# Varenicline, a partial nicotinic receptor agonist, for the treatment of excessive daytime sleepiness in Parkinson\*s disease: a placebo-controlled cross-over study

Published: 25-07-2012 Last updated: 01-05-2024

This study is aimed to determine the efficacy of varenicline in reducing EDS in PD patients.

Ethical review Approved WMO

**Status** Recruitment stopped

**Health condition type** Movement disorders (incl parkinsonism)

**Study type** Interventional

# **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON43609

#### **Source**

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

Vareniciline for excessive daytime sleepiness in Parkinson\*s disease

#### **Condition**

Movement disorders (incl parkinsonism)

#### Synonym

idiopathic Parkinson's disease, Parkinson's disease

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

Primary sponsor: Vrije Universiteit Medisch Centrum

1 - Varenicline, a partial nicotinic receptor agonist, for the treatment of excessiv ... 7-05-2025

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Ministerie van OC&W,Centre for Human Drug Research,CHDR;Pfizer BV;parkinson vereniging,Pfizer

#### Intervention

**Keyword:** Excessive daytime sleepiness, Nicotinic receptor agonist, Parkinson's disease, Varenicline

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

The primary clinical outcome measure is the difference on Epworth Sleepiness Scale (ESS) between the two treatments (varenicline versus placebo).

#### **Secondary outcome**

The secondary outcome measures are the differences on the SCOPA-sleep,
Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index, the Abnormal Involuntary Movements Scale, the
Fatigue Severity Scale and the Medical Outcome Survey Short Form (SF-36) for
quality of life. A neurophysiological outcome measure is the mean time before
falling asleep in the Maintenance of Wakefulness Test (MWT). In a randomized
subgroup the differences in pharmacodynamic effects on central nervous system
functioning of varenicline after first administration and in steady state
condition through scores on the NeuroCart test battery are investigated.

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

Sleep disturbances are common in Parkinson\*s disease (PD) and include excessive daytime sleepiness (EDS) that has been reported in up to 50% of patients. Relatively little therapeutic research has addressed the problem of EDS and current treatment is largely aimed at reducing the dose of dopaminergic

medication while trying to maintain sufficient motor control which unfortunately often fails. Apart from degeneration of dopaminergic neurons, a decrease in cholinergic projections to the brain arousal areas may be at least partly responsible for the occurrence of EDS in PD. Smoking in narcoleptic patients diminishes sleep attacks and EDS , thus one may hypothesize that nicotinergic stimulation of the brain arousal areas may improve EDS in PD. Therefore the effect of varenicline, an alpha4beta2 nicotinic receptor partial agonist (nAChR), on EDS in PD will be studied in a placebo-controlled cross-over study.

#### Study objective

This study is aimed to determine the efficacy of varenicline in reducing EDS in PD patients.

#### Study design

The study is a randomized, double blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial with a within-subject crossover design.

#### Intervention

Patients will be randomly assigned to start an active treatment or placebo and complete two periods of four weeks with a washout period of two weeks.

#### Study burden and risks

Patient characteristics will be obtained among several scales on sleep, mental state and quality of life. The patients will undergo a polysomnography and a safety evaluation including ECG and renal function. MWT and plasma levels are measured in the challenge fase and steady state condition after four weeks of treatment. After a two week washout period all procedures are repeated for the cross-over study. Adverse events may include nausea, headache, insomnia and abnormal dreams and will be carefully monitored.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

Vrije Universiteit Medisch Centrum

De Boelelaan 1118 Amsterdam 1081 HZ NL

#### **Scientific**

Vrije Universiteit Medisch Centrum

De Boelelaan 1118 Amsterdam 1081 HZ NL

## **Trial sites**

#### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

#### Inclusion criteria

- -idiopathic Parkinson's Disease (PD) according to criteria UK PD Society Brain Bank
- -receiving stable PD medications for at least 4 weeks before and throughout the study
- -excessive daytime sleepiness (defined by a score of >10 on the Epworth Sleeping Scale)

#### **Exclusion criteria**

- patients receiving medications with known central depressant effects
- dementia
- depression
- known sleep apnea or narcolepsy
- current smoking
- contra-indications for treatment with varenicline (psychiatric illness, renal failure, ischemic cardial disease, stroke, insuline-dependent diabetes)

# Study design

## **Design**

Study phase: 3

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Crossover

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Double blinded (masking used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 10-05-2013

Enrollment: 46

Type: Actual

### Medical products/devices used

Product type: Medicine
Brand name: champix

Generic name: varenicline

Registration: Yes - NL outside intended use

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 25-07-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 09-08-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 06-06-2013

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 29-04-2015

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 27-05-2015

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 02-08-2016

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 16-08-2016

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

# **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 EUCTR2012-001530-34-NL

CCMO NL40128.029.12