

Tuning to the Voice: Distinguishing linguistic profiles of auditory verbal hallucinations to guide tailored treatment

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1. Distinguish and characterise linguistic voice-types
2. Examine differential working mechanisms of voice-types
3. Exploratively evaluate the role of voice-type in treatment effectiveness
4. Disseminate the results to clinicians and voice-hearers

Ethical review	Approved WMO
Status	Pending
Health condition type	Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders
Study type	Observational non invasive

Summary

ID

NL-OMON56783

Source

ToetsingOnline

Brief title

Tuning to the Voice

Condition

- Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders

Synonym

auditory verbal hallucinations, voice-hearing

Research involving

Human

Sponsors and support

Primary sponsor: Universitair Medisch Centrum

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: ZonMw

Intervention

Keyword: auditory verbal hallucinations, brain mechanisms, psychological treatment, voice-hearing

Outcome measures

Primary outcome

Assessments consist of acquiring verbatim repetitions of voices, voice-related measures such as voice phenomenology, acceptance of the voices, and impact on daily functioning, and hemispheric asymmetry during language processing. These will be used to distinguish and characterise linguistic voice subtypes, to examine working mechanisms underlying these voice-types, and to assess the role of voice-type in treatment effectiveness of psychological interventions.

Secondary outcome

n.v.t

Study description

Background summary

About 3% of the population experiences hallucinated voices that cause distress to the extent that they seek help for it. Unfortunately, the numerous psychological interventions for voice-hearing are hampered by small-to-modest effect sizes, which may be due to an under-appreciation of the heterogeneity of voice-hearing. Some voice-hearers typically hear voices that can be described as **compact**, while others hear **expanded** voices. Each of these may have differential underlying working mechanisms, in terms of hemispheric asymmetry of language areas of the brain. Importantly, existing psychological interventions may become much more effective if they are prescribed for the type of voice they best target, rather than in the one-size-fits-all manner

they are delivered to date.

Study objective

1. Distinguish and characterise linguistic voice-types
2. Examine differential working mechanisms of voice-types
3. Exploratively evaluate the role of voice-type in treatment effectiveness
4. Disseminate the results to clinicians and voice-hearers

Study design

Participants will receive their psychological treatment as planned. Participation in the study will not interfere with the treatment. Participants will undergo a pre-assessment, and a post-assessment.

Study burden and risks

The study is deemed to pose minimal burden on participants.

Contacts

Public

Selecteer

Hanzeplein 1
Groningen 9713 GZ
NL

Scientific

Selecteer

Hanzeplein 1
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NL

Trial sites

Listed location countries

Netherlands

Eligibility criteria

Age

Adolescents (16-17 years)

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

Inclusion criteria

- Voice-hearing in the past three months
- Seeking psychological help for voice-hearing
- DSM-5 diagnosis of any psychiatric disorder (e.g., *Psychosis NOS*)
- At least 16 years of age

Exclusion criteria

- Unable to provide informed consent
- Hearing voices only in other languages than Dutch or English
- Insufficient command of both Dutch and English

Study design

Design

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Basic science

Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Pending

Start date (anticipated): 01-01-2024

Enrollment: 168

Type: Anticipated

Medical products/devices used

Registration: No

Ethics review

Approved WMO

Date: 16-04-2024

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (Groningen)

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

NL85388.042.23