

Psychopharmacology Series 4



Transduction Mechanisms of Drug Stimuli

Editors

F.C. Colpaert R.L. Balster

With 57 Figures

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The diagram on the cover shows a model for olfactory stimulus transduction. (See Fig. 3, p. 9)

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Preface

The following papers were collected on the occasion of the Third International Meeting on Drug Discrimination and State Dependency, which was held in Antwerp and Beerse, Belgium, on 5 and 7 July 1986. The meeting was a satellite of the inaugural congress of the European Behavioural Pharmacology Society, which was founded on 6 July 1986 in Antwerp. This Third International Meeting was also the occasion on which the community of researchers on Drug Discrimination and State Dependency honored Drs. H. Barry III, D. Overton, and J. Rosecrans for their outstanding contributions in this field.

Authors were asked to discuss available data within the theme of Transduction Mechanisms of Drug Stimuli. This theme recognizes that drugs can act as stimuli, much in the same manner as external events do. It also focuses on the mechanisms by which these stimuli are transduced at different levels of analysis, e.g., behavioral, pharmacological, and molecular. Some of the chapters in this volume discuss the mechanisms of transduction of the discriminative effects of several important classes of drugs. Other chapters deal with the methods and research strategies by which these mechanisms can be analyzed. Collectively, the papers in this volume thus reflect the current status of knowledge in an area of behavioral pharmacology that has made relatively rapid progress in recent years.

The following companies have generously supported the Third International Meeting on Drug Discrimination and State Dependency: Abbott Laboratories, Bristol-Myers Company, Burroughs Wellcome Company, CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, Coulbourn Instruments Inc., E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, Pfizer Inc., Schering Corporation, Searle Research and Development, State Systems Inc., and the Upjohn Company. J. Willetts assisted with the preparation of the subject index.

F. C. COLPAERT
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