# Drug addictions: marketing and brain activity

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Aim: This research will look at the implicit and explicit drug-related cognitions, at the effect of marketing cues on brain activity, and at the effect on aggressive behaviour, in alcohol users, cannabis users, and a control group. These effects...

**Ethical review** Approved WMO

**Status** Recruitment stopped

**Health condition type** Other condition **Study type** Interventional

# **Summary**

## ID

NL-OMON37814

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

Marketing and brain activity

## Condition

Other condition

#### **Synonym**

agression and brain activity, cognitive motivational processes

#### **Health condition**

cognitief en emotioneel functioneren

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universiteit Maastricht

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: FP7 EU

## Intervention

Keyword: Alcohol, Brain activity, Cannabis, Marketing

## **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Main study parameter: the implicit association cannabis and alcohol users have with marketing cues of their drug, as measured with the Single Category Implicit Association task (SC-IAT).

## **Secondary outcome**

Secondary study parameters:

Activation of the reward neurocircuitry in the brain as measured with the BOLD response in the fMRI -scanner.

Aggressive behaviour as measured with the point-to-subtraction task and aggression SC-IAT.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Rationale: First, drug-related cognitions have been implicated in the aetiology and maintenance of drug abuse. Second, research has shown that marketing has a significant effect on the consuming patterns of alcohol and tobacco users. Third, a relation between drug use and aggressive behaviour is often suggested.

## Study objective

Aim: This research will look at the implicit and explicit drug-related cognitions, at the effect of marketing cues on brain activity, and at the

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effect on aggressive behaviour, in alcohol users, cannabis users, and a control group. These effects will be investigated during abstinence as well as during intoxication in the alcohol and cannabis group. Subjects from the control group will not receive a treatment.

## Study design

Study Design: double blind, placebo controlled, mixed design.

#### Intervention

Alcohol users will receive single doses of alcohol and placebo; cannabis users will receive single doses of cannabis and placebo; the control group will not receive any treatment.

## Study burden and risks

Total amount of invested time for each subject is about 16 hours (8 for control subjects). A medical screening will take place, inlcuding an electrocardiogram (ECG), urine and blood analyses. Each testday will last about 6 hours. Subjects have to meake sure to get a good nights rest before each test day. Also they are not allowed to use cafeine of alcohol 24 hours prior to each testday. Cannabis users are not allowed to use cannabis 5 days prior to each test day.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

Universiteit Maastricht

universiteitssingel 40 Maastricht 6229 ER NI

## **Scientific**

Universiteit Maastricht

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## **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

## Age

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

## Inclusion criteria

Regular alcohol users: as using on average 21 to 50 alcoholic drinks/week for males or 15 to 35 alcoholic drinks/week for females during the last year, drinking alcohol both during the week as during the weekend; Regular cannabis users: having used cannabis at least 3 times a week but no more than 10 times a week, during the previous year.; Controls not currently using cannabis, experimental use of cannabis is allowed if it is more than a year ago and not more than 5 times in total. Alcohol use should be between 1 and 14 consumptions a week for men, and between 1 and 7 for women.; For all groups:; Age between 18 and 40 years; Free from psychotropic medication; Good physical health as determined by medical examination and laboratory analysis; Absence of any major medical, endocrine and neurological condition; Normal weight, body mass index (weight/height2) between 18.5 and 28 kg/m2; Written Informed Consent

## **Exclusion criteria**

History of drug abuse (other than the use of cannabis for the cannabis group and alcohol for the alcohol group) or addiction (determined by the medical questionnaire, drug questionnaire and medical examination); Pregnancy or lactation; Hypertension (diastolic> 90; systolic> 140); Current or history of psychiatric disorder (determined by the medical questionnaire and medical examination); Liver dysfunctioning; (Serious) side effects to previous cannabis or alcohol use; History of cardiac dysfunctions (arrhythmia, ischemic heart disease,\*); For women: no use of a reliable contraceptive

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Crossover

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Double blinded (masking used)

Control: Placebo

Primary purpose: Treatment

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 26-10-2012

Enrollment: 66

Type: Actual

## Medical products/devices used

Product type: Medicine

Brand name: Bedrobinol

Generic name: dronabinol/THC

Registration: Yes - NL outside intended use

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 17-04-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

Date: 08-08-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

Date: 10-10-2012

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

Date: 16-10-2012
Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

# **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

EudraCT EUCTR2012-001516-29-NL

CCMO NL40475.068.12