The chemistry of love
Before we start...

- When you think about the qualities found in a true "soul mate" relationship, what one word comes up most often on the top of your list?
Is there real chemistry behind love?

Is chemistry related to our feelings?

Is chemistry involved when we fall in love?

Is chemistry involved when we feel good?
LUST

ATTRACTION

ATTACHMENT
On lust stage...

- Lust is initiated by physical attraction or flirting.
- The two chemicals that surface during this stage are the sex hormones (testosterone and estrogen) and pheromones.
On attraction stage...

DOPAMINE

PHENYLETHYLAMINE

SEROTONIN

NOREPINEPHRINE
On attachment stage...

- Oxytocin
- Endorphins
- Vasopressin
Chemical basis of Love

**Attachment:**
- Oxytocin
- Vasopressin

**Lust:**
- Testosterone
- Estrogen

**Attraction:**
- Dopamine
- Norepinephrine
- Serotonin
- Nerve growth factor

*Increased heart rate*
*Other physical effects*
On love and time...

- High levels of oxytocin and vasopressin may interfere with dopamine and norepinephrine pathways.

- This is related to how, as times goes by, the feeling of closeness increases as the mad love sensation diminishes.
Disclaimer:

This PPT was created by the authors of ‘Chemistry in Everyday life’ Unit and it is meant for teacher’s education purposes only, it being designed and piloted within UAB TED Master’s Degree in the academic year 2009-2010.

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