# Tear biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease (AD) screening and diagnosis

Published: 07-08-2020 Last updated: 09-04-2024

To investigate whether tear biomarkers can differentiate between patients and controls, and

between patient groups.

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

**Health condition type** Ocular structural change, deposit and degeneration NEC

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON56224

Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

**Brief title** 

**TearAD** 

#### **Condition**

- Ocular structural change, deposit and degeneration NEC
- Neurological disorders of the eye
- Dementia and amnestic conditions

#### Synonym

Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, dementia, memory problems

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: NWO Veni fellowship

#### Intervention

**Keyword:** Alzheimer's disease, biomarkers, dementia, tear fluid

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

The main study parameter is the difference in level of tear biomarkers (such as amyloid-beta and tau) between patients and controls, and between patient groups.

#### **Secondary outcome**

The correlation between tear biomarkers with CSF and blood biomarkers.

The correlation between tear biomarkers and other ocular imaging biomarkers

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

The eyes and the brain are closely connected through the optic nerve (Fig.1A) and both the retina and the central nervous system share a common origin from the developing neural tube. Given this relation, eye problems often reflect brain problems. For example, AD patients suffer from several visual problems including loss of visual acuity, color vision and visual fields and changes in pupillary response, fixation and contrast sensitivity. We hypothesize that tear fluid is a non-invasive source of biomarkers for Alzheimer\*s disease (AD).

#### Study objective

To investigate whether tear biomarkers can differentiate between patients and controls, and between patient groups.

#### Study design

Case-control observational single-center study

#### Study burden and risks

The expected risks are low because of the non-invasive nature of the study. The study includes one visit of 120 min at which ophthalmic measurements are performed. There are no direct benefits for subjects participating in this study

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

P. Debyelaan 25 Maastricht 6229 HX NI

#### **Scientific**

Medisch Universitair Ziekenhuis Maastricht

P. Debyelaan 25 Maastricht 6229 HX NL

## **Trial sites**

### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

#### Inclusion criteria

Written informed consent obtained and documented Capable of giving informed consent themselves (MMSE score > 17/30)\*

#### **Exclusion criteria**

Ocular conditions that could influence tear biochemical parameters (including eye infection, eye inflammation, eye surgery within the last 28 days or other acute eye conditions)

Neurological or systemic chronic conditions known to interfere with retinal thickness (e.g., glaucoma, diabetes mellitus)

Ocular conditions interfering with OCT quality/retinal thickness: e.g. severe cataract, age-related macular degeneration, and glaucoma

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Non-randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

#### Recruitment

NI

Recruitment status: Recruiting

Start date (anticipated): 09-06-2022

Enrollment: 200

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 07-08-2020

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

4 - Tear biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease (AD) screening and diagnosis 7-05-2025

Date: 22-07-2022

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

Approved WMO

Date: 29-09-2023
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 NL73600.068.20