

# Endometrial Waves and Fertility and Benign Uterine Disorders

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Measurement and characterization of contractions in a non-pregnant uterus by noninvasive electrophysiological measurements of the uterine muscle activity using a small electrode matrix placed on the abdomen. Simultaneous vaginal ultrasonography...

<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruiting
<b>Health condition type</b>	Sexual function and fertility disorders
<b>Study type</b>	Observational invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON53115

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

WAVES study

### Condition

- Sexual function and fertility disorders

### Synonym

Uterine contractions, uterine peristalsis

### Research involving

Human

### Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Catharina-ziekenhuis

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Ferring,GE Healthcare,HTSM Grant ;Stichting Vrouw en Onderzoek,Samsung

## Intervention

**Keyword:** Benign Uterine Disorders, Endometrial waves, Placental Remnants, Uterine contractions

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

1. reliability of the EHG during different phases of the normal menstrual cycle in a prospective selected cohort
2. Determine objective changes in electric activity and subsequent endometrial wave patterns in relation to phase of menstrual cycle (characterization of waves).
3. Assess the influence of the vaginal microbiome on uterine peristalsis in infertile and fertile women

Outcomes Phase IIc:

- Uterine contraction parameters (frequency, amplitude, coordination, direction) pre and post hormonal therapy, and/or prior to embryo transfer

Outcomes Phase III:

- Uterine contraction parameters (frequency, amplitude, coordination, direction) prior to placement/removal of IUDs or placental remnants

### Secondary outcome

1. Identification of prognostic factors for fertility in relation to changes in electric myometrial during the menstrual cycle.
2. Identifying the role of sex-hormone bloodlevels in the characteristics of

endometrial waves.

## Study description

### Background summary

In spite of major efforts to improve ART (assisted reproductive technology) over the past 20 years, the overall effectiveness remains below 25-30% per treatment cycle, even for IVF (in vitro fertilization) which is the most advanced technique. Most IVF failures remain unexplained. The emotional, social, and economical implications of a series of repeated IVF failures are tremendous.

There is significant evidence for major involvement of uterine contractions in IVF failure. Precise interventions on contractions are possible and might increase the success rate of IVF. Unfortunately, so far there is no method suitable for objective, complete, and continuous characterization of uterine activity during the normal ovulatory cycle.

Developing a method for continuous and objective assessment of uterine contraction characteristics is an essential step to boost IVF success rates. It would allow an understanding of the impact of contractions on IVF failure and would be a necessary prerequisite for tailoring specific treatments.

It is becoming generally accepted that women with benign uterine disorder most likely have aberrant uterine contractions. This could be an explanation for fertility issues and other symptoms in these women, however research is scarce. It is known that symptoms respond well to hormonal therapy, which may have something to do with changes in uterine contractions. If more was known if/how these contraction function these could be a potential aetiological mechanism and/or treatment target.

Furthermore, recent literature has suggested a potential effect of vaginal/uterine microbiome on uterine contractions. This is been little researched in IVF patients but is a trending topic, let alone being researched using an objective quantitative method.

### Study objective

Measurement and characterization of contractions in a non-pregnant uterus by noninvasive electrophysiological measurements of the uterine muscle activity using a small electrode matrix placed on the abdomen. Simultaneous vaginal ultrasonography recordings will be performed.

Objectives Phase IIc:

Measurement and characterisation of uterine contraction via transvaginal

ultrasound in benign uterine disorders (adenomyosis, leiomyomas, congenital uterine anomalies), before and after hormonal treatment, and/or in the context of IVF

Phase III:

Measurement and characterisation of uterine contractions via transvaginal ultrasound in women with intrauterine IUDs or placental remnants prior to removal/placement.

### **Study design**

An observational prospective study in a selected cohort

### **Study burden and risks**

There are no risks associated with participation.

## **Contacts**

### **Public**

Catharina-ziekenhuis

Michelangelolaan 2  
Eindhoven 5623EJ  
NL

### **Scientific**

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## **Trial sites**

### **Listed location countries**

Netherlands

## **Eligibility criteria**

## Age

Adults (18-64 years)

## Inclusion criteria

- Phase I: Age 18-40 years, patients under hormonal fertility treatment
- Phase IIa: Age 18-40 years, healthy women with regular natural cycle.
- Phase IIb: Age >18 years, hysterectomy
- Phase IIc: Age 18-40 years, diagnosed with at least one of the following: adenomyosis, leiomyoma, uterine anomaly
- Optional: under hormonal fertility treatment in the context of IVF
- Phase III:
- Age 18-40 years
- Regular menstrual cycle
- Diagnosed with at least one of the following: adenomyosis, leiomyoma, (congenital) uterine anomaly, placental remnant AND/OR:
- Wish for intrauterine contraceptive device
- Under hormonal fertility treatment in the context of IVF

## Exclusion criteria

General:

- Pregnancy
- Mental disability
- Significant language barrier

Phase Ia:

- Uterine anomalies (congenital or not congenital)
- Uterine pathologies (leiomyomas, adenomyosis, endometriosis)
- Cesarean section in the past, Phase IIa:
- Exclusion criteria of Phase I
- Hormonal medication of any kind,

Phase IIb:

- General + Phase I
- Phase IIc, III: General exclusion criteria

## Study design

### Design

**Study type:** Observational invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control:	Uncontrolled
Primary purpose:	Basic science

## Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	23-11-2015
Enrollment:	240
Type:	Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	21-08-2015
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	MEC-U: Medical Research Ethics Committees United (Nieuwegein)

Approved WMO	
Date:	19-01-2018
Application type:	Amendment
Review commission:	MEC-U: Medical Research Ethics Committees United (Nieuwegein)

Approved WMO	
Date:	17-04-2020
Application type:	Amendment
Review commission:	MEC-U: Medical Research Ethics Committees United (Nieuwegein)

Approved WMO	
Date:	15-07-2020
Application type:	Amendment
Review commission:	MEC-U: Medical Research Ethics Committees United (Nieuwegein)

Approved WMO	
Date:	08-09-2021
Application type:	Amendment
Review commission:	MEC-U: Medical Research Ethics Committees United (Nieuwegein)

Approved WMO	
Date:	23-03-2022
Application type:	Amendment
Review commission:	MEC-U: Medical Research Ethics Committees United (Nieuwegein)

## 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: 29437  
Source: NTR  
Title:

### In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL52466.100.15
OMON	NL-OMON29437