

# Carnitine status in fit and pre-frail/frail elderly compared to healthy young individuals

No registrations found.

<b>Ethical review</b>	Positive opinion
<b>Status</b>	Pending
<b>Health condition type</b>	-
<b>Study type</b>	Observational non invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON26053

### Source

NTR

### Brief title

Fitaal

### Health condition

Elderly, Frailty, Carnitine, Mitochondrial dysfunction

Ouderen, Kwetsbaarheid, Carnitine, Mitochondriale dysfunctie

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** VHL University of Applied Science

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## **Intervention**

## **Outcome measures**

### **Primary outcome**

Intramuscular carnitine levels and carnitine derivatives

### **Secondary outcome**

Carnitine status and its derivatives in  
PBMCs

Mitochondrial function in muscle tissue  
and PBMCs

Fat and fat-free mass

Plasma carnitine and its derivatives

Short Physical Performance Battery  
(SPPB)

400m walk time

Cognitive function

## **Study description**

## Background summary

Ageing is associated with increasing physical disabilities and prevalence of frailty, which negatively affects quality of life. In addition, ageing is also associated with a decrease in intramuscular carnitine levels. Simultaneously, intramuscular mitochondrial content and function decline. There are three studies describing the decline in intramuscular carnitine levels during ageing, but none of these studies did measure if frailty status is associated with the degree of decline in carnitine status and mitochondrial function. In this study we are going to test the hypothesis that declined intramuscular carnitine levels are associated to declined mitochondrial function and, subsequently, to the frailty score.

Therefore the main objective is to compare the intramuscular carnitine status of prefrail/frail elderly with fit elderly and young individuals. The secondary objectives are; 1) determine if intramuscular carnitine status is associated with carnitine levels in PBMCs; 2) compare lean mass, physical function, muscle function/strength, cognitive function and mitochondrial function in skeletal muscle and PBMCs between fit and pre-frail/frail elderly, by using the healthy young individuals as a reference group.

## Study objective

We hypothesize that declined intramuscular carnitine levels are associated to declined mitochondrial function and, subsequently, to the frailty score. We suspect that prefrail/frail elderly will have the lowest intramuscular carnitine levels and mitochondrial function compared to the fit elderly and healthy young individuals, whereas fit elderly will have higher intramuscular carnitine status and mitochondrial function compared to pre-frail/frail elderly, but lower compared to healthy young individuals.

## Study design

All parameters will be measured within two weeks.

## Intervention

A blood sample and muscle biopsy. In addition, participants will perform several physical and cognitive tests and fill in questionnaires.

## Contacts

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## Eligibility criteria

### Inclusion criteria

Healthy young subjects

- 20-30 years of age
- BMI of 20-25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>

Healthy fit elderly

- 75 years or older
- Fried score = 0

Pre-frail/frail elderly

- 75 years or older
- Fried score of 1 or more

### Exclusion criteria

- Contra-indication for DEXA-scan, e.g. metal splinters
- Contra-indication for muscle biopsy, e.g. use of anticoagulants.

- a significant medical or surgical event or hospitalization within the previous three months
- currently or the last three months treated by a medical specialist
- diagnosed with cardiac failure, COPD or anaemia
- diagnosed dementia and not having access to a daily caregiver and not able to make their own trade-off, which will be assessed at our discretion. The potential subjects have to be able to reproduce what is said;
- diagnosed with cancer or receiving cancer treatment
- not able to understand the Dutch language
- Diagnosed neuromuscular disorders
- taking carnitine supplements
- current participation in other research
- usage of the following medications:
  - o Systemic corticosteroids
  - o Fibrates
  - o Valproic acid
  - o Emetine
  - o Zidovudine

Additional exclusion criteria for the young individuals:

- Pregnant and nursing women
- Diabetes Mellitus type I and II
- Limited amount of performing sports, not more than 5 times a week

## Study design

## Design

Study type:	Observational non invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	N/A , unknown

## Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Pending
Start date (anticipated):	16-01-2017
Enrollment:	78
Type:	Anticipated

## Ethics review

Positive opinion	
Date:	14-11-2016
Application type:	First submission

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

ID: 43161  
Bron: ToetsingOnline  
Titel:

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

No registrations found.

## In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL5943
NTR-old	NTR6124

**Register**

CCMO

OMON

**ID**

NL58289.081.16

NL-OMON43161

## Study results