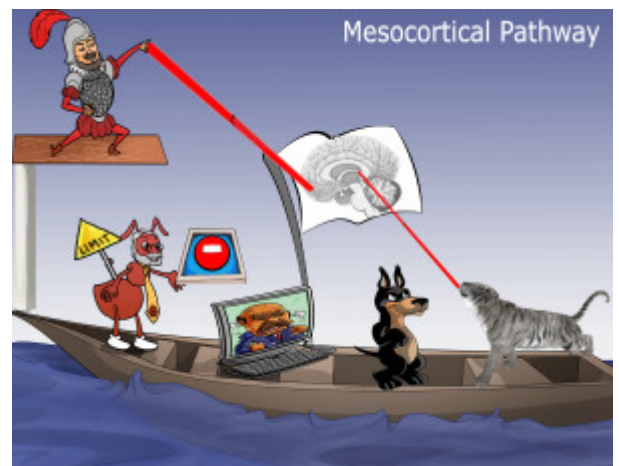


## Mesocortical Pathway (Dopaminergic)



PLAY PICMONIC

### Dopamine Pathway

#### Doberman Pathway

The mesocortical pathway is one of the four dopaminergic pathways involved in the release of dopamine.

### Location

#### Ventral Tegmental Area

##### Tiger-metal

The mesocortical pathway begins in the ventral tegmental area (VTA) of the midbrain and extends to the prefrontal cortex of the frontal lobe.

#### Prefrontal Cortex

##### Cortez-pointing to Prefrontal

The mesocortical pathway begins in the ventral tegmental area (VTA) of the midbrain and extends to the prefrontal cortex of the frontal lobe.

### Characteristics

#### Executive Function

##### Executive who can't Function

The mesocortical pathway is known to control the executive functioning of the brain. This functioning can involve planning, cognition, attention, motivation, and emotional response.

### Defect

#### Negative Symptoms

##### Negative-sign

An inhibition or defect of the mesocortical pathway leads to the presentation of negative symptoms (e.g., lack of energy, flat affect, anhedonia, apathy) often seen in those with schizophrenia.

#### Limited Antipsychotic Efficacy

##### Ant-tie-psychiatrist with Limit sign

Overall, the mesocortical pathway has limited efficacy in terms of responding to antipsychotics.