Cortisol and Emotional Memory

Published: 13-07-2006
Last updated: 09-05-2024

In this study, the relationship between deficits within emotional memory and different typologies of psychopathy (impulsive vs. instrumental) will be examined. Furthermore, the current research concerns the influence (either positive or negative) of...

Ethical review	Not approved
Status	Will not start
Health condition type	Other condition
Study type	Interventional

Summary

ID

NL-OMON29925

Source
ToetsingOnline

Brief title
Cortisol and Emotional Memory

Condition

- Other condition

Synonym
psychopathy personality disorder

Health condition

persoonlijkheidsstoornis

Research involving
Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Universiteit Maastricht
Source(s) of monetary or material Support: VENI-beurs

Intervention

Keyword: Cortisol

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

The permission of the subjects is asked for they voluntary permission to take part in this study by means of a letter. They are requested d to fill in some questionnaires (PPI, RPQ, SS-R, SIMS & BIS-11), along with some sociodemographical variables. The individuals* permission by letter is obliged before staring the experiment.

Procedure

Delinquents receive an information letter along with a registration letter, whereupon they can sign their selves on for participation. Control persons will be recruited with advertisement at the UM and a newspaper. Subsequently, appointments for the sessions of 1,5 hour (with a total of 6 hours) will be planned. All subjects will receive 20 recompense if they successful completed all sessions.

Secondary outcome

n.v.t.

Study description

Background summary

The hormone cortisol has an important role in the research on emotional memory. Recent studies examine the interaction between glucocorticoiden and emotional

valence demonstrate that normal participants do remember emotional items better than neutral items due to a higher cortisol level, in opposite to other studies that did not report this pattern. The variance within the different studies depends on variously defined variables; e.g. administration of cortisol on different moments in time, differences in stimulus material and memory tests. In sum, these dissensions will be exemplified in the current study. Thence, cortisol will be administered on an identical moment in time, different stimuli types will be presented (words and pictures) and various memory tests (p. 8 of the protocol) will be examined.

Study objective

In this study, the relationship between deficits within emotional memory and different typologies of psychopathy (impulsive vs. instrumental) will be examined. Furthermore, the current research concerns the influence (either positive or negative) of different levels of cortisol on tests regarding emotional memory. The study contributes to a better understanding of the emotional memory within psychopaths, and will be attentive in the development of atheoretical framework concerning several dimensions within psychopathy in relation to emotional memory.

Study design

The study compromises 4 trails. The first meeting starts with assessing the subjects (baseline) cortisol level in four assessments in a single day, in which a saliva sample is collected with a cotton wool stick. During the first session, emotional (positive/negative) and neutral images are presented on a computer screen. Short Term Memory (STM) and Long Term Memory (LTM) are tested immediately after the second session (immediate cued recall and an immediate recognition task), and a week later (delayed free recall, delayed cued recall and delayed recognition). During the second session, equal memory tests are examined, proceeding by an administering of 20 mg cortisol or a placebo. Afterwards, the first session is repeated. In order to prevent possible learning effects, different pictures are presented in both session, matched in emotional valence and arousal level, based on the IAPS, in order prevent the attribution of possible response differences to the differences in the picture sets.

Intervention

n.v.t.

Study burden and risks

Risks
There are no health risks unified with this study.

Ethical aspects
Participants are totally free in their decision to participate within this research. Moreover, participation within the current research has no consequences what so ever on their treatment or duration of their reside within the clinic.

Contacts

Public
Universiteit Maastricht

Universiteitssingel 50
6229 RE Maastricht
Nederland
Scientific
Universiteit Maastricht

Universiteitssingel 50
6229 RE Maastricht
Nederland

Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age
Adults (18-64 years)
Elderly (65 years and older)

Inclusion criteria

Experimental group
-male person
-jail population, or TBS clinic
-IQ >= 90
-diagnosed psychopathic personality (PCL-R score >= 26);Control Group

-no psychic diagnosis
-normal IQ

Exclusion criteria

Experimental group;
-inadequate knowledge of the Dutch language to understand the test instructions
-IQ<90
-psychic or related disorder
-certain illness that is known to damage the memory capacity
-lactose allergy;Control group;
-inadequate knowledge of the Dutch language to understand the test instructions
-IQ<90
-psychic or related disorder
-certain illness that is known to damage the memory capacity
-lactose allergy

Study design

Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Crossover
Allocation:	Randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Double blinded (masking used)
Control:	Placebo
Primary purpose:	Other

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status:	Will not start
Enrollment:	122
Type:	Anticipated

Medical products/devices used

Registration:	No
Product type:	Medicine

Brand name:	Hydrocortisone CF
Generic name:	Cortisol
Registration:	Yes - NL outside intended use

Ethics review

Approved WMO Date:	13-07-2006
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)
Not approved Date:	20-04-2007
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

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
EudraCT	EUCTR2006-003435-70-NL
CCMO	NL13399.068.06