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Open field test in rats

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

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ASAP (Aligning Science Across Parkinson's)

Abstract

Protocol for performing the open field test in rats. The open field test measures spontaneous locomotion during 5-min free exploration of an open field arena (1m x 1m), and can be used to measure hypolocomotion in animal models of Parkinson's disease. Rats with decreased nigrostriatal dopaminergic neurotransmission show decreased mobility during the open field test.



Test

1h 5m

- 1 Bring cages to the behavioral room for at least  01:00:00 prior to the test for habituation 
- 2 Place rat individually in a clean open field arena (1m x 1m)
- 3 Video tape from above for  00:05:00 and record parameters of spontaneous activity (distance traveled, movement time, immobility) using an activity tracking software. 
- 4 Clean arena with mild soap solution