Differences and similarities in auditory hallucinations in healthy subjects and in patients with different psychiatric diagnoses.

Published: 17-10-2006
Last updated: 20-05-2024

The aim of this study is to investigate the differences and similarities in AVH in healthy subjects and in patients with different psychiatric disorders. In addition, the underlying biological mechanisms of AVH will be studied in detail:1)...

Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Recruitment stopped
Health condition type	Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
Study type	Observational invasive

Summary

ID

NL-OMON30169

Source
ToetsingOnline

Brief title
Auditory hallucinations

Condition

- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders

Synonym
auditory verbal hallucinations, hearing voices

Research involving
Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Ministerie van OC&W

Intervention

Keyword: descriptives, hallucinations, psychosis, questionnaires

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

- Phenomenology: The differences and resemblance in the phenomenology of AVH between the different groups

-Genotyping: associations of AVH with genes or genetic regions (by searching the whole genome).

- Brain imaging: fMRI: activation maps of language-related and hallucination-related activity will be compared between the different groups.

DTI: connectivity between the activated brain areas will be assessed and compared.

Secondary outcome

no secundary parameters

Study description

Background summary

Auditory verbal hallucinations (AVH) are very common in schizophrenia. Therefore, recent models of AVH are generally based on results from studies in patients with schizophrenia. However, AVH also occur in other psychiatric disorders, including unipolar depression, bipolar disorder, personality disorder and dementia. In addition, AVH are relatively frequent (10-15%) among healthy subjects. It is currently unclear whether AVH in psychiatric disorders and in healthy individuals are the same. In the proposed project, the differences and resemblance in the phenomenology of AVH in healthy subjects and in patients with psychiatric disorders will be investigated. The genetic background of the susceptibility for AVH will be investigated by comparing

whole genome scans between subjects with and without AVH. In addition, the underlying biological mechanisms of AVH will be studied with brain imaging techniques.

Study objective

The aim of this study is to investigate the differences and similarities in AVH in healthy subjects and in patients with different psychiatric disorders. In addition, the underlying biological mechanisms of AVH will be studied in detail:
1) Phenomenology: difference and resemblance in the phenomenology of AVH will be studied in the different groups.
2) Genotyping: the genetic background of the susceptibility to AVH will be investigated, by testing associations between AVH and genes by searching the whole genome.
3) Brain imaging: activation maps of language-related and hallucination-related activity will be acquired in the different groups. EEG during hallucinations will also be measured to assess the fast temporal aspects of AVH

Study design

The study can be divided in two parts.
1) Subjects will be asked to fill in some questionnaires and participate in an interviews, to describe the nature of AVH in detail. In addition, a small blood sample will be taken for genetic analysis.
2) A small subset of subjects from all diagnostic categories will be invited for brain imaging. A functional scan will be obtained while the subject is engaged in a language task. A second fMRI scan will be made while participants experience hallucinations (they have to bush a button while hearing AVH). A DTI scan will be obtained to assess connectivity between the activated areas. Fast temporal aspects of the AVH will be assessed with EEG.

Study burden and risks

Participants will be occupied for approximately 1.5 hours. The second part of the study will take an additional 1.5-2 hours. The main burden for the participant sis the time spend for this study. Some subjects may become anxious in the MRI scanner, in which case the scan will be aborted immediately. There are no health risks associated with this project. The acquired data will increase knowledge on the biological substrates of AVH, which may offer new insight for the development of new treatment strategies for AVH.

Contacts

Public

Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Heidelberglaan 100
Postbus 85500, 3508 GA Utrecht
NL
Scientific
Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Heidelberglaan 100
Postbus 85500, 3508 GA Utrecht
NL

Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

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

Inclusion criteria

General inclusion criteria:
- age > 18 years
- has experienced auditory verbal hallucinations at least once within the last three months.;Phenomenology:
-healthy subjects
-patients with schizophrenia
-patients with personality disorder
-patients with bipolar disorder
-patients with unipolar depression.;Specific inclusion criteria for brain imaging:
- frequent hallucinations, at least 4 bouts per hour

Exclusion criteria

General exclusion criteria:
- age < 18 years

Exclusion for the fMRI part:
- methal objects in or around the body that cannot be removed
-pregnancy

Study design

Design

Study type:	Observational invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Basic science

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	01-01-2007
Enrollment:	300
Type:	Actual

Ethics review

Approved WMO

Date:	17-10-2006
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

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	NL13473.041.06