# Assessing implicit and explicit drugrelated cognitions in an Ecological Momentary Assessment setting

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Aim 1: To examine whether implicit cognitions are associated with temptations to use heroin during a week in the detoxification department. Aim 2: To ascertain the feasibility of measuring implicit/explicit cognitions on PDAs in heroin-abusing...

**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruiting **Health condition type** Other condition

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

### ID

NL-OMON30909

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### **Brief title**

drug-related cognitions in an Ecological Momentary Assessment setting

### **Condition**

Other condition

### **Synonym**

herion addiction, opiate dependence

#### **Health condition**

verslaving

### Research involving

Human

### **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam **Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** ZonMw

### Intervention

**Keyword:** Attentional bias, Ecological Momentary Assessment, heroin, relapse

### **Outcome measures**

### **Primary outcome**

Comparing implicit cognitions at temptation assessments vs. random assessments.

### **Secondary outcome**

The feasibility of the methodology will be ascertained from the 1) mean response rate (compliance) on random assessments; 2) mean assessment completion time; 3) participants\* reports on ease of completion; and 4) rate of loss of PDAs (if any).

## **Study description**

### **Background summary**

There has been much recent interest in the role of cognitive processes underlying addiction. Research among smokers showed that these are important predictors of relapse. At the same time, there has been growing interest in the use of handheld computers (PDAs) to collect behavioral data in an Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA) setting. EMA has been used successfully in a variety of psychiatric populations, including impulsive patients, depressives, and schizophrenics (Moskowitz, & Young, 2006). In the present study, implicit cognitive assessments (the modified Stroop task and the Implicit Association Test) will be implemented on PDAs in an EMA setting (clinic).

### Study objective

Aim 1: To examine whether implicit cognitions are associated with temptations to use heroin during a week in the detoxification department.

Aim 2: To ascertain the feasibility of measuring implicit/explicit cognitions on PDAs in heroin-abusing participants in a clinical setting.

### Study design

The study will take place on a detoxification department of an addiction treatment center. After 4 days, when the physical withdrawal symptoms have waned, participants will be trained how to use the PDA and will carry this around for 1-week during detoxification. They will be required to respond to four random assessments (on a random list) per day, including the modified Stroop task and the Implicit Association Test (IAT). For the Stroop task, participants are required to classify the colors of neutral and addiction-related words as quickly and as accurately as possible. The IAT is used to investigate automatic affective associations in memory, where participants are required to categorize a concept (e.g., heroin + pleasant). Participants will also be required to complete assessments when they experience temptations to use heroin (\*temptation assessments\*).

### Study burden and risks

not applicable

### **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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### **Trial sites**

### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

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## **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

## **Inclusion criteria**

age 18-65; meet the DSM-IV criteria for heroin dependence; can read, speak, and write in Dutch at an eight-grade literacy level.

### **Exclusion criteria**

indications of severe psychopathology; self-reported color blindness and (non-corrected) defective vision; pregnant or breastfeeding.

## 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: 100

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 26-11-2007

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Erasmus MC, Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam

(Rotterdam)

## **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 NL18904.078.07