

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

The Catalepsy Test

The catalepsy test¹ is based on the fact that some rodent species (including mice and rats) when under typical neuroleptic drug effect present an intense muscle stiffness. Thus, when the animals are placed into an unusual posture – e.g. with the front paws sustained on a horizontal bar – they spend more time in this position. This experimental phenomenon has an important usefulness in the screening of the antipsychotic drugs¹.

Species: *Mus musculus* (C57Bl/6)
Number of animals/group: 8-10 animals
Route of administration: upon request
Treatment mode: upon request

Main read-outs: Catalepsy time.

Validation Data

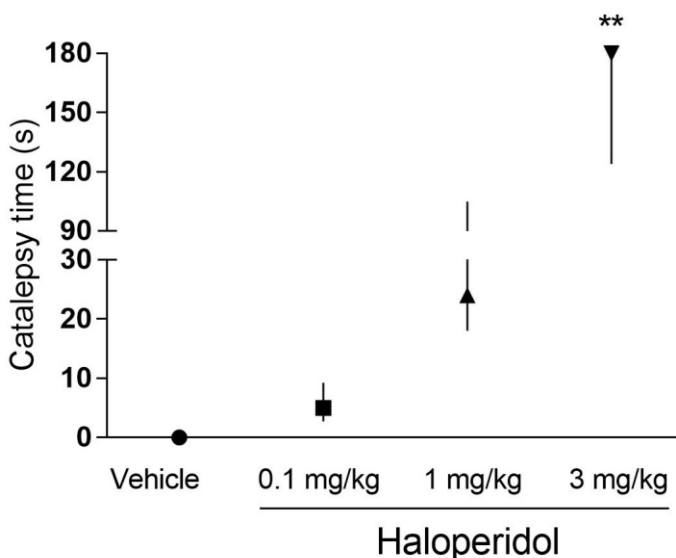


Figure: Effects of haloperidol (0.1 – 3 mg/kg, i.p.) in the Catalepsy test. Haloperidol was used as reference item (positive control). Each column represents the mean ± SEM. Kruskal Wallis test was used for statistical analysis **, P < 0.01, versus vehicle group.

To avoid bias and to allow reproducibility all in vivo experiments follow the ARRIVE guidances². Mouse colony from Charles River Laboratories is bred and maintained in SPF conditions. The project includes study plan and final report. Raw data are inspected by quality assurance unity. The experimental procedures was previously approved by the CIEnP Committee on the Ethical Use of Animals.

References:

- Sanberg PR, Bunsey MD, Giordano M, Norman AB. The catalepsy test: its ups and downs. *Behav. Neurosci.* 1988; 102(5): 748-759.
- Kilkenny C, Browne WJ, Cuthill IC, Emerson M, Altman DG. Animal research: reporting in vivo experiments: The ARRIVE guidelines. *PLoS Biol.* 8 (6): e1000412, 2010.