

Table 1. Treatment paradigm and experimental timeline

Group (No.)	Treatment	Time of exposure to nicotine (1 mg/L) or water	Sacrifice (time)	From nicotine WDW:				
				0 min	Day 2	Day 7	Day 30	Day 60
A (10) (10)	Nic Water	7 days	5 min	Binding studies				
(10) (10)	Nic Water	14 days	5 min	Binding studies				
B (10) (10) (10) (10)	Nic+veh Nic+mec Water+veh Water+mec	14 days	24 h	Precipitated WDW Freezing/ Swimming activity				
C (10) (10)	Nicotine Water	14 days		Spontaneous WDW	ND		Preference test	VORT
D (10) (10)	Nicotine Water	14 days		Spontaneous WDW		VORT	ND	Preference test
E (10) (10)	Nicotine Water	14 days		Spontaneous WDW	Preference test	ND	VORT	
F (10) (10)	Nicotine Water	14 days		Spontaneous WDW	VORT	Preference test		ND

WDW= withdrawal syndrome; ND=Novel Object Recognition; VORT=Virtual Object Recognition test