# Reducing Pain and Anxiety with Virtual Reality at the Emergency department, in children

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Primary- Does the application of Virtual Reality (VR) reduce anxiety in patients undergoing treatment for traumatic injury in the emergency department compared to patients not using VR headset? Secondary- Does the use of Virtual Reality (VR) lead to...

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

# Summary

### ID

NL-OMON56622

**Source** ToetsingOnline

**Brief title** REPAVE-C

# Condition

- Fractures
- Skin and subcutaneous tissue therapeutic procedures

**Synonym** traumatic injury

**Research involving** Human

# **Sponsors and support**

#### Primary sponsor: OLVG Source(s) of monetary or material Support: SGO fonds en wetenschappelijk

subsidiefonds OLVG

#### Intervention

Keyword: anxiety, children, pain, virtual reality

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Anxiety reduction ( $\Delta$  anxiety = preprocedural STAI-C - postprocedural STAI-C).

The anxiety score is measured with STAI-C (State-Trait Anxiety Inventory -

Children, abbreviated version). The STAI-C score is measured before and after

the procedure. The questionnaire consists of 6 items with 3 options:

- 1) I feel: very calm, calm or not calm
- 2) I am: very tense, tense or not tense
- 3) I am: very confused, confused or not confused
- 4) I feel: very relaxed, relaxed or not relaxed
- 5) I feel: very satisfied, satisfied or not satisfied
- 6) I am: very worried, worried or not worried

#### Secondary outcome

- Postprocedural anxiety score (STAI-C)

- Painreduction (postprocedural painscore - preprocedural pain score)

- Pain score after treatment, using WONG-Baker Faces Scale Indicator for Pain
- Procedural distress (distress) and coping of a child periprocedural, measured

with the CAMPIS-SF score (Child Adult Medical Procedure Interaction Scale -

Short Form).

- Coping and distress promoting factors by parents and healthcare provider

#### measured with the CAMPIS-SF

- VRMS (virtual reality motion sickness) during the procedure
- Treatment satisfaction, both child and parents
- VR headset use satisfaction, by child, parents and healthcare provider
- Duration of treatment in minutes (start treatment to discharge)
- Future perspective of using a VR headset for a medical intervention

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

Children often undergo painful and stressful procedures in the emergency department. There has been much focus on providing trauma-free care in hospitalised children, as inadequate pain management can lead to traumatic experiences, increased anxiety and stress, decreased patient satisfaction and, in the long term, even risk of care avoidance. Moreover, exposure to the procedure contributes to increasing levels of procedural distress and, consequently, the intensity of pain.

A pain-free procedure using 'procedural sedation and analgesia' (PSA) is not feasible for every patient in the emergency department. This is partly due to the time burden of one to two hours and the presence of trained staff. Furthermore, PSA is not strictly pain-free: intravenous access must be created. Also, PSA is not desirable in every patient because of the risks of complications (cardiopulmonary, anaphylaxis or aspiration). Careful consideration must be made per patient.

Recent studies have shown that Virtual Reality (VR) is an effective and non-invasive distraction method to reduce pain and anxiety perception in children during various medical procedures such as blood sampling, dressing change in burns and obtaining intravenous access in chemotherapy. The advantage of a VR headset is that a virtual 3D environment is created and thus the child is not exposed to the medical procedure. This has also led to higher patient satisfaction in previous studies. Given these experiences, VR headsets could provide a solution for anxious and painful patients who are not eligible for PSA in the emergency department.

To date, no studies have been conducted on the use of a VR headset in the treatment of traumatic injuries in children. It is hypothesised that the use of a VR headset will reduce the anxiety, pain and procedural distress levels in

children undergoing trauma-related treatment in the emergency department.

### Study objective

Primary

- Does the application of Virtual Reality (VR) reduce anxiety in patients undergoing treatment for traumatic injury in the emergency department compared to patients not using VR headset?

#### Secondary

- Does the use of Virtual Reality (VR) lead to pain reduction in children undergoing treatment for traumatic injury in the emergency department compared to the non-VR group

- Is there a difference in post-procedural anxiety and painscore in children undergoing treatment for traumatic injury (between the groups)?

- Does the use of VR headset lead to less procedural distress and better coping in contrast to the non-VR group?

- Is there a difference in duration of treatment and amount of pain relief between the two groups?

- Investigating patient satisfaction and satisfaction of children, parents and caregivers regarding the use of VR headset

### Study design

\* A single-centre prospective randomised trial (n=112)

\* This study is conducted at the emergency department in Onze Lieve Vrouwe Gasthuis (OLVG)

#### Intervention

VR versus non-VR group (care as usual)

#### Study burden and risks

Wearing a VR headset is not associated with any risks. Desorientation and balance disturbance is avoided by having the patient sit or lie down during the procedure. The included patients answer some questions before and after treatment of the traumatic injury. Completing this questionnaire takes about 15 minutes per patient. The patients won't receive compensation for participating in this study.

# Contacts

#### Public

OLVG

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# **Trial sites**

# **Listed location countries**

Netherlands

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

Adolescents (12-15 years) Adolescents (16-17 years) Children (2-11 years)

### **Inclusion criteria**

Aged 8-18 years Medical treatment required after traumatic injury (e.g. wound closure, closed reduction of a fracture / luxation)

# **Exclusion criteria**

o Contact isolation o Resistance o PSA (Procedural Sedation and Analgesia) with propofol, ketamin and/or midazolam o Language barrier o Intellectual disability o History of epilepsy o Hearing impairment

# Study design

# Design

Interventional
Parallel
Randomized controlled trial
Single blinded (masking used)

Primary purpose: Treatment

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruiting
Start date (anticipated):	08-11-2024
Enrollment:	112
Туре:	Actual

### Medical products/devices used

Generic name:	SyncVR Relax & Distract
Registration:	Yes - CE intended use

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO	
Date:	19-02-2024
Application type:	First submission
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

No registrations found.

### In other registers

Register CCMO ID NL83738.100.23