

Case-control study; The effect of counterfactual thinking on retrospective control perceptions in posttraumatic stress disorder.

No registrations found.

Ethical review	Not applicable
Status	Recruiting
Health condition type	-
Study type	Interventional

Summary

ID

NL-OMON23758

Source

NTR

Brief title

N/A

Health condition

1. Counterfactual thinking;
2. Posttraumatic stress disorder;
3. Control perceptions.

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Maastricht University

Student: Tobias Konermann

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Maastricht University

Intervention

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

Difference score of retrospective control perceptions. Pre- and post-counterfactual control ratings will be obtained by using visual analogue scales ranging from 0 to 100.

Secondary outcome

Content and frequency of counterfactuals. The frequency of counterfactual thinking will be obtained by counting the number of generated counterfactuals.

The content will be classified according to the dimensions:

1. upward;
2. downward;
3. characterological;
4. behavioral;
5. controllable;
6. uncontrollable.

Study description

Background summary

Counterfactual thinking (CFT) can be described as considering alternative outcomes of past events and has been found to be positively associated with symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The present study assesses whether the generation of CFT leads to enhanced retrospective control perceptions over the traumatic event in a sample of trauma-exposed individuals. Differential effects are compared among a group of individuals that are diagnosed for PTSD and a healthy control group. It is expected that the PTSD group will generate more characterological counterfactuals which will not be associated with increases in control perception. The healthy control group is expected to generate more behavioral counterfactuals which in turn will lead to increased control perceptions.

Study objective

1. The generation of behavioral and controllable CFTs will lead to increased retrospective

control perceptions in both groups,;

2. The PTSD group will generate more characterological and uncontrollable counterfactuals relative to the comparison group.

Intervention

Participants will write down their traumatic event. They will then rate the event on their perceived control over the outcome of the event. After that, they will be instructed to engage in counterfactual thinking concerning the traumatic event by generating thoughts that begin with "What if -?". After performing this task, participants will rate their perceived control over the event again. Thereby, a pre-post counterfactual difference score will be obtained and used as the dependent variable.

Contacts

Public

University Maastricht
P.O. Box 616

Tobias Konermann
Maastricht
The Netherlands
+31 (0)43 3881228

Scientific

University Maastricht
P.O. Box 616

Tobias Konermann
Maastricht
The Netherlands
+31 (0)43 3881228

Eligibility criteria

Inclusion criteria

History of trauma-exposure.

Exclusion criteria

1. Non-native Dutch speakers;
2. Analphabetism;
3. Comorbid psychiatric disorders (except MDD).

Study design

Design

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Other

Control: N/A , unknown

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting

Start date (anticipated): 30-10-2007

Enrollment: 66

Type: Anticipated

Ethics review

Not applicable

Application type: Not applicable

Study registrations

Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL1028
NTR-old	NTR1060
Other	: 248878
ISRCTN	ISRCTN wordt niet meer aangevraagd

Study results