

Supplemental Material on “Individual differences in mechanistic control of the dopaminergic midbrain”

1	Supplementary Methods	2
1.1	MID task: Trial structure.....	2
2	Supplementary Results	2
2.1	Cognitive control network analysis of correlation between degree of midbrain regulation transfer (DRT) and non-midbrain DRT in standard feedback group	2
2.2	Correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in inverted feedback group.....	4
2.3	Disjunction analysis standard and inverted feedback groups	5
2.4	Conjunction analysis of standard and inverted feedback groups	6
2.5	Decreasing relation to SN/VTA temporal difference coding	6
2.6	Reward adaptation and reward sensitivity in MID task correlated with midbrain DRT	7
2.7	Strategies used	8
2.8	Relation of dIPFC activity to SN/VTA temporal difference error coding in early and late neurofeedback training phase	8
2.9	Control analysis for spatial specificity of dopaminergic midbrain regulation	9
2.10	Distribution of DRT	10
2.11	Correlation DRT and slope during training	10
2.12	Scheme for calculation of temporal difference error.....	11
2.13	Dynamic Causal Modelling analysis.....	11
2.14	Confidence interval testing by bootstrapping	13
2.15	Validation analysis of conditions <i>IMAGINE_REWARD</i> and <i>REST</i> as separate conditions	14

1 Supplementary Methods

1.1 MID task: Trial structure

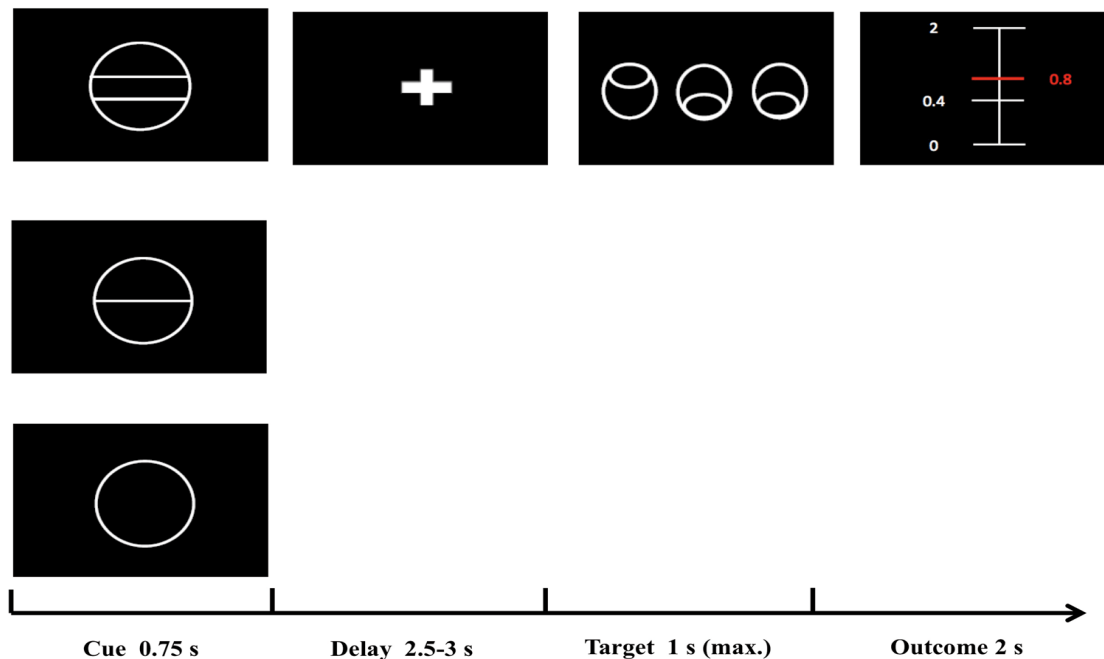


Figure S1: Trial structure of the MID task. First, one of three cues appeared. One cue was associated with large reward (ranging from 0 to 2.00 CHF), one cue with small reward (0 to 0.40 CHF) and one cue with no reward. After a delay of 2.5 to 3 s, participants had to identify an outlier from three circles by pressing one of three buttons as quickly as possible. Reward size depended on cue and response time.

2 Supplementary Results

2.1 Cognitive control network analysis of correlation between degree of midbrain regulation transfer (DRT) and non-midbrain DRT in standard feedback group

Table S1: Overlay of cognitive control template with regions showing significant correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in standard feedback group

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Middle Frontal Gyrus (dorsolateral prefrontal Cortex)	436	4.61	45	31	19
Left Thalamus	536	4.47	-9	-24	10
Temporal Occipital Fusiform Cortex	701	5.85	32	-46	-22
Occipital Fusiform Gyrus	701	4.92	29	-66	-12
Occipital Fusiform Gyrus	562	4.87	-42	-70	-19
Right Cerebral White Matter (Right Middle Temporal Gyrus)	122	4.95	56	-45	-4
Left Caudate	138	5.78	-12	10	1
Middle Frontal Gyrus	151	5.35	-39	5	53
Right Cerebral White Matter (Insula)	65	3.67	27	20	-7
Middle Frontal Gyrus	90	4.54	-42	17	40
Right Thalamus	160	4.40	5	-13	13
Left Cerebral White Matter	152	4.30	-45	-45	1
Frontal Pole	145	4.15	24	59	7
Precentral Gyrus	169	4.07	-41	-9	62

Lateral Occipital Cortex, superior division	64	4.04	39	-61	46
Lateral Occipital Cortex, superior division	109	3.96	27	-64	52
Lateral Occipital Cortex, superior division	114	3.96	-33	-70	50
Precuneus	61	3.91	0	-70	46
Right Cerebral White Matter (dorsolateral prefrontal Cortex)	89	3.88	36	16	37
Frontal Orbital Cortex	80	3.87	-36	22	-6
Right Cerebral White Matter (Superior Temporal Gyrus)	69	3.79	51	-30	7
Right Cerebral White Matter (Right Caudate Nucleus)	68	3.76	14	10	-1
Right Cerebral White Matter (Superior Temporal Gyrus)	69	3.79	51	-30	7
Right Cerebral White Matter (Right Caudate Nucleus)	68	3.76	14	10	-1
Right Pallidum	42	3.72	20	-4	1

For all clusters within cognitive control template based on $t > 3.10$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; $df = 40$; minimum extent = 40; Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the Harvard-Oxford atlas and/or the Anatomy Toolbox in parentheses; x,y,z = Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively.

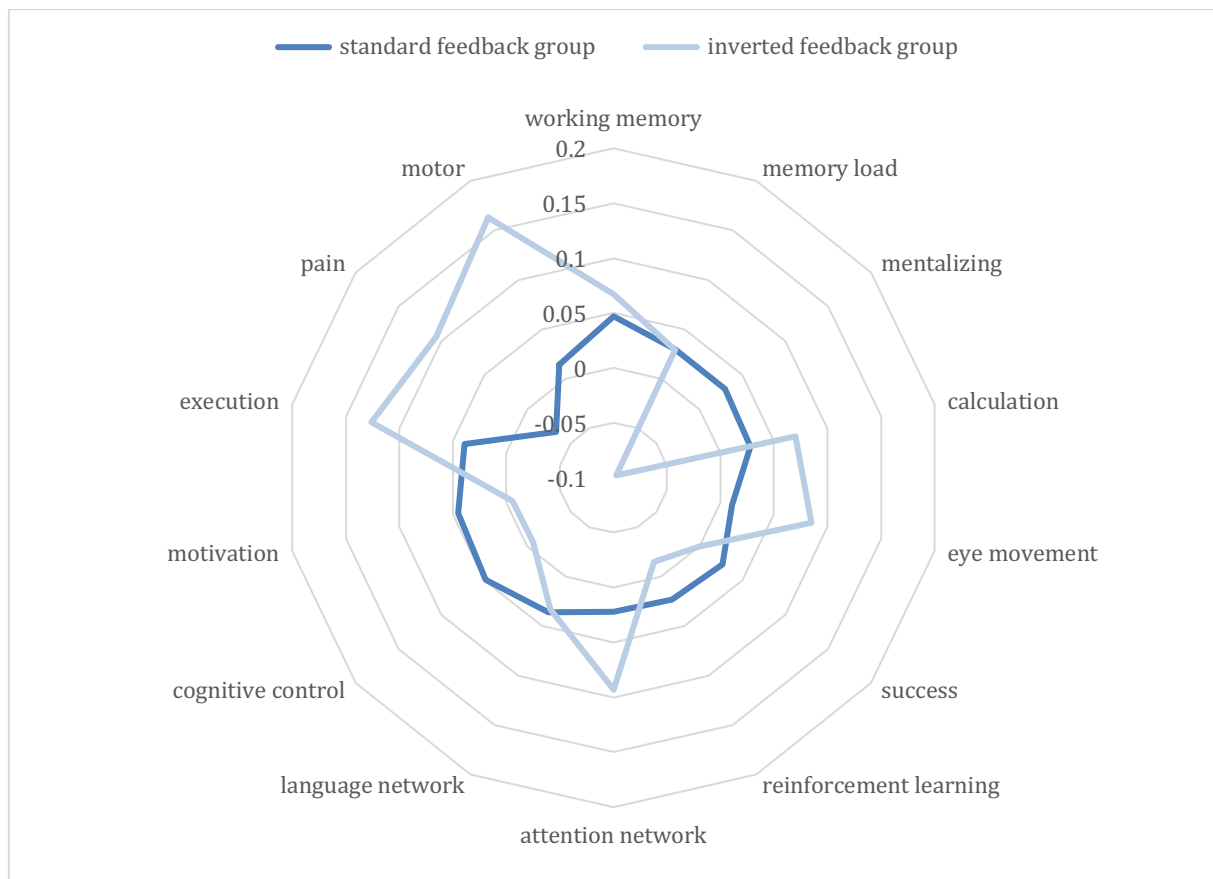


Figure S2: Neurosynth database decoding: To test the functional specificity of our results, we performed a meta-analytic functional decoding analysis using the Neurosynth database (neurosynth.org). We evaluated the representational similarity between the neural patterns of the two resulting maps of the standard feedback group and the inverted feedback group. We selected thirteen different terms in domains covering task-related keywords. Results show that the neural signatures of the cognitive control (and motivation) network reveal stronger similarity than other task-related neural patterns for the standard feedback group. In contrast, for the inverted feedback group the strongest similarities concerned motor functions, task execution and pain. These data support the notion that successful regulation transfer relied on different mechanisms in the two groups. Values on the spider plot represent Pearson's correlation coefficients.

2.2 Correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in inverted feedback group

Table S2: Regions showing significant correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in inverted feedback group

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Left Cerebral White Matter (Temporal Lobe)	68	9.49	-23	-25	-1
Left Cerebral White Matter	93	13.3	-14	-49	13
Frontal Orbital Cortex (L IFG)	71	8.38	-29	16	-21
Left Thalamus	332	7.69	-3	-24	-4
Right Thalamus	332	6.10	18	-27	1
Left Cerebral White Matter (Frontal Lobe)	367	7.65	-29	13	19
Left Cerebral White Matter (Frontal Lobe)	174	7.09	-18	46	5
Left Amygdala	51	6.34	-26	-4	-21
Left Cerebral White Matter (L IFG)	125	6.33	-42	29	8
Location not in atlas (Temporal Lobe)	173	6.03	-5	-13	-10
Insular Cortex	56	6.02	-45	5	-9
Lateral Occipital Cortex, superior division	63	6.01	-12	-72	59
Left Cerebral White Matter (Temporal Lobe)	65	5.92	-32	2	-25
Left Cerebral White Matter (Occipital Lobe)	151	5.77	-36	-63	16
Parahippocampal Gyrus, anterior division (L Fusiform Gyrus)	137	5.72	-36	-12	-27
Left Cerebral White Matter (L Parahippocampal Gyrus)	136	5.69	-24	-34	-15
Left Cerebral White Matter (Temporal Lobe)	53	5.25	-42	-36	4
Frontal Orbital Cortex (L IFG)	63	5.03	-33	26	-12
Superior Temporal Gyrus, anterior division	114	4.98	-54	-4	-10
Left Cerebral White Matter (Temporal Lobe)	56	4.83	-45	-39	8
Temporal Pole	50	4.44	-39	1	-43
Inferior Temporal Gyrus	43	4.58	-48	-40	-19

For all clusters, $t > 3.70$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; $df = 14$; minimum extent = 40; Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the HarvardOxford atlas and/or the Anatomy Toolbox in parentheses; x,y,z =Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively.

2.3 Disjunction analysis standard and inverted feedback groups

Table S3: Disjunction analysis, reflecting preferential correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in standard group (Table S1) or control group (Table S2)

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Left Cerebral White Matter (L Precuneus)	87	13.31**	-14	-49	13
Left Cerebral White Matter (Temporal Lobe)	62	9.49**	-23	-25	-1
Frontal Orbital Cortex (L IFG)	64	8.38**	-29	16	-21
Left Thalamus	257	7.69**	-3	-24	-4
Right Thalamus	257	6.10**	18	-27	1
Left Cerebral White Matter (Frontal Lobe)	333	7.65	-29	13	19
Left Cerebral White Matter (Frontal Lobe)	88	7.09	-18	46	5
Left Amygdala	48	6.34**	-26	-4	-21
Left Cerebral White Matter (L IFG)	91	6.33**	-42	29	8
Insular Cortex (Temporal Pole)	48	6.02**	-45	5	-9
Lateral Occipital Cortex, superior division	55	6.01	-12	-72	59
Left Cerebral White Matter (Temporal Lobe)	57	5.3	-32	2	-25
Left Cerebral White Matter (Occipital Lobe)	132	5.77	-36	-63	16
Parahippocampal Gyrus, anterior division	122	5.72**	-36	-12	-27
Left Cerebral White Matter (Frontal Lobe)	65	5.54	-9	37	8
Frontal Orbital Cortex (L IFG)	54	5.03**	-33	26	-12
Superior Temporal Gyrus	87	4.98**	-54	-4	-10
Temporal Pole	42	4.43	-39	1	-43

For all clusters, $t > 3.10$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; minimum extent = 40; Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the HarvardOxford atlas and/or the Anatomy Toolbox in parentheses; x,y,z = Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively. ** Significant difference in direct comparison between veridical and inverted feedback groups ($p < 0.001$).

2.4 Conjunction analysis of standard and inverted feedback groups

Table S4: Conjunction analysis, reflecting common correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in standard (Table S1) and inverted feedback group (Table S2)

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Temporal Occipital Fusiform Cortex	28	5.81	32	-46	-24
Right Cerebral White Matter	154	5.80	5	-16	-10
Right Cerebral White Matter (Right Hippocampus)	32	5.26	21	-18	-10
Left Thalamus	45	5.1	-8	-16	-1
Inferior Temporal Gyrus, posterior division	85	4.20	-60	-40	-16
Parahippocampal Gyrus (Fusiform Gyrus)	32	3.93	-21	-34	-18
Parahippocampal Gyrus, posterior division	25	3.86	-15	-45	-16

For all clusters, $t > 3.10$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; minimum extent = 20 (due to conjunction of two contrasts); Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the HarvardOxford atlas and/or the Anatomy Toolbox in parentheses; x,y,z =Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively.

2.5 Decreasing relation to SN/VTA temporal difference coding

Table S5: Cluster table for decreasing relation to midbrain temporal difference error signals during neurofeedback training based on contrast (IMAGINE_REWARD-REST)training_run2 – (IMAGINE_REWARD-REST)training_run1

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Lateral Occipital Cortex, inferior division	197	4.847	-45	-69	-10
Postcentral Gyrus	210	4.511	50	-25	44
Right Cerebral White Matter (dorsolateral prefrontal cortex)	23	3.393	35	11	37
Right Cerebral White Matter	49	4.357	30	-21	49
Superior Temporal Gyrus, posterior division	36	4.241	-68	-40	13
Left Cerebral White Matter (Left Inferior Frontal Gyrus)	55	4.083	-42	-57	-3
Left Cerebral White Matter (Left Caudate Nucleus)	31	4.072	-18	-4	28
Right Cerebral White Matter (Right Inferior Occipital gyrus)	39	4.068	39	-73	-3
Postcentral Gyrus	68	4.027	-41	-27	49
Superior Parietal Lobule	29	4.010	14	-51	71
Right Cerebral White Matter	30	3.972	39	-37	31
Superior Parietal Lobule	53	3.862	-39	-40	47

Right Cerebral White Matter	36	3.838	29	-48	46
Precentral Gyrus	26	3.827	0	-22	53
Left Cerebral White Matter	34	3.820	-12	-88	8
Supracalcarine Cortex	61	3.758	24	-61	19
Juxtapositional Lobule Cortex (formerly Supplementary Motor Cortex)	21	3.758	-3	-3	47
Lateral Occipital Cortex (Precuneus)	56	3.751	14	-61	59
Lateral Occipital Cortex	72	3.561	-20	-73	52
Lateral Occipital Cortex	24	3.559	-26	-76	38
Substantia nigra/ventral tegmental area	62	4.129	6	-7	-21

For all clusters, $t > 3.1$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; $df = 40$; minimum extent = 20; Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the HarvardOxford atlas and/or the Anatomy Toolbox in parentheses. x,y,z =Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively. Note: we report the results for dopaminergic midbrain here because the data for the temporal difference analysis (training runs) are independent from the DRT analysis (baseline and transfer run). However, the temporal difference modulator itself is defined by BOLD activity of the SN/VTA over the training runs.

2.6 Reward adaptation and reward sensitivity in MID task correlated with midbrain DRT

Table S6: Cluster table for correlation of midbrain DRT with MID task-based reward adaptation (difference of small minus large reward parametric modulators) and reward sensitivity (sum of small and large reward parametric modulators) as conjunction of all three analysis

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Middle Frontal Gyrus (dorsolateral prefrontal cortex)	21	3.72	39	8	39
Temporal Occipital Fusiform Cortex	37	4.98	32	-43	-21
Middle Temporal Gyrus, temporooccipital part	344	4.60	-63	-48	-4
Left Cerebral White Matter	32	4.30	-45	-45	1
Frontal Orbital Cortex	64	4.27	-51	26	-13
Right Thalamus	24	4.77	18	-28	-4
Left Cerebral White Matter	23	4.12	-8	-16	-6
Superior Frontal Gyrus	38	3.86	-2	37	58
Parahippocampal Gyrus	22	3.71	20	-12	-28

For all clusters, $t > 3.1$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; $df = 40$; minimum extent = 20 (due to conjunction); Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the HarvardOxford atlas and /or the AnatomyToolbox in parentheses; x,y,z =Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively.

2.7 Strategies used

Table S7: Overview of the proposed strategies and how often these strategies had been chosen by the participants

Proposed strategy used by	Veridical feedback Group (N=42)	Inverted feedback Group (N = 17)
Family and friends	27	3
Food	7	1
Personal achievement	9	1
Romantic or sexual imagery	39	8
Leisure activities	9	5
Individual others	-	-

2.8 Relation of dIPFC activity to SN/VTA temporal difference error coding in early and late neurofeedback training phase

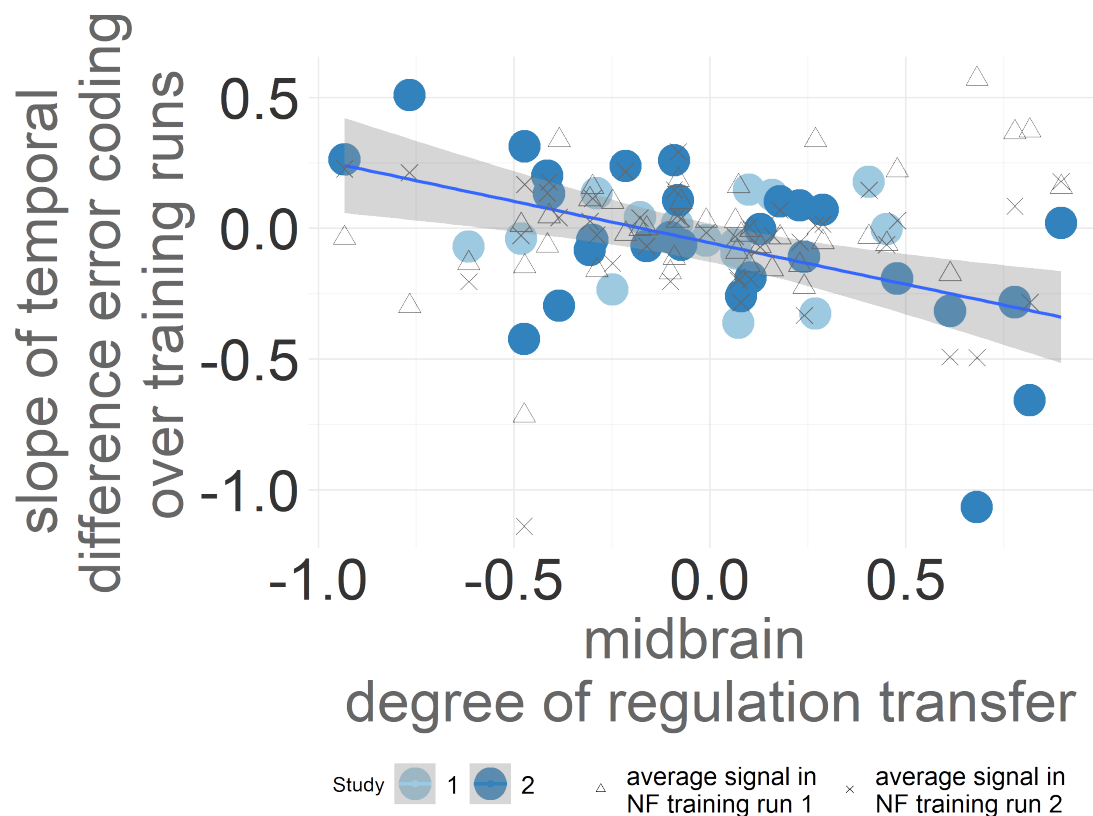


Figure S3: Run-wise relation between SN/VTA temporal difference error coding and dIPFC activity during NF training as function of SN/VTA self-regulation success. The slope of the temporal difference signal in dIPFC over the training runs, corresponding to the parametric difference between the current and immediately preceding feedback activity from the SN/VTA, decreased for the successful participants only. Here, the difference between the late training phase and early training phase is replotted from Figure 5. Moreover, the contrast estimate from the parametric temporal difference modulator is illustrated separately for first and second run, showing decrease of relation to temporal difference error coding in late training for successful regulators.

2.9 Control analysis for spatial specificity of dopaminergic midbrain regulation

To investigate the spatial specificity of our analysis of dopaminergic midbrain self-regulation, we performed the same analysis as described in the main text for SN/VTA but using the neighboring brain region of the parahippocampus as control ROI. This target area is also active during the self-regulation task because the participants perform memory-based strategies. We extracted the parahippocampus mask from the human Talairach atlas in the WFU Pickatlas and performed the identical main effects analysis as described in section 2.5 of the manuscript. To assess commonalities for the two target ROIs, SN/VTA and parahippocampus, we performed a conjunction analysis based on the unthresholded contrast image of the parahippocampus. This analysis revealed two common areas within the cerebellum and the temporal gyrus (Figure S4 and Table S8). The limited commonalities between these two target ROIs, especially in striatal and prefrontal areas, are compatible with spatial specificity of our findings using the SN/VTA as target region. To corroborate this interpretation, we also directly compared the results of the two target ROIs in a second level analysis (SN/VTA - parahippocampus) and calculated the conjunction of this difference with the SN/VTA results only. The results of this conjunction analysis revealed similar neural activity patterns as the SN/VTA pattern only. This analysis underpins the local specificity of our results because the interpretation of the results remains the same even when the parahippocampus result pattern has been subtracted.

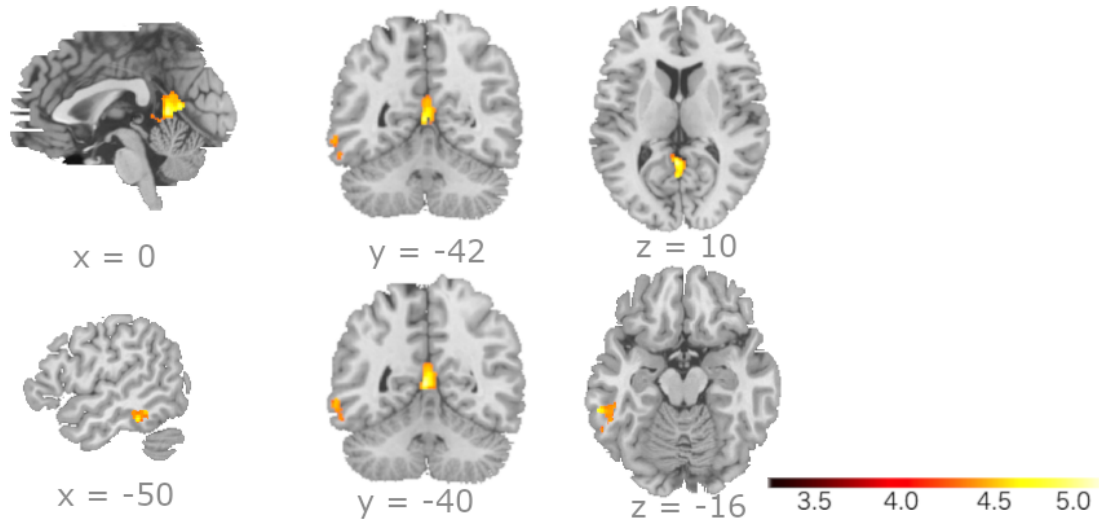


Figure S4: Spatial specificity of SN/VTA findings: Conjunction analysis of two different ROIs – our target ROI SN/VTA and control ROI in parahippocampus – for the main effect analysis of individual regulation transfer revealed limited commonalities between these two target ROIs, especially in striatal and prefrontal areas. This is in keeping with spatial specificity of our SN/VTA findings.

Table S8: Clusters overlapping in main (coactivation with SN/VTA) and spatial control (coactivation with parahippocampus) analysis

Region Label	# voxels	t-value	MNI Coordinates		
			x	y	z
Cerebellar Vermis (4/5)	701	6.104	-3	-49	7
L Inferior Temporal Gyrus	326	4.913	-62	-37	-16

For all clusters, $t > 3.10$; $p < 0.001$ uncorrected; $df = 40$; minimum extent = 20 (due to conjunction); Table shows all local maxima separated by more than 20 mm. Regions were labeled using the HarvardOxford atlas and /or the AnatomyToolbox in parentheses; x,y,z =Montreal Neurological Institute (MNI) coordinates in the left-right, anterior-posterior, and inferior-superior dimensions, respectively.

2.10 Distribution of DRT

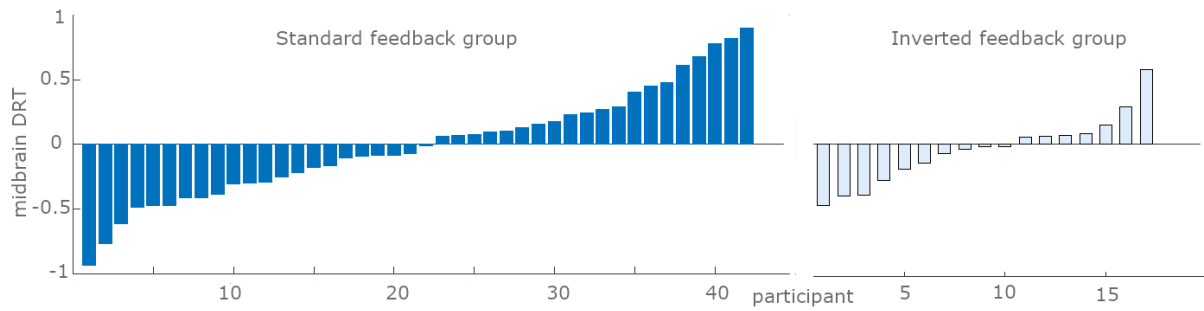


Figure S5: Distribution of DRT midbrain measure in standard feedback group and inverted (control) feedback group

2.11 Correlation DRT and slope during training

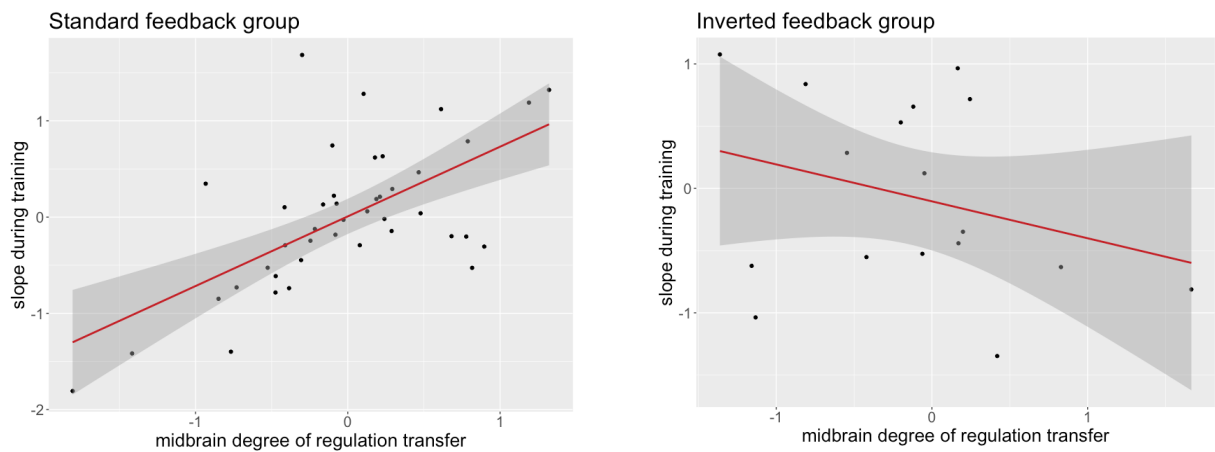


Figure S6: Positive correlation between the slope of SN/VTA signal change during neurofeedback training and midbrain DRT for the standard feedback group, but not for the control group (standard neurofeedback group $\rho = 0.62$, $p < 0.001$; inverted feedback group $\rho = -0.3$, $p = 0.25$, one-sided test for difference between correlations in independent samples: $z = 3.03$, $p = .001$). The grey shaded area identifies the 95 % confidence interval.

2.12 Scheme for calculation of temporal difference error

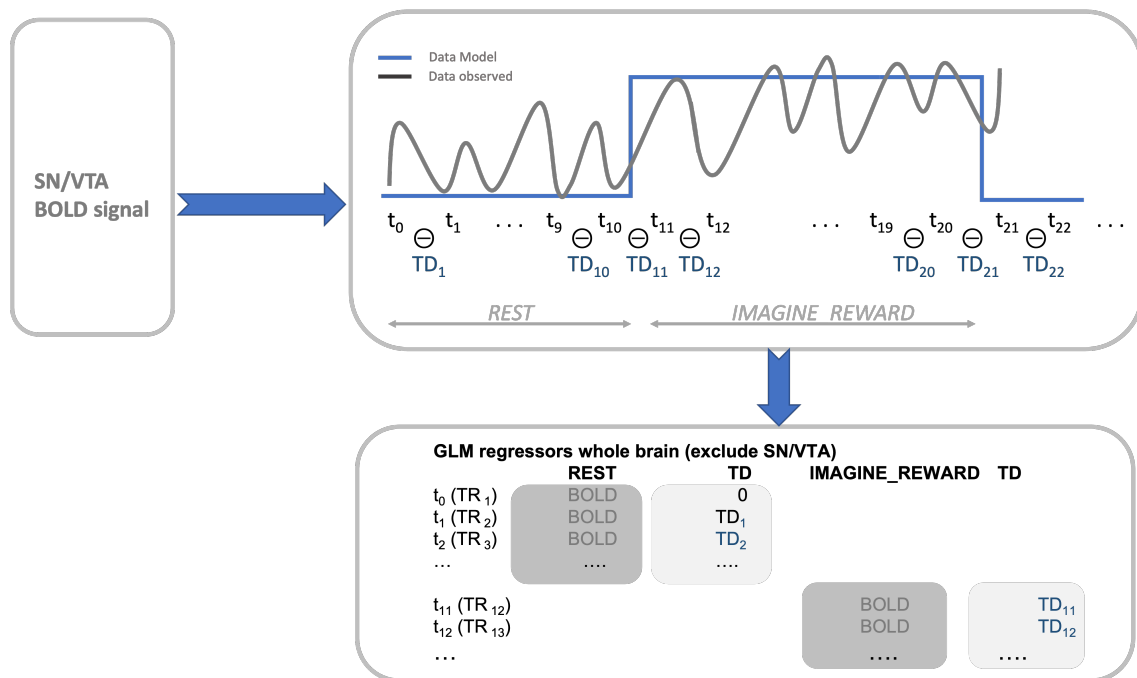


Figure S7: Calculation of TR-by-TR temporal difference error: (top) To calculate temporal difference (TD) errors during neurofeedback training runs, the SN/VTA signal in each single timestep t_i is subtracted from the signal at the previous timestep t_{i-1} , such that TDs were calculated for each TR of the neurofeedback training runs. Thus, the differences $t_1 - t_0, \dots, t_{22} - t_{21}$ correspond to the magnitude of $TD_1, \dots, TD_{22}$. Shown is one block within a run, comprising the two conditions, REST and IMAGINE_REWARD. (bottom) In the GLM, the TD values entered as parametric modulator for the BOLD regressors REST and IMAGINE_REWARD at each TR. We interrogated this parametric modulator at the whole-brain level to localize regions where activity correlated with TDs other than SN/VTA. Finally, to identify regions that showed reduced coding of TDs as learning progressed, we contrasted the statistical maps of the second neurofeedback training run with the first training run. Thus, TDs were calculated as TR-wise time-resolved signal, and the reduction in strength of TD coding was assessed run-wise.

2.13 Dynamic Causal Modelling analysis

Methods:

We investigated task-dependent effective connectivity between SN/VTA and dlPFC during the second neurofeedback training run related to the upregulation of the dopaminergic midbrain. The model space comprised three model variants, namely a fully connected model, a top-down (dlPFC to SN/VTA) and a bottom-up (SN/VTA to dlPFC) model. Based on our findings from the PPI analysis, we used IMAGINE_REWARD as modulatory effect on the connections between SN/VTA and dlPFC and IMAGINE_REWARD and REST as driving inputs on dlPFC.

We used Bayesian model selection (BMS) to infer on this selected model space followed by Bayesian parameter averaging (BPA). In addition, Bayesian model averaging (BMA) (Hoeting et al. 1999; Penny et al. 2010) was used to infer on the model structure (i.e., the significant connections between the ROIs), the connectivity parameters, and their modulations across the group. BMA provides an average over all parameter estimates within a model space weighted by their respective posterior probability. BMA can account for the uncertainty of the model structure and, at the same time, allows for inference on the connectivity parameters (Stephan et al. 2010).

In detail, for our DCM analysis, whitened and detrended time courses of dlPFC ($x = 40, y = 10, z = 38$) and SN/VTA ($x = -2, y = -16, z = -15$) regions were extracted for each participant using SPM12's

volume of interest (VOI) extraction batch function. We extracted data from spheres within radius of $r = 10$ mm, using a significance threshold of $p < 0.05$ uncorrected at the participant level and the first eigenvariate as summary statistic. One participant was excluded, as they did not exhibit significant activation in the search radius of both VOIs. Based on these time courses, DCM, as implemented in DCM12.5 (SPM12, Build 7771), was used to model the effective connectivity between these regions. All inputs (i.e., the time courses from our experimental conditions) were mean-centered. Finally, to investigate whether the modulatory effects of imagining reward are related to the transfer success of neurofeedback training on the individual level, we Spearman correlated them with midbrain DRT.

Results:

As result of Bayesian Model Selection, the fully connected model fitted the data of our study best (Fig. S8A). Within this model, the intrinsic connectivity between dIPFC and SN/VTA was positive (BMA posterior mean $A = +.097$) and weakly negative between SN/VTA and dIPFC (BMA posterior mean $A = -.004$). On top of this, the self-regulation by neurofeedback training increased dIPFC to SN/VTA connectivity (BMA posterior mean $B = +.037$, see Fig S8B). The results of BPA and BMA were comparable (Table S9). Finally, the midbrain DRT was significantly negative correlated ($\rho = -.44$; $p = .003$) with the modulatory effect (Fig S8C). Thus, successful self-regulation appears to benefit from some inhibitory modulation of SN/VTA by prefrontal cortex.

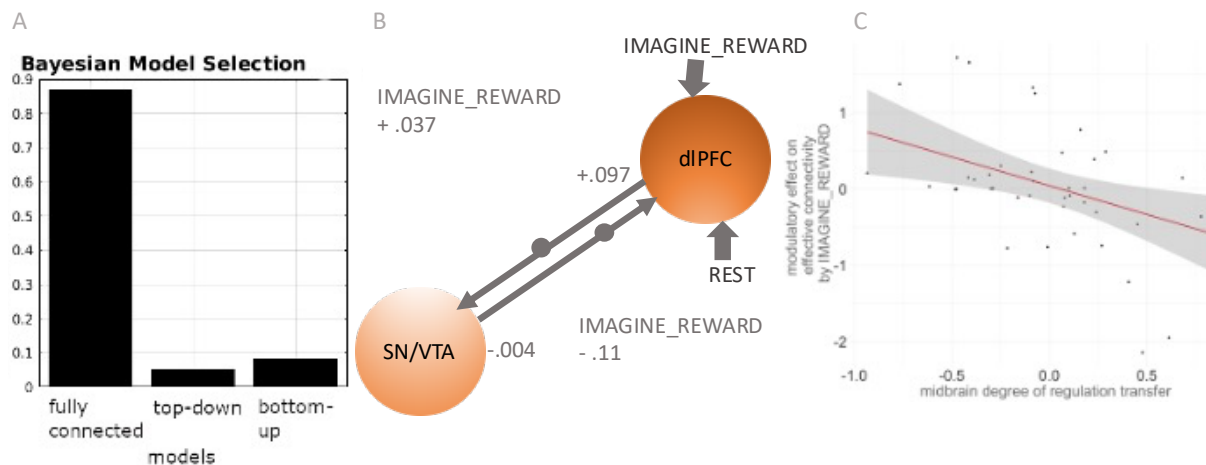


Figure S8: DCM analysis reveals that neurofeedback training increases effective excitatory connectivity from dIPFC to SN/VTA while individual regulation success benefits from inhibitory connectivity: (A) We tested three model variants, namely a fully connected, a top-down and a bottom-up model investigating effective connectivity between SN/VTA and dIPFC. Using Bayesian Model Selection, the fully connected model fits best to the given data. (B) The employment of mental strategies during neurofeedback training increases the excitatory effective connectivity from dIPFC to SN/VTA. (C) Midbrain DRT is negatively correlated ($\rho = -.44$; $p = .003$) with the modulatory effect, i.e. dIPFC exerts an inhibitory effect for individuals with stronger transfer success.

Table S9: Result table of DCM modeling analysis

A	SN/VTA	dIPFC	
SN	-.05 (BPA)	+.099 (BPA)	
	-.05 (BMA)	+.097 (BMA)	
dIPFC	-.007 (BPA)	-.066 (BPA)	
	-.004 (BMA)	-.068 (BMA)	
B_IMAGINE_REWARD	SN	dIPFC	ρ (with midbrain DRT)

SN	0	+ .038 (BPA) + .037 (BMA)	$\rho = -.44$; $p = .003$ (BPA) $\rho = -.41$; $p = .007$ (BMA)
dIPFC	-.12 (BPA) -.11 (BMA)	0	
C	IMAGINE_REWARD	REST	
dIPFC	+ .002 +. 0005	-.013 (BPA) -.01 (BMA)	

Discussion:

For both BPA and BMA analysis, the fully connected model outperformed the top-down or bottom-up only models. As expected from the literature, SN/VTA and dIPFC mutually modulate their connectivity. The neurofeedback training increases the positive effective connectivity from dIPFC to SN/VTA. Speculatively, the fact that this modulation correlates negatively with DRT may indicate that prefrontal cortex sculpts the general increase in connectivity to more successful strategies through inhibitory connectivity in successful individuals.

2.14 Confidence interval testing by bootstrapping

Table S10: We performed non-parametric bootstrapping using R scripts for all correlations presented throughout this manuscript to calculate confidence intervals at levels 2.5 % and 97.5 % of the distributions. The table summarizes the confidence intervals from the overall sample (Full sample) and a bootstrapping approach with 1000 subsamples. The confidence intervals using bootstrapping are close to the full sample intervals for all correlations reported in the main text and supplemental material. Therefore, this analysis supports the robustness of our findings.

Analysis / ROI	Full sample		Bootstrap (1000 samples)	
	2.5 %	97.5 %	2.5 %	97.5 %
Analysis Figure 3 (Correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in standard feedback group)				
Intercept ROI Thalamus	-0.129	0.074	-0.121	0.069
Slope ROI Thalamus	0.574	1.301	0.574	1.256
Intercept ROI MFG	-0.114	0.095	-0.116	0.0927
Slope ROI MFG	0.3359	0.8162	0.4245	0.7654
Intercept	0.0233	0.2684	0.013	0.2706
Slope ROI ACC	0.4806	1.2034	0.482	1.1904
Intercept	-0.0974	0.1132	-0.1026	0.104
Slope ROI Temporal Cortex	0.2655	0.664	0.3252	0.6846
Analysis Figure 4 (Correlation between midbrain and non-midbrain DRT in inverted feedback group)				
Intercept ROI Amygdala	-0.0373	0.138	-0.0425	0.1178
Slope ROI Amygdala	0.5348	1.1567	0.5039	1.1111
Analysis Figure 5 (Relation between midbrain temporal difference coding and dIPFC)				
Intercept ROI dIPFC	-0.1579	0.0748	-0.1531	0.0761
Slope ROI dIPFC	-1.1782	-0.3293	-1.1893	-0.3025
Analysis Figure 6 (Functional connectivity between dIPFC and SN/VTA)				
Intercept ROI SN/VTA	-0.0977	0.13	-0.092	0.12
Slope ROI SN/VTA	0.14	0.461	0.14	0.455

Analysis Figure 7 (Reward-sensitivity in dlPFC correlates with successful SN/VTA self-regulation)				
Intercept ROI dlPFC	-0.2324	0.1258	-0.225	0.1035
Slope ROI dlPFC	0.1674	1.121	0.3415	1.2012
Analysis Figure S7 (Positive correlation between the slope of SN/VTA signal change during neurofeedback training and midbrain DRT for the standard feedback group, but not for the control group)				
Intercept standard NF group	-0.1747	0.1426	-0.17	0.153
Slope NF group	0.3294	0.7609	0.2563	0.8161
Intercept inverted NF group	-0.535	0.2412	-0.4621	0.1891
Slope inverted NF group	-0.8175	0.2294	-0.822	0.2421
Analysis Figure S8 (DCM analysis reveals that individual regulation success benefits from inhibitory connectivity)				
Intercept modulatory effect	-0.1077	0.1371	-0.0993	0.1367
Slope modulatory effect	0.3789	-0.0626	-0.3169	-0.0999

2.15 Validation analysis of conditions *IMAGINE_REWARD* and *REST* as separate conditions

We performed a confirmatory analysis separating the two self-regulation conditions *IMAGINE_REWARD* and *REST* over the course of the study. Since the participants have been instructed to perform mental calculations during *REST*, which is an active task, these findings reveal that the results shown throughout the manuscript (*IMAGINE_REWARD-REST*) are not only driven by a decrease during *REST*.

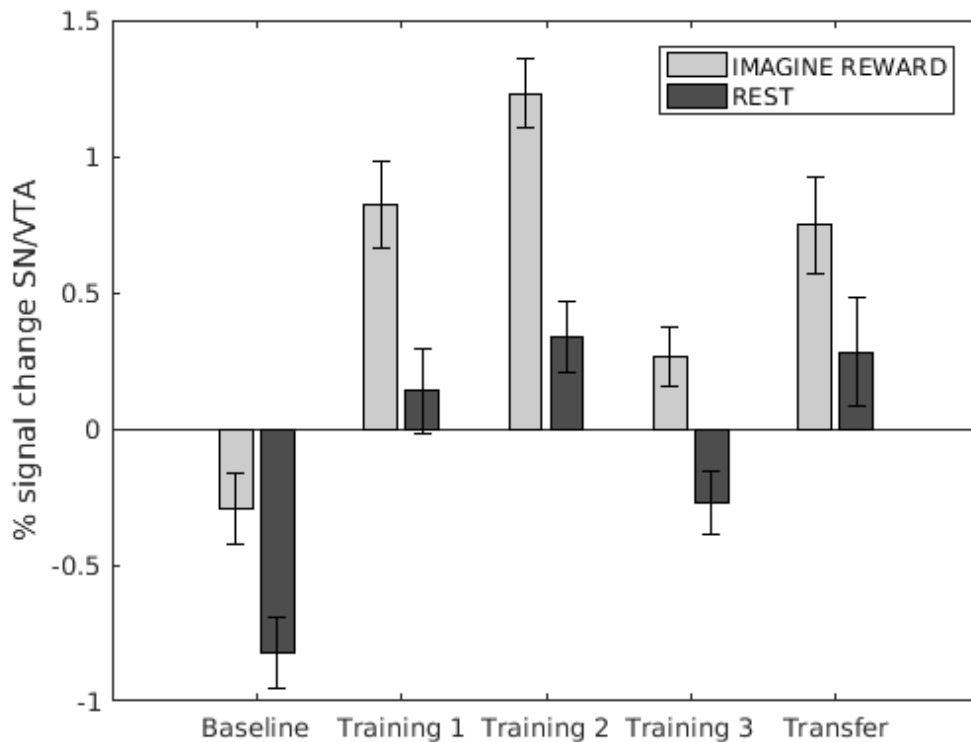


Figure S9: BOLD signal change in the dopaminergic midbrain as separated by self-regulation conditions *IMAGINE_REWARD* and *REST* over the course of the study: The BOLD signal change in the neurofeedback target regions SN/VTA is increasing while *REST* is not continuously decreasing over the course of the experiment (Note that Training 3 is based on Study 1 only). During the transfer run. The findings throughout this manuscript are based on the difference

IMAGINE-REWARD-REST. This confirmatory analysis reveals that these finding are not driven by a decrease of REST over the course of the study.