# High Intensity Interval Training after Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy: a randomised controlled trial

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**Ethical review** Approved WMO

**Status** Recruitment stopped

**Health condition type** Heart failures **Study type** Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON37928

#### Source

ToetsingOnline

**Brief title** 

HIT-CRT

## **Condition**

Heart failures

#### **Synonym**

Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy, Chronic Heart Failure

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Maxima Medisch Centrum

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: stichting vrienden van het hart Zuidoost

Brabant

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## Intervention

**Keyword:** Cardiac output, Cardiac resynchronization therapy, Exercise training, Heart failure

## **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

Changes in maximal exercise capacity are assessed by changes in peak VO2

Changes in cardiac output response to exercise before and after HIT

## **Secondary outcome**

submaximal exercise)

To investigate the additional effects of HIT after CRT on:

- Left ventricular function (left ventricular ejection fraction, end systolic volume)
- Submaximal exercise capacity (rate of recovery of oxygen uptake after
- Quality of life (Minnesota living with heart failure Questionnaire)
- Skeletal muscle tissue oxygenation

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Chronic heart failure (CHF) is an emerging problem in the Western World. In the last decade, it has been shown that implantation of a biventricular pacemaker/ICD, Cardiac Resynchronisation Therapy (CRT), can lead to a substantial improvement in cardiac function, and, as a consequence, in a reduction of morbidity and mortality in this patient category. In a preliminary trial it was shown that the effects of CRT on exercise capacity and quality of life can be improved even more by combining this therapy with exercise training. However, the optimal training intensity has not yet been established. In a recent trial in non-CRT heart failure patients, high intensity interval training (HIT) was shown to be superior to moderate intensity exercise training in terms of improving skeletal muscle metabolism, as well as cardiac function. Because the mechanisms of improvement in cardiac

function by CRT and HIT are presumably different, we hypothesize that HIT after CRT results in additive beneficial effects on exercise capacity through improvements in skeletal muscle metabolism and perfusion, as well as through an additional improvement in cardiac function (at rest and during exercise).

## Study objective

The main objective of the study is to investigate whether HIT after CRT results in an additional increase in maximal exercise capacity. Secondary objectives are to investigate whether HIT yields additional improvements in submaximal exercise capacity, quality of life and left ventricular function. Another objective is to investigate the physiological background of the additional effects of HIT after CRT by measuring skeletal muscle tissue oxygenation (Near Infrared Spectroscopy) and cardiac output during exercise (radial artery pulse contour analysis method, LiDCO).

## Study design

prospective randomised controlled intervention trial

#### Intervention

HIT is performed 3 times a week during 12 weeks and consists of 4 intervals of 4 minutes cycling on a ergometer at 85-95% of the peak aerobic capacity (peak Vo2) separated by 3 minute active pauses at 50-70% of peak Vo2. After each HIT sessions patients will perform muscle resistance training at moderate intensity. The entire program is supervised by trained physiotherapists

## Study burden and risks

No adverse effects of exercise training performed by patients with a CRT device have been seen reported. Yet, exercise training was shown to result in an additional improvement in maximal exercise capacity, muscle strength and quality of life. The HIT program that will be used in this study has not been evaluated yet in patients that underwent CRT. However, it has been evaluated extensively in other populations, like elderly patients, non-CRT CHF patients and patients with coronary artery disease without any documented harmful effects.

In order to reduce potential risks of exercise training, all patients perform a maximal cardiopulmonary exercise test at baseline. Thresholds of the CRT device for anti tachycardia pacing or defibrillation will be set substantially above the maximal heart rate obtained at the maximal CPET. Training sessions will be under supervision of trained physiotherapist in a clinical setting Cardiac output during exercise is evaluated by using a method requiring radial artery cannulation. This procedure is considered to be relatively safe with complication rate of 0.09% for permanent ischemia of the hand. To ensure

collateral circulation a normal Allen test must be present. Cannulation will be under local anaesthesia to minimize patients burden. In patients who take oral anticoagulation , dosage will be temporarily adjusted (INR <1,5) for the safety of the procedure

## **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

- -Written informed consent.
- -Systolic heart failure due to ischemic cardiomyopathy (due to one or more myocardial infarction, as confirmed with echocardiography) or dilating cardiomyopathy (no history of myocardial infarction, no proven ischemia, no congenital heart disease and no severe valve disorder)
- -Left ventricular ejection fraction < 35% before CRT.
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- New York Heart Association (NYHA) classII or III before CRT

## **Exclusion criteria**

- \* Myocardial infarction or unstable angina less than 3 months prior to inclusion
- \* Clinical signs of decompensated heart failure
- \* Ventricular tachycardia or ischemia during exercise
- \* Participation in a training program (\*2/week) in the last year
- \* Intracardiac shunts or congenital heart disease limiting exercise capacity
- \* Orthopaedic, vascular, pulmonary, neuromuscular and other disease limiting exercise capacity
- \* Pathological Allen test , In casu no sufficient collateral circulation to the hand, in case of radial artery cannulation.

# Study design

## Design

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Parallel

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Single blinded (masking used)

**Primary purpose:** Treatment

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 24-02-2011

Enrollment: 60

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 18-11-2010

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO

Date: 17-05-2011

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO

Date: 25-01-2012

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO

Date: 24-04-2012

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

# **Study registrations**

## Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

## Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

ID: 22642

Source: Nationaal Trial Register

Title:

## In other registers

**Register ID** Other 2527

CCMO NL33115.015.10 OMON NL-OMON22642