

Perception and Awareness (PandA) Laboratory

Webpage: <http://panda.dsnm.univr.it>

Description:

Our main interests relate to the study of perception and awareness in healthy subjects and neurological patients.

To achieve this goal, we investigate:

- how, when, and where in the brain the percept is generated,
- how we can deceive perception by breaking the rules underlying vision,
- what is the role of attention in awareness,
- how perceptual awareness changes when the coherent representation of the outer world is lost after a brain damage.

Behavioural, electrophysiology (EEG) and direct brain stimulation (TMS and intraoperative electrocortical mapping) techniques are used. These techniques are applied on healthy subjects and brain-damaged patients with visual field defects or neglect. We measure behavioural responses to different kinds of real stimuli or artificial percepts induced by TMS.

By combining these approaches, we correlate behaviour with changes on the functional maps of the neural activity responsible for visual and spatial awareness.

People:

Principal Investigator: Silvia Savazzi

Graduate Students: Gaetano Mazzeo

Post-doc: Chiara Mazzi, Federica Molteni

Former Students: Chiara Bagattini, Ramisha Spruill Knight, Alessia Manfredini, Chiara Francesca Tagliabue, Péter Vető