# Ultra- High field ImaGing in Huntington\*s Disease

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To determine early and subtle MRI changes in premanifest and early manifest HD patients which distinguish them from the healthy population. This includes both structural/quantitative MRI data and MRI-signs of blood-brain barrier (BBB) breakdown. And...

**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruiting

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

**Study type** Observational invasive

# **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON54262

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

**Brief title**Ultra-HIGH-D

#### **Condition**

- Movement disorders (incl parkinsonism)
- Psychiatric and behavioural symptoms NEC

#### Synonym

autosomal dominant neurodegenerative disease, Huntington's chorea

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

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

Intervention

**Keyword:** 7T MRI, Blood brain barrier, Huntington's disease, MRI changes

**Outcome measures** 

**Primary outcome** 

- The main study endpoint will be the structural and functional changes of the

premanifest compared to early manifest and healthy family or gene negative

controls, which will be assessed on 7T ultra-high field MR images. We will also

use quantitative MRI approaches, since this enables us to detect small

structural and anatomical differences which cannot be detected on qualitative

MRI acquisitions.

- BBB permeability as determined by DCE-MRI to assess the leakiness of the

cerebral vasculature by dynamically measuring the rate of contrast agent

transfer from blood into the interstitial space (leakage rate; units: ml.min

1.100g). We will compare BBB permeability in early manifest HD with

pre-manifest HD participants.

**Secondary outcome** 

We will assess the relationship between the imaging measures and clinical

scores/ disease burden with regression analysis.

We will investigate if gadolinium, injected during MRI, enters tear fluid.

We will investigate if the level of gadolinium correlates with the level of BBB

leakage on MRI.

**Study description** 

## **Background summary**

Accurate estimation of clinical disease onset in Huntington\*s Disease (HD) remains difficult because motor symptoms develop insidiously and may be subtle, and neuropsychiatric symptoms may precede the onset of motor symptoms by up to 10 years. Reliable biomarkers such as those obtained by ultra-high field magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) may be useful in determining disease onset and course and may be used as a diagnostic biomarker for novel treatment therapies. Furthermore, tear fluid is a source of biomarkers in HD as well. Determining gadolinium in tears may help to discover early blood-brain barrier (BBB) breakdown without MRI.

## Study objective

To determine early and subtle MRI changes in premanifest and early manifest HD patients which distinguish them from the healthy population. This includes both structural/quantitative MRI data and MRI-signs of blood-brain barrier (BBB) breakdown. And also to lay the foundation for a longitudinal cohort study that allows to investigate the prognostic implications of these MRI changes. Furthermore, to investigate if gadolinium, injected during MRI, enters tear fluid and to investigate if the level of gadolinium correlates with the level of BBB leakage on MRI.

#### Study design

This is an observational study in which all participants will be assessed only once. However, patients will be asked for the consent to be contacted about follow-up studies.

#### Study burden and risks

The MRI that will be performed is non-invasive, but in 1:100/1000 subjects, possible problems can occur on the first contrast solution. Tear fluid collection is painless and without risks, but may be uncomfortable. The eyes may feel dry for a few minutes to hours.

# **Contacts**

#### **Public**

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#### **Scientific**

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# **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

#### **Inclusion criteria**

General inclusion criterium:

- Between 18 years and 75 years of age

Inclusion criteria pre-manifest participants:

- An UHDRS motor score <= 5
- CAG repeat size of 36 or more

4

Inclusion criteria manifest participants:

- An UHDRS motor score > 5
- Disease Stage 1 or 2
- CAG repeat size of 36 or more
- TFC between 7 and 13 (disease stage 1 or 2)

Inclusion Criteria gene negative controls

- a CAG repeat size of 35 or less

## **Exclusion criteria**

- Subjects with contra-indications for a MRI-scan as defined in the MRI screening form of SCANNEXUS such as claustrophobia, subjects carrying

4 - Ultra- High field ImaGing in Huntington\*s Disease 4-05-2025

incompatible metallic devices, subjects who have an allergy for intravenous contract or subjects who are pregnant.

- Manifest participants who are not capable of consenting
- Manifest patients not capable of undergoing MRI because of involuntary movements.
- Genotype unknown
- Current participation in a drug trial
- Not agreeing to be informed about incidental findings on the MRI scan
- Known kidney insufficiency

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational invasive

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Non-randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting
Start date (anticipated): 05-09-2023

Enrollment: 60

Type: Actual

# Medical products/devices used

Registration: No

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 18-07-2022

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

Date: 02-07-2024

Application type: Amendment

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 NL79009.068.21