

Excitation Transfer Between Sexual Arousal and Other Emotions

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The primary objective is to assess to what extent excitation transfer occurs, i.e., to what extent sexual arousal to sexual stimuli is higher in an emotional state than in a neutral state.

Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Recruiting
Health condition type	Other condition
Study type	Interventional

Summary

ID

NL-OMON53676

Source

ToetsingOnline

Brief title

Excitation Transfer with Sexual Arousal

Condition

- Other condition

Synonym

but rather a normal reaction (i.e. sexual arousal), disease, NA, no disorder, or condition is being investigated

Health condition

seksueel functioneren

Research involving

Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: De Forensische Zorgspecialisten

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Ministerie van OC&W, een deel van de onderzoeken wordt gefinancierd door de onderzoeksafdeling van De Forensische Zorgspecialisten; er is een subsidie van €20.000 verstrekt door Stichting Vrienden van Oldenkotte

Intervention

Keyword: emotions, excitation transfer, sexual arousal, sexual deviance

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

Sexual arousal is assessed by penile circumference and subjective ratings. The main endpoints for the study is sexual arousal in response to the erotic stimuli in the six experimental blocks (neutral/nonemotional, aggression/dominance, fear, endearment, disgust, shame).

Secondary outcome

The secondary endpoints are: unusual sexual interests and sexual outlet as assessed by self-report.

Study description

Background summary

Deviant sexual interests may be born from the need to enhance sexual arousal by means of other emotional stimuli, a process referred to as *excitation transfer*. We propose a study to assess this interaction between sexual arousal and other emotions. We hypothesize that exposure to an emotional stimulus will enhance sexual arousal in response to a sexual stimulus. This study increases our knowledge about the etiology of deviant sexual interests, which, ultimately, may help to improve treatment of (potential) sex offenders. NB. This study follows a prior pilot study to excitation transfer (approved by VUmc METC Sept 4th, 2018, METC registration number 2018.214) and plans to

incorporate a larger and more sexually diverse sample.

Study objective

The primary objective is to assess to what extent excitation transfer occurs, i.e., to what extent sexual arousal to sexual stimuli is higher in an emotional state than in a neutral state.

Study design

The current study is of experimental nature with a within-subjects design. Volunteers will be presented with 6 experimental blocks (5 emotional and 1 neutral/nonemotional) in counterbalanced order to prevent order effects. Sexual arousal is induced by erotic film fragments, emotional arousal is induced by emotional film fragments. All stimuli are presented in a 360-degree environment using Virtual Reality (VR) goggles.

Intervention

Sexual arousal is induced by erotic film fragments, emotional arousal is induced by emotional film fragments. All stimuli are presented in a 360-degree environment using Virtual Reality (VR) goggles.

Study burden and risks

There are no risks associated with participation. Participants may experience nausea and dizziness from VR, this will diminish after use. It is possible that measures of penile circumference are experienced as intrusive or uncomfortable. However, research indicates that participants generally experience the assessment of penile circumference as minimally intrusive. To maximize comfort, participants are left in the room alone during the experiment, sitting underneath a blanket, and they are allowed recovery time after the experiment. Participants receive a €35,- reimbursement for their participation and reimbursement of travel costs up to a maximum of €40,-. Participants may always withdraw from the experiment without any consequences.

Contacts

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Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Inclusion criteria

Male, age 18+

Exclusion criteria

- Insufficient understanding of Dutch language to complete questionnaires
- Visually handicapped

Study design

Design

Study type: Interventional

Masking:

Open (masking not used)

Control:

Uncontrolled

Primary purpose:

Basic science

Recruitment

NL
Recruitment status: Recruiting
Start date (anticipated): 23-11-2023
Enrollment: 50
Type: Actual

Ethics review

Approved WMO
Date: 17-03-2022
Application type: First submission
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	NL80036.068.21