# Voice and speech characteristics of people with schizophrenia and autistic disorders.

Published: 22-05-2008 Last updated: 07-05-2024

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**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruiting

**Health condition type** Psychiatric disorders NEC **Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON31636

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

Voice characteristics in autism and schizophrenia

#### **Condition**

Psychiatric disorders NEC

#### **Synonym**

autism, schizophrenia

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Dr. Leo Kannerhuis

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: vanuit de instelling zelf

#### Intervention

Keyword: autism, schizophrenia, voice characteristics

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

The primary study parameters are the non-verbal characteristics of speech

analysed by SPRAAK software developed by the University of Amsterdam.

#### **Secondary outcome**

There are no secundary study parameters or outcome parameters in this study.

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

It has long been known that people with schizophrenia and people with an autistic spectrum disorder have speech peculiarities. This phenomenon has been described in the context of schizophrenia (Bleuler) and autism (Kanner, Asperger). Within the common paradigma the etiology of both disorders is different. Autism has a stronger genetic component than schizophrenia which can be diagnosed from an age of 18, whereas autism may be diagnosed in very young children.

This gives rise to the hypothesis that autism influences the speech development because of the age at which autism influences the development as a whole (at a pre-verbal age).

#### Study objective

This study aims to investigate the possible differences in speech characteristics of people with schizophrenia and autism, compared to people without a psychiatric diagnosis. Also, the possibility of creating a new means of improving the differential diagnosis between schizophrenia and autism, will be investigated.

#### Study design

Participants will be asked to complete three tasks which will be recorded by a solid-state recording device and analysed by special speech characteristisc software.

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The first tasks entails repeating 10 sentences from the Reynell language test. The second tasks is answering an open question like "what do you like to do in the weekend?". Participants answers will be recorded for approximately one minute.

The third (and last) tasks consists of describing the "Cookie theft" picture.

The second part of the study design entails asking a group of psychiatrists and psychologists to listen to the recordings (which will be made unintelligeable) and try to make the distinction between the participants with schizophrenia, autism and the controlgroup.

#### Study burden and risks

The nature and extent of the burden and risks for the participants are very small. There is no intervention in the treatment, nor will the treatment be influenced by the study. Participants will be asked to complete a single measurement as described above.

### **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

Sekse=male gender age= 18-40 diagnoses (DSM-IV TR)= autism, schizophrenia Education level= at least primary school, mastery of the Dutch language Informed consent

#### **Exclusion criteria**

Insufficient mastery of the Dutch language, including strong dialects and/or speech impairments.

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Non-randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Primary purpose: Basic science

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting
Start date (anticipated): 07-09-2008

Enrollment: 60

Type: Actual

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 22-05-2008

Application type: First submission

Review commission: TWOR: Toetsingscommissie Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek

Rotterdam e.o. (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 NL18387.101.08