Ancestral Environmental Exposure Develops Stress Response in Coming Generations

Submitted by Nanette Dupree on Tue, 05/22/2012 - 06:52

As per a new research, it has been suggested that exposure to chemicals tends to bring about a change in rats. Nevertheless, it has been discovered that these changes have been genetically transferred to multiple generations.

It has been demonstrated that the gestating female rats were subjected to vinclozolin, which is a potential fungicide used for fruits and vegetables. Later on offspring of third generation rats were examined of their behavioral activities, which demonstrated that they were more sensitive to stress and were also more anxious, in comparison to descendants of those rats, who were not exposed to fungicide.

David Crews, Co-Author of the study and a researcher at University of Texas subjected that the experimental analysis reports obtained after examining rats, also stays true for humans, as these animal models are a replica of human system.

He emphasized that almost three generations have passed, since the beginning of chemical revolution and exposure of humans to several different kinds of toxins in daily life.

Michael Skinner, co-author and a researcher at Washington State University, said, “The ancestral exposure of your great grandmother alters your brain development to then respond to stress differently”. He asserted that they were unaware of the fact, until this study that ancestral environmental exposure could lead to the development of stress response in younger generations.

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Recent research subjected that a potential cause behind the increased levels of environmental pollution is termed to be an increase in concentration of mercury pollution, due to widespread of the metal pollution from smokestacks.

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