



Symptom reporting behavior among men:

The role of anxiety and testosterone in the dismissal of threatening medical information

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Background	Study 1 Results	Study 1 Discussion
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Some men ignore or remain oblivious to potentially serious medical symptoms -Causes delays in seeking treatment -Attributable to inability to determine seriousness of symptom -Low levels of anxiety have been linked to this behavior -High levels of testosterone have been associated with low levels of anxiety -Allele length on 5-HTTLPR and stress reactivity -Allele length moderates testosterone-threat response relationship -Short alleles increase threat response 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Anxiety predicts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Defensiveness (prevalence of deficiency) -Preparation to act (rise in testosterone, viewing deficiency as serious) -Testosterone predicts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Physiological threat response (rise in cortisol) -Ignoring threat (low chance of having the deficiency) -Independent of test accuracy
Method	Study 2 Results	Study 2 Discussion
<p>Study 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -N: 103 male undergraduates -Anxiety measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -STAI, Manifest Anxiety, BIS -Hormones: Pre- and post-manipulation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Testosterone and Cortisol -Adaption of TAA paradigm (Jemmott, Ditto, & Croyle, 1986) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Diagnosed with fictitious enzyme deficiency -Self-reported reaction to diagnosis <p>Study 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -N: 63 male undergraduates -Anxiety measures, Testosterone, TAA procedure -5-HTTLPR triallelic genotyping -No Cortisol 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Short alleles predict: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Defensiveness (regarding diagnosis and on average) -Concern over diagnosis -Testosterone predicts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Disregarding seriousness of deficiency -Lack of concern, in general <p style="text-align: center;">Conclusion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">High T + L alleles + Low anxiety</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Blunted threat response</p> <p style="text-align: center;">↓</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Delayed treatment seeking</p>