

Oxytocin, friendship, and dealing with emotions

No registrations found.

Ethical review	Positive opinion
Status	Pending
Health condition type	-
Study type	Interventional

Summary

ID

NL-OMON25216

Source

Nationaal Trial Register

Health condition

stress reactivity, stress reactiviteit

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Tilburg University

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Center of Research on Psychological and Somatic disorders, Tilburg University
Alumni Fonds, Tilburg University

Intervention

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

- 1) stress reactivity (self-report, cortisol, physiological reactivity) during social stress
- 2) stress reactivity (self-report, cortisol, physiological reactivity) during physical stress
- 3) Interpersonal distance between participant and virtual persons with varying emotional facial expressions in a Virtual Reality Paradigm.

Secondary outcome

The moderating roles of attachment style, parenting style and autonomy-connectedness on the effects of oxytocin and social support on stress will be examined.

Study description

Background summary

Susceptibility for stress-related psychopathology, e.g. anxiety disorders, may arise in part when individuals are not able to form stable, long-lasting bonds, and to profit from the stress-buffering effects of social support. Oxytocin has been shown to play an important role in attachment to others and prosocial behaviour. However, it is yet unclear whether, how, and for whom oxytocin may be used in a clinical setting, most notably because many individual differences exist in the stress-buffering effects of oxytocin. We hypothesize that oxytocin may increase the stress-buffering effects of social support, but that this effect depends on individual variations in attachment, parenting styles and autonomy-connectedness. These effects may also be more pronounced in socially stressful situations, compared with a general stressor. Further, in line with the hypothesis that interpersonal functioning is essential for psychological well-being, this study tests whether oxytocin and social support affect the interpersonal closeness one is comfortable with, and whether this varies for different emotions of the other person. Individual differences in attachment, parenting experiences during childhood and autonomy-connectedness are hypothesized to influence preferred interpersonal closeness and stress during this task.

Study objective

The aim of the study is to examine whether intranasal oxytocin enhances beneficial effects of social support during stress

Study design

1 labession. Self reported stress (STAI short form) and salivary cortisol will be measured at 5 time points. Physiological reactivity (heart rate) will be measured during mental (virtual version of the Trier Social Stress Test) and physical stress (Cold Pressor Test).

Intervention

A nasal oxytocin spray containing 24 IU oxytocin (6 puffs) is administered once. This will be compared with a placebo nasal spray (between-subjects design).

Contacts

Public

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Scientific

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Eligibility criteria

Inclusion criteria

Female, age 18-30 years, without children

Exclusion criteria

Use of medication (except contraceptives), drug or alcohol abuse, psychiatric disorder, neurological or cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, nasal disease or obstruction, pregnancy, and breast feeding.

Study design

Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Parallel
Allocation:	Randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Double blinded (masking used)
Control:	Placebo

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status:	Pending
Start date (anticipated):	01-09-2017
Enrollment:	180
Type:	Anticipated

Ethics review

Positive opinion	
Date:	12-06-2017
Application type:	First submission

Study registrations

Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

ID: 45277
Bron: ToetsingOnline
Titel:

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

No registrations found.

In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL6192
NTR-old	NTR6513
CCMO	NL60593.028.17
OMON	NL-OMON45277

Study results