# THE EFFECT OF PROBIOTICS ON THE FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY OF MIGRAINE ATTACKS AND INTESTINAL PERMEABILITY - A PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIAL

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To test whether probiotics, as adjuvant therapy, can reduce incidence and severity of migraine attacks by reducing intestinal permeability.

**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruitment stopped

**Health condition type** Gastrointestinal signs and symptoms

Study type Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON38953

#### Source

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

Probiotics and Migraine: the Promi2 study

## **Condition**

- Gastrointestinal signs and symptoms
- Headaches

## **Synonym**

migraine, unilateral headache

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Wageningen Universiteit

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

## Intervention

**Keyword:** intestinal permeability, migraine, probiotics

#### **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

Incidence of migraine (measured by diaries, number of days with migraine in 4 weeks)

## **Secondary outcome**

Severity of migraine attacks, measured by diaries and validated headache questionnaires will be measured at baseline and after 4, 8, and 12 weeks of probiotic/placebo administration. Further, intestinal permeability will be measured by the lactulose/mannitol absorption test in urine (screening, baseline and 12 weeks) and by fecal zonulin (baseline, 4, 8, and 12 weeks). Inflammation will be assessed from blood C-reactive protein and cytokine concentrations (baseline, 4, 8, and 12 weeks). Fecal samples will also be used for microbial analysis.

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

The prevalence of migraine is higher in patients with various intestinal diseases. An explanation could be that migraine is caused by a \*leaky gut\*: an increased intestinal permeability that allows food particles to pass the gastrointestinal wall. Probiotics may be able to improve intestinal barrier

function.

## Study objective

To test whether probiotics, as adjuvant therapy, can reduce incidence and severity of migraine attacks by reducing intestinal permeability.

## Study design

12-week placebo-controlled randomized double-blind intervention with selected probiotics.

#### Intervention

Subjects will receive either one daily dose of 2 g of Ecologic® Barrier or 2 grams of the placebo, containing only the carrier material (both provided by Winclove Probiotics).

## Study burden and risks

The lactic acid bacteria in the mixture carry the European Union Qualified Presumption of Safety (QPS). No side effects are expected. The probiotic mixture is available on the Dutch market for relief of gastrointestinal complaints. The product has been used before in the ProMi study with migraine patients, with no adverse effects. Invasive measurements are restricted to blood sampling; collection of urine and feces may be considered unpleasant. If patients benefit from the probiotic intervention, this will help their management of migraine.

## **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

Subjects confirm to have migraine characterized by :

- o Recurrent attacks of moderate to severe headaches, often one-sided and pounding, often with nausea and/or vomiting, aggravated by physical activity
- o Sensitivity for light or sounds is possible but not exclusive.
- o Attacks last for 4 to 72 hours.
- Self-reported frequency of migraine attacks (or days) at least 4 per month
- Fairly predictable/stable pattern of migraine attacks (frequency, duration, intensity)
- Age >= 18 years
- General good health

## **Exclusion criteria**

- Migraine patients who suffer from chronic daily migraine/headaches
- Migraine patients who suffer from medication-dependent headaches
- Subjects who suffer from cluster headache or tension-type headaches
- Subjects who used antibiotics up to two months before the start of the study
- Pregnancy or lactation (because of their possible effect on migraine incidence
- Patients who are unwilling to stop current use of probiotics
- Patients who have a chronic use of NSAIDs
- patients with inflammatory bowel diseases

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Parallel

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Double blinded (masking used)

Control: Placebo

Primary purpose: Treatment

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 26-02-2014

Enrollment: 80

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 20-12-2013

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Wageningen Universiteit (Wageningen)

## **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 NL46401.081.13