

## Prize for cracking brain's 'feel good' system 三位科学家因破解大脑“奖赏系统”获奖

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- 請注意：中文文字内容只提供簡體版

主要工作地点在英国的三位科学家被授予了享有盛誉的大脑奖（The Brain Prize），并共同领取了一百万欧元的奖金。他们对大脑“奖赏回路”的研究及解读揭示了我们为何想要去购物、吃饭甚至是登月的深层原因。获得回报是我们能保持生命力的必要因素之一，但失去控制的大脑奖赏中心会导致一系列无节制的强迫性行为。请听 Fergus Walsh 的报道。

Should I eat in that restaurant? Should I apply for a new job? Where should I go on holiday? What **underpins** our **decision-making** is a chemical in the brain called **dopamine**, which is **released** whenever there is **reward**, such as a pleasant taste. It helps motivate us, and has been essential through evolution for human and animal development.

A strong dopamine response can drive us to repeat the same behaviour or **strive** for greater success. The dopamine reward **pathway** in the brain can also **spiral out of control** leading to compulsive behaviour and drug addiction.

The three **neuroscientists**, who share the million-euro prize given by the Lundbeck Foundation in Denmark, are all based in the UK, which has a **track record** of world-leading brain research. Their work will help in the development of treatments for patients with **psychiatric** illnesses like **schizophrenia** where the reward system goes wrong.

## 词汇表

<b>underpins</b>	构成，支持
<b>decision-making</b>	决策过程
<b>dopamine</b>	(化学) 多巴胺
<b>released</b>	被释放
<b>reward</b>	奖赏，奖励
<b>strive</b>	(长期艰难地) 奋斗、努力
<b>pathway</b>	(生物体中的) 一连串化学反应
<b>spiral out of control</b>	急剧失控
<b>neuroscientists</b>	神经科学家
<b>track record</b>	记录、业绩
<b>psychiatric</b>	神经病学的
<b>schizophrenia</b>	精神分裂症

## 测验

请听报道并回答下列问题。

1. When does the brain release dopamine, according to the text?
2. What could happen if the dopamine reward pathway in the brain goes out of control?
3. True or false? *The UK is known for its world-leading achievements in brain research.*
4. Which word in the text means 'unable to stop doing something'?

## 答案

1. When does the brain release dopamine, according to the text?

**According to the text, the brain releases a chemical called dopamine whenever there is a reward, such as a pleasant taste.**

2. What could happen if the dopamine reward pathway in the brain goes out of control?

**If the dopamine reward pathway in the brain spirals out of control, we might become victims of compulsive behaviour and drug addiction.**

3. True or false? *The UK is known for its world-leading achievements in brain research.*

**True. The UK has a track record of world-leading brain research.**

4. Which word in the text means 'unable to stop doing something'?

**Compulsive.**