

Higher pain expression tied to pro-nociceptive state

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(HealthDay)—Sensory over-responsiveness (SOR) in otherwise healthy

subjects is associated with a pro-nociceptive state, according to a study published online Aug. 7 in *PAIN Practice*.

Irit Weissman-Fogel, Ph.D., from the University of Haifa in Israel, and colleagues conducted psychophysical testing in 30 healthy subjects (14 SOR and 16 non-SOR participants, based on the Sensory Responsiveness Questionnaire). Testing evaluated (1) hyperalgesic responses; (2) adaptation and sensitization to 14 phasic heat stimuli; (3) habituation; (4) six minutes after-sensation; and (5) conditioned pain modulation (i.e., phasic heat stimuli applied with and without hand immersion in hot water).

The researchers found that, compared to non-SOR individuals, the SOR group had a steeper escalation in numerical pain scale ratings to temperature increase ($P = 0.003$) indicating hyperalgesia, increased sensitization ($P \leq 0.001$), habituation responses (P

"This is the first study to report a coupling between the general SOR to daily innocuous [stimuli](#) and enhanced [pain](#) facilitation rather than deficient inhibition," the authors write.

More information: [Abstract](#)
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