# The effect of high-resistance muscle strength training and vitamin D supplementation in persons with knee osteoarthritis

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To determine (1) whether high-resistance strength training (70-80% of one-repetition maximum (1RM)) is more effective in improving muscle strength compared to low-resistance strength training (40-50%% of 1RM) and (2) whether vitamin D...

Ethical review Approved WMO

**Status** Recruitment stopped

**Health condition type** Joint disorders **Study type** Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON44546

#### **Source**

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

VitD-EX

### **Condition**

• Joint disorders

#### Synonym

arthrosis deformans, cartilage wear

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

Primary sponsor: Jan van Breemen Instituut

1 - The effect of high-resistance muscle strength training and vitamin D supplementa ... 12-05-2025

## Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Reumafonds

## Intervention

**Keyword:** exercise therapy, knee osteoarthritis, muscle strength, vitamin D

#### **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

Muscle strength of quadriceps and hamstrings (isokinetic test)

## **Secondary outcome**

Knee pain, activity limitations (self-reported and performance-based), knee

instability/falls and fractures (self-reported), proprioception (test),

inflammatory factors in blood, and depressive and anxious mood (self-reported).

Global perceived effect.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

As there is currently no cure for OA, conservative treatment is the cornerstone of OA management. Muscle strengthening in particular is a key-target in the conservative treatment of knee OA. In all major international treatment guidelines, exercise therapy (with a dominant role for muscle strengthening) is recommended. However, the optimal training intensity of muscle strengthening exercises in knee OA is not known to date and this is important to maximize patient outcomes from exercise therapy. Based on research in non-OA populations it is expected that high-resistance strength training is more effective than low-resistance strength training to improve muscle strength, without causing serious side effects.

Also, it has been hypothesized that vitamin D supplementation could enhance the effects of exercise therapy on muscle strength, since low serum 25-hydroxy (OH) vitamin D level, which is common in older adults, is associated with impaired muscle cell function. In healthy subjects, indications for a beneficial effect of vitamin D supplementation plus exercise on muscle strength have been found. To improve the effectiveness of strength training in patients with knee OA vitamin D supplementation has the potential to be a useful adjunct.

## Study objective

To determine (1) whether high-resistance strength training (70-80% of one-repetition maximum (1RM)) is more effective in improving muscle strength compared to low-resistance strength training (40-50%% of 1RM) and (2) whether vitamin D supplementation enhances the effect of muscle strength training on muscle strength in knee OA patients with vitamin D deficiency. The ultimate goal of the intervention study is to optimize strength training in knee OA, thereby increasing the beneficial effect on pain and activity limitations.

## Study design

We will conduct a randomized controlled trial with a 2x2 factorial design (n=220). Participants will be randomized into four groups: 1) high resistance strength training and vitamin D3 supplementation, 2) high resistance strength training and placebo, 3) low resistance strength training and vitamin D supplementation, 4) low resistance strength training and placebo. Measurements will be performed at baseline (start of vitamin D supplementation or placebo), at 3 months (start of strength training), at 6 months (post-intervention), and at 12 months (6 months post-intervention).

## Addendum:

In addition, 68 knee OA patients with normal vitamin D levels will be included in order to study the effect of high versus low resistance strength training. The larger sample size (n=288) will lead to more statistical power (0.90). Patients with normal vitamin D levels will be randomized into either high or low resistance training, without supplementation with vitamin D or placebo. These patients will have 3 measurement points instead of 4 measurement points: measurements on T1 will be their baseline measurement, as they will start with resistance training without a previous period of supplementation.

#### Intervention

The total intervention period will be 6 months. In the first 3 months, vitamin D tablets (1200IU daily) or placebo tablets will be taken in order to increase the 25(OH) vitamin D level (in case of vitamin D tablets). In the second 3 months, patients will additionally receive a strength training program, including exercises that are primarily aimed at improving quadriceps and hamstrings strength. Both the high-resistance strength training group and the low-resistance strength training group will exercise 3 times per week (2 supervised sessions at Reade and 1 home exercise program). In the high-resistance group exercises will be performed with a load of 70-80% of 1 repetition-maximum (1RM) compared to a load of 40-50% of 1RM in the low-resistance group.

## Study burden and risks

Potential participants will be screened with an internet-based (or postal if applicable) questionnaire and by telephone, followed by a screening visit (short physical examination, questionnaire and blood draw). If they pass the screening visit they will be invited to come to Reade for a visit with the rehabilitation physician and rheumatologist for diagnosis and final decision on eligibility. Participants will be measured four times: at baseline, after 3, 6 and 12 months. Participants have to complete questionnaires and perform physical performance tests and blood and urine will be collected. The total intervention period will be 6 months. In the first 3 months, vitamin D tablets (1200IU daily) or placebo tablets will be taken. In the second 3 months, patients will additionally receive a strength training program. The risk of the vitamin D treatment is negligible. Strength training is an effective and recommended treatment in patients with knee OA. Risks are minimal, due to supervision of experienced physical therapists and wide experience of the research group in conducting exercise trials in knee OA.

## **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

- Knee pain and at least 2 of the following 5 items: morning stiffness < 30 minutes, crepitations, bone sensitivity, bony enlargement of the joint margin, no palpable warmth
- Age >= 55 and <= 80 years
- Vitamin D deficiency: 25(OH)D level >15nmol/L and <50 nmol/L (in winter) or <70nmol/L (in summer);In addition, 68 knee OA patients with normal vitamin D levels will be included in order to study the effect of high versus low resistance strength training. The larger sample size (n=288) will lead to more statistical power. Patients with normal vitamin D levels will be randomized into either high or low resistance training, without supplementation with vitamin D or placebo.

## **Exclusion criteria**

- Other forms of arthritis than OA
- Absolute contra-indication for exercise therapy/strength training
- Inability to perform strength training program due to severe comorbidity
- Use of vitamin D supplements >800 IU daily
- Living in a nursing home

# Study design

## **Design**

Study phase: 3

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): 30-09-2014

Enrollment: 288

Type: Actual

## Medical products/devices used

Product type: Medicine

Brand name: Devaron

Generic name: Vitamine D3

Registration: Yes - NL outside intended use

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 24-02-2014

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 20-03-2014

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 16-10-2014

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 18-01-2015

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 11-02-2016

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

ID: 29469 Source: NTR

Title:

## In other registers

Register ID

EudraCT EUCTR2014-000047-33-NL

CCMO NL47786.048.14 OMON NL-OMON29469