Does the gut-brain axis control the reward system?
Lessons from human food reward studies
腸-脳軸は報酬系を調整する？—ヒトでの食欲・報酬研究

The gut-brain axis, the complex bidirectional neurohumoral communication system between the gastrointestinal tract and the central nervous system, plays a key role in the regulation of appetite and food intake. More specifically, it is becoming increasingly clear that interoceptive signals reflecting the body’s nutritional and energy resources, including neural signals reflecting gastric distension and metabolic hormones produced by the GI tract, not only impact on homeostatic neurocircuitry in the brain, but also on the brain’s reward system. While the former system, including hypothalamic and brainstem nuclei, regulates feeding based on current or long-term energy and nutritional needs of the body, the latter system includes midbrain projections to striatal and extrastriatal regions and regulates feeding by representing the motivational and hedonic properties of food-related stimuli. In this lecture, I will give an overview of recent mechanistic human research by my own group and others on the role of the gut-brain axis in appetite and feeding control, and outline the implications of this work for obesity and eating disorders.

Speaker
Associate Professor, Lukas Van Oudenhove
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

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April 23 (Mon.) 17:00 – 19:00

Venue
星陵オーディトリウム
（星陵キャンパス、生協2階）
Seiryo Auditorium, Seiryo Campus