



Hamilton Institute

Exploring Hallucinatory Percepts

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Abstract:

Hallucinations are sensory perceptions in the absence of external stimuli. They can occur in any sensory modality and are often generated as a result of Lewy body dementia, psychosis or drug use. However, hallucinations are not necessarily indicative of pathology. For example, hallucinations may also be triggered whenever sensory inputs are significantly reduced, as in the cases of limb loss (phantom pain), hearing loss (tinnitus) and visual loss (Charles Bonnet Syndrome (CBS)).

Laboratory and clinical studies used to explore CBS hallucinatory percepts will be described and possible neural mechanisms underpinning this and other de-afferentation hallucinations will be discussed.

Venue: Seminar Room, Hamilton Institute, Rye Hall,
NUI Maynooth

Time: 2.00 - 3.00pm (followed by tea/coffee)

Travel directions are available at www.hamilton.ie