Can preconscious attention for itch stimuli be modified?

Gepubliceerd: 16-10-2018 Laatst bijgewerkt: 18-08-2022

The primary hypothesis is that preconscious attention bias modification (ABM) training towards and away from pictorial itch stimuli results in altered preconscious attention for pictorial itch stimuli. Secondarily, it will be explored whether...

Ethische beoordeling	Positief advies
Status	Werving gestart
Type aandoening	-
Onderzoekstype	Interventie onderzoek

Samenvatting

ID

NL-OMON24574

Bron Nationaal Trial Register

Aandoening

attention; attentional retraining; attention bias modification; itch; pruritus; healthy volunteers; aandacht; aandachtstraining; jeuk, gezonde vrijwilligers

Ondersteuning

Primaire sponsor: Leiden University **Overige ondersteuning:** Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) and Leiden University Fund (Den Dulk-Moermans Fund)

Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

Uitkomstmaten

Primaire uitkomstmaten

The difference between the average reaction time for incongruent trials (at the location of the neutral stimulus) and congruent trials (at the location of the itch stimulus) during the post-ABM training dot-probe task will be the primary outcome measure. This outcome

1 - Can preconscious attention for itch stimuli be modified? 29-05-2025

measure will be compared across the three conditions, while taking into account the respective reaction times during the pre-ABM dot-probe task.

Toelichting onderzoek

Achtergrond van het onderzoek

The notion that itch draws attention can be supported from its evolutionary role to protect our body from possible harm alike other threatening stimuli, e.g. pain. Earlier research has shown that healthy participants display an attentional bias towards pictorial itch stimuli, i.e. participants allocate their attention preferentially towards itch stimuli rather than to neutral stimuli (van Laarhoven et al., 2017). However, it is unknown so far if an attentional bias for itch already occurs and can be modified before conscious processing takes place. Therefore, the current study will investigate whether a preconscious attentional bias for itch stimuli exists and whether such a bias can be modified by attentional bias modification training towards or away from itch.

We use the dot-probe paradigm, which has frequently been applied in different research areas, including anxiety and pain. If preconscious attention for itch can be modified, a next step could be to investigate the potential ABM training potency in patients suffering from chronic itch.

Doel van het onderzoek

The primary hypothesis is that preconscious attention bias modification (ABM) training towards and away from pictorial itch stimuli results in altered preconscious attention for pictorial itch stimuli.

Secondarily, it will be explored whether preconscious ABM training using pictorial itch stimuli influences sensitivity to cowhage-induced itch.

Thirdly, it is hypothesized that healthy participants show a preconscious attentional bias at baseline.

Additionally, eye movements towards pictorial itch stimuli as well as some individual characteristics will be explored.

Onderzoeksopzet

This study comprises one experimental session.

Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

In line with previously applied attentional bias modification (ABM) trainings for pain using a modified dot-probe task (e.g., Dehghani et al., 2004; Haggman et al., 2010; Heathcote et al., 2018; McGowan et al., 2009; Sharpe et al., 2010, 2012, 2014; Van Ryckeghem et al., 2018), we developed an ABM training for itch using subliminal presentation of stimuli to investigate modification of preconscious processing.

For every trial in this task, first a fixation point is briefly shown in the middle of the screen, followed by subliminal presentation of a pair of itch-related and neutral pictures. One of these pictures is shown in the upper half of the screen and the other in the lower half of the screen. Right after this subliminal presentation, scrambled versions of the same pictures are shown at the same locations (masks). Subsequently, a target symbol is presented on the screen, either congruently (at the same location) or incongruently (at the opposite location) to the location of the subliminally shown itch picture. Participants respond to the type of target symbol as quickly and accurately as possible by pressing the corresponding response button. Participants will be randomly allocated to one of three ABM training conditions: In the "training away from itch" condition, the targets will be presented incongruently to the location of the itch stimulus. In the control condition, an equal proportion of targets will be presented on both locations.

Before and after the ABM training, comparable dot-probe tasks with pictures (different stimuli) will be administered as measure of attention allocation towards the itch pictures. In addition, to investigate the potential effect of ABM training on itch sensitivity, itch will be induced by cowhage.

Contactpersonen

Publiek

Leiden University - Health, Medical, and Neuropsychology unit

A.I.M. van Laarhoven Wassenaarseweg 52

Leiden 2333 AK The Netherlands +31715276634

3 - Can preconscious attention for itch stimuli be modified? 29-05-2025

Wetenschappelijk

Leiden University - Health, Medical, and Neuropsychology unit

A.I.M. van Laarhoven Wassenaarseweg 52

Leiden 2333 AK The Netherlands +31715276634

Deelname eisen

Belangrijkste voorwaarden om deel te mogen nemen (Inclusiecriteria)

Volunteers aged between 18 and 35 years with normal vision (wearing contact lenses is allowed)

Belangrijkste redenen om niet deel te kunnen nemen (Exclusiecriteria)

- A medical diagnosis, such as eczema eczema, rheumatoid arthritis or heart disease.
- a (history of) psychiatric diagnosis, such as major depression or AD(H)D.
- Colour blindness
- Dyslexia
- Reduced vision or dependence on glasses
- regular recreative drug use, e.g., cannabis, MDMA

Onderzoeksopzet

Opzet

Туре:	Interventie onderzoek
Onderzoeksmodel:	Parallel
Toewijzing:	Gerandomiseerd
Blindering:	Dubbelblind
Controle:	Placebo

Deelname

Nederland	
Status:	Werving gestart
(Verwachte) startdatum:	16-10-2018
Aantal proefpersonen:	164
Туре:	Verwachte startdatum

Voornemen beschikbaar stellen Individuele Patiënten Data (IPD)

Wordt de data na het onderzoek gedeeld: Nog niet bepaald

Ethische beoordeling

Positief advies	
Datum:	16-10-2018
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

RegisterIDNTR-newNL7353NTR-oldNTR7561Ander registerCommissie Ethiek Psychologie, Leiden University : CEP18-0731_309

Resultaten

Samenvatting resultaten not yet