# Triage of Reduced Exercise Tolerance in Frail Elderly (TREE).

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The diagnostic triage will be a simple and feasible way to improve the diagnosis and treatment of frail elderly with exercise induced dyspnoea and/or reduced excersie tolerance.

**Ethische beoordeling** Positief advies **Status** Werving gestart

Type aandoening -

Onderzoekstype Interventie onderzoek

# **Samenvatting**

#### ID

NL-OMON21050

**Bron** 

NTR

Verkorte titel

**TREE** 

#### **Aandoening**

Heart failure Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease COPD Hartfalen Chronisch obstructive longziekte

### **Ondersteuning**

**Primaire sponsor:** UMC Utrecht **Overige ondersteuning:** ZonMw

# Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

#### **Uitkomstmaten**

#### **Primaire uitkomstmaten**

- 1. Prevalence of latent heart failure and COPD; <br
- 2. Difference in prevalence of latent heart failure and COPD between both groups.

# **Toelichting onderzoek**

#### Achtergrond van het onderzoek

Background of the study:

Many elderly suffer from reduced exercise tolerance or exercise induced shortness of breath (dyspnoea) which causes decreased mobility and restrictions in physical, psychological and social functioning. Patients commonly attribute this symptom to their age, and simply adjust their life style to it. Reduced exercise tolerance/dyspnoe is very common with prevelance rate of 20-60% of those aged 65 years and over. The main causus in the elderly are heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Both diseases have a high negative impact on the quality of life and are associated with frequent hospital admissions. Over-diagnosis, but more often under-diagnosis of heart failure and COPD is rather common in primary care. Establishing a diagnosis early in the course of the disease is useful because both diseases can be adequately and evidence-based treated. Therefore, an easy diagnostic triage-strategy followed bij direct treatment would be of great importance to asses and treat heart failure and COPD in elderly patient with shortness of breath.

#### Objective of the study:

Quantify how many frail elderly aged over 65 years with reduced exercise tolerance and/or exercise induced dyspnoea have previously unrecognised COPD and heart failure. Quantify the difference in prevalence of unrecognised COPD and heart failure between those who underwent the diagnostic triage compared to those who received care as usual. Quantify the effect of the diagnostic triage plus the additionally treatment changes on functionality and quality of life after 6 months compared to those who received care as usual. Quantify the cost-effectiveness of the diagnostic triage strategy compared to care as usual.

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A clustered randomized diagnostic (follow-up) study.

Study population:

First, pre-selection of patients aged over 65 years from 50 general practices is based on frailty. Frailty is based on the next criteria: use 5 or more different types of medical drugs chronically in the last year and/or have 3 or more chronic or vitality threating diseases (such as diabetes mellitus, COPD, heart failure, impaired vision, hard hearingness). This will be done from the electronic medical files of the general practices. These elderly will receive the MRC questionnaire of dyspnoea and three additional questions related tot exercise intolerance. Those with any dyspnoea and/or reduced exercise tolerance will be invited to participate, except those with established heart failure and COPD.

Study parameters/outcome of the study:

Prevalence of latent heart failure and COPD. Difference in prevalence of latent heart failure and COPD between both groups. Differences in functionality and quality of life after 6 months between both groups. Cost-effectiveness and experienced patient burden of the diagnostic triage strategy.

#### Doel van het onderzoek

The diagnostic triage will be a simple and feasible way to improve the diagnosis and treatment of frail elderly with exercise induced dyspnoea and/or reduced excersie tolerance.

#### Onderzoeksopzet

Primary outcomes will be measured at one time point. Secudary outcomes will be measured in two time points (in the beginning of the study and after six months).

#### Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

- 1. Diagnostic triage strategy (index group) including; electrocardiography, echocardiography, spirmetry and blood testing;
- 2. Care-as-usual (control group).

# Contactpersonen

#### **Publiek**

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#### Wetenschappelijk

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## **Deelname** eisen

# Belangrijkste voorwaarden om deel te mogen nemen (Inclusiecriteria)

- 1. Patients aged 65 years and older;
- 2. Must have a minimum of three chronic or vitality threatening diseases and/or use five or more medical drugs chronically in the last year;
- 3. Must have dyspnea and/or reduced exercise tolerance (scored by two short questionnaires).

# Belangrijkste redenen om niet deel te kunnen nemen (Exclusiecriteria)

- 1. Patients with both confirmed COPD and heart failure (lungfunction test performed < 1 year ago and heart failure confirmed by echocardiography);
- 2. Patients unable or unwilling to sign informed consent.

# **Onderzoeksopzet**

# **Opzet**

Type: Interventie onderzoek

Onderzoeksmodel: Parallel

Toewijzing: Gerandomiseerd

Blindering: Open / niet geblindeerd

Controle: Geneesmiddel

#### **Deelname**

Nederland

Status: Werving gestart

(Verwachte) startdatum: 01-06-2010

Aantal proefpersonen: 800

Type: Verwachte startdatum

# **Ethische beoordeling**

Positief advies

Datum: 25-05-2010

Soort: Eerste indiening

# **Registraties**

# Opgevolgd door onderstaande (mogelijk meer actuele) registratie

Geen registraties gevonden.

# Andere (mogelijk minder actuele) registraties in dit register

Geen registraties gevonden.

### In overige registers

Register ID

NTR-new NL2212 NTR-old NTR2336

Ander register ZonMW: 311040302

ISRCTN wordt niet meer aangevraagd.

# Resultaten

#### Samenvatting resultaten