**Research Aim**

We derived a new measure of amygdala persistence from extant data to conceptually replicate and extend prior research linking persistence of amygdala activation patterns to real-world emotion and well-being.

**Hypothesis**

Persistence of amygdala activation patterns following negative pictures will be associated with worse mood, lower well-being, higher reactivity & altered salience network (SN) resting connectivity.

**Emotion Persistence Task**

- Negative, positive & neutral pictures (IAPS)
- Neutral faces - 2/3 trials
- Button press to indicate picture valence
- Passively view neutral faces

**Self-Report Outcomes**

- Positive and Negative Affect Scale (PANAS)
- Non-reactivity: Five Facet Mindfulness Questionnaire (FFMQ)
- Psychological Well-being (PWB)

**Results**

Higher persistence --> Lower rsFC for insula-visual cortex & vmPFC - cerebellum/ fusiform

Higher Positive Mood (PANAS) ~ Lower Right Amygdala RS

**Representational Similarity (RS)**

1. GLM of fMRI task data with FSL
2. Used rsatoolbox to calculate RDMs
3. Regressed negative trial RS onto each outcome
4. Seed- & graph-based analysis or RS

**Amygdala RS: Meditators (LTM) < Meditation-naïve (MNP)**

Amygdala RS regressed on negative affect, PWB, FFMQ are N.S. (p>0.05).

**Conclusions**

Amygdala persistence to negative pictures was associated with lower positive affect, altered salience network connectivity. Meditators had dissimilar amygdala responses and less amygdala persistence.