# Rivastigmine for delirium in Intensive Care patients, a double-blind, randomised, placebo-controlled, multicenter add-on trial

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To study whether rivastigmine added to treatment with haloperidol shortens the duration of delirium in ICU patients and reduces costs.

Ethical reviewApproved WMOStatusRecruitment stoppedHealth condition typeDeliria (incl confusion)

Study type Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON33892

#### Source

ToetsingOnline

### **Brief title**

Rivastigmine for ICU-delirium

#### **Condition**

Deliria (incl confusion)

#### **Synonym**

agitation, ICU-pyschosis, ICU-syndrome

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: ZonMw subsidie in het kader van het

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programma "Doelmatigheidsonderzoek"., Novartis, Novartis levert de studie medicatie

Intervention

Keyword: Cholinesterase inhibitors, Delirium, ICU, Rivastigmine

**Outcome measures** 

**Primary outcome** 

Duration of delirium during hospital admission (i.e. at the ICU and at the ward

combined). This will be assessed by the sum of the duration of ICU delirium

(defined as the number of hours that the CAM-ICU is positive), and the duration

of delirium at a ward with lower level of care (defined as the number of hours

that the CAM is positive).

**Secondary outcome** 

1. Severity of delirium as assessed with the DSI. 2. The number of times rescue

medication is given in case of severe agitation, as well as the total dose of

haloperidol and propofol. 3. The number and type of accidentally removed

catheters. 4. Use of physical restraints. 5. Frequency and distribution of

possible adverse effects. 6. Length of ICU stay.

7. The number of re-admissions to the ICU during hospital stay. 8. Length of

hospital stay.

9. Cumulative survival from inclusion in the trial until 90 days. 10.

Activities of daily living 90 days after inclusion in the trial. 11. Quality of

life 90 days after inclusion in the proposed study. 12. Cognitive function 90

days after inclusion in the trial.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Delirium in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is a frequent disorder. It is estimated that 70% of the patients in the ICU, will suffer an episode of delirium during their stay in the ICU. Delirium in the ICU is not only an unpleasant and freighting experience for the patient and their relatives, delirium is also associated with worse prognosis (higher morbidity and mortality) and higher costs. Diagnosing delirium in the ICU is a difficult task, due to the frequent inability to communicate (i.e. intubation). In this study a validated method will be used: the Confusion Assessment Method for the ICU (CAM-ICU), a method with high sensitivity and specificity. The current therapy for (ICU-) delirium is treatment of the underlying condition (e.g. urinary tract infection) and symptomatic treatment with haloperidol. Several publications and clinical experience of the investigators have shown that rivastigmine (a cholinesterase inhibitor) may have a positive effect on the duration of delirium in delirious patients.

## Study objective

To study whether rivastigmine added to treatment with haloperidol shortens the duration of delirium in ICU patients and reduces costs.

### Study design

Multicentre, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, add-on trial.

#### Intervention

Delirious patients will receive the usual treatment (haloperidol). Subjects will be randomized between two groups: the intervention group and the placebo group.

Intervention group: 1,5 mg. rivastigmine twice daily. This dosage will be increased every three days with 3 mg a day, until the CAM-ICU is negative or until the occurrence of presumed severe adverse effects or until a maximum of 12 mg a day is reached.

Placebo group: twice a day, same dosage scheme as above.

## Study burden and risks

Burden: Evaluation of the cognitive functions of the participants (using the CAM-ICU) will be conducted as part of the daily practice. Fur study purposes only; the participant (and the legal representative) will be assessed at base line (duration: 10 minutes), and 90 days after inclusion for among others ADL

and QoL (duration: 20 minutes).

Risk: Participants are at risk of being treated with a drug, not-indicated for their disorder. This drug (rivastigmine) however is extensively tested on humans, and the investigators of this study have extensive clinical experience with \*off label\* prescription of this medication for delirium. Several publications indicate that rivastigmine might have a positive effect on the duration of delirium.

Benefit: Participants may be treated with a medication of which the experts believe that it will positively affect the prognosis.

Consideration: The investigators of this study believe that the burden and risk do not exceed the benefit.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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# **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

## Age

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

## Inclusion criteria

- 1. 18 years or older
- 2. Positive CAM-ICU
- 3. Anticipated ICU and/or Medium Care length of stay >48 hours

## **Exclusion criteria**

- 1. Known allergy to rivastigmine
- 2. Unable to receive enteric medication
- 3. Pregnant or lactating
- 4. Renal replacement therapy
- 5. Hepatic encephalopathy
- 6. Second or third degree atrioventricular block
- 7. Uncertainty about diagnosis delirium and no confirmation by neurologist, psychiatrist or geriatrician
- 8. Bradycardia with hemodynamic consequences (without functioning pacemaker)
- 9. No informed consent

# Study design

## **Design**

Study phase: 3

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Parallel

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Double blinded (masking used)

Control: Placebo

Primary purpose: Treatment

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 10-11-2008

Enrollment: 440

Type: Actual

## Medical products/devices used

Product type: Medicine

Brand name: Exelon

Generic name: Rivastigmine

Registration: Yes - NL outside intended use

Product type: Medicine

Brand name: Haldol

Generic name: Haloperidol

Registration: Yes - NL intended use

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 20-05-2008

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 27-05-2008

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 17-02-2009

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 12-03-2009

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 30-06-2009

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 16-07-2009
Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 29-12-2009

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 30-12-2009

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 03-02-2010

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 02-03-2010

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 20-04-2010
Application type: Amendment

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

EudraCT ClinicalTrials.gov CCMO ID

EUCTR2007-005300-41-NL NCT00704301 NL19821.041.08