

# More creative on cocaine?

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The current research proposal is designed to assess the influence of cocaine on creativity.

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	Other condition
<b>Study type</b>	Interventional

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON38473

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

cocaine and creativity

### Condition

- Other condition

### Synonym

creativity; divergent - and convergent thinking

### Health condition

cognitief functioneren

### Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Universiteit Maastricht

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

## Intervention

**Keyword:** cocaine, convergent, creativeness, divergent

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Different measures of divergent and convergent thinking as measured with the following tasks:

Divergent thinking:

- Alternative Use Task (testscore on originality, fluency, flexibility and elaboration)
- Pattern Meanings Task (total number of responses, originality sum score)
- Picture Concepts Test (number of correct named relations)

Convergent thinking:

- Remote Association Task (number of correct named associations)
- Tower of London (total number of correct answers en reaction time)

### Secondary outcome

Secondary outcome measures are the results on various questionnaires:

- Profile of Mood States
- Self Evaluation of Creative Performance Scales
- Visual Analogue Scales-high
- Barrat Impulsivity Scale
- Cloninger's Temperament and Character Inventory

## Study description

## **Background summary**

Large anecdotal evidence suggests that creative people sometimes use cocaine to help overcome "blocks". Indeed, the acute consumption of cocaine increases synaptic dopamine levels and induces optimism, mild euphoria, excitation, talkativeness, increased energy, and enhanced self-esteem; factors that are known to play a role in the creative process. Surprisingly, no study, so far, has systematically looked into the acute effect of cocaine on creativity, which fundamental ingredients are convergent and divergent thinking. These two processes are differently affected by mood: positive mood leads to a better divergent thinking, but it lowers convergent thinking.

## **Study objective**

The current research proposal is designed to assess the influence of cocaine on creativity.

## **Study design**

The study will be conducted according to a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, 2-way crossover design.

## **Intervention**

The intervention will be cocaine HCL 300 mg and placebo for all participants.

## **Study burden and risks**

Participants will go through 2 sessions of approximately 3 hrs. The load for a subject during a test day is restricted to (1) taking study treatments, (2) taking blood samples, (3) filling out questionnaires and doing computer tasks (60 minutes). During the periods that they are not tested (breaks), they will be seated in a waiting room where they will be in close contact with one of the researchers. In case they experience (medical) complaints, the medical supervisor will be contacted.

Before a subject is enrolled in the study a medical screening will take place (30 minutes). This screening also includes an ECG and urine - and blood analyses. Subjects have to make sure to get a good nights rest before each testday. Also they are not allowed to use caffeine or alcohol 24 hours prior to each testday. During their participation in the study they are not allowed to use any drugs.

## Contacts

### Public

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### Scientific

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## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### Inclusion criteria

- subjects must have used cocaine on at least 12 separate occasions during the past two years;
- good physical and mental health as determined by medical history and medical, ECG and laboratory examination;
- BMI between 19 and 29 m2/kg;
- use of appropriate contraception;
- written informed consent;
- age between 18-40 (inclusive)

### Exclusion criteria

- pregnancy or lactation;
- cardiovascular abnormalities as assessed by standard ECG;
- excessive alcohol use, defined as drinking more than 21 glasses of alcohol per week;
- history of drug abuse (other than the use of cocaine) or addiction;
- hypertension (diastolic > 90; systolic > 140);
- history of psychiatric and neurological disorders

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Crossover
Masking:	Double blinded (masking used)
Control:	Uncontrolled
Primary purpose:	Treatment

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	21-10-2013
Enrollment:	24
Type:	Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	24-05-2013
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)
Approved WMO	
Date:	28-08-2013
Application type:	First submission
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	EUCTR2013-000179-34-NL
CCMO	NL44859.068.13