# A better treatment for depression with personalized just-in-time behavioral activation

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Our aim is to develop JITAIs focused on behavioral activation (BA) for depression in close collaboration with patients and therapists, and to examine their usability, feasibility, and preliminary effectiveness.

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

Health condition type Depressed mood disorders and disturbances

**Study type** Observational non invasive

# **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON57144

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

Just-in-time behavioral activation for depression

#### **Condition**

Depressed mood disorders and disturbances

#### **Synonym**

depressive disorder; depression

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Dimence Groep

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: ZonMW

#### Intervention

No intervention

**Keyword:** Adaptive interventions, Behavioral activation, Depression

**Explanation** 

N.a.

#### **Outcome measures**

#### **Primary outcome**

Primary outcome is the feasibolity of the JITAIs as an add-on in the<br/>psychological treatment of depression.

### **Secondary outcome**

Secondaire outcome are: Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9), Mental Health<br/>Continuum-Short Form (MHC-SF), Questionnaire about the Process of Recovery<br/>(QPR), Client-satisfaction questionnaire (CSQ-8), System Usability Scale (SUS),<br/>TWente Engagement with Ehealth Technologies Scale (TWEETS) and the EuroQol-5<br/>Dimension (EQ-5D).

# **Study description**

#### **Background summary**

Depression constitutes a significant public health issue, with rising prevalence and a negative impact on quality of life, mortality, and morbidity. Although psychological treatments\*such as behavioral activation\*are effective, they are only effective for half of the participants. The effectiveness can be improved by increasing adherence to activities between treatment sessions. Promising for improving adherence are 'Just-In-Time Adaptive Interventions' (JITAIs) that provide support 'at the right moment.' To date, JITAIs have not been studied in the context of behavioral activation for depression.

#### Study objective

Our aim is to develop JITAIs focused on behavioral activation (BA) for depression in close collaboration with patients and therapists, and to examine their usability, feasibility, and preliminary effectiveness.

#### Study design

Qualitative research with focus groups (design phase), followed by a quantitative quasi-experimental design in which JITAIs as an add-on to treatment as usual are compared with the outcomes of treatment as usual (evaluation phase).

#### Study burden and risks

Participants receive usual care throughout the study. The burden for participants in the design phase consists of participation in focus groups, and in the evaluation phase, it involves completing several questionnaires at 3 time points. If participants receive JITAIs as an add-on, the additional burden consists of: daily measurements (4 times a day, with 12 - 17 questions) and daily receipt of messages with a suggestion for a pleasant activity. There are no potential risks for the subjects during participation in the study.

## **Contacts**

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#### **Public**

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# **Trial sites**

#### **Trial sites in the Netherlands**

Universiteit van Twente

Target size: 121

#### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

#### Inclusion criteria

Healthy participants: Therapists working at Thubble and a patient representative

Patients: 1) age 18 years or older, 2) a diagnosis of a depressive disorder, and 3) in possession of an Android or iOS smartphone.

#### **Exclusion criteria**

1) Insufficient proficiency in the Dutch language

# Study design

## **Design**

Study phase: N/A

Study type: Observational non invasive

Intervention model: Single

Allocation: Non controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Treatment

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruiting

Start date (anticipated): 01-12-2024

Enrollment: 121

Duration: 2 months (per patient)

Type: Actual

## Medical products/devices used

Product type: N.a. Registration: No

## **IPD** sharing statement

Plan to share IPD: No

Plan description

N.a.

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 22-10-2024

Application type: First submission

Review commission: CMO regio Arnhem-Nijmegen (Nijmegen)

Approved WMO

Date: 24-03-2025

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC Oost-Nederland

# **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

ССМО

Research portal

ID

NL87481.091.24 NL-005185