# SYMPATHY-NTX study Catheter-based Renal Sympathectomy for Hypertension after Kidney Transplantation - a feasibility study.

Published: 16-09-2015 Last updated: 14-04-2024

Objective: To test the efficacy and safety of percutaneous renal sympathetic denervation of the native kidneys in the treatment of uncontrolled hypertension in kidney transplant

recipients.

**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Will not start

**Health condition type** Renal disorders (excl nephropathies)

Study type Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON42071

#### **Source**

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

SYMPATHY-NTX study

## **Condition**

- Renal disorders (excl nephropathies)
- Vascular hypertensive disorders

## **Synonym**

therapy resistant hypertension in renal transplant recipients

## **Research involving**

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

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

## Intervention

**Keyword:** hypertension, kidney transplantation, renal denervation

## **Outcome measures**

### **Primary outcome**

Main study parameters/endpoints: Primary endpoint is the change in blood pressure after 6 months (mean day time systolic blood pressure assessed by 24-hour ambulatory measurement).

## **Secondary outcome**

Secondary outcomes include changes in office blood pressure, changes in antihypertensive treatment, plasma catecholamines, renin and aldosterone, eGFR and 24h proteinuria, Moreover, compliance with antihypertensive treatment compliance will be measured using a questionnaire and by detection of antihypertensives in a blood sample.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Rationale: In patients with a renal allograft, hypertension is a major etiological factor for cardiovascular morbidity, mortality and allograft nephropathy. Controlling hypertension in patients with a renal allograft is therefore crucial. Despite large patients- and doctors efforts, hypertension control is insufficient in many kidney transplant recipients. The diseased native kidneys are major contributors to hypertension, through neuro-hormonal up-regulation that leads to high levels of renin and sympathetic activity. Recently a catheter-based approach has been developed to disrupt renal sympathetic nerves. Currently this innovative technique has only been tested to

lower blood pressure in therapy resistant hypertensive patients without significant renal disease (METC protocol ID 12-540). We hypothesize that catheter based selective renal denervation of the native kidneys in renal transplant recipients will improve blood pressure control and diminish the number of antihypertensive drugs needed. Before embarking on a large trial, we propose a feasibility study to obtain estimates of effect and to assess the feasibility of the procedure in this patient group.

## Study objective

Objective: To test the efficacy and safety of percutaneous renal sympathetic denervation of the native kidneys in the treatment of uncontrolled hypertension in kidney transplant recipients.

## Study design

Study design: We propose an intervention study in 20 kidney transplant recipients. Renal denervation will be added to usual care in all participants. Patients will be randomized to renal denervation directly after inclusion or after 6 months. Both groups will be followed for one year.

#### Intervention

Intervention: All patients will continue to receive usual antihypertensive treatment according to prevailing guidelines. Percutaneous renal denervation of the native kidneys will be performed at the time point determined by the randomization procedure.

## Study burden and risks

Renal denervation is achieved by radio-frequency ablation during catheterisation of the renal arteries. The risks of catheterisation are bleeding, infection and contrast-agent induced nephropathy. The actual burden of the ablation procedure is that it causes visceral pain that will be treated with appropriate analgesics. Furthermore, the study requires extra visits for blood pressure measurements and extra blood drawing. The benefit could be improvement of blood pressure control. There is a sound theoretical background for application of the renal denervation procedure in kidney transplant recipients with diseased native kidneys in situ supporting the performance of a study in this patient group. Over 120 RDN procedures have been performed in the UMCU so far with only few minor complications (mostly bleeding at the puncture site).

## **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

- Age 18-75 years
- First kidney transplant in situ >6 months prior to randomization
- Urine measured creatinine clearance \* 30 ml/min
- Radiological evidence for residual flow in the renal arteries indicating that they are accessible for the intervention
- Mean day-time systolic blood pressure of at least 135 mmHg (using ambulatory blood pressure monitoring) despite the use of at least 3 antihypertensive drugs, or with documented intolerance or contraindication for to 2 or more of the 4 major classes of antihypertensive drugs (ACEi/ARB, calcium channel blockers, betablockers and diuretics) thus being unable to be treated with 3 antihypertensives.
- Hemodynamically significant stenosis of the renal artery of the graft as a cause of therapy resistant hypertension has to be (have been) excluded (using MRI).
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## **Exclusion criteria**

- (Planned) pregnancy, lactation
- Life expectancy <1 year
- Contraindications for (relative) hypotensive episodes i.e. hemodynamically significant valvular disease, documented transient ischemic attacks or angina pectoris during relative hypotension
- Heart failure, NYHA class III-IV; chronic lung disease Gold III-IV
- Major complications during previous radiological interventions (i.e. allergy to contrast agent, cholesterol embolism)
- (Reno) vascular abnormalities in any part of the catheter access (including the aortic-iliac tract) route that impede the procedure of renal denervation
- Use of vitamine K antagonists or other (non-aspirin) form of anti- coagulatory therapy with an absolute indication (i.e. that cannot be temporarily stopped)
- Implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) in situ
- Planned surgery within the next six months
- Drugs- or alcohol abuse
- Inability to give informed consent

# Study design

## **Design**

Study phase: 3

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Crossover

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

**Primary purpose:** Treatment

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Will not start

Enrollment: 20

Type: Anticipated

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 16-09-2015

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

Approved WMO

Date: 20-01-2016
Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

# 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 NL52243.041.15