



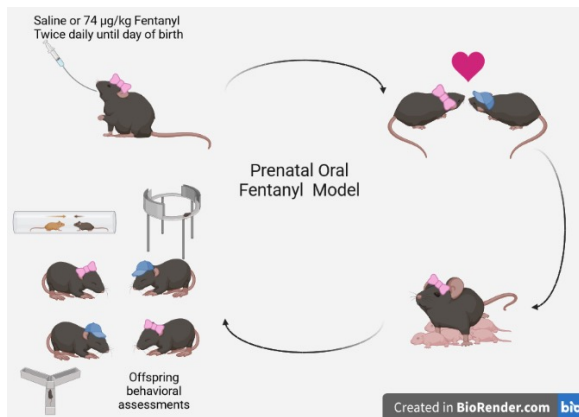
Changes in Adult Behavior Following Prenatal Fentanyl Exposure

Chioma Uchegbu, Trinity Nguyen, Inayat Sood, Kimberly Blankenship, Dr. Devon L. Graham
Biomedical Sciences, Florida State University College of Medicine, Tallahassee, FL

Introduction

- Opioid abuse and addiction are among the most prominent public health crises in the United States, with a significant increase in the use of more potent, synthetic opioids like fentanyl.
- However, the long-term effects of fentanyl exposure during pregnancy have not been fully explored.
- This study investigates the biological and physiological implications that prenatal fentanyl exposure has on the development of mice.

Methods



Results

Graph

Figure 1. Male fentanyl exposed mice exhibit greater anxiety-like behavior

Graph

Figure 2. Female fentanyl exposed mice produced a smaller litter size than female control mice.

Graph

Figure 3. Fentanyl treated mice scored lower in nesting tendencies.

Graph

Figure 4. Fentanyl treated mice exhibited more submissive behavior in comparison to the control mice.

Discussion/Conclusion

- Findings showed a significant difference between the litter sizes between control and fentanyl treatment groups, as well as a sex-specific difference in body weight following fentanyl treatment.
- Fentanyl-exposed mice exhibited greater anxiety-like behavior and showed a deficit in social dominance.
- These data indicate that in utero fentanyl exposure has long-term effects on behavior.

References