

# Bold exposure or safe masking? A fear-conditioning approach to chronic tinnitus suffering

No registrations found.

<b>Ethical review</b>	Positive opinion
<b>Status</b>	Recruiting
<b>Health condition type</b>	-
<b>Study type</b>	Interventional

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON27634

### Source

Nationaal Trial Register

### Health condition

Tinnitus, Cognitive behavioural treatment, Masking-therapy, fear-avoidance

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Maastricht University | Dept. of Clinical Psychological Science

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**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** NWO - Veni grant

Dossier nummer 016.165.105

## Intervention

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

1. Tinnitus-disability: Tinnitus Handicap Inventory, (TFI; Tinnitus Functional Index)
2. Tinnitus-severity: Tinnitus questionnaire (TQ)
3. Health related QoL: HUI, SF36

### **Secondary outcome**

4. Tinnitus-fear: FTQ; Fear of Tinnitus Questionnaire (FTQ)
5. Catastrophic thoughts: Tinnitus Catastrophising Scale (TCS)
6. Tinnitus variability
7. Threat expectancies
8. Negative emotional status
9. Avoidance behaviour (safety-seeing) (behavioural task/Inventory of Tinnitus Avoidance Behaviours (ITAB))
10. Daily diaries (including 3 weeks pre- and post intervention)
  - a. Tinnitus loudness & maskability Questionnaire (LMI)
  - b. Tinnitus-related fear-responding and tinnitus-intensity

## **Study description**

### **Background summary**

Does exposure to tinnitus decrease fear and tinnitus-disability, as opposed to masking tinnitus?

Method: In a RCT, 250 tinnitus-patients (including 15% loss to follow-up) recently diagnosed with tinnitus will be randomized (stratified on severity) in a masking or exposure condition, with tinnitus-disability and severity as independents and tinnitus-related fear, threat-appraisal, avoidance/safety behaviour, and psychoacoustic measures [41] as dependent variables, at baseline, pre-/post-treatment, and follow-up at 3 and 6 months after intervention. Tinnitus-related fear-responding and tinnitus-intensity (using self-report diaries) during masking-exposure procedures during 12 weeks (6 weeks masking-exposure procedures; 3 weeks pre-/post-measurements) will be assessed daily.

Exclusion: severe hearing-loss (cut-off point at a pure-tone average of 45dB hearing-level in worst ear). Masking- and exposure-procedures will follow previously developed guidelines [32, 42, 43]. Only masking and exposure elements will be extracted from the formal

guidelines for test-purposes

Hypotheses: (a) Tinnitus-fear, threat-appraisal, and tinnitus-related avoidance/safety behaviour decrease in the exposure-condition, not in the masking-condition. (b) Changes in tinnitus-related fear mediate changes in tinnitus-disability.

### **Study objective**

Does exposure-treatment decrease tinnitus-related fear, tinnitus-severity and recovery, when compared to a masking-therapy with use of personalised on-ear masking-devices, or vice versa? Can we identify different sub-groups of patients who benefit more from one approach over the other?

### **Study design**

1. baseline,
2. pretreatment
3. post treatment
4. 6 months (after baseline)
5. 9 months (after baseline)

### **Intervention**

CBT for tinnitus  
Masking-therapy for tinnitus

## **Contacts**

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## Eligibility criteria

### Inclusion criteria

- Score on Tinnitus questionnaire of TQ>30
- No previous masking or exposure therapy of minimally 5 years before inclusion
- Aged 18 plus

### Exclusion criteria

- Hearing loss of more than 40 dB in either/both ears
- Limited knowledge: reading and writing skills in Dutch language

## Study design

### Design

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

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	22-05-2017
Enrollment:	250
Type:	Anticipated

## IPD sharing statement

**Plan to share IPD:** Undecided

## Ethics review

Positive opinion

Date: 24-04-2017

Application type: First submission

## Study registrations

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

ID: 44287

Bron: ToetsingOnline

Titel:

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

No registrations found.

## In other registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL6235
NTR-old	NTR6415
CCMO	NL61673.015.17
OMON	NL-OMON44287

## Study results

### Summary results

- Fuller, Thomas, Cima, R.F.F., Langguth, Berthold, Mazurek, Birgit, Waddell, Angus, Hoare, Derek J., & Vlaeyen, Johan W. S. (2017). Cognitive behavioural therapy for tinnitus. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews(4). doi: 10.1002/14651858.CD012614<br>
- Fuller, T. E., Haider, H. F., Kikidis, D., Lapira, A., Mazurek, B., Norena, A., . . . Cima, R. F. (2017). Different Teams, Same Conclusions? A Systematic Review of Existing Clinical

- Guidelines for the Assessment and Treatment of Tinnitus in Adults. *Front Psychol*, 8, 206. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2017.00206<br>
3. Hall, D. A. Haider, H. Szczepek, A. J.Lau, P.Rabau, S.Jones-Diette, J.Londero, A.Edvall, N. K.Cederroth, C. R.Mielczarek, M.Fuller, T.Batuecas-Caletrio, A.Brueggemen, P.Thompson, D. M.Norena, A. Cima, R. F. F..Mehta, R. L.Mazurek, B.. (2016). Systematic review of outcome domains and instruments used in clinical trials of tinnitus treatments in adults. *Trials*, 17(1), 270. doi: 10.1186/s13063-016-1399-9<br>
  4. Lopez-Escamez, J. A., Bibas, T., Cima, R. F.F. Van de Heyning, P., Knipper, M., Mazurek, B., . . . Cederroth, C. R. (2016). Genetics of Tinnitus: An Emerging Area for Molecular Diagnosis and Drug Development. *Front Neurosci*, 10, 377. doi: 10.3389/fnins.2016.00377<br>
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  7. Maes, I.H., Cima, R. F. F., Vlaeyen, J. W. S., Anteunis, L., Baguley, D., El Refaie, A., & Joore, M.A. (2014). Cost-effectiveness of multidisciplinary management of Tinnitus at a specialized Tinnitus centre. *Otology & Neurotology* 35(5): 787-795. Impact Factor: 1.44 <br>
  8. Maes, I. H., Cima, R. F. F., Vlaeyen, J. W., Anteunis, L. J., & Joore, M. A. (2013). Tinnitus: a cost study. *Ear and Hearing*, 34(4), 508-514. Impact Factor: 2.06<br>
  9. Andersson, G., Hesser, H., Cima, R. F. F., & Weise, C. (2013). Autobiographical memory specificity in patients with tinnitus versus patients with depression and normal controls. *Cognitive behaviour therapy*, 42(2), 116-126. Impact Factor: 0.86<br>
  10. Cima, R. F. F., Maes, I. H., Joore, M. A., Scheyen, D. J. W. M., El Refaie, A., Baguley, D. M., Anteunis, L. J.C., van Breukelen, G. J. P., & Vlaeyen, J.W.S. (2012). Specialised treatment based on cognitive behaviour therapy versus usual care for tinnitus: a randomised controlled trial. *The Lancet*, 379(9830), 1951-1959. Impact Factor: 39.06<br>
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  15. Maes, I. H., Joore, M. A., Cima, R. F. F., Vlaeyen, J. W. S., & Anteunis, L. J. (2008). QL5 comparison of EQ-5D and HUI3 in patients with tinnitus. *Value in Health* 01/2008; 11(6). Impact Factor: 2.19

