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**Abstract:** Anxiety is an adaptive response to perceived threat; however, chronic anxiety is debilitating, and anxiety disorders are the most common type of mental illness in the United States. Identification of neural circuits that underlie behavioral responses to threat in animal models is essential for understanding mechanisms that contribute to normative and pathological anxiety in humans. The Rinaman lab uses viral tools in rodent models to examine how visceral sensory feedback signals impact behavioral responses to threat, with a focus on caudal brainstem glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP1) neurons that process visceral sensory signals and project to the hypothalamus and limbic forebrain.