# Treatment of severe fear of childbirth with haptotherapy

Published: 08-11-2011 Last updated: 15-05-2024

Primary objective: - What is the effect of haptotherapy on fear of childbirth (FOC) in pregnant women with severe FOC?Secondary objectives:- Is there a negative correlation between FOC

and emotional bonding of mother and child during pregnancy and...

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

Health condition type Other condition
Study type Interventional

# **Summary**

#### ID

**NL-OMON39999** 

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

Treatment of severe fear of childbirth with haptotherapy

#### Condition

Other condition

#### **Synonym**

Childbirth Fear / fear of childbirth

#### **Health condition**

Angst voor de bevalling tijdens de zwangerschap

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universiteit van Tilburg

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Alle kosten komen voor rekening van de

onderzoeker G.A. (Gert) Klabbers

#### Intervention

**Keyword:** Childbirth Fear, Haptotherapy, Pregnant women, Treatment

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Fear of childbirth as measured by the WDEQ-A

#### **Secondary outcome**

Distress as measured by the 4DSQ

Anxiety as measured by the 4DSQ

Depression as measured by the 4DSQ

Somatization as measured by the 4DSQ

Social support as measured by the SSQ

Anxiety as measured by the HADS

Depression as measured by the HADS

Emotional bond as measured by the PRAM

Trauma anxiety and PTSS as measured by the TES-B.

Pregnancy and childbirth complications as registered in the medical record

Duration of delivery and birth weight as measured by the evaluation

questionnaire

Customer satisfaction as measured by the evaluation questionnaire

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

An identifiable group of pregnant women (6%) suffer from extreme fear of childbirth (Areskog, Uddenberg and Kjessle 1981) (Saisto and Halmesmäk 2003). Women with FOC are at increased risk of birth interventions and pre- and postpartum complications, e.g., Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (Söderquist, et al. 2009) preterm births (Dole, et al. 2002), emergency cesarean section (Ryding, Wijma and Wijma 1998), and more caesarean section at the request of the woman. Dutch figures are not available. Research from England, Sweden and Finland shows that 7-22% of all caesarean sections are carried out because of FOC (Ryding 1991) (Atiba, et al. 1993) (Graham, et al. 1999) (I. MacKenzie 1999). Currently no effective therapeutic intervention for reduction fear of childbirth is scientifically analyzed. A Finnish study reported some positive effects of psycho-education and relaxation (Saisto, Salmela\*Aro, et al. 2011).

#### Study objective

Primary objective:

- What is the effect of haptotherapy on fear of childbirth (FOC) in pregnant women with severe FOC?

Secondary objectives:

- Is there a negative correlation between FOC and emotional bonding of mother and child during pregnancy and postpartum?
- Is there a negative correlation between haptotherapy and complications during delivery?

### Study design

This study is a randomized controlled trial (RCT). All participants will be tested by the WDEQ-A for FOC and those with a score > 84 will be randomly assign to the treatment group or control group 1 or control group 2, and respectively receive haptotherapy, information, care as usual, according to the protocol. Those women with a score < 85 will be allocated to the comparison group and followed for the secondary objectives. All therapists involved in the trial know which kind of intervention must be given to each participating woman.

#### Intervention

The intervention group receives haptotherapy.

The control group 1 receives detailed information about pregnancy and childbirth.

The control group 2 receives care as usual.

#### Study burden and risks

There are no additional risks associated with participation in the study (a) since the treatment is a standard haptotherapeutical treatment already practiced in the some clinics, and (b) those participants in the treatment group have haptotherapy in addition to care as usual. Participants will additionally answer questionnaires with in total 120 questions, each time taking about 20 minutes. The research team has a long and extensive experience with similar studies with pregnant women. These studies have shown that participants have no problems to fill out such questionnaires without any detriment.

## **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

Pregnant women with a WDEQ-A score > 84

#### **Exclusion criteria**

Respondents who are already in treatment for haptotherapy and / or haptonomic pregnancy counseling and / or there for other reasons during the research.

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Parallel

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Treatment

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 10-04-2012

Enrollment: 64

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 08-11-2011

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Brabant (Tilburg)

Approved WMO

Date: 05-11-2012

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Brabant (Tilburg)

Approved WMO

Date: 23-05-2013

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Brabant (Tilburg)

Approved WMO

Date: 03-03-2014

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC St Elisabeth Ziekenhuis (Tilburg)

# **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: 23323 Source: NTR

Title:

# In other registers

Register ID

CCMO NL34900.008.11 OMON NL-OMON23323