

## Using novel imaging approaches in affective disorders : beyond current models

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## Behorend bij het proefschrift "Using novel imaging approaches in affective disorders: beyond current models" Nienke Pannekoek, 5 maart 2015

- 1. The constant development of new neuroimaging techniques, together with the improvement of existing methods, makes neuroimaging a highly dynamic and continuously evolving field. (this thesis)
- 2. It is unlikely that simple increases and decreases in brain activity alone are sufficient to explain the complex diversity of symptoms that define depression and anxiety. (this thesis)
- 3. Novel imaging approaches have pointed to the involvement of a more widespread neural circuitry than advocated by existing neurobiological models on depression and anxiety. (this thesis)
- 4. If social anxiety disorder is understudied compared to panic disorder, the paucity of available data on generalised anxiety disorder is even more pronounced and limits the development of a comprehensive neuroanatomical model. (this thesis)
- 5. Functional connections between brain regions are correlations between timeseries of particular regions of interest, and do not imply causality or directionality (i.e. is the connectivity between two regions direct, or is it mediated by a third). These correlations are therefore also more susceptible to being influenced by confounders, such as noise and artefacts. (this thesis)
- 6. Like the adolescent brain, the field of neuroscience has many years of continued development to come before reaching maturation.
- 7. Grief is depression in proportion to circumstance; depression is grief out of proportion to circumstance. (Andrew Solomon, from "The Noonday Demon", 2001)
- 8. The societal stigma associated with depression and anxiety, and psychiatric disorders more generally, can result in a reluctance to report psychological distress and a greater focus on physical symptoms, which can complicate the diagnosis of these disorders in primary care.
- 9. Insights gained from connectivity studies ultimately rely just as much on findings from studies employing other neuroimaging modalities.
- 10. People who can change and change again are so much more reliable and happier than those who can't. (Stephen Fry, "Moab Is My Washpot", 1997)

