

Monoamine Oxidase A (MAOA) is a gene that codes for an enzyme responsible for the breakdown of the neurotransmitters serotonin and norepinephrine. This literature research project aims to look at how possible mutations of this gene effect brain structure and function. Also, how these changes in brain structure and function may affect behavior. It is hypothesized that mutations causing low functioning MAOA enzyme will cause an alteration in function of the amygdala and prefrontal cortex.