Personal experiences of older hospitalised patients suffering from delirium, their family members, and hospital nurses

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Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Recruitment stopped
Health condition type	Deliria (incl confusion)
Study type	Observational non invasive

Summary

ID

NL-OMON42003

Source
ToetsingOnline

Brief title
The experience of delirium

Condition

- Deliria (incl confusion)

Synonym
Acute confusion, Delirium

Research involving
Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Universiteit Maastricht

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

Intervention

Keyword: Aged, Delirium, Experience, Hospital

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

This is a qualitative study. The primary objective of the study is to find what

the personal experiences are of older hospitalised patients, family (naaste),

and the hospital nurses caring for these patients.

Secondary outcome

Not applicable

Study description

Background summary

Delirium is a serious complication that affects between 14% and 40% of all older hospital patients, and which could be avoided in up to 40% of these cases, by employing early detection methods and taking preventive measures. The American Psychiatric Association describes delirium as a disorder of fluctuating consciousness with cognitive problems, such as memory loss, disorientation, and language problems, which develops in a matter of hours or days, as a result of an underlying physical condition. It is a predictor of many negative long term consequences, such as prolonged duration of hospitalisation, higher chances of dementia and institutionalisation, less functional recovery, and death within 12 months after the delirium.

In the last two decades, a lot of research has been done in the fields of diagnosis, risk factors, consequences, and treatments for delirium. This has resulted in, amongst other things, the development of guidelines for the treatment of delirium in adults (richtlijn *Delier voor volwassenen*). However, little is known about how patients, their family members, and hospital nurses experience the delirium. Previous research shows that in some cases depression or post-traumatic stress disorder can occur, both in patients and in family members, and that some patients refuse further hospital treatments out of fear of developing another delirium. Nurses too experience elevated levels

of stress and pressure, sometimes leading to a burn-out, when working with delirious patients, because this group of patients need more time and attention than do regular patients, and information about the disorder is often not on hand. To our knowledge, this is the first study to combine the points of view of all three groups simultaneously: patients, family members, and hospital nurses.

Study objective

The research question fort his study is: *What are the personal experiences of older hospital patients who have suffered a delirium, their family members, and their handling nurses?*.
The aim of the current study is to gather the personal experiences of older patients, their family members (naasten) and hospital nurses, and to gain insights into how this experience could be improved, for example by providing more information or support, before, during, and after the delirious episode.

Study design

The study is a qualitative study based on the principles of grounded theory, and will be done using semi-structured interviews.

Before the start of the actual study, three pilot interviews (one with a patient, one with a family member, and one with a nurse) will be done to evaluate the clarity and usefulness of the questions and if the intended information can be obtained. All interviews will be audio-recorded with consent of the participants.

Study burden and risks

The interviews will last a maximum of one hour, and the potential risk for participants is low. In case a participants experiences negative emotions due to the interview, they may stop the interview at any time and refuse further participation in the study.

Interviews with patients are planned during their routine follow-up at the delirium poli in the MUMC+, six weeks after release from the hospital. Interviews with patients are only conducted if they are no longer suffering from the delirium. Interviews with family and nurses will take place at a place and time previously agreed upon.

Contacts

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Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

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

Inclusion criteria

Patients:
- Suffered from a delirium during their hospital stay
- Age 65 years or older
- Admitted to the MUMC+
- Recovered from the delirium
- Speaks and understands Dutch;Family:
- Age 18 years or older
- Visited the patient at least twice during their delirious episode
- Speaks and understands Dutch;Nurses:
- Seen the patients at least once during their delirious episode

Exclusion criteria

Patients:
- A dementia diagnosis set prior to the interview

Study design

Design

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Uncontrolled
Primary purpose:	Other

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	16-09-2016
Enrollment:	45
Type:	Actual

Ethics review

Approved WMO

Date:	30-06-2015
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

Date:	30-05-2016
Application type:	Amendment
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
CCMO	NL52436.068.15