

# Application Of Neuroscience In Organizations From The Perspective Of Leadership Training: A Literature Review

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## Abstract:

**Background:** The contributions of Neuroscience are essential for the understanding of human behavior. Leadership, on the other hand, is a behavioral practice. Often seen as a technical skill, it actually represents a behavioral behavior that directly impacts productivity, performance, and collaboration. The characteristics of an organizational culture are manifested through the actions of leaders. Considering that Neuroscience investigates behavior and leadership is intrinsically behavioral, it can be stated that Neuroscience has the potential to enhance the behavioral dynamics of leaders. This enables a deeper understanding of how your actions, decisions, and working methods directly influence the performance and productivity of your teams.

**Materials and Methods:** This study consists of a narrative literature review that explores the application of Neuroscience in the formation of leaders in organizations. This approach aims to provide a comprehensive and detailed understanding of the findings, theories and practical applications relevant to the topic, using diverse academic and scientific sources to support the arguments presented.

**Results:** The results are structured in two topics. The first addressed the Possibilities of Application of Neuroscience in Organizations, presenting how the studies of Neuroscience presented relevant information about the nervous system, brain functioning and human behavior. The application of this knowledge in management, with emphasis on people development, has been an innovative factor in organizations. The second brought the Techniques of Application of Neuroscience in Organizations, with the good sense of considering that Neuroscience studies cannot answer all these questions about brain technologies in organizations, but possibilities were sought to generate elements of answer to complex and still little explored questions.

**Conclusion:** It was concluded that the investment in Neuroscience in leadership training is not limited to individual benefits, but also positively impacts the organizational culture as a whole. Leaders who apply neuroscience-based knowledge may be able to cultivate more collaborative, inclusive, and motivating work environments where human potential is maximized and strategic goals are achieved more efficiently.

**Keyword:** Neuroscience; Leadership; Leadership training; Neuroplasticity; Techniques in neuroscience.

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## I. Introduction

Leadership in society is a complex phenomenon that can be understood through various scientific perspectives. From a psychological approach, leaders are often identified by traits such as charisma, emotional intelligence, and communicative skills, which enable them to influence and motivate other individuals. In sociology, leadership is seen as a process of social interaction, where leaders emerge through group dynamics and power networks, exerting influence over collective norms, values, and behaviors. There are situational theories that emphasize that the effectiveness of leadership depends on the specific context in which it occurs, including environmental, cultural, and organizational factors that shape the expectations and demands of followers. From this perspective, leadership needs to be seen as a multidimensional phenomenon that transcends disciplines, offering fundamental insights into how individuals assume roles of influence and direction in society <sup>1</sup>.

The understanding of the leadership function is one of the main concerns of contemporary society, especially in an era where information stands out as a primary resource, unlike past periods dominated by capital, physical force or land. There is an urgent need for individuals capable of inspiring and mobilizing others to achieve collective goals. Some are born with natural leadership skills, while others develop them throughout their lives; the challenge lies in cultivating this potential in a current context where there is an abundance of managers, but a scarcity of true leaders <sup>2</sup>. Today, leadership qualities are universally recognized as crucial in management. A good

manager, by definition, must also be a leader, exemplifying and embodying the qualities necessary to effectively guide their work group.

Management in an organization is the development of a management system based on the establishment of competencies for the exercise of functions, the execution of activities, the performance of tasks and the conscious use of resources and assets, in order to enhance the return expected by the employer and minimize losses of capital, time, energy, waste, of motivation or of any nature that may affect the competitiveness of the institution, meeting objectives pre-defined by the strategic summit. And it is related to concentrating, manipulating, controlling and organizing resources first, then people<sup>3</sup>. The meaning of management is to employ the least possible resource (people, time, capital, machinery, etc.) to obtain the maximum expected result, achieving extraordinary levels of production and return, and at the same time, a pleasant level of employee satisfaction. This management system is shaped by the uncertainties and instabilities of organizational and social demands, usually limited to one sector, and acts in a tactical and intermediate way in an organization<sup>4</sup>.

The authors argue that managers demonstrate efficiency in previously structured environments, but face challenges in adapting to environments that change frequently or are more unstable. The organizational position of managers is subject to external changes in the work environment, just like any other aspect, but it is not solely up to them to decide what changes should be implemented by the organization<sup>4</sup>. On the other hand, the spread of leadership depends not only on the leader, but also on the support sustained by a broader group of employees who share a common vision of the future, mitigating their concerns. Leaders are found in diverse spheres of society, taking on both formal and informal roles<sup>4</sup>.

In an increasingly competitive job market, organizations have sought to hire and train leaders capable of managing contradictory demands and their resulting tensions. For example, leaders are expected to be able to emphasize social organizational values while encouraging the achievement of financial goals, to promote the implementation of standards while adopting innovation practices, and to lead based on collective rules while considering individual needs. Thus, managing these paradoxical demands in an assertive way has been increasingly relevant for individuals in leadership positions<sup>5</sup>.

Fundamentally, it needs to be understood that assertiveness is only one of the characteristics of leadership. It is an important characteristic, which directly impacts communication and the way leaders are seen, understood and perceived by their team. Assertiveness itself is when your communication is devoid of interference and noise in communication, helping a lot in the issue of assertiveness<sup>6</sup>. The contributions of Neuroscience are fundamental to the understanding of human behavior. And leadership is a behavioral practice. Many people understand leadership as a technical assignment but, at its core, it is a kind of behavioral behavior appropriate to promote productivity, performance, and collaboration. The intentions of an organizational culture are reflected in the behavior of leadership. If Neuroscience studies behavior and leadership is a behavioral function, fundamentally it can contribute to improve the behavioral dynamics of this leader and make him understand, in more depth, how actions, deliberations and the way he works interact directly with the performance and productivity of his team<sup>7</sup>.

Therefore, the present study seeks to advance in contemporary discussions about the practice of leadership in organizations, to point out the determinant and current concepts about how the reformulation of the identity of manager/leader are being treated in the literature and to point out perspectives that can add to the training of new Business Managers.

## **II. Material And Methods**

This is a narrative literature review study, which aims to explore how Neuroscience can be applied in the formation of leaders in organizations. This approach allows for a broad and detailed understanding of the key findings, theories, and practical applications related to the topic, utilizing a variety of academic and scientific sources to support the arguments presented. It was defined to identify and synthesize the principles of Neuroscience that underpin leadership skills, including aspects such as decision-making, emotional intelligence and resilience in the face of organizational changes. In addition, we sought to analyze how these principles are applied in practice, creating scenarios that demonstrate the benefits and challenges of implementing Neuroscience techniques in the training of leaders.

The literature search strategy involved the use of the academic databases PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science and Google Scholar, using relevant keywords such as "neuroscience", "leadership", "leadership training", "brain plasticity", "emotional intelligence", among other pertinent combinations. The selection of studies included the analysis of articles that directly explored the application of Neuroscience in leadership training, thus ensuring the quality and relevance of the data obtained. The classic books pointed out in the literature were sought for the creation of a conceptual and applied framework of the main techniques of Neuroscience.

Each selected source was subjected to a detailed reading, allowing the extraction of essential information, such as key concepts, methodologies used, and key findings. This approach facilitated the synthesis of the results, identifying emerging patterns in the literature and knowledge gaps that deserve additional attention. The

discussion of the results obtained offers an in-depth analysis of the theoretical and practical implications of the reviewed studies, highlighting how the principles of Neuroscience can be effectively integrated into leadership development programs in organizations.

### **III. Result**

In a recently constituted multidisciplinary team, at an early stage, there is a concern to "correctly" distribute the tasks among the elements and to understand if each one is capable of assuming responsibility or role in the tasks that are conferred or assigned to him <sup>7</sup>. The authors state that the greater the integration of the team members, the better the sharing of information and decision-making will be facilitated, leading the elements to feel more committed to the project <sup>7</sup>. Knowledge is an essential resource present in organizations, and its management is a strategic and critical process for their success and competitiveness. However, for this to happen, it is necessary for organizations to understand the various dimensions of knowledge management, namely how knowledge is shared among the different organizational actors at the various levels of an organization.

The advancement of studies in Neuroscience brings the possibility of opening this "black box", by directly measuring biological reactions in the face of situations that are presented for decision and during the process used to generate decision alternatives. In other words, one can see what happens when someone "thinks," even if not very precisely, in the face of the complexity of brain functioning. It opens up an opportunity to seek answers to questions related to non-rational aspects of decision-making, escaping from the classical postulates of economic theory for decision-making.

#### **Possibilities of Application of Neuroscience in Organizations**

Leadership is a key element in developing professionals competencies and achieving results for employees, teams, and organizations <sup>6</sup>. The effectiveness of current leadership development techniques has been questioned, indicating the need for new competencies, such as the ability to deal with stress in uncertain scenarios. Despite the volume of studies in this area, it is still unclear how individual differences can impact choices, with important implications for organizational behavior. It is known that over the decades, many leadership concepts have been offered to understand the personal characteristics that define a great leader, such as extroversion, charisma, or high cognition.

There is a need to consider that the role performed by the leader seeks to play an interrelationship with other individuals, and with such relationship networks, the professional leader achieves the possibility of positioning himself as a learner also within this process. In this sense, management in its totality aims at development and would not be restricted to the planning or occupation of issues aimed at as top management, but would compose an awakening of interest by any and all instances related to the object that is turned, seeking the development of a composed of interconnected networks of cooperation with all the people necessary for the execution process and intending to improve commitments; therefore, it is a matter of thinking about a particular skill developed by the leader <sup>8</sup>.

Neuroscience techniques have begun to be used within organizations to address the need for implicit objective measures of individual abilities, rather than relying on, for example, self-reports. Thus, combining the fields of Psychology, Neuroscience and Organizational Behavior can broaden and deepen research on leadership. Some skills can be improved when individuals experience emotional situations during learning <sup>6</sup>.

A model has been described, called the 4Cs model, built on three pillars, which contributes to an applied view of the theoretical-practical scope of Neuroscience in organizations <sup>7</sup>:

- **Communication:** sharing information and sharing views on the development process, mainly on design solutions (programmed prototypes, documents and imaging prototypes). In appointments, team members agree on the tasks to be performed, and their success in accomplishing the defined tasks depends on their self-discipline. Commitments can be defined on a timescale, in which the element defines a date or period for carrying out a certain task, or not. Communication works as the spontaneous contribution emitted by one or more elements of the multidisciplinary team (senders), and its impact is reflected by the remaining elements (receivers) through interpretations/perceptions and (re)actions.
- **Coordination:** coordination organizes the team, negotiating/assigning tasks to be carried out in a certain order, in order to meet the proposed objectives. The coordination also has the responsibility of managing conflicts associated with competitive attitudes, disorientation, problems of hierarchy and the diffusion of responsibility. It is responsible for preparing the multidisciplinary team for collaborative and cooperative work, through the preparation of actions (pre-articulation), in the execution of tasks (insistence) and managing interdependencies, considering that the execution of one task affects other tasks and the entire development process. A characteristic of interdependence is reciprocity, which means that team members are mutually interdependent.
- **Collaboration and Cooperation:** tasks that the multidisciplinary team develops together (collaboratively) or individually (cooperatively) but with a common goal, through a shared space. In collaboration and

cooperation, it is normal to contribute or request feedback on the project solutions presented (prototypes or documents), which is most often associated with the discussion (through suggestions, agreement/disagreement and the formulation of questions) of project solutions. Agreement can be total or partial, with reservations. The disagreement can be supplemented with an argument or an alternative proposal is presented. Clarification is an essential factor of collaboration and cooperation, allowing the clarification or explanation of unclear situations or problems. The persistence of the members of the multidisciplinary team is demonstrated in the accomplishment of tasks, suggestions and new project solutions.

Neuroscience has revealed relevant discoveries about the nervous system, brain functioning, and human behavior. The application of this knowledge in management, with emphasis on people development, has been an innovative factor in organizations. On a personal level, those who know more about how their nervous system works are more likely to succeed in behavioral change<sup>8,9,10</sup>. Leadership development has never ceased to be a matter of relevance to organizations. However, updating knowledge in the area in order to apply new leadership training strategies is essential to obtain efficient leadership to act in the constantly changing scenario in which we live. True leadership doesn't just create followers, it builds new leaders. Leadership can be emphasized as the ability to influence.

The 4C model was an adaptation of the 3C model of collaboration, which, in turn, emerged in the 90s and has been disseminated by several authors<sup>7</sup>: the 3C model has been used for different purposes, such as classifying collaborative tools, for analyzing user interfaces and for evaluating collaborative applications. Communication in the 3C model of collaboration comprises the exchange of messages as well as the negotiation of commitments.

Amoroso<sup>11</sup> establishes two relevant questions for the understanding of Neuroscience models and techniques in organizations: 1) does ethical leadership have the capacity to positively influence the sharing of knowledge between individuals? 2) Is interpersonal trust an enabler and mediator of the relationship between ethical leadership and knowledge sharing? The concept of ethical leadership is defined as the demonstration of appropriate normative conduct through personal actions and interpersonal relationships, and the promotion of such conduct to followers through bilateral communication, reinforcement and decision-making. The same author distinguishes two dimensions of ethical leadership – the 'moral person' and the 'moral manager'. The first dimension is associated with the characteristics and personality traits possessed by the leader, such as trust, honesty and fairness. The author points out that these leaders show a genuine concern for individuals and guide both their professional and private lives by ethical standards. While the second dimension is related to behaviors that do not necessarily come from traits, such as the definition of codes of ethical conduct and the communication of established ethical values<sup>10</sup>.

César et al.<sup>12</sup> highlight the relevance of studies in Neuroscience applied to the organizational context, emphasizing several critical areas for the improvement of decision-making processes. In the first place, it is essential to map the decision-making process in the areas of the company responsible for setting goals, identifying weaknesses that can compromise the effectiveness of these processes. This mapping not only reveals areas of vulnerability, but also enables the development of targeted strategies to repair or minimize these weaknesses, promoting a more robust decision aligned with organizational objectives.

The development of tools to improve Management Control Systems is a topic of relevance, as it allows for an efficient standardization of the goal-setting process within the company. This not only optimizes the allocation of resources for various activities, but also facilitates strategic management, ensuring that goals are established consistently and aligned with the specifics of the organization. The advancement of studies in Neurosciences has brought the possibility of opening this "black box", allowing the direct measurement of biological reactions in the face of situations that are presented for decision and during the process used to generate decision alternatives. In other words, one can see what happens when someone "thinks", even if not very precisely, in the face of the complexity of brain functioning; it is an opportunity to understand the non-rational aspects of the decision, escaping from the classical postulates of economic theory for Decision Making<sup>12,13</sup>.

The same group of researchers<sup>13</sup> infers that it is essential to identify and address behavioral problems that influence the decision-making process, such as managers' technical unpreparedness, social influences, conflicts of interest, and cultural aspects that affect risk perception. Developing Intelligent Information Systems that consider these behavioral and affective aspects is essential to improve the quality of organizational decisions, even in contexts that demand a predominantly rational approach. Additionally, providing auditors with tools that allow them to assess the strengths and weaknesses of budget controls facilitates critical review and improves the transparency of processes within the company<sup>12,13</sup>.

### **Techniques for the Application of Neuroscience in Organizations**

Technological advances in recent years have enabled new approaches to investigating brain functioning, including multiple levels of analysis. Several technologies have made it possible to observe the functioning of the

brain in different situations, such as through computed tomography and functional magnetic resonance imaging <sup>14</sup>.

The information, if well applied, will benefit the new leaders. These leaders will need to influence, lead people, know what engages and motivates them, in order to achieve results through them. All of this will depend on the ability to make the best use of every piece of information that science provides. It will be necessary to learn how to learn in another way. Based on this knowledge, we must train the brain to respond to external stimuli in a different way. It's like going to the gym. We need will and discipline on a daily basis. By noticing the positive results as a consequence of what we are doing, we will have the opportunity to continue exercising for our own well-being. We must become the director of our brain. Drive it. To make it respond to what we perceive and want, through self-observation, so that we can be better day after day <sup>14</sup>.

By focusing on some particular issues, it can be inferred how much the neuroscientific perspective can contribute to organizational science, according to Fachinelli et al. <sup>15</sup>. One question deals with the problem of the social environment and mirror neurons, which would represent the social phenomenon in the organizational climate, norms and emotional contagion in the work environment. However, there are obstacles to the use of brain science in strategic organizations, many of them related to moral and practical issues, which the authors themselves lead us to think about. For example, how should organizations manage the information they collect about individual brain activity and self-control? Some people control their impulses better than others, and this would make it possible to classify or certify people by behavioral self-control, an idea that some consider disastrous.

**Table 1** presents the main techniques applied using Neuroscience as a scientific assumption in organizations. It is shown that the application of Neuroscience techniques in organizations seems to be a complex process that involves several challenges. The first aspect to consider in the application of any techniques is that there is a need to translate the results acquired by them, which are often complex and technical, into accessible practices applicable to the organizational environment. Without integrated work between research centers and studies on Neurosciences with specified organizational sectors to implement the strategies, it seems to us something that will possibly not achieve the desired success and result. This requires a deep understanding of both neuroscientific theories and the specific dynamics of each organization.

The implementation of these techniques often requires significant cultural and structural changes within the company, which may encounter resistance from employees and managers who are accustomed to traditional management methods. Therefore, using Neuroscience techniques in organizations requires not only technical knowledge, but also interpersonal and strategic skills to overcome these challenges and make the most of the transformative potential that neuroscience can offer. Another important aspect is to understand the mechanisms of actions inherent to each technique, since these are modifications that occur in the Central Nervous System as a result of commands or strategies adopted in the dynamics of the implementation of techniques in organizations. Thus, we sought to explain these mechanisms in an understandable way, which will be treated below with practical examples.

**Table 1.** Main techniques of Neurosciences studied in the context of organizations.

Study	Technique	Technique Objective	Main Technique Collaboration	Expected Outcome in Leadership
Scarlett <sup>16</sup>	Neuroplasticity	Empower leaders and employees to develop new skills, adapt to change, and maximize their cognitive potential.	The main collaboration of neuroplasticity is to provide a scientific method for understanding how training and practice can physiologically alter the brain by strengthening neural connections relevant to specific abilities.	Business leaders use neuroplasticity to develop leadership skills such as effective communication, strategic decision-making, and team management.
Swart; Chisholm; Brown <sup>17</sup>	Emotional Intelligence	Develop skills such as emotional self-awareness, self-regulation, motivation, empathy, and social skills, all of which are fundamental for effective leadership and teamwork in organizations.	Provide a deeper understanding of the neural mechanisms underlying emotional behavior and emotional regulation, tailored to individual and organizational needs.	To help leaders and employees develop essential skills to understand their own emotions and those of others, thereby improving communication, conflict management, and decision-making.
Rock <sup>18</sup>	Feedback and Rewards	Utilize insight to create more effective feedback systems and reward strategies that motivate desired behaviors.	Reveal how the human brain responds to feedback and rewards through neurobiological processes such as the release of neurotransmitters such as dopamine, associated with feelings of reward and motivation.	Improvement of individual and collective performance, in addition to increasing employee motivation and engagement, with a focus on reinforcing positive behaviors and improving organizational culture.
Dolan; Sharot <sup>19</sup>	Decision Making	Identify the neural mechanisms underlying decision-making, including cortical areas that play a role in reasoning and planning, conflict processing, and monitoring of relevant information associated with emotional responses, and the evaluation of rewards and risks.	Provide a deeper understanding of the brain processes that influence decision-making, helping to identify cognitive biases, underlying emotions, and contextual factors that may affect individual and organizational choices.	More efficient and effective decision-making, based on a more objective and complete analysis of the available information.
Lieberman <sup>9</sup>	Social Neuroscience	Understand the neural underpinnings of social behavior, including aspects such as empathy, cooperation, social decision-making, and group formation.	Provide scientific guidance on how social interactions affect brain functioning, including areas such as the prefrontal cortex, which is involved in processing social information and regulating social behavior.	Significant improvement in team cohesion and performance, increased job satisfaction, and increased effectiveness of collaboration and innovation initiatives.
Mchale <sup>20</sup>	Neuroscience of Motivation	Understand the neural mechanisms underlying effective communication, including cortical areas that play a role in auditory processing and language comprehension, association with communication planning and organization, and emotional interpretation of messages.	Provide scientific elements on how to improve the effectiveness of communication within organizations.	Significant improvement in the quality of internal and external communication, resulting in greater alignment of objectives, increased operational efficiency, and better collaboration between teams.

Source: prepared by the authors.

#### **IV. Discussion**

The application of neuroscience techniques in organizations involves a deep understanding of neurobiological mechanisms of action and their implementation strategies. These techniques aim not only to optimize the individual performance of employees, but also to promote a more efficient and adaptive organizational culture. Integrating these strategies not only strengthens leaders' cognitive and emotional skills but also facilitates the creation of work environments that foster innovation, collaboration, and overall employee well-being.

##### **Neuroplasticity**

Innocenti<sup>21</sup> explains that neuroplasticity refers to the ability of the nervous system to adapt structurally and functionally in response to environmental stimuli, learning, experiences, and injury. Neuroplasticity can be described simply as the modification of the structure and/or function of the nervous system in response to new stimuli and environmental situations<sup>17</sup>. Therefore, it is the brain's ability to reorganize its neuronal connections in response to the repetition of activities or the frequent retrieval of information from memory. When someone repeatedly engages in an activity or accesses information repeatedly, the neural networks in the brain are shaped to adapt to that pattern of activity or memory<sup>22</sup>.

This phenomenon is mediated by a series of complex molecular and cellular processes that occur mainly in neurons and their synapses<sup>23</sup>. At the cellular level, neuroplasticity involves changes in synaptic efficiency, including modifying the strength of connections between neurons (synaptic plasticity), the formation of new synapses (synaptogenesis), the growth of new neurites (neurogenesis), and even the complete reorganization of neuronal circuits (reorganization). Specific molecular mechanisms, such as the activation of genes that promote neuronal growth and the expression of proteins involved in the formation and maintenance of synapses, are essential for these neural adaptations. Thus, neuroplasticity not only underpins lifelong learning and memory, but is also crucial for recovery after brain injuries and for adapting to new environmental challenges<sup>24</sup>.

##### ***Neuroplasticity in organizations: strategies and results***

All the molecular adaptations mentioned in the previous topic require strategies and training programs for the development of skills. A study such as Tomlinson<sup>25</sup> focuses on presenting neuroplasticity as a transformational tool for the improvement of management approaches. As a possibility of applying the technique, suppose a company implements a leadership development program focused on improving the decision-making capacity of its managers. During this program, neuroscience-based techniques are used to stimulate the brain neuroplasticity of the participants. Managers are exposed to challenging scenarios and are encouraged to practice new decision-making skills in simulated environments. Through continuous feedback, both individually and in groups, participants receive guidance to adjust and improve their decision-making strategies. The program may also include activities that promote reflection and self-awareness, helping managers identify and overcome harmful behavioral patterns that can negatively affect their decisions.

Over time, with this regular and structured developmental practice, it is expected that there will be new neural connections and reinforcements of brain circuits in the development of specific leadership skills, such as complex problem-solving, conflict management, and innovation. With this, managers not only improve their individual competencies, but also contribute to a more dynamic and adaptable organizational environment, where neuroplasticity is harnessed to drive effectiveness and innovation at all levels of the company.

##### **Emotional Intelligence**

Emotional Intelligence refers to the awareness, control, and expression of a person's emotions, as well as their ability to handle interpersonal relationships in a way that is wise and compassionate<sup>26</sup>. From the perspective of Neuroscience, emotional intelligence involves several functional mechanisms that occur in the brain, especially in areas such as the prefrontal cortex, the amygdala, and other regions related to emotional processing and processing.

The prefrontal cortex plays a key role in executive control, decision-making, and emotional regulation. Individuals with high emotional intelligence have greater activation and efficiency in this brain region, which facilitates reflection on emotions, impulse control, and planning emotionally appropriate responses. At the same time, the amygdala, which is central to emotional response, especially in detecting danger and generating automatic responses, is regulated more effectively by individuals with emotional intelligence, reducing reactions of fear or excessive anxiety in stressful situations. The practice of emotional intelligence strengthens neural connections between areas such as the anterior cingulate cortex and hippocampus, which are essential in emotional processing and memory, promoting more integrated emotional responses. In addition, the neuroscience of emotional intelligence explores neurotransmitters such as serotonin, dopamine, norepinephrine, and hormones such as cortisol, whose proper regulation is associated with the ability to manage emotions in a healthy and adaptive way<sup>27,28</sup>.

### ***Emotional intelligence in organizations: strategies and results***

Studies such as those by Yadav<sup>29</sup> and Ker et al.<sup>30</sup> present possibilities for the application of emotional intelligence in organizations. Thinking about a strategy, the organization wants to promote the implementation of leadership development programs that aim to improve the emotional management skills of leaders. The context occurs in a company that faces constant challenges of communication and cooperation between teams. To improve the work environment and increase operational efficiency, the company decides to offer training focused on emotional intelligence for its leaders.

During these trainings, leaders are empowered to recognize their own emotions and those of others, develop empathy, and manage conflict constructively. They learn techniques to deal with stressful situations in a calm and assertive way, which promotes a more positive and collaborative organizational climate. Additionally, they are encouraged to practice active listening and provide constructive feedback, which improves communication and strengthens relationships between teams.

What is expected is that there will be a procedural continuity of these actions, as it is an approach not only to improve the well-being of employees, reducing stress and increasing motivation, but also to contribute to more positive organizational results. Emotionally intelligent leaders are able to inspire confidence, motivate their teams, and make more effective decisions, directly impacting productivity and talent retention in the company. The application of emotional intelligence not only benefits the work environment but also promotes sustainable and adaptive organizational growth.

### **Feedback and Rewards**

The Feedback and Rewards technique in neuroscience involves understanding how the human brain processes and responds to feedback stimuli and incentives. It works through complex neurobiological mechanisms where the brain releases neurotransmitters like dopamine in response to positive or rewarding experiences. Dopamine is associated with feelings of pleasure and motivation, encouraging behaviors that lead to rewarding outcomes.

In an organizational context, this means that constructive feedback and appropriate rewards not only reinforce desired behaviors, but also encourage continuous employee learning and engagement. In addition, neuroscience reveals that the timing and specificity of feedback are decision-making points: immediate and specific feedback tends to be more effective at modifying behaviors than generic or delayed feedback, due to the way the brain processes and internalizes information relevant to decision-making and future actions<sup>31</sup>.

### ***Feedback and rewards in organizations: Strategies and Results***

It can occur with the application of performance evaluation and employee recognition programs. In this case, the company wants to improve the engagement and motivation of the sales team by implementing a structured performance-based feedback and rewards system.

It starts with establishing clear and measurable performance evaluation criteria for salespeople, such as sales volume, conversion rate, customer satisfaction, and meeting individual and team goals. The company conducts regular evaluations of each salesperson's performance, utilizing objective metrics and qualitative feedback on aspects such as communication skills, negotiation, and customer service.

Based on the results of the evaluations, the best performers and the employees who stood out are identified. Then, the company implements a rewards system that may include financial bonuses, non-financial prizes (such as travel or vouchers), public recognition, and professional development opportunities.

In addition to individual rewards, the company also encourages teamwork by offering collective rewards for goals achieved together. This system not only motivates employees to achieve excellence in their roles, but also strengthens team spirit and collaboration within the organization.

### **Decision Making**

The technique of neuroscience applied to decision-making is based on understanding the neural processes that influence how the human brain processes and chooses between different options. At the center of this technique is the prefrontal cortex, a specific region associated with planning, reasoning, and complex decision-making<sup>32</sup>.

This area integrates information from other parts of the brain, such as the anterior cingulate cortex, which monitors conflicts and relevance of information, and the limbic system, which influences emotional and motivational aspects of decision-making. Neuroscientists study how neurotransmitters such as dopamine and serotonin affect the evaluation of rewards and risks, influencing decisions based on expected outcomes and past experiences. Understanding these mechanisms allows us to identify cognitive biases, subconscious emotions, and contextual factors that shape the decision-making process, enabling strategies to improve the quality and consistency of decisions made by individuals and organizations.

### ***Decision making in organizations: strategies and results***

The decision-making technique in organizations can be found in companies that adopt structured processes for choosing suppliers. As a scenario, imagine a large corporation that needs to decide which vendor will be hired for a major project. To facilitate this decision-making process effectively, the company uses an approach based on rational and analytical decision-making.

The strategy begins with the establishment of a selection committee composed of members from different relevant areas, such as purchasing, finance, and operations. Each member brings a unique perspective to the evaluation of candidate vendors. Then, clear and objective criteria are defined to evaluate suppliers, such as product quality, delivery times, innovation capacity, and costs. During the process, detailed information about each potential supplier is collected, including site visits, review of contract documents, and interviews with key representatives. This information is then systematically analyzed and compared by the selection committee, using tools such as a decision matrix and SWOT analysis.

After careful analysis and structured discussions, the committee comes to a collective decision based on concrete and objective data. The final decision is documented and communicated in a transparent manner to all parties involved. This systematic approach to decision-making not only ensures a more informed choice that aligns with the company's strategic goals, but also promotes accountability and transparency within the organization. Additionally, it helps mitigate potential risks associated with choosing suppliers and contributes to a more efficient and effective procurement process.

### **Social Neuroscience**

Social neuroscience explores how the human brain perceives, processes, and responds to social interactions. It works by investigating the brain areas involved in processing social information, such as the prefrontal cortex, which plays a crucial role in interpreting social signals, making social decisions, and regulating social behavior<sup>9</sup>.

### ***Social neuroscience in organizations: strategies and results***

One can think about the implementation of diversity and inclusion programs. It is a company that recognizes the importance of promoting an inclusive work environment, where all employees feel valued and respected, regardless of their cultural, ethnic, gender or other differences.

To do this, the company uses social neuroscience assumptions to better understand how social and cultural interactions affect employee performance and well-being. At first, surveys and evaluations are carried out to identify possible barriers or unconscious biases that may exist within the organization. This can include workshops on cultural awareness, trainings to combat unconscious bias, and mentorship programs that encourage collaboration and mutual understanding between different groups within the company.

The company creates inclusive policies and practices that ensure equal opportunities for all employees, regardless of their background or identity. For example, recruitment and promotion policies that value diversity and leadership development programs that support the rise of diverse talent. This is because positive and inclusive social interactions are fundamental to the psychological well-being of employees, contributing to a healthy and sustainable organizational climate in the long term.

### **Neuroscience of Motivation**

Communication neuroscience explores how the human brain processes and interprets information during communicative interactions<sup>20,33</sup>. Functional mechanisms involve several specialized brain areas: the superior temporal cortex is crucial for auditory processing and the comprehension of spoken language, while the prefrontal cortex plays a key role in planning, organizing, and synthesizing complex communicative information.

In addition, the limbic system, which includes structures such as the amygdala and hippocampus, influences the emotional interpretation of messages, affecting how information is perceived and responded to emotionally. Neuroscientific studies show that effective communication is not limited to the transmission of data; She also considers the importance of emotions and empathy in receiving messages. By understanding these neural mechanisms, organizations can develop strategies that improve the clarity, emotional relevance, and accuracy of communications, fostering a more collaborative and productive work environment.

### ***Neuroscience of motivation in organizations: strategies and results***

The company decides to implement incentive and recognition programs for employees. This is an organization that wants to increase the motivation and engagement of the sales team. To achieve this goal, the company uses insights from neuroscience to better understand how to effectively motivate employees.

We sought to identify the individual motivational factors of each employee through surveys and evaluations. These factors can range from public recognition, opportunities for professional growth, to financial



and non-financial rewards. Based on this information, the company develops a personalized rewards system that meets the individual needs and preferences of employees.

In addition, the company uses neuroscience techniques to create a work environment that promotes the release of neurotransmitters associated with motivation, such as dopamine and serotonin. This can include creating enjoyable workspaces, flexible schedules, and fostering a positive and mutually supportive organizational climate among employees. By implementing these strategies based on the neuroscience of motivation, the company not only improves individual and collective performance, but also strengthens organizational culture and increases job satisfaction. Motivated employees tend to be more productive, creative, and committed to the company's goals, contributing to organizational success in a significant way.

## V. Conclusion

The study sought to highlight how neuroscience offers a unique and grounded perspective on the functioning of the human brain, providing reflections for the development of leadership skills. An in-depth understanding of leaders' cognitive, emotional, and behavioral processes allows for the creation of more effective development programs that are tailored to each leader's individual and contextual needs. The practical application of neuroscience can promote a more resilient, innovative, and results-oriented organizational environment. By integrating techniques such as neuroplasticity, emotional intelligence, and evidence-based decision-making from neuroscience, organizations can empower their leaders not only to address current challenges, but also to proactively anticipate and adapt to future changes. It is noteworthy that the investment in Neuroscience in leadership training is not limited to individual benefits, but also positively impacts the organizational culture as a whole. Leaders who apply neuroscience-based knowledge may be able to cultivate more collaborative, inclusive, and motivating work environments where human potential is maximized and strategic objectives are achieved with greater efficiency.

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