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Beam Crossing

Forked from Beam test

DOI
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We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

Beam test for mice

Beam Crossing

1 Mice are placed at the beginning of an elevated horizontal plexiglass beam bar covered on scotch tape to avoid limb slip (1m length – 2.5cm width- 0.5m elevation). At the beginning of the beam we place a little lamp and at the end of the beam we place a dark box to motivate the animal to go towards the dark side.

2 Mice are allowed to explore the beam bar and receive four assisted trials to cross it a week before the test. This is called the "training period"

3 The week after training, the beam crossing test starts and animals can traverse the entire length of the beam unassisted for three times. Each of the three trials are filmed for later analysis in BORIS software.

4 Clean the beam bar between animals.

Video Analysis

5 For each video, the time it takes the animal to cross the beam is recorded, then the average time of the three trials is taken in BORIS Software (DOI: **10.1111/2041-210X.12584**) for analysis.

6 The limb errors per video are also counted. An error is counted when, during a forward movement, a
limb (forelimb or hindlimb) slips through the beam. The average number of foot slips is then taken.