

Table 1. Experimental Groups and Lesion Analysis

Group (n)	Drug/Housing+Activity conditions	Stroke Volume (% of contralesional hemisphere volume)
VEH/CON (9)	Vehicle-treated animals singly housed under control conditions – no rehabilitation	8.7 ± 1.5
ATI/CON (9)	Atipamezole-treated animals singly housed under control conditions – no rehabilitation	11.5 ± 1.7
VEH/REHAB (9)	Vehicle-treated animals group- housed in enriched environment plus focused activity sessions	12.2 ± 2.2
ATI/REHAB (10)	Atipamezole-treated animals group- housed in enriched environment plus focused activity sessions	15.2 ± 2.7

After training, animals were randomly allocated to the different treatment groups depicted above and subjected to MCAO. Details of drug treatment, housing and activity conditions are described in more detail in Experimental Procedures. No significant difference in lesion size among groups was observed ($F_{3,36} = 1.73$, $p = 0.18$). Data represent the mean \pm SEM of the indicated number of animals per group.