# Stress hormone dynamics in healthy individuals

Published: 12-04-2012 Last updated: 26-04-2024

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Ethical reviewApproved WMOStatusRecruitment stoppedHealth condition typeOther condition

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

## ID

NL-OMON37912

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

Stress hormone dynamics in healthy individuals

## **Condition**

Other condition

#### **Synonym**

functional somatic symptoms, medically unexplained symptoms

#### **Health condition**

Het betreft een beschrijving van de normale fysiologie. Uiteindelijk is deze kennis nuttig voor meerdere aandoeningen, aangezien stress hormonen worden beschouwd als generieke risicofactoren voor ongezondheid, waaronder medisch onverklaarde klachten.

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen

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

#### Intervention

**Keyword:** catecholamine, cortisol, time series

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

levels of cortisol, catecholamines, and alfa-amylase in saliva, urine, hair,

and nails

## **Secondary outcome**

common somatic and psychiatric complaints

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Stress has been linked to medically unexplained symptoms and syndromes. It is often thought that these associations occur due to activations of the major stress-axes in the body: the hypothalamic pituitary adrenal-axis (HPA-axis) and the autonomic nervous system (ANS). Previous studies that typically used a single measurement of the activity of these systems, found small associations between stress axes activity and health. One important reason for these small associations is that stress axes fluctuations are only relevant in specific subgroups of patients, but it is currently impossible to identify these patients. An alternative design to study the role of the HPA-axis and the ANS in chronic fluctuating diseases is to use multiple repeated measurements within individual patients to study the associations between activity of the stress axes and symptom level. Such an analysis could be able to identify those patients in which symptoms occur following changes in HPA-axis and ANS activity. In order to develop a suitable assessment protocol for use in patients, we first need information on fluctuations in HPA-axis and ANS activity in healthy participants.

## Study objective

The main objective is to study the intra-individual fluctuations in the physiological responsiveness of the HPA-axis and the ANS in healthy participants, and to test the influence of stressful events, sleep and activity on these fluctuations. The secondary objective is to study the associations between cortisol and catecholamine levels and common psychiatric and somatic symptoms within healthy individuals.

## Study design

Observational study

## Study burden and risks

Participants have to complete a diary for 9 weeks, assessing stressful events, sleep, activity, and symptom level. At the first day of this period, they also complete questionnaires on neuroticism, alexithymia and history of life events. On the first and the last day, they will be asked to provide a small sample of hair. In addition, they have to collect 24 hour urine, multiple saliva samples, and blood pressure and heart rate measures in this period. There are no risks associated with this procedure, and also no benefits.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen

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#### Scientific

Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen

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## **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

## Inclusion criteria

Healthy Participants, aged 18-65 years.

## **Exclusion criteria**

Use of medication, other than contraceptives or incidental paracetamol

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 09-07-2012

Enrollment: 10

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 12-04-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (Groningen)

Approved WMO

Date: 20-06-2012

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (Groningen)

# **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 NL39630.042.12