are formed by connecting these : neurons together in a logical manner. : : The process of making those connections between the neurons is called : learning . : : Now, when you think , you may notice that one thought brings up related : thoughts (typically) because of the way the relation is made. (i.e. you may : only recall a fact for the first time when you're thinking about something : related to it, otherwise you had completely forgotten that you knew it). : : Following so far? Ok, good. : : The connections between existing neurons involves axons and dendrites (I : don't remember which is which - one is the transmitter one is the receiver, : and there is a spacial gap known as a synapse between the transmitter and : receiver). : : In

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Brings to mind that long ago question is the world flat or around, it was generally acknowledged by people in high places and low places that the world was flat, and the sun revolved around the earth. Please someone deliver me from ignorance, that is at least curable. Vern Rob Wilkens <rob\_Wilk...@hotmail.com wrote in message : It's also generally accepted that this disease is incurable. A general : acceptance does not say anything about validity. : : - Rob : : vernon <alexh...@pacbell.net wrote in message : : The preceding was edited down from references to the thought basis : of mental illness to Rob's description of neuronal activity in the : brain, : which I think is accurate and interesting in the way it was presented. : However I would express misgivings about adjusting thought to control : mental illness, it seems well proven that chemical intervention works : and is necessary in those individuals whose disorder responds to : chemotherapy. It is generally acknowledged that meds are a lifetime : proposition, because they do not cure the fault but mask or control : the most troublesome symptoms, mania expressed as runaway thoughts, : can be a serious problem if not under control of someone or something. : : Vern : : : Rob Wilkens <rob\_Wilk...@hotmail.com wrote in message : : : : Ok. First : are you familiar with the concept of

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Posted by redspirit67 - 2010/02/17 18:17

free, btw):

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## cognitive psychology news APATHY - (BP : Medical Condition?)

Posted by Rob Wilkens - 2010/02/17 18:17

working. -Rob OK, Rob, this is a very strong declarative statement. Please elucidate how medication is useful in treatment of bipolar mood disorder, if in fact, this is a disease of thought. Ok. First are you familiar with the concept of neural networks? (This is really computer science, but cognitive psychology and neurology use the same basic theory): I'll summarize the theory here (very oversimplified): Every individual idea, thought, word, letter of the alphabet, etc... is represented by one neuron (and I may use the wrong terminology, if I do such, I apologize).. Thoughts (and reasoning, and everything else) are formed by connecting these neurons together in a logical manner. The process of making those connections between the neurons is called learning. Now, when you think, you may notice that one thought brings up related thoughts (typically) because of the way the relation is made. (i.e. you may only recall a fact for the first time when you're thinking about something related to it, otherwise you had completely forgotten that you knew it). Following so far? Ok, good. The connections between existing neurons involves axons and dendrites (I don't remember which is which - one is the transmitter one is the receiver, and there is a spacial gap known as a synapse between the transmitter and receiver). In order for an electrical signal to bridge that gap, it has to cross a certain threshold (or has to be a minimum strength). (In computers, these are all represented with numbers, and when the total 'weight'(strength) of a particular connection exceeds the 'threshold' the gap is bridged and the connection is made - the neuron is said to have fired (like a gun) at that point.) So by now, you should have somewhat of an understanding of what's going on inside the head to make us think as we do (again, oversimplified, but it has a basis in physical reality, and is relevant to your question). What lithium does, as I understand it, is get in the way of those synapses. It interferes with the neurotransmitters (chemicals which are there to assist the transmission between neurons), and slows down the connections by increasing the threshold. This does effectively eliminate the symptoms of mania because

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Posted by Rob Wilkens - 2010/02/17 18:17

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don't put a lot of faith in vaccines. -Rob

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**cognitive psychology news APATHY - (BP : Medical Condition?)**

Posted by Zijlan - 2010/02/17 18:17

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**cognitive psychology news APATHY - (BP : Medical Condition?)**

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the times archives (I paid at least \$2.50 per article, and didn't quote from all of them): A quick search on the times archive (nytimes.com) revealed (and this was not free, btw):

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Before you buy.

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