



## **TITLE: The Effect of COVID19**

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### **ABSTRACT (up to 300 words)**

Social interactions are a fundamental and adaptive component of the biology of numerous species. However, a variety of neuropsychiatric disorders are characterized by disruptions in social behavior.

Compared with other animal models, nonhuman primates (NHPs) are the best common animal model for studying the neuronal basis of higher socio-cognitive functions, due to their high similarities to humans in aspects of genetic, behavioral and morphological evidence, physiological metabolisms, structure and function of their brain. As well, some diseases are related to aging, and its pathology is slowly progressive, the use of long-lived, aged animals such as monkeys is crucial in these kinds of studies.

Many non-invasive techniques have been developed over the past decade to study the NHPs' behavior. Noninvasive and restraint-free remote eye-tracking technology with primates improves welfare and permits research on a much greater range of populations (zoo-housed animals, endangered species, direct comparisons with humans, etc.) also permits the presentation of naturalistic or ethologically informed paradigms while retaining a high degree of experimental control.

Newly designed setups for evaluating sociability and interest in social novelty for non-human primates equipped with a deep learning toolset that analyze primate kinetics and their behaviors in detail, is another part of our study design.

We believe having all these formulated and analyzed, the results are expected to provide us with corridors through identifying disease models like Autism, ADHD, Parkinson's disease, and many other diseases involving social/behavioral impairments at the earliest stage of the disease before starting any harsh behavior or symptoms in their motor function. It is also expected to develop earlier detection and better treatments for patients with social disorders and other similar neurological or psychiatric conditions.





### **BIOGRAPHY (up to 200 words)**

I'm a postdoc at the Center for Excellence in Brain Science and Intelligence Technology (Institute of Neuroscience), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai.

I am a neuroscientist studying cognition and behavior in Non-Human Primates (NHPs). During my Ph.D. in KNRC (Kerman Neuroscience Research Center), I developed the Kerman primate center with the cooperation of Prof. Carlos Tomas (Brasilia, Brazil) and Farshad Mansouri (Monash, Australia). I was in Brazil for my sabbatical to learn more about monkeys, their facilities and standards in the field of NHPs.

After finishing my postdoc in IPM (Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences) in 2021, I start my second postdoc at the Institute of Neuroscience, Shanghai, to develop new setups for cognitive/social behavioral assessment.

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