

# The ART-NECO study;Long term effective combination antiretroviral therapy (cART) and its effect on neurocognition. A prospective cohort study to assess the feasibility of two short cognitive screen tests in patients infected with HIV1 and the development of neurocognitive impairment over time

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To examine neurocognition in 100 HIV1 seropositive patients on chronic effective cART using three different tests: the Montreal cognitive assessment (MoCA) , the International Aids Dementia scale (ADS) and extensive neuropsychological testing of...

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	Viral infectious disorders
<b>Study type</b>	Observational non invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON35825

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

Art NeCo

### Condition

- Viral infectious disorders
- Neurological disorders NEC

**Synonym**

Neuro-HIV

**Research involving**

Human

**Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Sint Radboud

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Abbott, Farmaceutische Industrie

**Intervention**

**Keyword:** cART, HIV, Neurocognition, Neuro-HIV

**Outcome measures****Primary outcome**

- the incidence of cognitive deficits in a Dutch cohort of HIV1 seropositive patients on chronic cART;
- the utility, the sensitivity and specificity of a short cognitive screening test (the MoCA) in detecting HAND, and the International Aids Dementia scale in comparison with extensive neuropsychological tests

**Secondary outcome**

- The course of cognitive function in HIV infection over one year
- the detection of brain abnormalities visualized by MRI
- to establish the relation between HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders and quality of life, subjective well-being and subjective cognitive complaints.

**Study description****Background summary**

An increasing number of papers report on cognitive deficits in HIV seropositive

patients even during long-term successful treatment with combination antiretroviral therapy (cART).

Limited penetration of antiretroviral (ARV) drugs into the brain and ongoing viral replication followed by insidious damage of the brain is supposed to be a major factor for the development of neurocognitive impairment in HIV patients. Besides, many other factors like age, co infections, and comorbidities are supposed to be involved.

It can be expected that in future cognitive dysfunction may occur more often in HIV1 seropositive patients, particularly with growing age.

The clinical significance of cognitive deficits however is not exactly known.

Furthermore a short cognitive screening test for detection of cognitive deficits is highly warranted in clinical practice, as extensive neuropsychological tests are not attainable in this setting.

The international aids dementia scale (ADS) is recommended in literature to assess cognitive dysfunction. But this test is not appropriate for detection of mild-to moderate cognitive disorders. The Montreal Cognitive Assessment also can be used, but has not been investigated in HIV seropositive patients.

The present study proposal seeks to investigate the utility of and to compare the three different sets of cognitive function tests (i.e extensive neuropsychological assessment, the international Aids Dementia scale and the MoCa) in a Dutch cohort of HIV infected patients on chronic effective combination antiretroviral therapy. The second aim is to correlate cognitive impairment to structural brain abnormalities, visualized by MRI.

## **Study objective**

To examine neurocognition in 100 HIV1 seropositive patients on chronic effective cART using three different tests: the Montreal cognitive assessment (MoCA) , the International Aids Dementia scale (ADS) and extensive neuropsychological testing of five domains.

- To establish the utility of MoCA and ADS as screening tests for cognitive function
- To determine the course of cognitive functioning over a 1-year period;
- To establish the relation between HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders and quality of life, subjective well-being and subjective cognitive complaints.
- To establish the incidence of structural brain abnormalities on MRI

## **Study design**

One hundred HIV 1 seropositive patients on chronic effective cART will be recruited for this study. After informed consent an extensive neuropsychological test (appendix 1) , the ADS (appendix 2) and the MoCA (appendix 3) will be performed. A depression scale and a questionnaire on quality of life and a MRI of the brain will be done as well. The neuropsychological examination will include the following domains: memory, attention and concentration, executive functioning, motor function, processing

speed and visual construction.

Furthermore, an MRI of the brain will be made

The neuropsychological assessments will be repeated after one year. Slight modifications will be brought into the test batteries in order to prevent a learning effect. The reliable change index (RCI) will be calculated as a correction for a potential learning effect. Symptom validity and psychosocial variables will be taken into account.

## **Intervention**

Neuropsychological test  
MRI cerebrum  
Lumbar puncture(s)  
Blood punctures

## **Study burden and risks**

2-3 extra hospital-visits

## **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

- \* HIV-seropositive 18-65 years (Western Blot)
- \* Treatment with cART
- \* HIVRNA in plasma < 50 copies/ml for one year

### Exclusion criteria

- \* Active opportunistic infection
- \* Active psychiatric disorder for which treatment is indicated
- \* Overt cognitive disorder due to other co morbidity (e.g. of vascular origin)
- \* Malignancy
- \* Established neurosyphilis
- \* Drug addiction
- \* Excessive (> 2 U/d) use of alcohol

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Observational non invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Diagnostic

### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated):	16-01-2012
Enrollment:	100
Type:	Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	05-01-2012
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	NL37277.091.11