The Murine "Suggested Immobilization Test"—First Normative Data

Paul Christian Baier

Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Christian-Albrechts University Kiel, Germany

Over the last decades restless legs syndrome (RLS) has been studied thoroughly. Although the underlying pathophysiology of the disorder is still not fully understood, some attractive hypotheses concerning its pathogenesis have been put forward. The recently identified genetic risk factors for the development of RLS have enabled valid and reliable animal models for the disorder to be more attainable. There are four essential diagnostic criteria for RLS, however, it is difficult to measure these criteria and most of the symptoms to be expected in a behavioural animal phenotype are rather unspecific. However, circadian variation of symptoms and the urge to move are observable and should be considered essential to a behavioural animal phenotype of RLS. Here, we established an animal experimental correlate to the suggested immobilization test (SIT), and will present first normative data.