

# Schizophrenia affects working memory in a process- and modality-specific way

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<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Pending
<b>Health condition type</b>	Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
<b>Study type</b>	Interventional

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON30563

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

Schizophrenia and working memory

### Condition

- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders

### Synonym

madness, psychotic disorder

### Research involving

Human

### Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen

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

## Intervention

**Keyword:** maintenance, manipulation, reaction times, schizophrenia, working memory

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Reaction times and errors made while comparing the patient population with the control group.

### Secondary outcome

none

## Study description

### Background summary

The last decades, a lot of research is done about schizophrenia, a social disabling disease often accompanied with cognitive deficits. There is a general consensus that working memory (Baddeley, 1986) is impaired in schizophrenic patients (Fleming, 1997). It is often cited as a central feature of vulnerability (Silver et al., 2003). There are a lot of studies measuring working memory, which consists of multiple components. However, the relative impairment of these to one another remain uncertain (Keefe, 2000).

### Study objective

The general purpose of the present study is to test whether people with schizophrenia perform differently when assessing working-memory tasks measuring different components. A better knowledge of working memory impairment in schizophrenia could lead to better diagnostics and treatment.

### Study design

To measure this, a 2 (Group: Patient, controls) x 2 (Task: No delay, Delay) x 2 (Modality: Verbal, Visuospatial) x 4 (Target: Same, Different, Same and rotated, Different and rotated) design will be used. In this, the condition Group is a natural variable, the conditions Task and Modality will be counterbalanced. The condition Target will be randomized.

## Intervention

none

## Study burden and risks

The psychology-experiment will take an hour to complete. There will not be used medical interventions. The experiment consists of 4 blocks, during which the participant has to press yes/no behind a computer. By this, the burden and risks of the experiment will be kept minimal.

## 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

Patiënts have to meet the ICD10 or DSMIV criteria for schizophrenia. Patiënts will have to be stable for a significant period and are receiving anti-psychotics.

Controls have to meet matching-criteria (estimated intelligence, age, gender).

## Exclusion criteria

For patiënts and controls: influence by drugs other than medication (e.g. sedating drugs, sleeping medication). We try to control for the Extra Pyramidal Syndrome (EPS), which is known to slow reaction times.

Controls with a psychiatric or neurologic history of illness.

Participants with dyslexia will be excluded. The number of left-handed participants will be minimized.

## 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:	Pending
Start date (anticipated):	01-01-2007
Enrollment:	40
Type:	Anticipated

## Ethics review

Approved WMO

Application type:

First submission

Review commission:

CMO regio Arnhem-Nijmegen (Nijmegen)

## 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	NL15275.091.06