
Preface

This volume of the series *Neuromethods* provides an in-depth review of preclinical laboratory animal models used in the study of eating disorders. The prevalence of eating disorders in the U.S. and in other developed countries continues to pose a problem, and clinicians continue to struggle with treating these disorders of complex etiologies. Many researchers turn to the use of animal models to assist in their investigation and characterization of the behaviors and neurochemical alterations associated with them. As such, animal models have become integral to understanding the biological basis of eating disorders. This volume consists of chapters contributed by experts in the field who are well versed in the development and implementation of these models.

The study of eating disorders is a burgeoning field. In recent years, there have been many new discoveries and theories on their biological bases. The growth of the field has led to a vast array of empirical articles on the study of eating disorders, and the development of new models that can be used to study these disorders continues to stimulate new research. This book serves as a collection of detailed techniques that scientists can follow. Since eating disorders are complex and likely due to a combination of environmental, genetic, and social causes, the following chapters have been designed to highlight different contributing factors. Collectively, these chapters give a comprehensive and representative overview of both recently developed and classic methodologies used in the study of eating disorders.

Gratitude is extended to all of the contributing authors for their hard work and excellent chapters. I would also like to thank Ms. Cindy Kroll for her invaluable editorial assistance, as well as Ms. Miaoyuan (May) Wang for her assistance with the images and Ms. Susan Murray, Monica Gordillo and Hana Shin for their help with formatting and editing. I would also like to thank Wolfgang Walz (Series Editor) and Springer for their guidance and interest in this important topic.

Gainesville, FL, USA

Nicole M. Avena

Animal Models of Eating Disorders

Avena, N.M. (Ed.)

2013, XVI, 379 p. 76 illus., 10 illus. in color.,

ISBN: 978-1-62703-104-2

A product of Humana Press