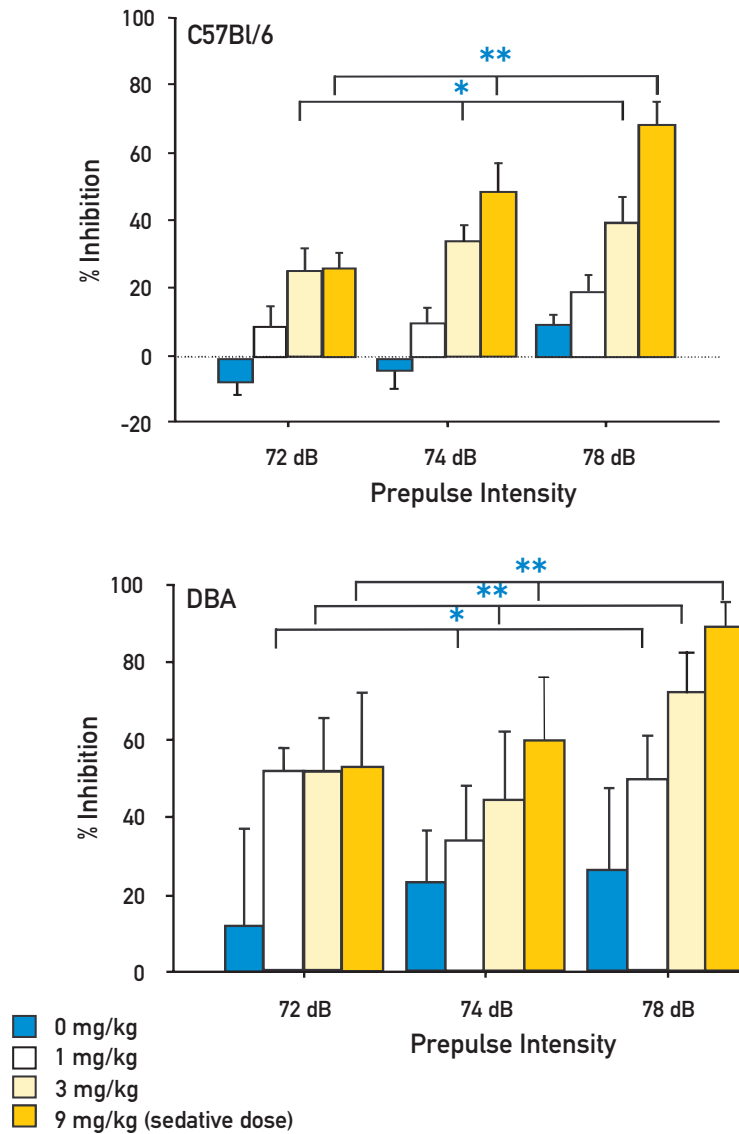


## The Effect of Clozapine on Prepulse Inhibition of Startle



A startle response in reaction to a loud acoustic stimulus is measured by placing either C57Bl/6 or DBA mice into an animal holder that is placed onto a transducer platform in an acoustic chamber and recording the amount of the animal's 'reaction' to the stimulus. A weak sound preceding the loud acoustic stimulus inhibits the startle reflex; this is called pre-pulse inhibition. Several psychotomimetic drugs (amphetamine, PCP, ketamine) disrupt PPI and simulate a psychotic-like state in animals which can be antagonized by anti-psychotics. In both strains of mice, anti-psychotics such as clozapine can also improve the PPI response without prior disruption.