

A pilot study to the relation between altered pain perception and emotional blunting in schizophrenic patients

Published: 16-01-2007

Last updated: 09-05-2024

Do patients, suffering from schizophrenia, who have (clinically) a flattening of affect, also have abnormalities in pain perception and expression (i.e. a higher threshold for pain perception and tolerance).

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

Summary

ID

NL-OMON30294

Source

ToetsingOnline

Brief title

APPE

Condition

- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders

Synonym

psychosis, schizophrenia

Research involving

Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Parnassia (Den Haag)

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

Intervention

Keyword: emotional blunting, pain, schizophrenia

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

The relation between the dimensions;

*Pain (Scores Altometer) an objective assesment

of a subjective reaction and is regarded as a * latent factor*

Yields two scores , pain treshold and pain tolerance

*Emotional bluntness (Scores Abrams scale) a subjective observer

assesment and is regarded as a * latent factor* .

Yields a score on three dimensions (affect, behavior,thought content) that can result in one total score.

*Emotional reactivity (Scores IAPS) an objective assesment of a subjective reaction and is regarded as a * latent factor*

Yields a score on three dimensions reaction to positive , negative or neutral score that can result in one total score

Secondary outcome

na

Study description

Background summary

It is a clinical recognised fact that (some)patients suffering from schizophrenia have an altered pain perception and may show remarkable emotional blunting.

It is probable that these two clinical phenomena are the expression of a common

structural and functional abnormality both in the central and peripheral nervous system and are the expression of a similar genetic vulnerability (endophenotype) to develop schizophrenia.

Altered pain perception and emotional blunting may be regarded as a trait characteristic of schizophrenia and play a role in premorbid and prodromal functioning.

There are relative few studies on the altered pain perception in schizophrenia but numerous studies on emotional flattening.

No studies can be found that look at the two phenomena and its relation to each other within one patient population.

This research includes measurement both of pain perception and emotional, affective functioning and its (clinical) relation to each other. This proposal is the first of a research line involving three steps.

Step 1. A pilot trial involving 75 patients to assess feasibility of the instruments and do an interim analysis on the hypothesised relation between altered pain perception and emotional flattening. (this protocol)

Step 2. If the results are positive an extension of the study population will be made to 200 to allow more elaborate statistical analysis of the underlying conceptual model. Possibly adaptation of the assessment procedure and instruments and to include genotyping of relevant polymorphisms involved both in pain perception and emotional functioning.

Step 3. If the clinical hypothesis is confirmed that there is a significant clinical correlation, future research will be more focussed on the fundamental structural and functional neural mechanisms involved, using brain-imaging techniques.

Study objective

Do patients, suffering from schizophrenia, who have (clinically) a flattening of affect, also have abnormalities in pain perception and expression (i.e. a higher threshold for pain perception and tolerance).

Study design

Method.

A cross-sectional study of both in and outpatients with schizophrenia in which flattening of affect and pain threshold will be assessed in a 45 minute session session..

Study burden and risks

The burden to the patient is light both in duration of the assessment procedure (45 minutes) and the possible emotional impact.

The pain threshold assessments is a common and non invasive technique that as such does not induce pain (contrary, if it hurts the instruction is to retract

the hand), but gives an indication at what level a stimulus is regarded as not pleasant.

Contacts

Public

Parnassia (Den Haag)

Monsterseweg 83
2553RJ Den Haag
Nederland

Scientific

Parnassia (Den Haag)

Monsterseweg 83
2553RJ Den Haag
Nederland

Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

Inclusion criteria

in and out-patients with schizophrenia or other chronic psychosis willing to participate ,

Exclusion criteria

no exclusion criteria except an inability to communicate due to language problems

Study design

Design

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Basic science

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting

Start date (anticipated): 01-01-2008

Enrollment: 75

Type: Actual

Ethics review

Approved WMO

Date: 16-01-2007

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METIGG: Medisch Ethische Toetsingscommissie Instellingen Geestelijke Gezondheidszorg (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	NL15424.097.06