

# The Brain-Behavior Connection

*In Children with ADHD*

[https://youtu.be/4z9ZM\\_q14pY](https://youtu.be/4z9ZM_q14pY)

---

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

meet today's expert speaker:

## Joel Nigg, Ph.D.



[Joel Nigg](#), Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist and a professor in the departments of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at OHSU. He directs the OHSU ADHD Research program and is also director of the division of psychology. Author of *What Causes ADHD? Understanding What Goes Wrong and Why*. Dr. Nigg has published nearly 200 peer-reviewed scientific papers related to the neuropsychological, cognitive, and temperamental correlates of child ADHD, to ADHD genetics, and in particular for this talk, to MRI-based research and theoretical interpretations of brain development in ADHD.

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord**®

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

the sponsor of this week's webinar is...

*Fast ForWord*®

**Fast ForWord®:** No more Band-Aids on reading problems. Target memory, attention and processing speed with Fast ForWord®, the original brain-training intervention – the only one proven by research at Stanford, MIT and Harvard. With Fast ForWord® and a remote tutor helping your child every step of the way, you'll see change in as little as two months. For more information visit their website, [www.fastforwordhome.com](http://www.fastforwordhome.com).

*ADDitude webinar sponsors have no role in the selection of expert, the expert's presentation, or any other aspect of the webinar production.*



# OUTLINE

- Neuroscience basics and relevance to ADHD
- Top-down/bottom-up self-regulation of attention, emotion, behavior
- Attention and ADHD brain
- Emotion and ADHD brain
- Individual variation in ADHD
- Summary

© Joel Nigg, 2016

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# HOW DOES THE BRAIN WORK IN CONCEPT?

© Joel Nigg, 2016

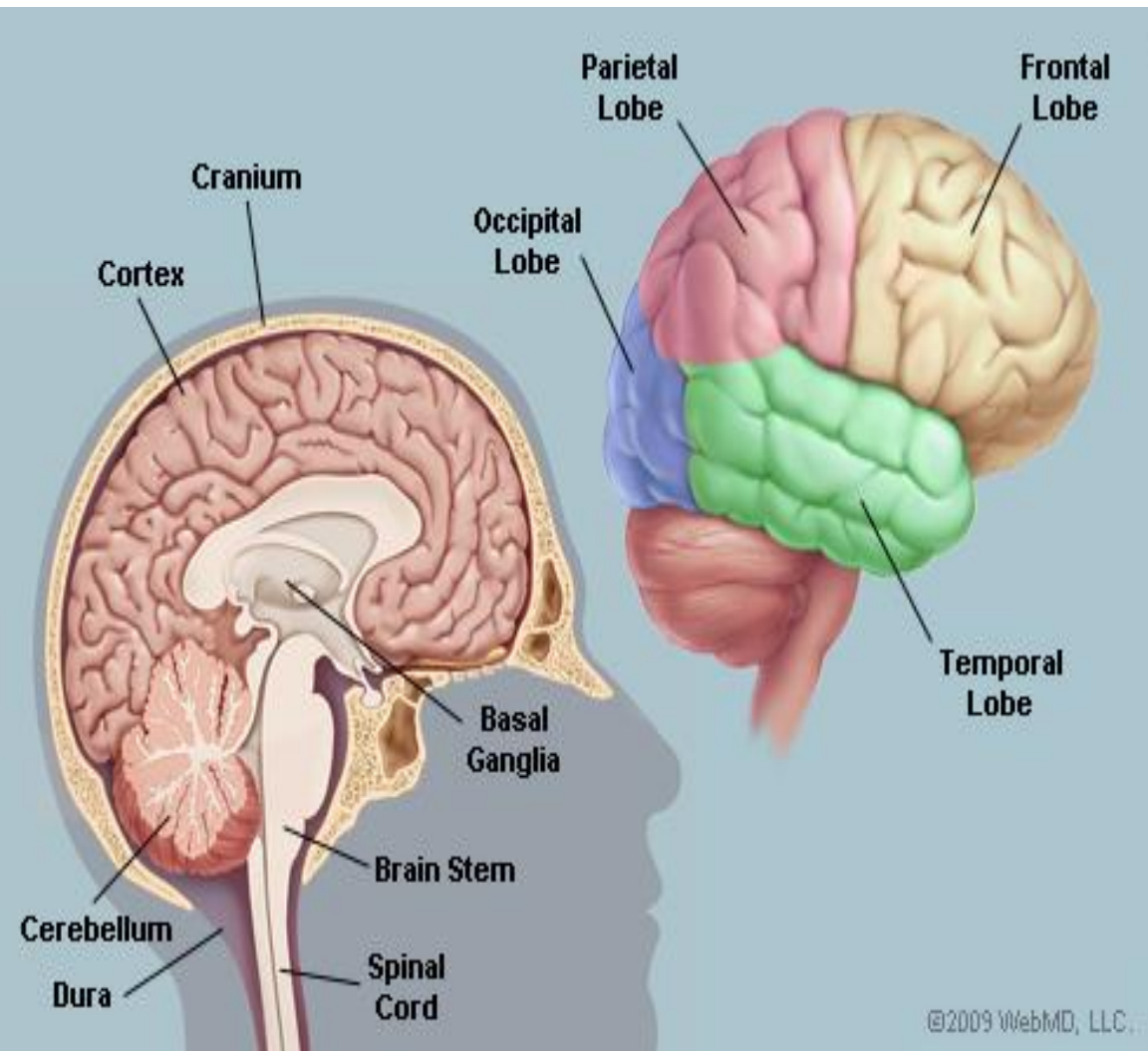
---

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord**<sup>®</sup>

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Orientation: Basic brain map



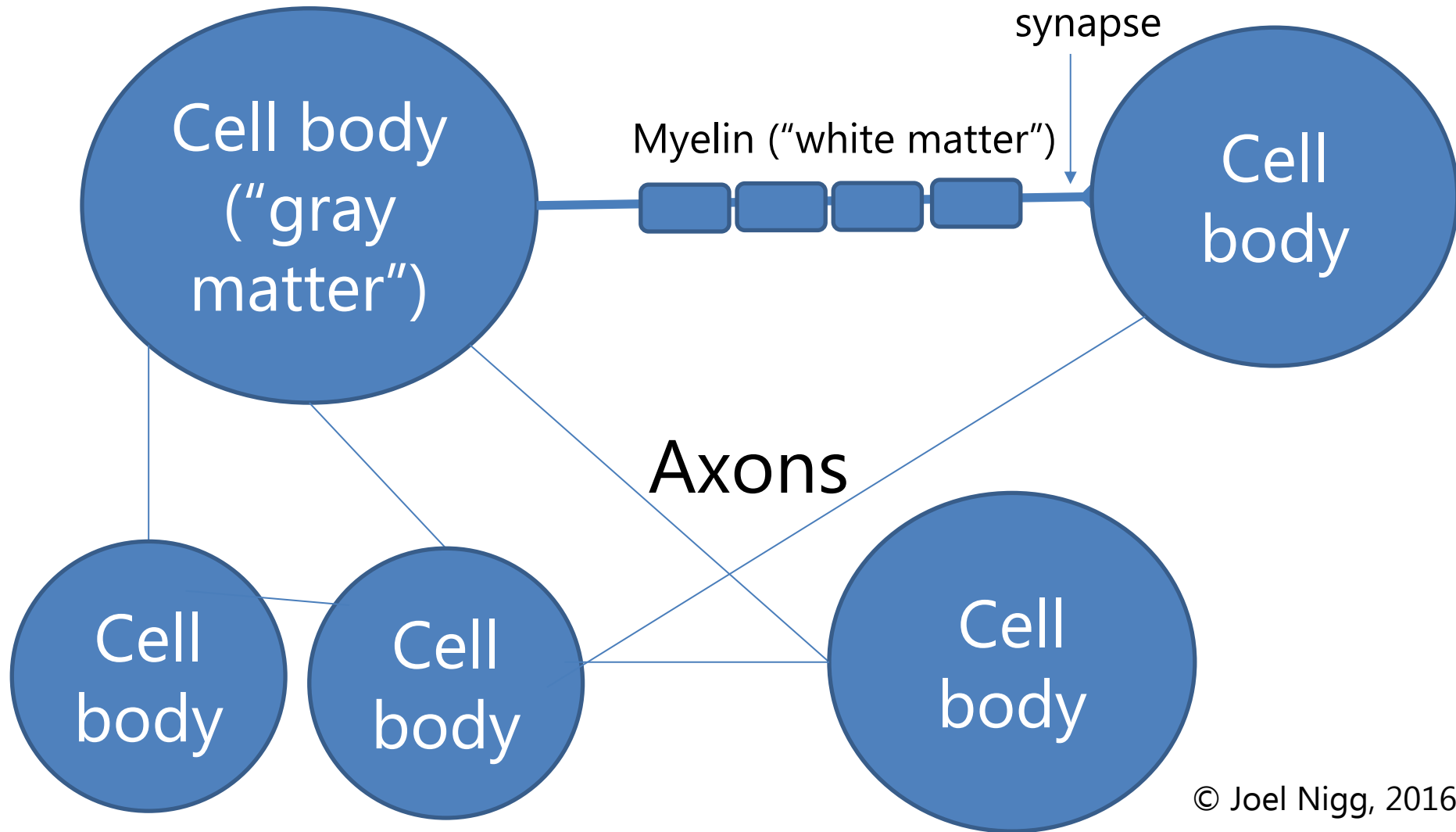
© 2009 WebMD. Accessed  
6/27/2016

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Neuron and Network Concept



© Joel Nigg, 2016

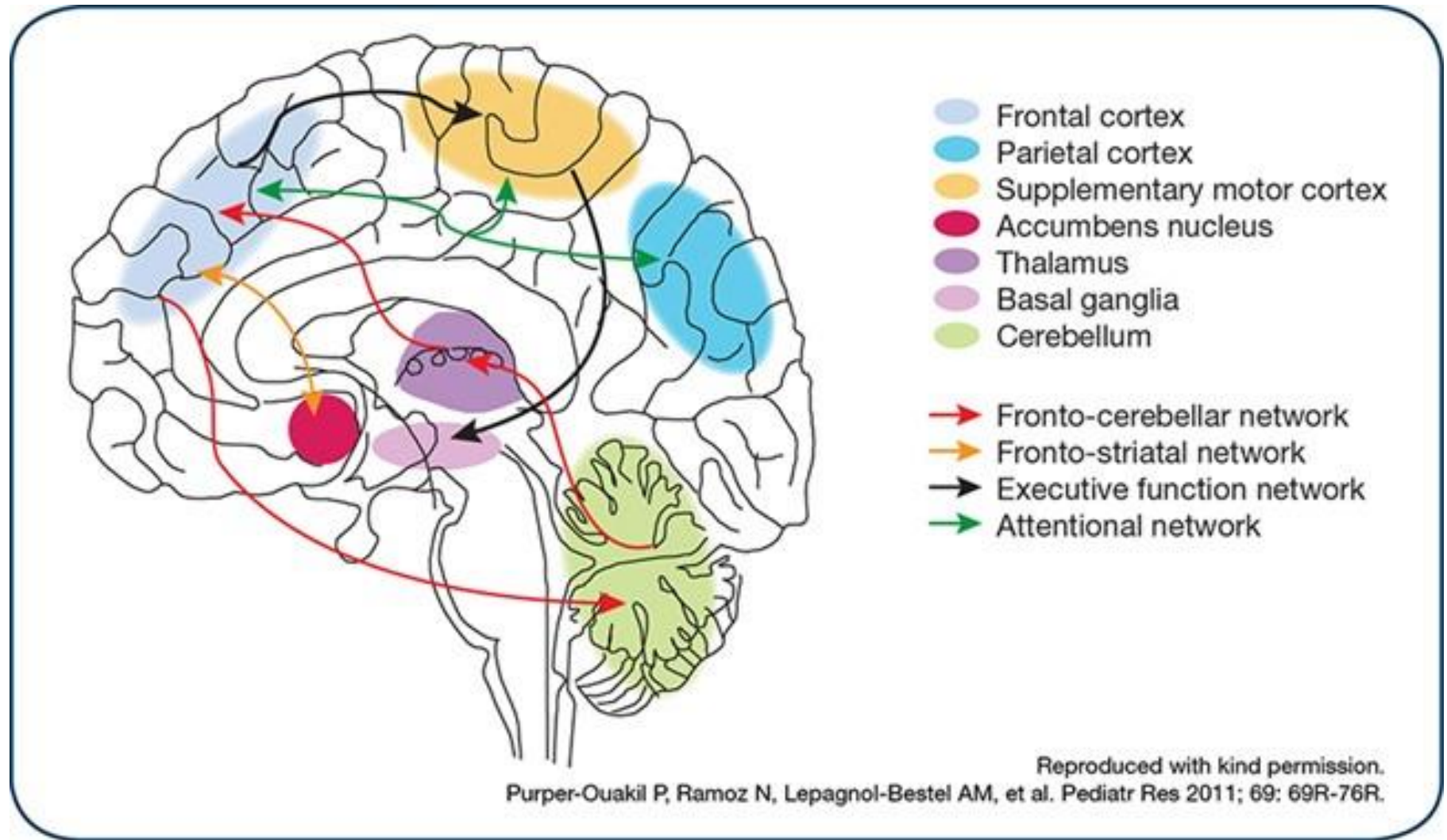
sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



# Critical circuits and networks ADHD Brain



© Pediatric Research

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**

[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



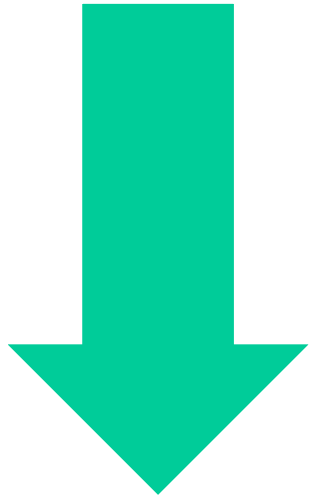
# **HOW DOES IT WORK IN PRACTICE FOR SELF-REGULATION? PRINCIPLE OF TOP- DOWN/BOTTOM UP BALANCING**

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

## "Normative Adjustment"

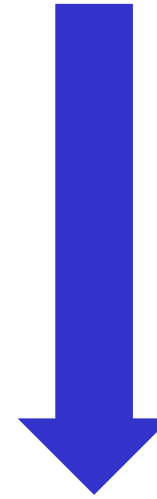


Top  
down  
control



Bottom up  
emotional  
reactivity

## "Schematic ADHD"



Top  
down  
control



Bottom up  
emotional  
reactivity

© Joel Nigg, 2016

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**

[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# **SELF-REGULATION OF ATTENTION AND BEHAVIOR IN ADHD BRAIN**

© Joel Nigg, 2016

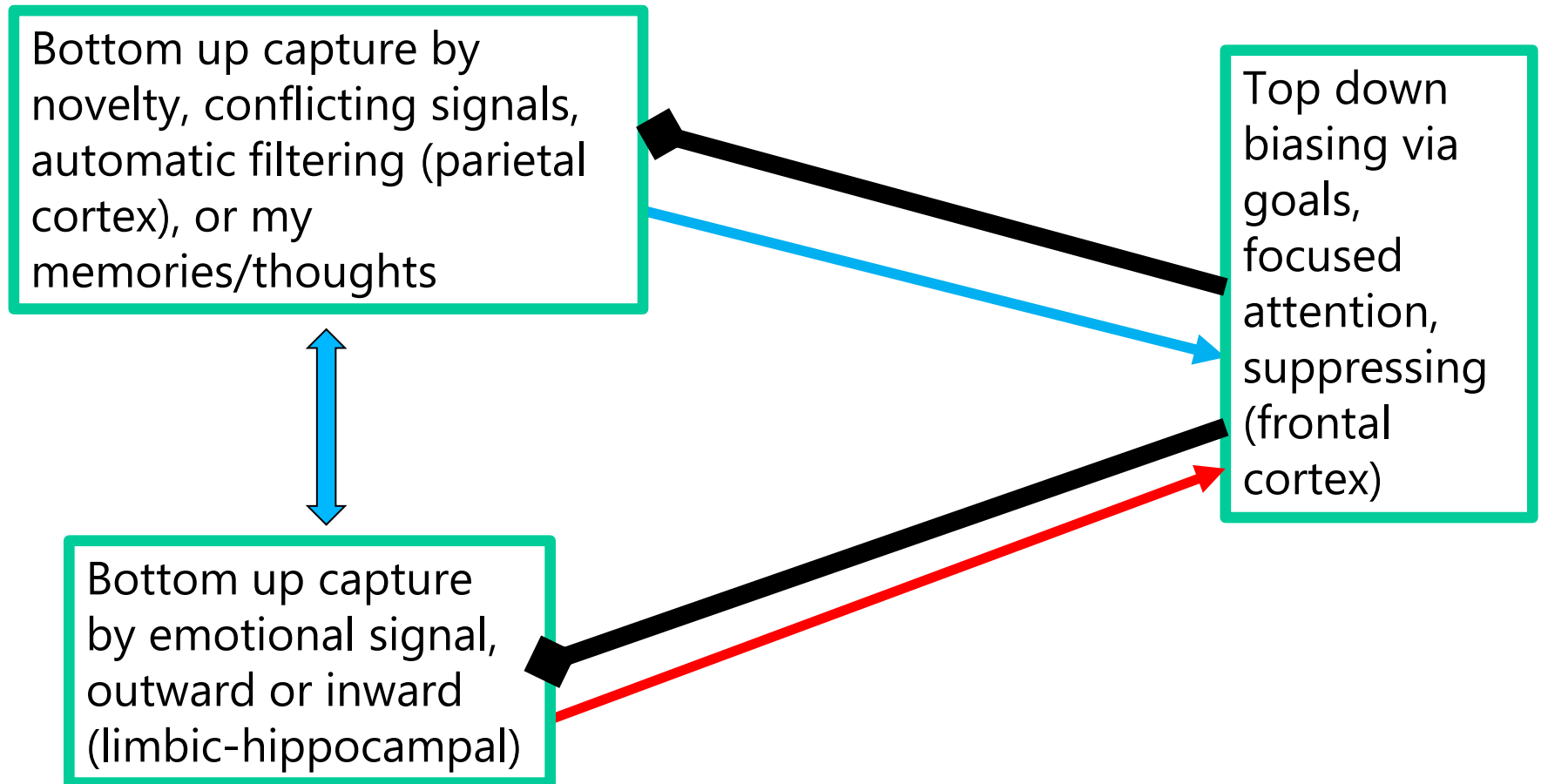
---

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# A model of attentional and behavioral self-regulation in the brain



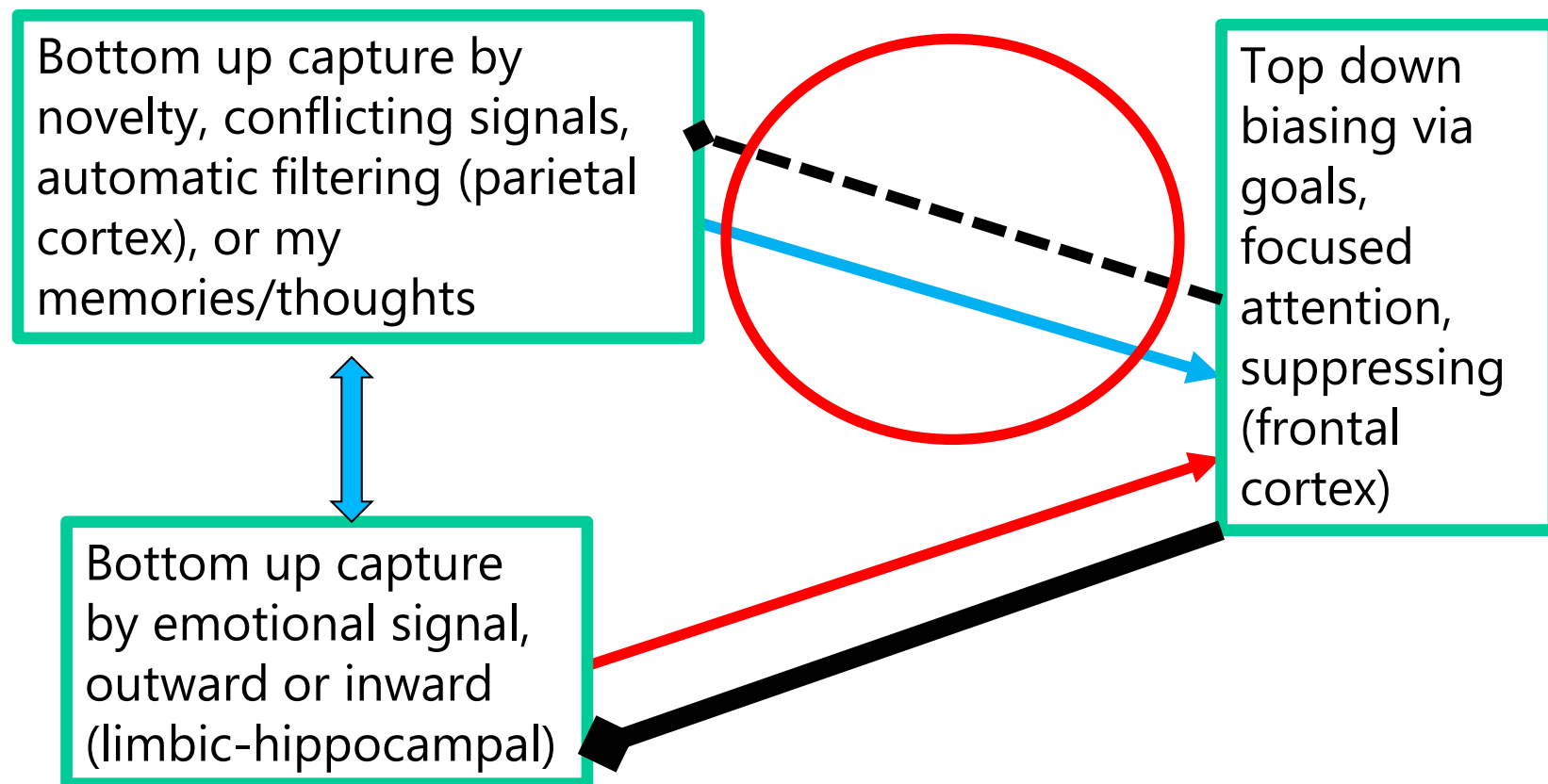
© Joel Nigg, 2016

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# A model of attentional and behavioral self-regulation in the brain: ADHD Model of weakened PFC-default connectivity



© Joel Nigg, 2016

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# HOW DOES SCIENCE SUPPORT THIS MODEL IN ADHD?

© Joel Nigg, 2016

---

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

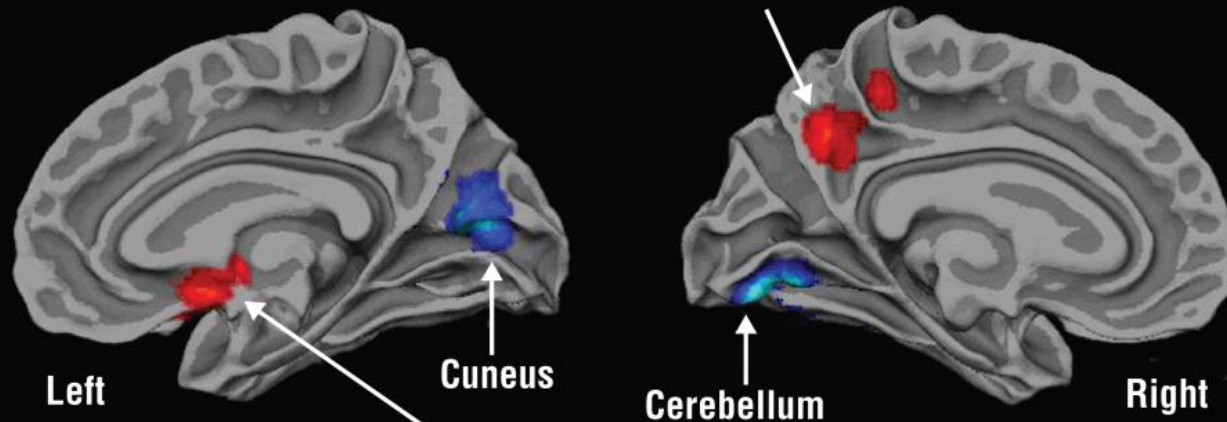
**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



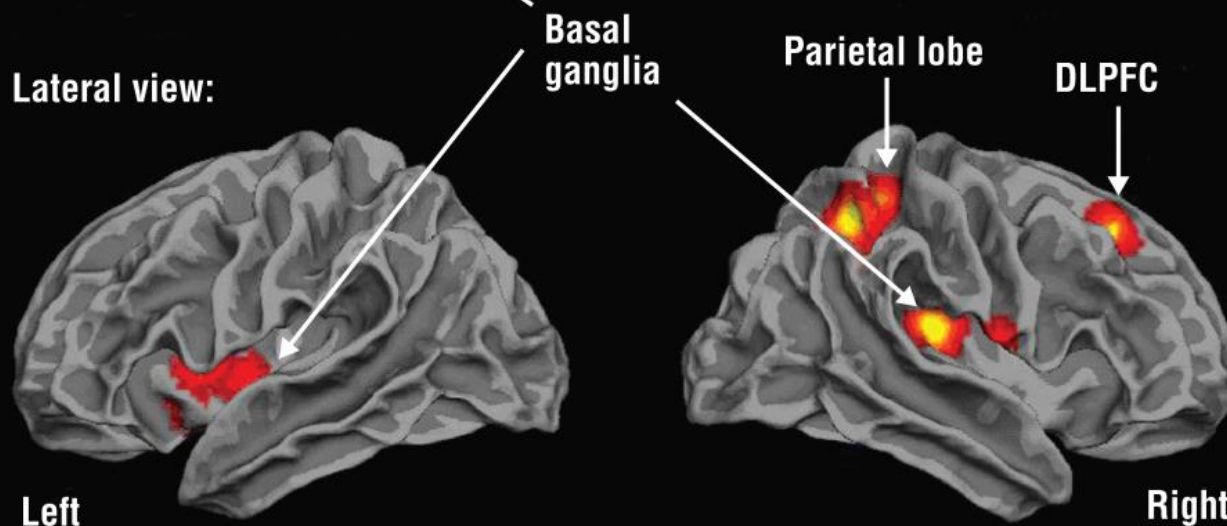
## B Attention

Red: ADHD < CTR

Medial view:



Lateral view:



Altered **task-based activation** in components of frontal-striatal (top-bottom) brain regulation networks during attention tasks in ADHD (pooled meta-analysis results).

 The **JAMA** Network

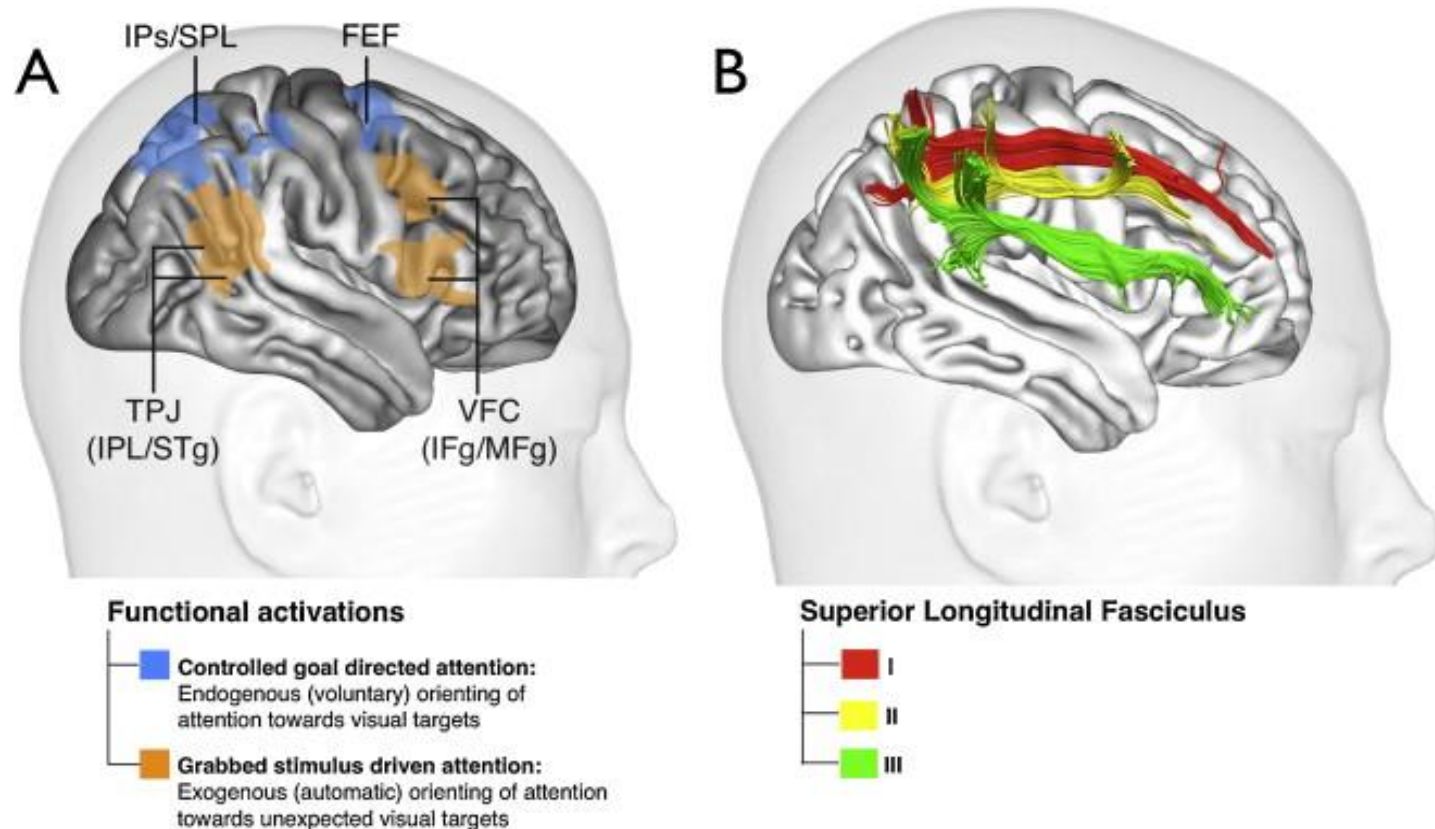
Source: Image is from Hart, Radua, et al. (2013) JAMA Psychiatry, Feb;70(2):185-98 (Fig 1). Copyright JAMA.

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# ADHD: Reduced connectivity in attention networks



(A) Right-hemisphere networks of visuospatial attention, figure adapted by Chica et al from Corbetta and Shulman (2002).

(B) The three branches of the superior longitudinal fasciculus ; adapted by Chica et al from Thiebaut et al 2011.

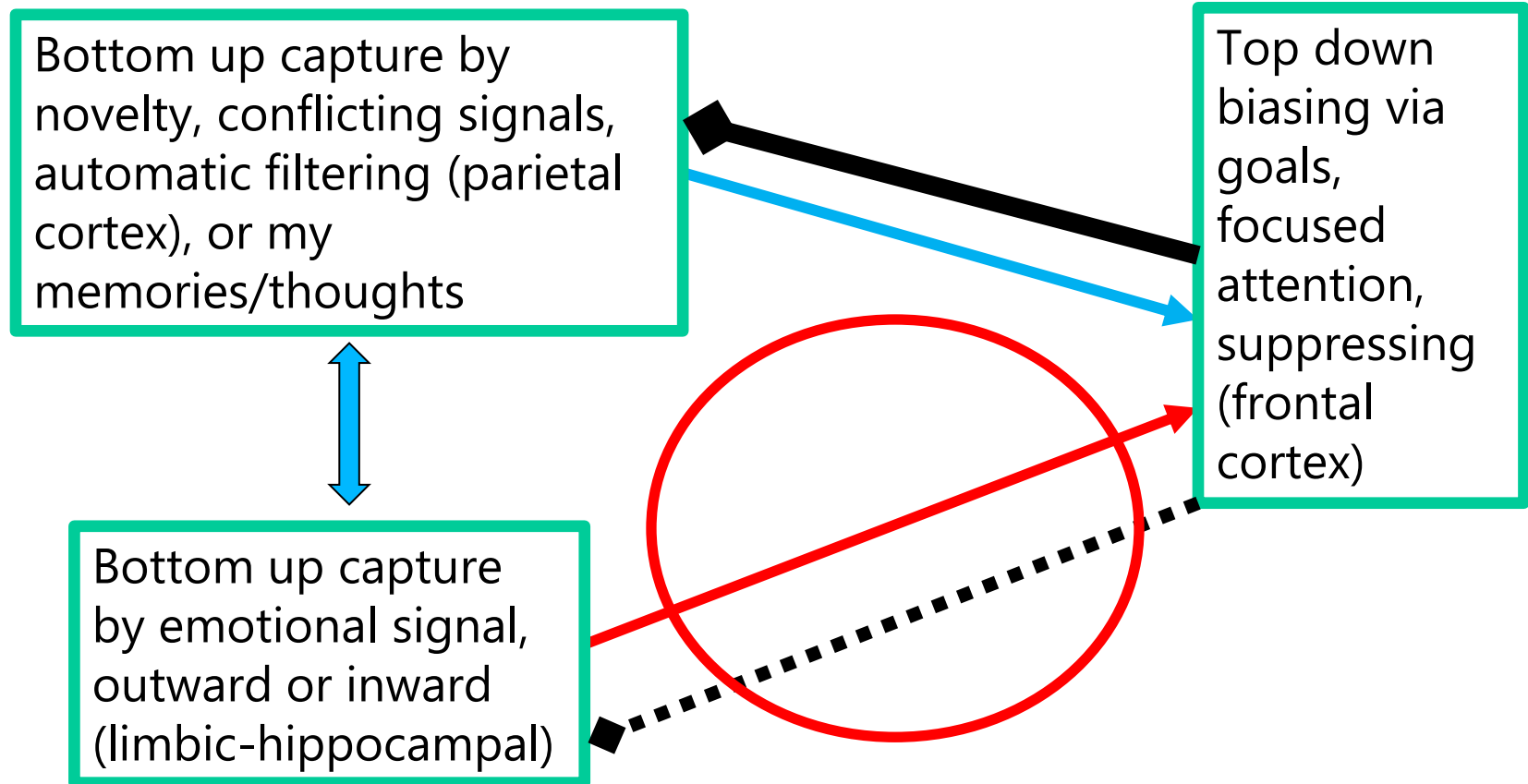
Reprinted from: Chica AB, Bartolomeo, P, Lupiáñez J (2013). Two cognitive and neural systems for endogenous and exogenous spatial attention. *Behavioral Brain Research*, 237, 107-123, Figure 3. Copyright *Behavioral Brain Research*

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# An alternative model of attentional and *impulsivity* self-regulation in the brain: ADHD Model of weakened ACC/insula-amygdala connectivity



© Joel Nigg, 2016

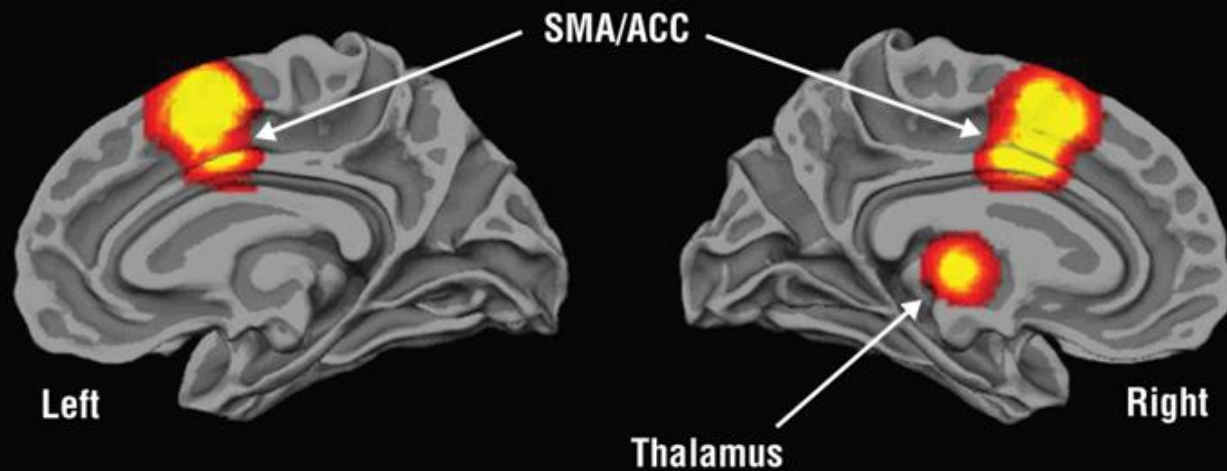
sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

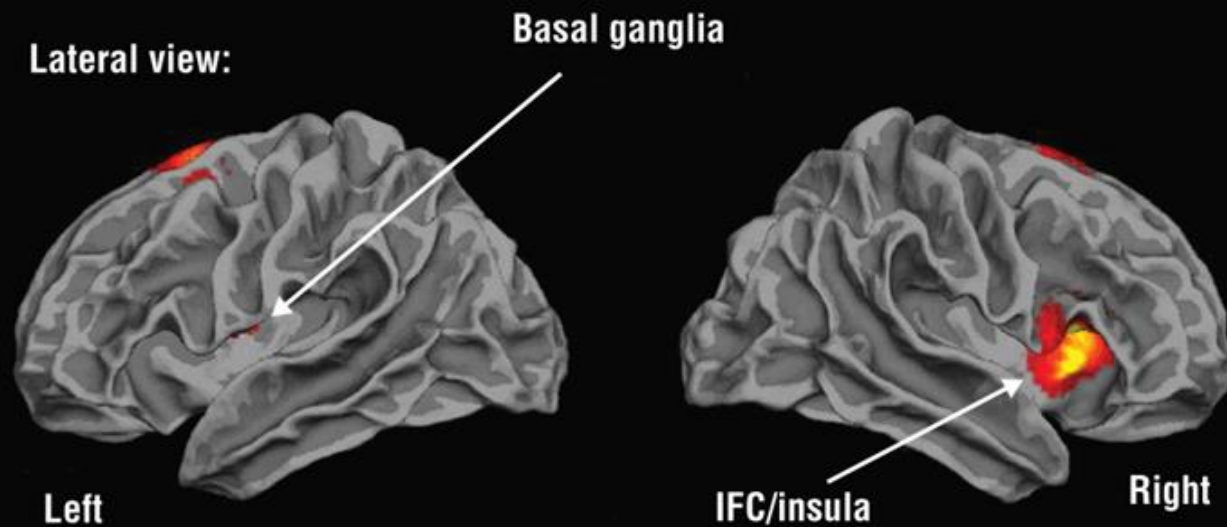
**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

## A Inhibition

Medial view:



Lateral view:



ADHD = reduced **task-based activation** in a response inhibition network during response inhibition tasks. Implies weakened top-down signaling to control impulses. (Meta-analysis results).

 The JAMA Network

Source: Image is from Hart, Radua, et al. (2013) JAMA Psychiatry, Feb;70(2):185-98 (Fig 1). Copyright JAMA.

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# **SELF-REGULATION OF EMOTION AND BEHAVIOR IN ADHD**

© Joel Nigg, 2016

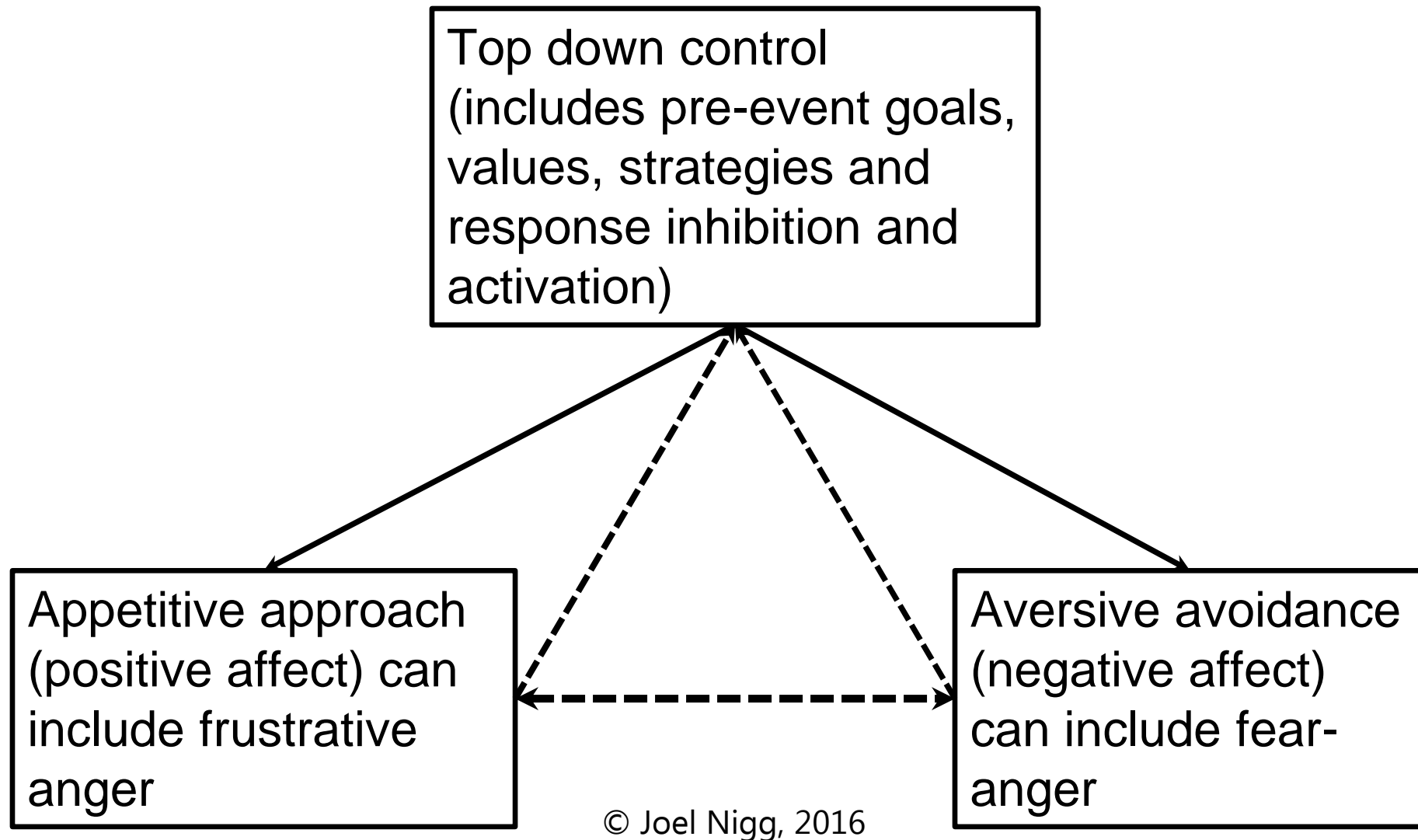
---

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Schematic Brain Self-regulation of emotion-behavior



© Joel Nigg, 2016

sponsored by...

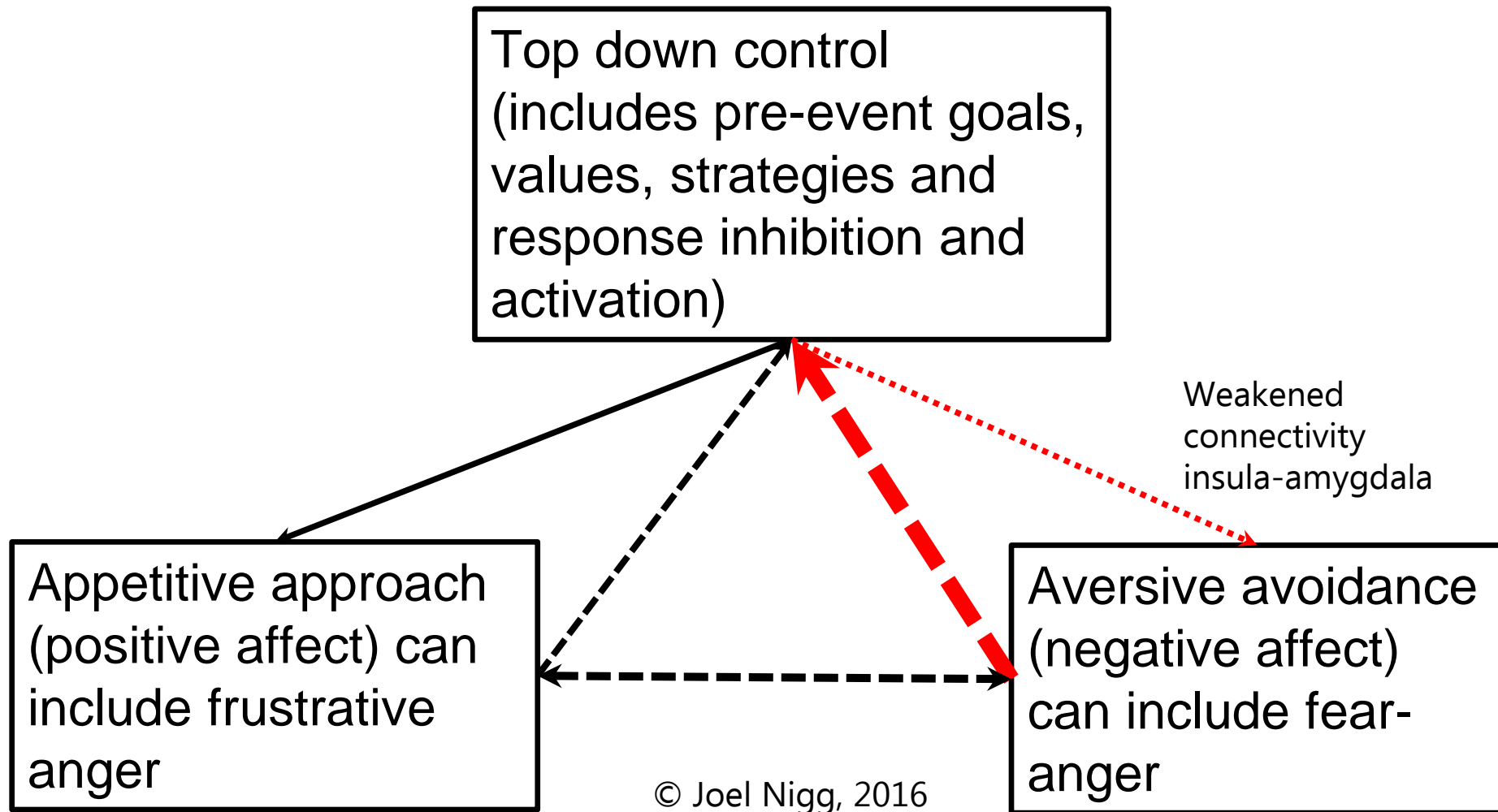
**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**

[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



# Schematic Brain Self-regulation of emotion-behavior- One ADHD model



sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**

[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# HOW DOES SCIENCE SUPPORT THIS ATTENTION EMOTION MODEL IN ADHD?

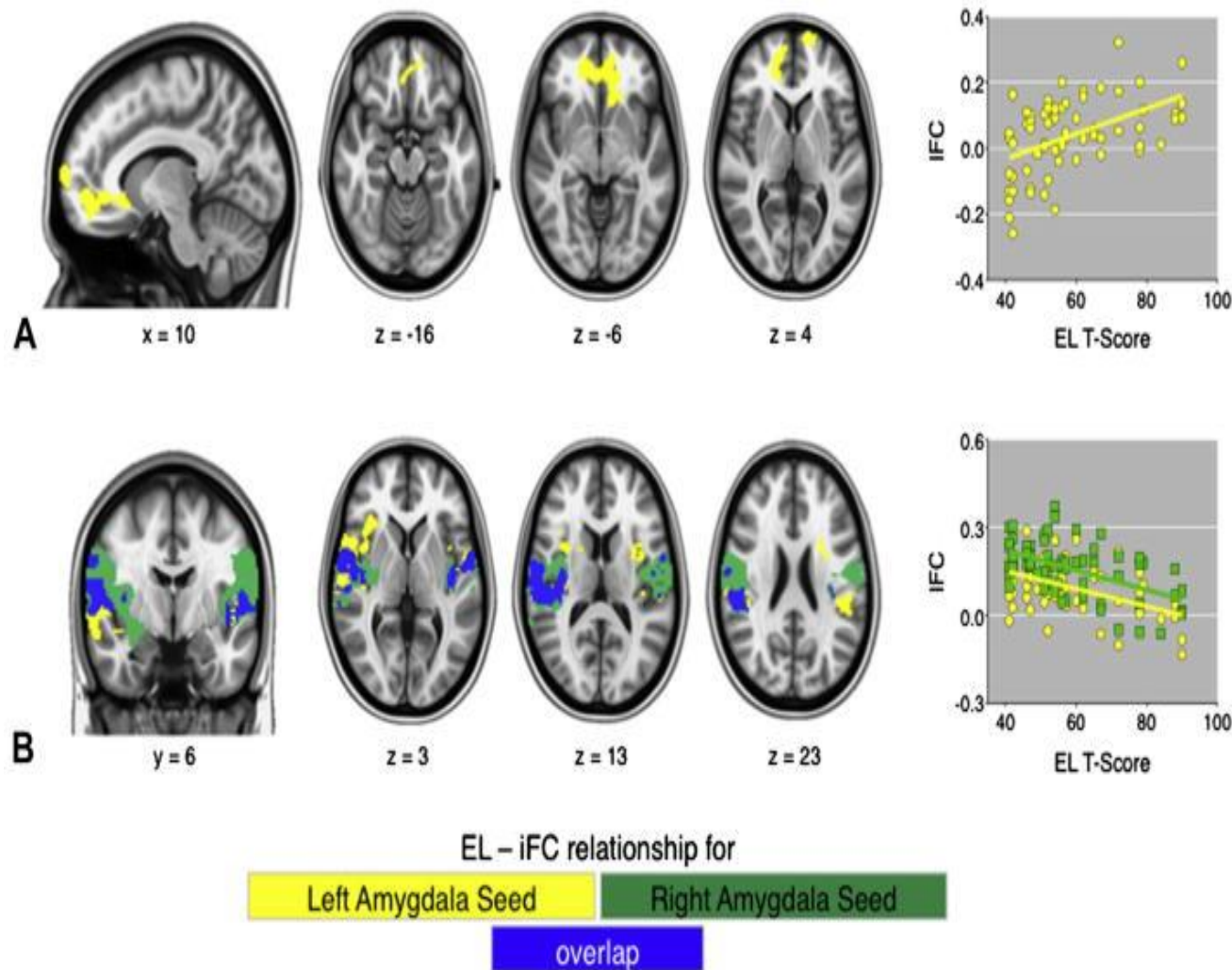
© Joel Nigg, 2016

---

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



Reduced amygdal – insula **functional** connectivity associated with more emotional lability in children with ADHD(n=63)

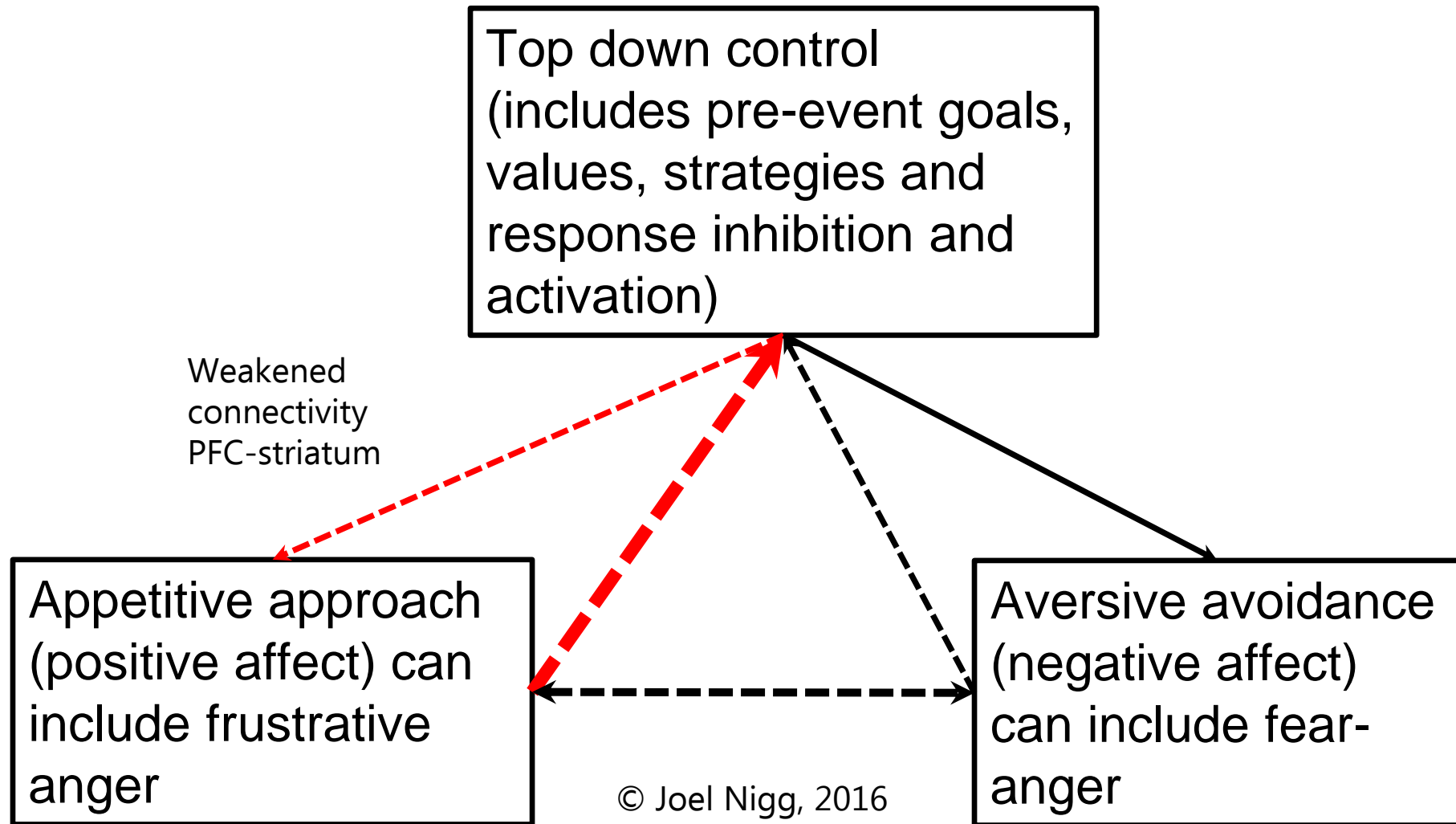
J Am Acad Child Adolesc Psychiatry. 2014 Mar; 53(3): 351–361.e1. Published online 2013 Dec 14. doi: [10.1016/j.jaac.2013.11.012](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaac.2013.11.012)/ © American Academy Child Adolescent Psychiatry

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

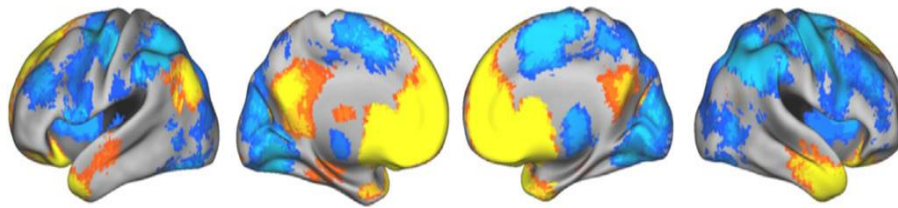
**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Schematic Brain Self-regulation of emotion-behavior-A second ADHD model

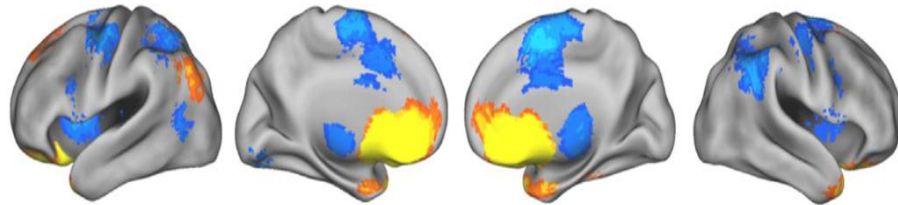


A

All Controls



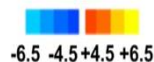
All ADHD



Left

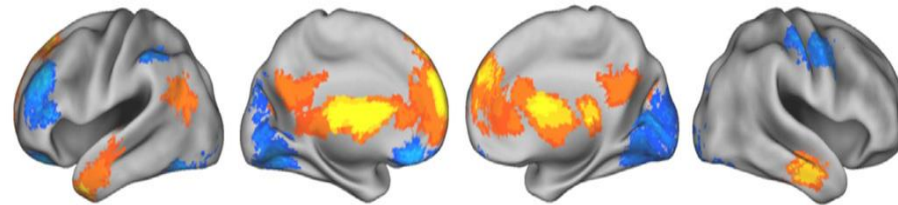
Z

Right



B

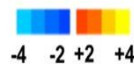
All Controls vs. All ADHD



Left

Z

Right



ADHD &gt; Controls

Controls &gt; ADHD

Altered development of reward circuits in ADHD associated with impulsive reward seeking (n=106). Figure shows reduced **functional** connectivity of nucleus accumbens to key regions of prefrontal cortex and other regions in ADHD

Costa Dias TG, Iyer SP, Carpenter SD, Cary RP, Wilson VB, Mitchell SH, Nigg JT, Fair DA. Dev Cogn Neurosci. 2015 Feb;11:155-74. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2014.12.005.

© Dev Cog Neuroscience, Elsevier Ltd.

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**

[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

**BUT KIDS WITH ADHD ARE  
NOT ALL THE SAME...**

© Joel Nigg, 2016

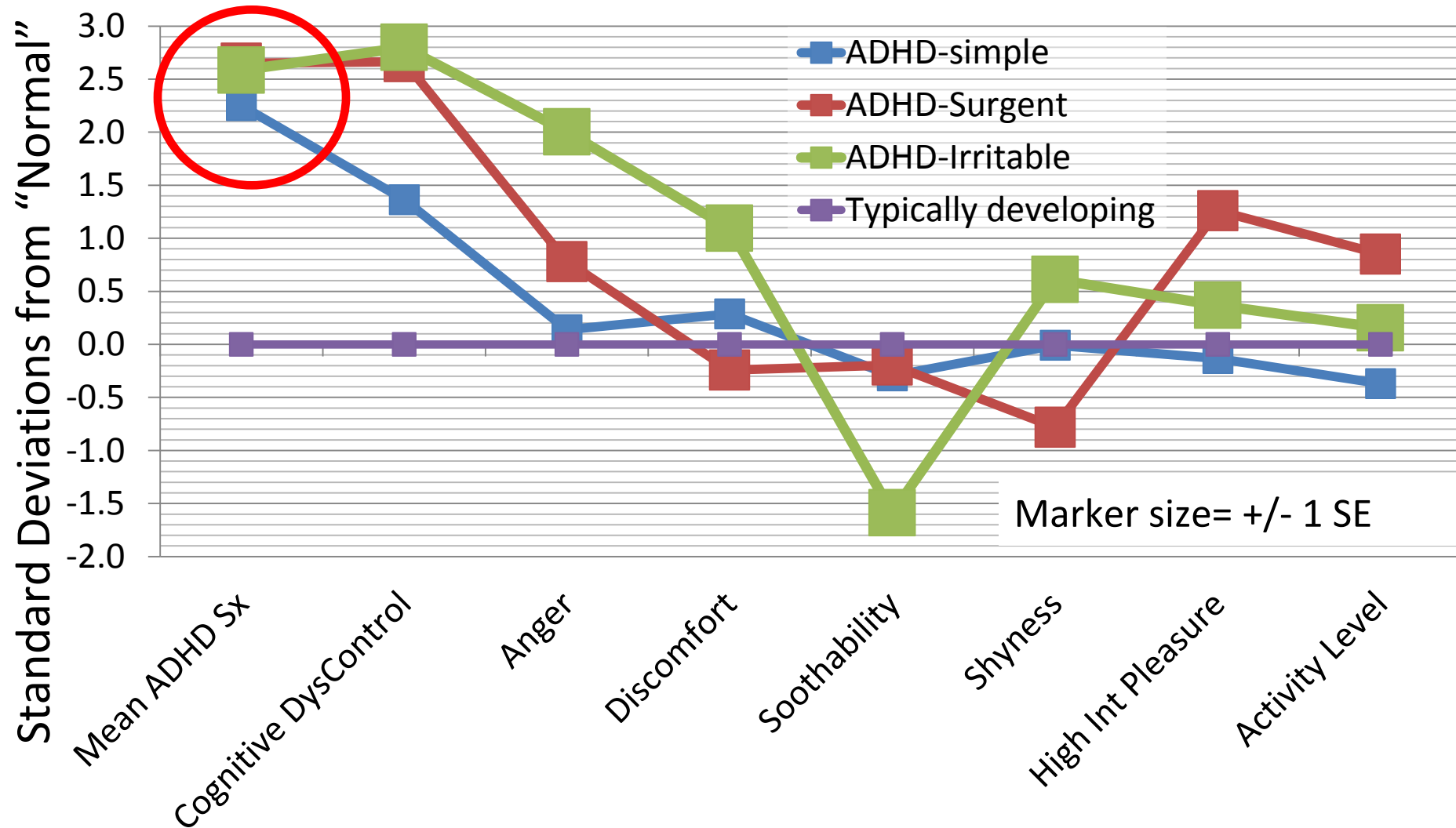
*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

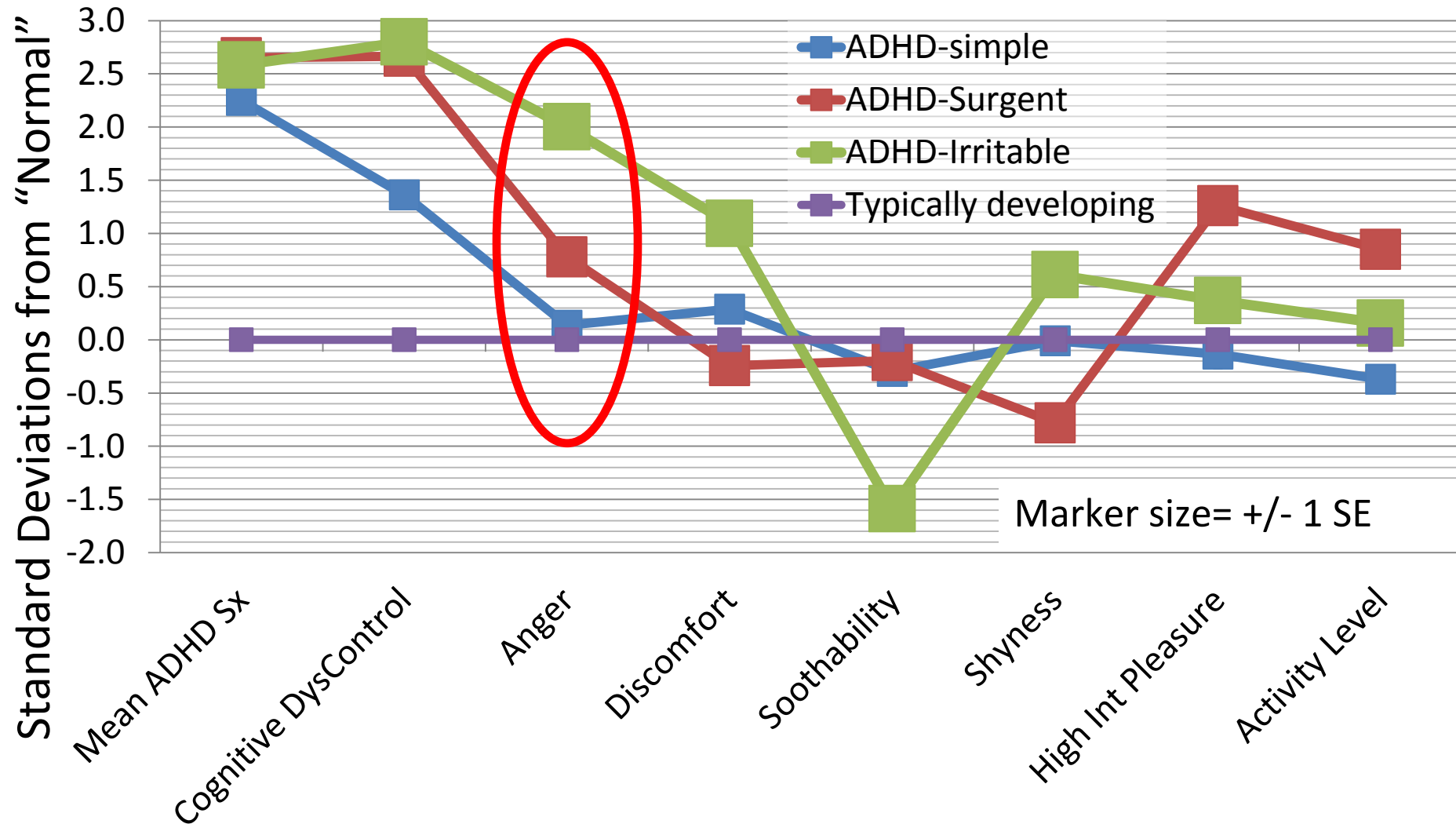


# Detailed look at subtypes of ADHD based on temperament (emotional regulation)(n=500: 310 ADHD, 190 control)

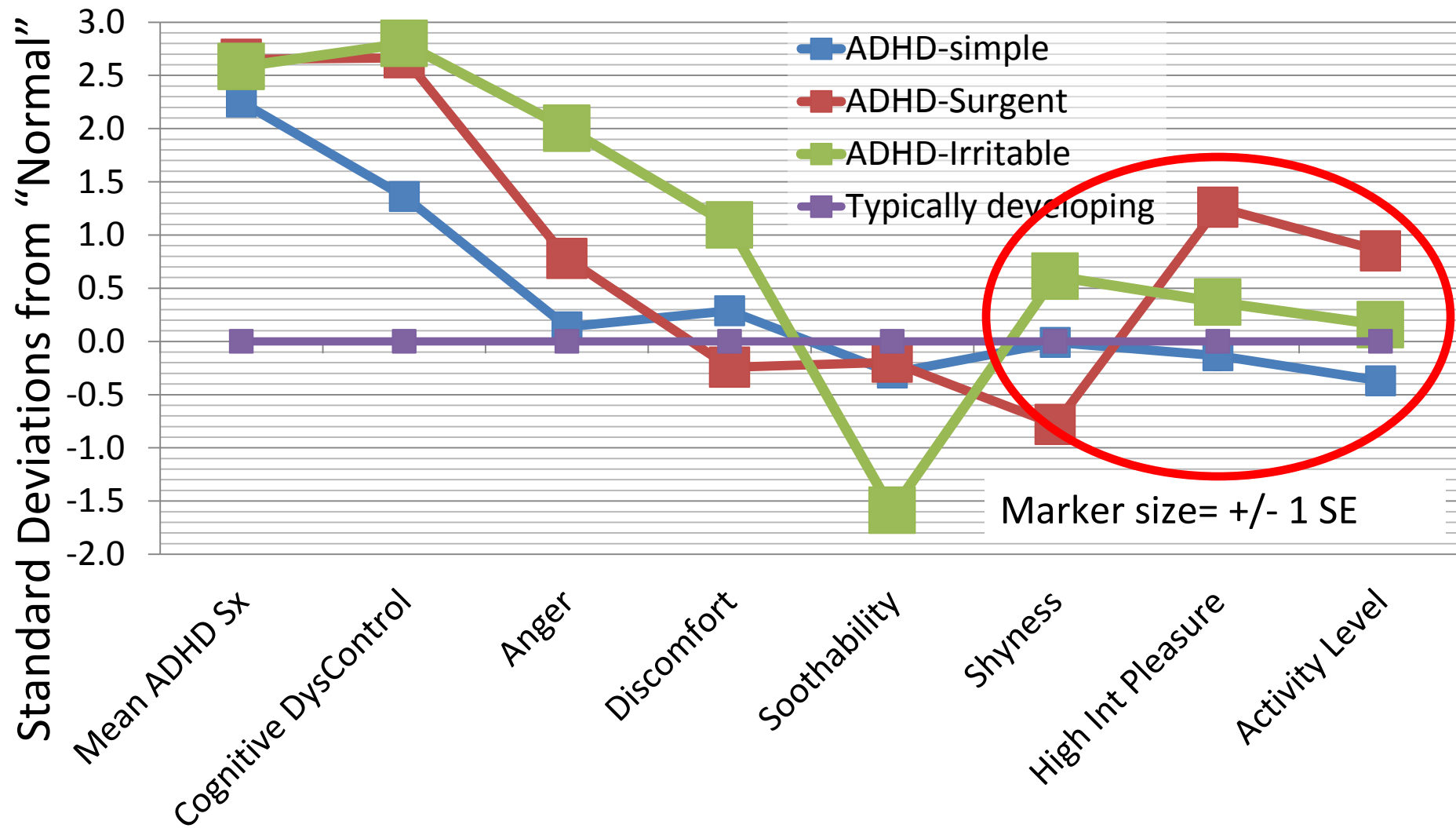


Updated and adapted from Karalunas et al, JAMA Psychiatry 2014 © JAMA network);  
This figure © Joel Nigg

# Detailed look at subtypes of ADHD based on temperament (emotional regulation)(n=500: 310 ADHD, 190 control)



# Detailed look at subtypes of ADHD based on temperament (emotional regulation)(n=500: 310 ADHD, 190 control)



Updated and adapted from Karalunas et al, JAMA Psychiatry 2014 © JAMA network);  
This figure © Joel Nigg



# Summary: ADHD and Brain

- ADHD reflects under-developed connections in brain networks
- These networks handle self-regulation of attention, arousal, and emotion
- Key networks involve
  - Prefrontal cortex-parietal circuits (attention/arousal)
  - Prefrontal-subcortical circuits (emotion/behavior)
  - Dopamine, norepinephrine, glutamate, and other brain chemicals
  - Structural (white matter) and functional connections
- Children with ADHD appear to exhibit different profiles of emotional regulation and attention problems, perhaps associated with different patterns of maturation of brain networks

©Joel Nigg, 2016

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



# Thank You

ADHD: The Brain-Behavior  
Connection  
Joel Nigg, Ph.D

# Please enter your questions in the box to your right.



**Please note:** Attendance and all questions are confidential. None of today's webinar attendees can see the names of other attendees nor can they see the questions being submitted. Only the moderator of the webinar will see your questions.

ADDitude does not provide medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. The material in this webinar is provided for educational purposes only.



# Upcoming Webinars

- **Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 12pm ET**  
What Summer Slide? Parent Strategies for Year-Round Learning with Ann Dolin, M.Ed.
- **Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm ET**  
How to Start (and End) the School Year Organized with Susan Lasky, M.A.

Visit [www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars) for announcements of ADDitude's upcoming webinars.

## Thank You!

If you missed any part of today's webinar, a recording is available for replay at [www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars).

To continue the conversation, we invite you to join us on

### ADDConnect

ADDitude's online community for attention deficit support and solutions where you can join our ongoing ADHD discussion groups:  
[www.addconnect.com](http://www.addconnect.com).

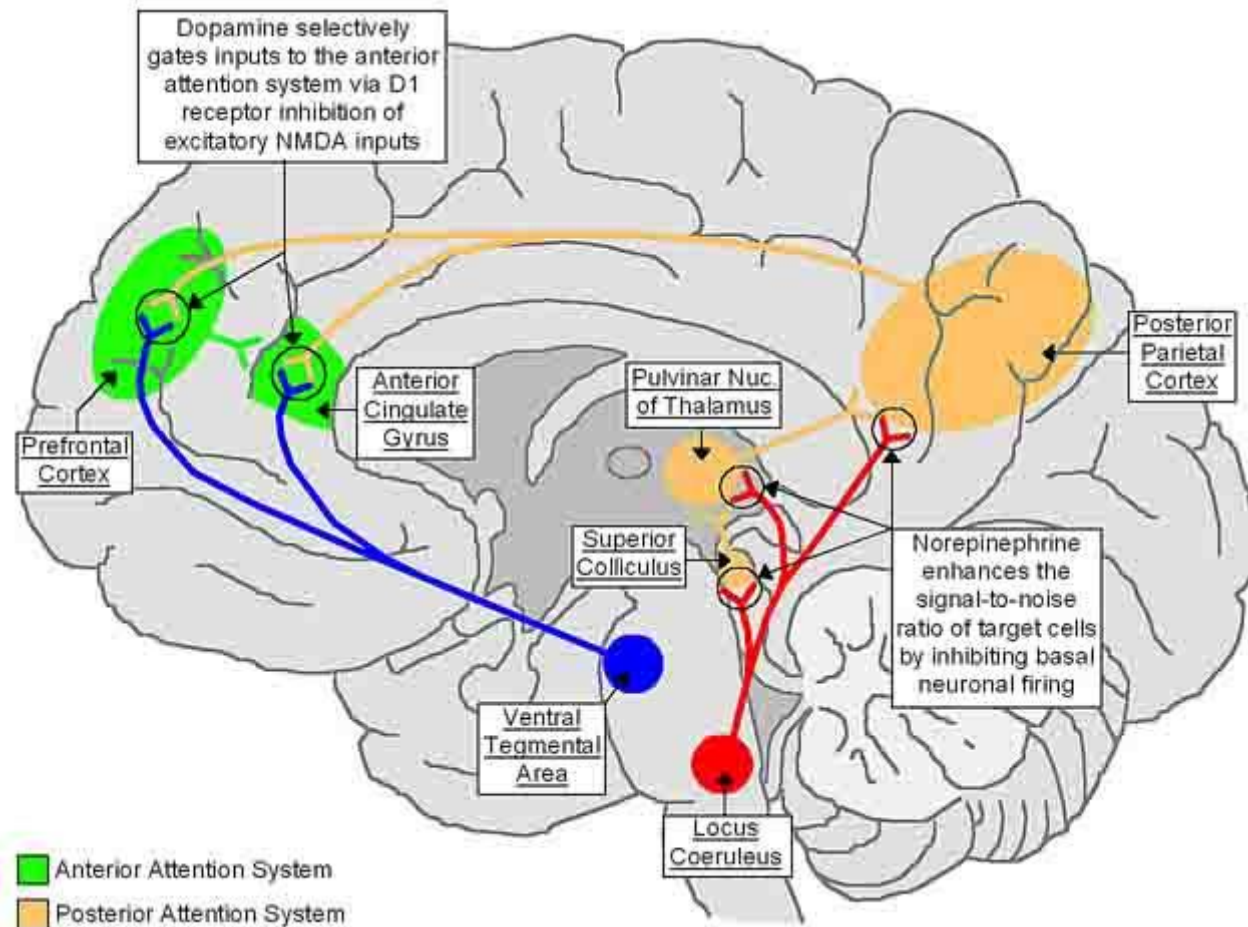
---

*sponsored by...*

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Neurotransmitter function view of ADHD problems in arousal and attentional control



© Edmundtonneurotherapy.com

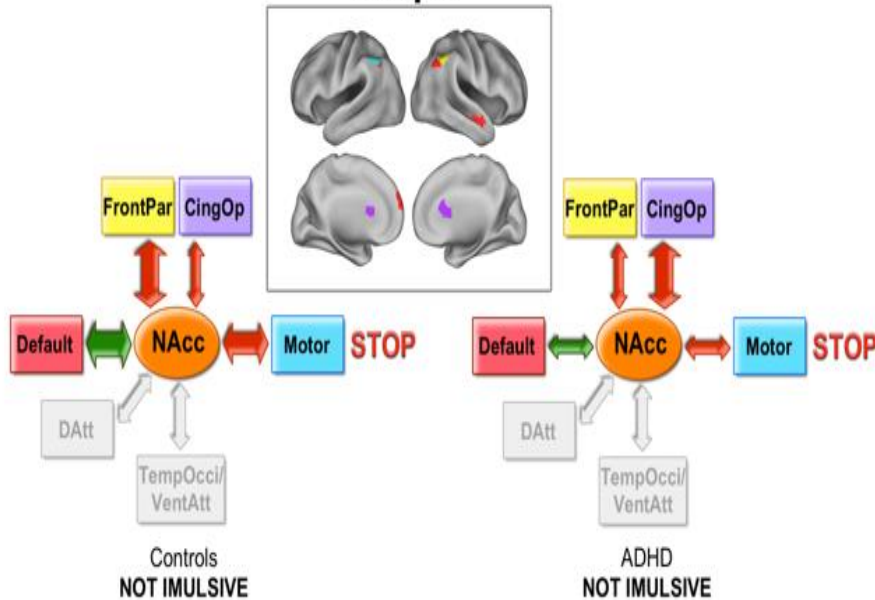
sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

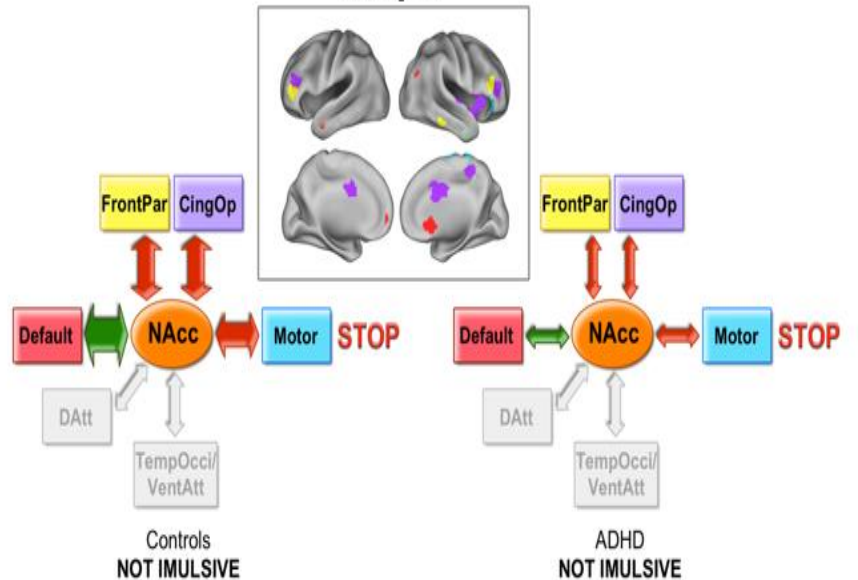
**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Subgroups of ADHD within reward circuits (n=106)

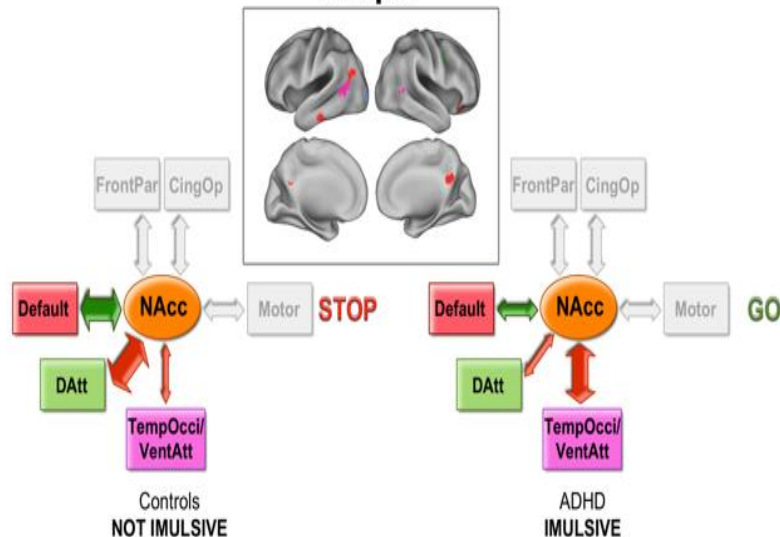
**Group B**



**Group C**



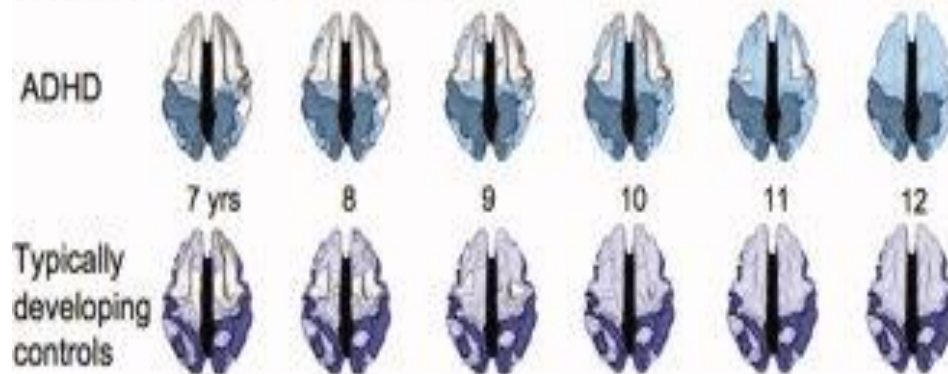
**Group A**



**Costa Dias** TG, Iyer SP, Carpenter SD, Cary RP, Wilson VB, Mitchell SH, **Nigg** JT, Fair DA. Dev Cogn Neurosci. 2015 Feb;11:155-74. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2014.12.005.

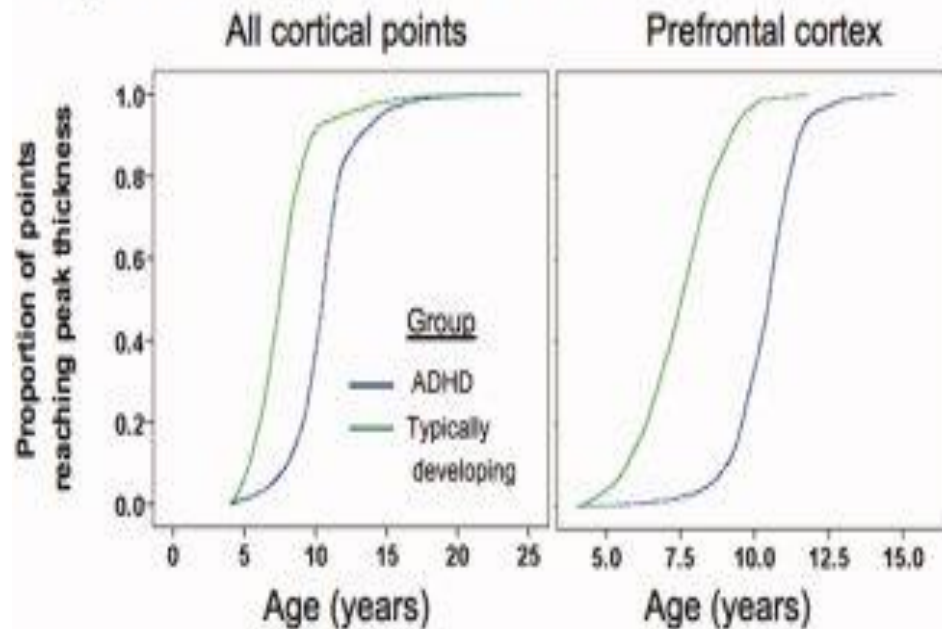
©

### A. Spread of cortical maturation



Slower maturation of cortical thickness in ADHD by about 2-3 years

### B. Age of attaining peak cortical thickness



Shaw et al; Proceedings of the National Academies of Science, 2007 Dec 4;104(49):19649-54.

© PNAS

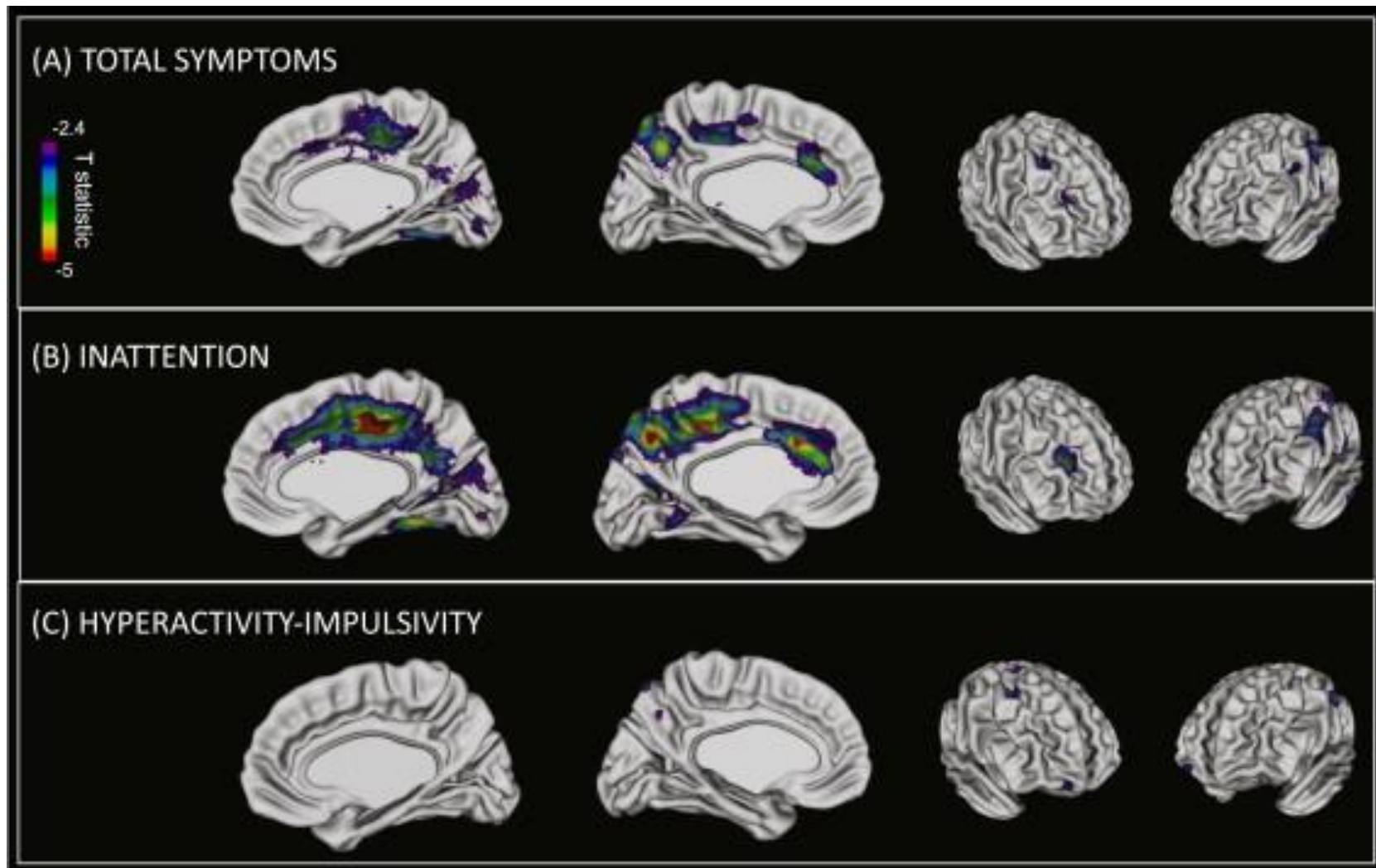
sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**

[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



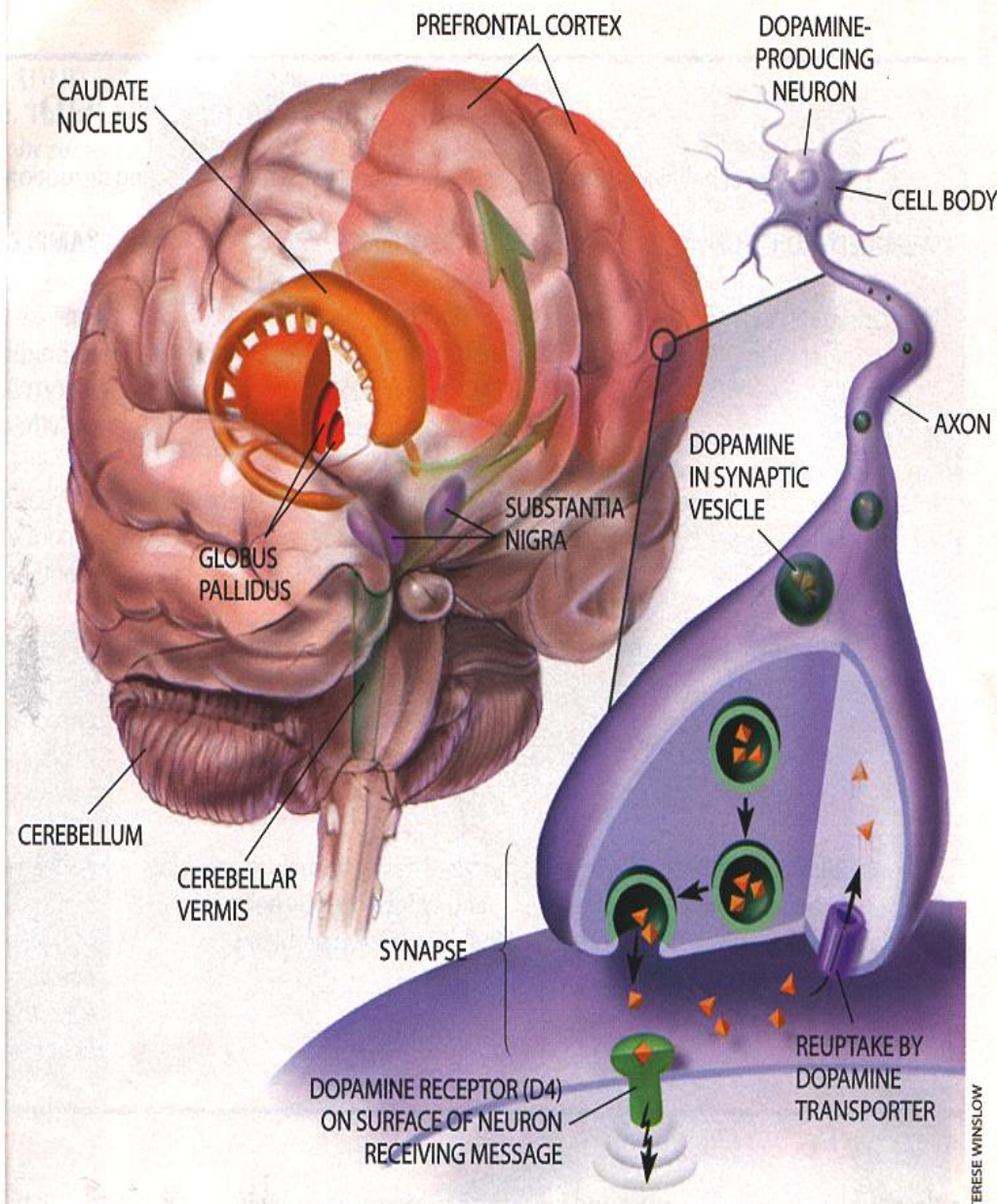


From Shaw, Malek, et al (2013). Trajectories of Cerebral Cortical Development in Childhood and Adolescence and Adult Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder *Biological Psychiatry*, Volume 74, Issue 8, 2013, 599 – 606 A) Regions where the total number of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder symptoms in adulthood are significantly associated ( $p < .05$ , adjusted for multiple comparisons) with the cortical trajectories from childhood into adulthood. The association is stronger for inattentive (B) than hyperactive-impulsive symptoms (C). © Society for Biological Psychiatry

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)



## The Classic Understanding of ADHD Neural Involvement

**Insufficient synaptic DA reduces salience and significance of signals**

Graphic is copyright Scientific American; Sept. 1998, p. 47

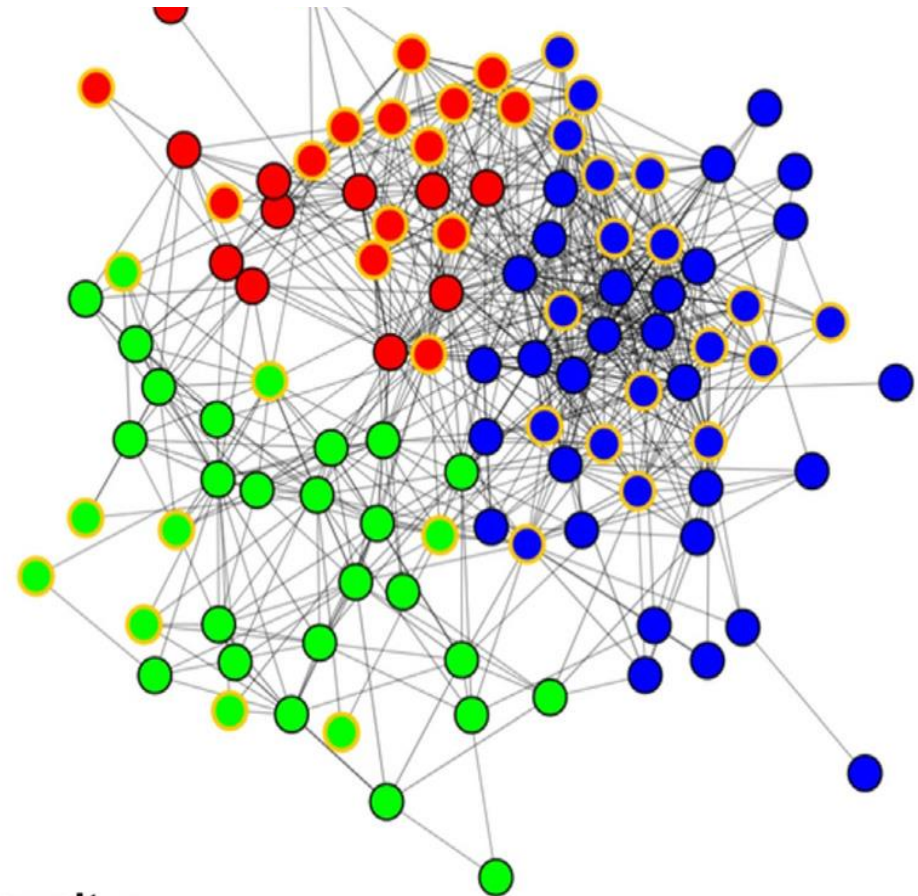
sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**

**adhd expert webinars**  
[www.additudemag.com/webinars](http://www.additudemag.com/webinars)

# Graph of Community organization analysis showing different groups based on connectivity to the nucleus accumbens reward-related circuits in ADHD

[Costa-Dias et al \(2015\)](#)  
[Dev Cogn Neurosci.](#)  
[Author manuscript;](#)  
[available in PMC 2016](#)  
[Feb 1.](#)Published in final  
edited form as:  
Dev Cogn Neurosci.  
2015 Feb; 11: 155–174.  
© Elsevier Ltd.



**Community:**

● Subgroup A

● Subgroup B

● Subgroup C

**Group:**

○ Control

○ ADHD

sponsored by...

**Fast ForWord®**