Improving emotion recognition in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and intellectual disabilities

No registrations found.

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

Summary

ID

NL-OMON26856

Source
NTR

Brief title
Improving emotion recognition in children with ASD and BIF.

Health condition

* Autism spectrum disorder
* ASD
* Autism
* PDD-NOS
* Borderline intellectual functioning
* Intellectual disability

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Karakter Child- and Adolescent Psychiatry
Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Karakter Child- and Adolescent Psychiatry

Intervention

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

Primary outcomes includ neuro-cognitive functioning of the children, social information processing and scores on social behavioral questionnaires. Each of the parameters is assessed at the start of treatment, right after and six months after completing the intervention.

Secondary outcome

Not applicable.

Study description

Background summary

Rationale: Social skills are crucial for adapting to an increasingly complex social world during development. The implications of impaired social skills for mental well-being have called for identifying interventions that enhance social cognitive functioning and specifically target the core cognitive problems. Most social skills interventions are developed for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). However, approximately 50% of individuals with ASD have comorbid intellectual disabilities. The Transporters, an animated series designed to improve emotion comprehension in children with ASD, is a promising intervention for this specific group, given the visual nature, the frequent repetition and the small steps in which new information is being introduced. This study evaluates the efficacy of The Transporters in children with ASD an Borderline Intellectual Functioning (BIF, 70

Study objective

Main hypothesis: The group of children with ASD and BIF that receive "The Transporters" will show significantly more improvement in contextual understanding of emotions and social functioning than the group of children with ASD and BIF that receive the control intervention "Thomas & Friends".

Study design

First assessment: at the start of the interveniotn.
Second assessment: one week after completing the intervention.
Follow up: six months after completing the intervention.

Intervention

Two groups of children, randomly assigned to either the treatment condition or placebo group, are compared to each other. The intervention group watches the specifically designed DVD series called 'The Transporter'. The control group children receive a DVD of existing DVD episodes of 'Thomas & Friends', assembled specifically for this study. Both groups watch the DVD for 15 minutes a day, 5 days a week over the course of 4 weeks. In both groups, parents are actively involved in the treatment of their children by discussing certain specified topics using a diary and in helping their children make the generalisation across different settings.

Contacts

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Eligibility criteria

Inclusion criteria

* Children aged between 6 years, 0 months and 9 years, 11 months - known in psychiatric health care
* Children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, classified by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV).
* IQ scores between 70 and 85 ('borderline intellectual functioning')
* Access to a PC or TIV with DVD-player
* A comorbid ADHD diagnosis is allowed, as long as it is sufficiently treated with medication and dosage is stabile during the intervention.

Exclusion criteria

* Currenlty intensive (ie weekly) individual or group therapy
* Diagnosis of one or more of the following comorbid psychiatric disorders:

- major depression
- psychotic disorder
- conduct disorder
- attachment disorder
- serious moto and/or perceptual disability
* Simultaneous participation in another clinical trial
* Insufficient motivation for the completing the treatment
* Medical illness that needs treatment.

Study design

Design

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

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	01-09-2013
Enrollment:	44
Type:	Anticipated

Ethics review

Positive opinion

Date:	14-02-2014
Application type:	First submission

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	NL4290
NTR-old	NTR4434
Other	Commissie Mensgebonden Onderzoek, Radboud Universitair Medisch Centrum : 2013/370, NL nr.: 45653.091.13

Study results

Summary results
Not applicable