

Nociception

Nociception (also nociocception or nociperception, from Latin nocere 'to harm or hurt') is the sensory nervous system's response to certain harmful or potentially harmful stimuli. In nociception, intense chemical (e.g., chili powder in the eyes), mechanical (e.g., cutting, crushing), or thermal (heat and cold) stimulation of sensory nerve cells called nociceptors produces a signal that travels along a chain of nerve fibers via the spinal cord to the brain.

Nociception triggers a variety of physiological and behavioral responses and usually results in a subjective experience of pain in sentient beings.

The analgesic effects after [DBS](#) do not seem to depend on short-duration changes in [cutaneous sensory thresholds](#) in dystonic patients and may be related to changes in the central processing of [nociception](#) ¹⁾.

Cutaneous nociceptive pathway function in [cervical dystonia](#) patients is normal, thereby indicating that [myalgia](#) in cervical [dystonia](#) is not associated with any central sensitization of nociceptive inputs in either painful (dystonic) or non-painful (non-dystonic) body areas ²⁾.

¹⁾

Listik C, Cury RG, da Silva VA, Casagrande SCB, Listik E, Link N, Galhardoni R, Barbosa ER, Teixeira MJ, Ciampi de Andrade D. Abnormal sensory thresholds of dystonic patients are not affected by deep brain stimulation. Eur J Pain. 2021 Mar 19. doi: 10.1002/ejp.1757. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33740316.

²⁾

Tinazzi M, Valeriani M, Squintani G, Corrà F, Recchia S, Defazio G, Berardelli A. Nociceptive pathway function is normal in cervical dystonia: a study using laser-evoked potentials. J Neurol. 2012 Oct;259(10):2060-6. doi: 10.1007/s00415-012-6454-1. Epub 2012 Feb 18. PMID: 22349875.

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