



TOHOKU FORUM for CREATIVITY

Development of Spontaneous Social Cognition and Autism

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Most of human social interaction depends on spontaneous processing of social information embedded in a natural and complex environment, and appropriate response in time. It contrasts with the majority of standard assessment, in which the stimuli are well controlled and often isolated, the task and the instruction is highly explicit and well instructed, and the participants often have enough time to think and react. Here, I would like to present a series of researches exploring how humans process social information spontaneously, which is demonstrated with eye-tracking methodology showing how participants spontaneously shift their gaze adaptively when they observe social scene. I will also summarize our research which explored how spontaneous social cognition develops, how the development could be affected by postnatal environment such as cultural and familial background, and how it is disturbed by developmental disorder such as autism.

References:

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