

# Review of: "Growing Confidence and Remaining Uncertainty About Animal Consciousness"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

## **Specific Comments and Suggestions:**

**Introduction of Kuhn's Terminology:** When discussing the multitude of definitions of consciousness, introducing Kuhn's term "pre-paradigmatic" could provide useful context about the current state of the field.

**Volition and Free Will:** When mentioning the capacity to "initiate volitional activity," it would be beneficial to acknowledge the controversy surrounding the existence of free will.

**Clarification on Neural Complexity:** Clarify the distinction between neural systems sufficiently complex to support consciousness and the assumption that consciousness inevitably arises in these systems.

**Dispersed Non-Structural Processes:** Expand the explanation of these processes to improve understanding.

**Access to Consciousness:** Review the terminology used to describe how consciousness accesses incoming information.

**Mechanism-Phenomenology Relationship:** Improve the discussion on how neural mechanisms relate to phenomenological experience, perhaps with more examples or analogies.

**Role of Episodic Memory:** Include a discussion on the relationship between episodic memory and consciousness, considering that the ability to recall conscious experiences is a relevant topic.

## **Conclusion:**

This manuscript represents a significant contribution to the field of animal consciousness, providing a comprehensive and well-founded review of current advances and areas of uncertainty. With some improvements in clarity and depth on certain topics, it could offer an even more robust and accessible perspective for researchers and the interested public.