# Radiofrequency denervation of the sacroiliac joint and the additive value of diagnostic tests

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1.) To determine the diagnostic value of a intra-articular injection with local anesthetics in the SIJ followed by RF SIJ denervation.2.) To determine the diagnostic value of a set of 5 SI provocation tests at examination, of with at least 3 are...

Ethical reviewNot approvedStatusWill not startHealth condition typeJoint disordersStudy typeInterventional

### **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON30438

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

Radiofrequency denervation of the sacroiliac joint

### **Condition**

Joint disorders

#### **Synonym**

low back pain, Sacroiliac joint related pain

### Research involving

Human

### **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Gelre Ziekenhuizen

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

### Intervention

**Keyword:** diagnostic blocks, provocation tests, Radiofrequency denervation, sacroiliac joint

### **Outcome measures**

### **Primary outcome**

pain reduction

### **Secondary outcome**

increase of daily activities.

## **Study description**

### **Background summary**

Chronic low back pain (CLBP) is a frequently occurring disease with major impact for patients and society. De life-time prevalence of low back pain is 70-80%. In recent years there is increasing evidence that the sacroiliac joint (SIJ) is (in part) a source in a subgroup of of CLBP patients. The prevalence of SI joint pain in patients with CLBP is estimated 13-30%. The diagnosis \*SIJ related pain\* is difficult to establish.

The gold standard for diagnosing SI joint related pain in patients with CLBP is the intra-articular injection with local anesthetic. If positive a radiofrequency denervation procedure of the SI joint will be done. Recently, 2 studies showed a good correlation between the intra-articular injection and a multitest regime of SI provocation tests.

For the treatment of SI related pain minimal invasive techniques, like radiofrequency (RF) denervation, are used. Usually, prior to RF procedures, a diagnostic intra-articular injection with local anesthetics (diagnostic block) is performed. If pain reduction is adequate the RF procedure will be performed. Problem is that the additive value of this diagnostic block is never proved. It is likely that the diagnostic blocks are superfluous.

### Study objective

- 1.) To determine the diagnostic value of a intra-articular injection with local anesthetics in the SIJ followed by RF SIJ denervation.
- 2.) To determine the diagnostic value of a set of 5 SI provocation tests at examination, of with at least 3 are positive, followed by RF SIJ denervation.

### Study design

We select patients with CLBP and pain over the SI joint, over the so called Fortin area. Selection takes palce on basis of the interview and on the physical examination. After inclusion and informed consent the patients will be scheduled for an intra-articular injection in the SIJ and for a RF SIJ denervation at the operation room of the Gelre hospital Apeldoorn. The treatments are standard procedures for patients with CLBP.

The patients will receive a diagnostic block with a short acting local anesthetic and ,on another day, a confirmatory block with a long acting local anesthetic. The amount and duration of pain reduction are registered. Next, a RF SIJ denervation will be performed. The injection and the RF SIJ denervation are performed by different anesthesiologists.

In advance of the diagnostic block the patient is examined by a manual therapist wit set of 5 SI provocation tests. All patients are asked to answer some questionnaires (Oswestry, Roland Morris, SF 36) for determine the impact of their pain on their daily activities. After the RF SIJ denervation there is a follow up for 1 year. During the follow up the study data are collected by an research assistant.

After 6 month additive treatments will be started if necessary. This study will be executed in the outpatient clinic and operating theater of the department of anesthesiology and pain management of the Gelre Ziekenhuizen location Juliana.

#### Intervention

Injections in the sacro-iliac joint Radiofrequency denervation of the sacro-ilac joint

### Study burden and risks

Compared to the normal procedures, in this study patients have to fill in several questionnaires, the physical examination will be repeated and patients can be treated with a RF SI procedure regardless the results of the diagnostic tests. There is considerably experience with these procedures and the risks are negligible.

### **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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#### **Scientific**

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### **Trial sites**

### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

### **Inclusion criteria**

patients with chronic low back pain, with pain over the SI area.

### **Exclusion criteria**

Severe liver- and/or renal function disorders
Zwangerschap
Radicular pain in the leg with paresis
Diseases of the hip (painful coxartrosis; total hip prothesis)
Tumors in pelvis.
obstipation
incontinence
prolaps
hypertonic pelic musculature
Waddell score > 3 uit 5.

# Study design

### **Design**

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Non-randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Will not start

Enrollment: 80

Type: Anticipated

### **Ethics review**

Not approved

Date: 13-02-2007

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 NL13164.041.06