


# Comments: “Preoperative anxiety induces chronic postoperative pain by activating astrocytes in the anterior cingulate cortex region”

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Dear Editor,

It was with great interest that we read the study by Daming Gu<sup>1</sup> and colleagues in which they demonstrated that anxiety can induce chronic pain by activating astrocytes in the anterior cingulate cortex region. The authors believe that the activation of astrocytes can induce chronic pain. In our opinion, more experiments are necessary to reach any conclusion.

To begin with, the authors should confirm the success of the mouse model of anxiety since no related experiment was performed to evaluate the anxiety model prior to the operation. In order to examine the anxiety model, the authors could use the elevated plus maze and open field tests<sup>2</sup>. Additionally, the operation skill also has great influence on chronic pain, and the authors should address this issue.

There are many risk factors for chronic pain, such as inflammation, which plays an important role

in regulating this type of pain. Thus, we wonder why the authors only focused on the activation of astrocytes. In conclusion, more experiments should be done to exclude the role of corticotropin-releasing factors, inflammation factors, and noradrenalin<sup>3</sup>.

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