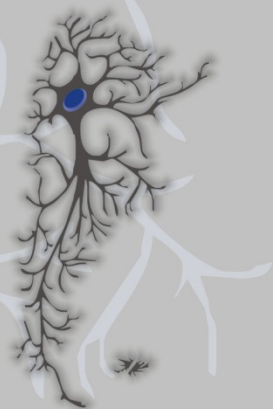


**XXVIII CONGRESO ANUAL DE LA SOCIEDAD ARGENTINA DE
INVESTIGACIÓN EN NEUROCIENCIAS**

&

**Reunión Satélite / Neurobiología del Comportamiento:
“Neuroetología y Neurobiología de la Memoria en el Cono Sur”**

Septiembre 30 - Octubre 4, 2013, Huerta Grande, Córdoba, Argentina.



SAN

**SOCIEDAD ARGENTINA DE
INVESTIGACIÓN EN NEUROCIENCIAS**

XXVIII CONGRESO ANUAL DE LA
SOCIEDAD ARGENTINA DE INVESTIGACION EN NEUROCIENCIAS

&

Reunión satélite sobre Neurobiología del Comportamiento:
“Neuroetología y Neurobiología de la Memoria en el cono sur”
Un homenaje a Héctor Maldonado

PROGRAM

Monday September 30th: SATELLITE DAY 1

09:00: **Registration**

10:30: **Introduction**

11:00: **Symposium on Neurobiology of Memory I - International Society for Neurochemistry Symposium** (Room A)

Chair: Arturo Romano

Jorge Quillfeldt, Dep. de Biofísica, PPG Neurociências ICBS.
Universidade Federal de Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil.

“Exploring the possible physiological roles of memory reconsolidation: reactivation enables updating, precision-keeping and strenghtening”

Arturo Romano, IFIBYNE-CONICET, FCEN-Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

“Enduring memories and the NF-kB-dependent chromatin regulation”

Rafael Pagani, Departamento de Cs Fisiológicas, FMED-Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

“Understanding Learning Disability”

Valeria Della Maggiore, Departamento de Cs Fisiológicas, FMED, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Stoichiometry for Activation of Neuronal $\alpha 7$ Nicotinic Receptors

Natalia Andersen^{1*}, Jeremías Corradi^{1*}, Steven Sine^{2*}, Cecilia Bouzat^{1*}

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Neuronal $\alpha 7$ nicotinic receptors are homopentameric ligand-gated ion channels (LGICs) that participate in cognition, synaptic plasticity and neuroprotection, and have emerged as therapeutic targets for treatment of neurological disorders. $\alpha 7$ often localizes distal to sites of nerve-released ACh, binds ACh with low affinity, and thus elicits its biological response with partial occupancy of its five identical binding sites. We therefore addressed the question of how $\alpha 7$ operates at these physiological conditions. To assess function of $\alpha 7$ when neurotransmitter occupies fewer than five binding sites, we generated $\alpha 7$ receptors with a different number of functional neurotransmitter binding sites. By measuring open-channel lifetime of individual receptors, we found that only one occupied site allows maximal response and that the additional sites allow enhanced agonist sensitivity. In contrast to $\alpha 7$, we found that open-channel lifetime of a receptor formed by the extracellular domain of $\alpha 7$ and the transmembrane region of 5-HT3A ($\alpha 7$ -5HT3A) is dependent on the number of functional binding sites. Our results reveal that: i) the agonist binding domain is not sufficient to determine the relationship between agonist occupancy and open-channel stability and, ii) the distinctive ability of a single occupancy to elicit a full biological response adapts $\alpha 7$ to volume transmission, a prevalent mechanism of ACh-mediated signaling in the nervous system and non-neuronal cells.