# Neuroprotective Effects of Exercise in People with Progressive Multiple Sclerosis: a phase II trial

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**Ethical review** Approved WMO

**Status** Recruitment stopped **Health condition type** Demyelinating disorders

**Study type** Interventional

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON55151

#### Source

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

Exe\*cise PRO-MS

## **Condition**

Demyelinating disorders

#### **Synonym**

Progressive MS, Progressive Multiple Sclerosis

## Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Vrije Universiteit Medisch Centrum

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Dutch MS Research Foundation (MS

18-358f)

## Intervention

**Keyword:** Brain Atrophy, Neurodegeneration, Progressive Multiple Sclerosis, Progressive Resistance training

## **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

The primary outcome measure of this study is neurodegeneration, primarily operationalized by brain atrophy on brain MRI

## **Secondary outcome**

Secondary outcome parameters will include disability parameters and cardiovascular risk profile.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

To date there are little to no disease modifying treatment options for people with progressive multiple sclerosis (PMS). Neurodegeneration, rather than inflammation, seems to play a key role in the progressive phase of MS. Evidence from animal models and healthy aging individuals suggests that exercise (e.g. resistance training and endurance training) might be a possible therapy affecting neurodegeneration. However, neuroprotective effects of exercise interventions have not been examined yet in PMS and the possible mode of action of these effects needs to be elucidated.

## Study objective

The primary aim of this phase II trial is to assess whether a progressive resistance training program can slow down neurodegeneration in people with PMS. Additional objectives of this study are: 1. To determine the effect of exercise on disability. 2. To explore the relationship between disability and neurodegeneration. 3. To determine the effect of exercise on cardiovascular risk profile. 4. To assess the relative responsiveness of different neurodegeneration parameters.

## Study design

In a phase II clinical trial with an extended baseline, 30 patients with PMS will be assigned to progressive resistance training (PRT). The duration of the study is 48 weeks, consisting of 16 weeks baseline (no intervention), 16 weeks training and 16 weeks follow-up. Due to the extended baseline design patients are their own control group.

#### Intervention

participants will be assigned to: 1. A 16-week PRT program, one hour per training, three times per week focusing on large muscle groups, to improve muscle strength.

## Study burden and risks

Over a period of 48 weeks there will be eight 3-hour measurement sessions. Blood sampling might be unpleasant and can result in bruising. Physical tests can result in muscle soreness and fatigue for maximally 48 hours. To reduce fall-risk during physical tests an experienced assessor will perform measurements. All measurements have been performed previously in patients with multiple sclerosis and are safe and feasible. The training interventions are time consuming, 3-times per week for sixteen weeks. Exercise programs may result in fatigue and muscle soreness and there are some minor risks of falling and bruising as is common by doing sports

## **Contacts**

## **Public**

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## **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

## Age

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

## Inclusion criteria

Progressive Multiple Sclerosis diagnosis defined as: \*definite diagnosis of MS according to the 2017 McDonald Criteria with gradual progression of neurological impairments according to the Lublin criteria 2013.\*

EDSS Scale 3.5 - 6

Able to participate in the exercise programs, i.e. no contra-indications for training according to the guidelines of the American college of Sports Medicine

- No history of heart problems
- No symptoms that might indicate heart problems
- No other major health issues

Age between 18 and 70 years old

Able to understand therapists instructions

Fulfilling the safety criteria for magnetic resonance assessment

- No metal inside the body
- Not claustrophobic
- No pregnancy

## **Exclusion criteria**

Diagnosed with primary progressive multiple sclerosis

Relapse within 3 months of baseline visit

Severe comorbidity (Cumulative Illness Rating Scale >= 3 on 1 or more organ systems).

Initiation of Fampridine within 6 months of baseline visit.

Depression, Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale score, depression subscale

>=11 (i.e. indicative of clinical anxiety disorder or clinical depression)

Other neurological- and/or musculoskeletal disorders

Already participating in a (guided) high intensity exercise training

Participating in another intervention study

Pregnancy, given birth previous 6 months, or active pregnancy wish

# Study design

## **Design**

Study phase: 2

Study type: Interventional

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Treatment

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 10-07-2020

Enrollment: 59

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 24-01-2020

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 19-02-2020

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 30-03-2020

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 22-10-2020

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 21-12-2020

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Amsterdam UMC

Approved WMO

Date: 28-05-2021
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: 29122 Source: NTR

Title:

# In other registers

Register ID

CCMO NL71762.029.19

Other NL8265