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Head shaking in the forced swim test: a robust but unexplored sex difference

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Highlights

- Male rats exhibit more headshakes than females in the forced swim test
- Headshakes correlate with testosterone but not corticosterone serum levels
- Castration attenuates headshaking frequency and eliminates the sex difference
- The effect of mirtazapine in reducing head shaking behavior is sex- and strain-dependent

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