"I can't take my eyes off of your face : the impact of delayed attentional disengagement from threat in the maintenance of social anxiety"

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ABSTRACT

Attention bias modification is a recent procedure that allows examining the causal involvement of attentional bias for threat on the maintenance of anxiety. We examined which attentional bias's features are involved in this phenomenon and how top-down processing modulates it. We have obtained converging evidence that the critical feature of attentional bias for threat in the maintenance of anxiety is the phenomenon of delayed disengagement from threat. Consistent with Cisler and Koster (2010), we have evidenced that difficulty in disengaging from threat may occur independently of facilitated attention because the modification of the former does not impact on the latter one. At a theoretical level, our findings provide support to the hypothesis that attentional bias for threat may be causally involved in the maintenance of the disorder (i.e., Eysenck et al., 2007; Mogg & Bradley, 1998; Williams et al., 1997), and decipher the nature of the attentional bias's feature involved in th...

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I can’t take my eyes off of your face
The impact of delayed attentional disengagement from threat in the maintenance of social anxiety

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