# Implicit and explicit expectancies of cannabis use in patients with schizophrenia

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This study will assess both implicit and explicit effect expectancies associated with marijuana in individuals with psychotic disorder. We will determine whether such expectancies are different from those of people in the general population. We will...

**Ethical review** Approved WMO

**Status** Pending

**Health condition type** Other condition

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON30151

## Source

ToetsingOnline

## **Brief title**

**IEECS** 

## **Condition**

- Other condition
- · Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders

#### **Synonym**

psychose, verslaving

#### **Health condition**

cannabis-verslaving/misbruik

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Academisch Medisch Centrum

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Zon-mw

## Intervention

**Keyword:** cannabis, expectancies, IAT, schizophrenia

## **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Explicit expectancies of cannabis use

Implicit expectancies of cannabis use

Difference of these expectancies between patients and healthy subjects.

## **Secondary outcome**

Craving for cannabis.

Current and past use of cannabis and other drugs.

## **Study description**

## **Background summary**

A lot of patients with schizophrenia use cannabis. Cannabis use has an adverse impact on positive symptoms, compliance and prognosis. Patients say they use cannabis to enhance positive mood, and to cope with negative emotions.

To improve treatment for cannabis using schizophrenia patients, it is neccesary to get more insight in their motivation and expectancies of cannabis use. These expectations can be measured in an explicit and implicit way.

Explicit expectations of cannabis use have been studied in the general populations as well as in patients with schizophrenia, with contradictory results. There are studies in which expectations between patients and controls do not differ, on the other hand there are studies in which the self-medication hypothesis is confermed, therfore the results point out there is an 'extra'reason for patients to use cannabis, namely to alleviate their symptoms and side-effects of antipsychotics. Implicit expectations are expectations that

people are unaware of. Implicit expecatations are measured in alcohol and drug research, but have never been tested in patients with schizophrenia.

## Study objective

This study will assess both implicit and explicit effect expectancies associated with marijuana in individuals with psychotic disorder. We will determine whether such expectancies are different from those of people in the general population. We will determine whether the explicit expectancies are associated with personal drug use patterns, craving and implicit expectancies. Through this research we hope to develop more insight in cannabis related cognitions in patients with psychotic disorder. Most important we hope to get an answer to the question whether patients with psychotic disorder use cannabis as 'self-medication', to alleviate their symptoms or side-effects of anti-psychotic medication. A valid assessment of implicit and explicit expectancies of cannabis use will hopefully contribute in developing more insights in specific interventions for drug use disorder in patients with psychotic disorder. Knowledge of cannabis related cognitions in patients who never used cannabis, will also contribute in developing preventative measures, which is very important, because cannabis use has an adverse impact on the course and outcome of psychotic disorder.

## Study design

It is a cross-sectional study design. Participants will be invited for one assessement in which two short interviews will be done, two questionnaires will be filled out and a computer task will be done. Participants are asked whether they may be invited for follow up 6 months after baseline for a short interview and a questionnaire they have to fill in.

Patients will be compared to healthy subjects.

It is expected that 200 participants will be included in this study.

## Study burden and risks

There is no burden and risk associated with participation. participants are seen once by a research assistant, for two short interviews, two questionnaires an a computer task. This takes one hour all together. Questions mainly focus on cannabis use and expectancies of cannabis use.

Participants are asked whether they can be assessed one more time after 6 months for two questionnaires on use of cannabis and craving for cannabis. This second assessment is done by one research assistant and takes 30 minutes.

Participants are of minor age as well as major age. In light of negative effects of cannabis use on course of schizophrenia it is of great importance to get insight into reasons for cannabis use in this population. Especially in

young patients much healt profit is expected of improved treatment.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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## **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

Netherlands

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

Adolescents (12-15 years) Adolescents (16-17 years) Adults (18-64 years) Elderly (65 years and older)

## Inclusion criteria

#### Patients:

- 1. Age 16 40 years
- 2. Command of the Dutch language
- 3. Non-affective psychotic disorder; Controls
- 1. age 16-40 years
- 2. No family history of psychotic disorders
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- 3. Command of the Dutch language
- 4. No psychosis in medical history

## **Exclusion criteria**

Affective psychosis

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Non-randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Basic science

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Pending

Start date (anticipated): 01-04-2006

Enrollment: 200

Type: Anticipated

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

# **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

CCMO NL11997.018.06