

Freezing responses in PTSD and conversion disorder: An experimental study

Published: 29-06-2010

Last updated: 02-05-2024

Investigating freezing patterns in response to aversive pictures in 2 specific clinical populations: patients with PTSD and patients with conversion disorder. This will provide new information about the role of freezing in the onset and maintenance...

Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Recruiting
Health condition type	Anxiety disorders and symptoms
Study type	Observational non invasive

Summary

ID

NL-OMON34721

Source

ToetsingOnline

Brief title

Freezing in PTSD and conversion disorder

Condition

- Anxiety disorders and symptoms

Synonym

conversion disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

Research involving

Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Universiteit Leiden

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

Intervention

Keyword: conversion disorder, freezing, PTSD, trauma

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

The intervention consists of a passive picture viewing task. Outcome measures will be: body sway, heart rate, basal and reactive hormone levels (cortisol and testosterone), subjective anxiety and subjective immobility.

Secondary outcome

N/A

Study description

Background summary

Behavioural Gedragsinhibition and freezing are important reactions to danger and seem to play a role in the aetiology of trauma-related disorders like PTSD and conversion disorder. However, research in this area concerns animal studies mostly and research in humans is scarce. Recently, new possibilities are available by using a stabilometric platform. Previous studies reveal individual differences in human freezing-like responses using such a platform in healthy participants. These differences were moderated by anxiety and prior traumatisation. It is of great importance to also investigate freezing in trauma-related clinical populations (PTSD and conversion disorder).

Study objective

Investigating freezing patterns in response to aversive pictures in 2 specific clinical populations: patients with PTSD and patients with conversion disorder. This will provide new information about the role of freezing in the onset and maintenance of these disorders. The primary goal is therefore a scientific one, but this information may later be used to improve treatment of these disorders.

Study design

An experiment with a within-subjects (aversive, positive and neutral stimuli) and between-subjects (PTSD, conversion and healthy controls) design will be

executed in order to test acute responses to emotional stimuli.

Study burden and risks

The main burden for the participants is the use of aversive stimuli (for example, pictures of dead bodies and angry faces). Participants may also experience tiredness (the experiment will take about 1 hour). The pictures are selected from an international validated set, that is often used in international research on healthy and clinical populations (like for example PTSD patients).

Contacts

Public

Universiteit Leiden

wassenaarseweg 52
2300 RB, Leiden
NL

Scientific

Universiteit Leiden

wassenaarseweg 52
2300 RB, Leiden
NL

Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

Inclusion criteria

all participants: good or corrected vision, Dutch speaking
patients: meeting DSM-IV criteria for PTSD or conversion disorder

Exclusion criteria

all participants: colour blindness, substance or alcohol abuse
healthy controls: treatment for psychiatric disorders

Study design

Design

Study type:	Observational non invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Basic science

Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	01-09-2010
Enrollment:	60
Type:	Actual

Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	29-06-2010
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC Leids Universitair Medisch Centrum (Leiden)

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	NL30608.058.10