

Neural Correlates of Self-Recognition

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Self-recognition has only been demonstrated by a select number of primate species and is often used as an index of self-awareness. The neural basis of this complex cognitive capacity has only recently been explored. In this talk I will summarize the current literature on self-recognition in various domains, and present my behavioral, functional magnetic resonance imaging, and transcranial magnetic stimulation studies of self-recognition in normal and clinical populations. These and other studies point to a right fronto-parietal network that is critical for discriminating self from other. I will also present models discussing the link between self-recognition capabilities and the mirror-neuron system.

