

# Improving standing balance after stroke with tDCS and postural feedback therapy.

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VR-based postural feedback training combined with non-invasive cerebellar tDCS is more effective as compared to the same balance training program with sham-stimulation in improving postural balance control parameters and standing balance performance...

<b>Ethische beoordeling</b>	Positief advies
<b>Status</b>	Werving gestart
<b>Type aandoening</b>	-
<b>Onderzoekstype</b>	Interventie onderzoek

## Samenvatting

### ID

NL-OMON29432

### Bron

NTR

### Verkorte titel

POTENTIAL RCT

### Aandoening

tDCS, stroke, CVA, postural feedback therapy, balans

### Ondersteuning

**Primaire sponsor:** VU medical center

**Overige ondersteuning:** Hersenstichting Nederland

### Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

### Uitkomstmaten

#### Primaire uitkomstmaten

Berg Balance scale, assessing functional balance performance.

## Toelichting onderzoek

### Achtergrond van het onderzoek

Postural instability, balance problems and subsequent falls are very common in patients with a stroke and strongly associated with future functional recovery. The early period after stroke is characterized by a critical time window of neuroplasticity. Postural feedback training (PFT) is a common rehabilitative therapy to improve standing balance control in patients with stroke, and is equally effective to improve balance control as usual care. Studies suggest that a positive, reproducible effect on motor learning may be achieved by simultaneous non-invasive transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) and motor training. A combination of early applied tDCS and PFT by modern virtual reality techniques (VR-PFT) may therefore improve balance in patients with stroke to a level unattained by VR-PFT alone. To date, non-invasive brain stimulation has not been applied in combination with modern balance training techniques in stroke.

### DoeI van het onderzoek

VR-based postural feedback training combined with non-invasive cerebellar tDCS is more effective as compared to the same balance training program with sham-stimulation in improving postural balance control parameters and standing balance performance in sub-acute stroke patients

### Onderzoeksopzet

3 months

### Onderzoeksproduct en/of interventie

A three week VR-PFT intervention applied five days per week for one hour will be started within five weeks post-stroke, in addition to usual care. This intensive training will be given in order to test if VR-PFT in combination with cerebellar tDCS is more effective in improving standing balance than VR-PFT alone. Patients train in groups and go along workstations consisting of a virtual reality setup in which instantaneous visual feedback is given regarding centre of gravity or trunk movements during several balance tasks. These tasks requiring active control of body posture and equilibrium in a virtual environment. The training program is individually tailored and progressive with systematic increments in task difficulty. tDCS will be simultaneously applied with the training during the first 25 minutes of each session using a pre-programmed stimulation paradigm. Sham-tDCS starts with a ramped stimulation of 30s followed by 0 mA current without the subject knowing this.

# Contactpersonen

## Publiek

Postbus 7057, 1007 MB Amsterdam

Sarah Zandvliet  
De boelelaan 1118 (PK-1Y162)

Amsterdam 1081 HV  
The Netherlands  
020-4444925

## Wetenschappelijk

Postbus 7057, 1007 MB Amsterdam

Sarah Zandvliet  
De boelelaan 1118 (PK-1Y162)

Amsterdam 1081 HV  
The Netherlands  
020-4444925

## Deelname eisen

### Belangrijkste voorwaarden om deel te mogen nemen (Inclusiecriteria)

1) A postural balance deficit as determined by a Berg Balance Scale score of 50 or lower, 2) less than five weeks after a first ever cortical or subcortical ischemic lesion, excluding lesions of the cerebellum, 3) age  $\geq 30$ , 4) written informed consent, 5) be able to stand for 30 seconds with minimal support 6) normal vision or corrected to normal with an optical aid, 7) able and sufficiently motivated to perform the required tests and intervention sessions.

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

1) Any Presence of metallic implants (pacemaker etc.) , pacemaker, intracranial electrodes, implanted defibrillators, cranial pathologies (e.g. holes, plaques) or any other prosthesis, 2)

orthopaedic limitations that interfere with the study, 3) not being able to communicate , 3) successful thrombolysis treatment ( no clinical sequel of the stroke) , 4) No neurological disease or condition (except from the stroke) 5) Cranial bone defects, 6) history of epileptic seizures, 7) diagnoses bipolar or psychiatric disorder 8) signs of depression (Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale, HADS, sub score D $\geq$ 10) (Zigmond and Snaith 1983) 9) insufficient cognitive function (Mini Mental State Examination, MMSE < 19), 10) sensory impairments prior to the ischemic lesion (patients will be asked if they have a medical history of neuropathy), 11) diagnosed diseases of the vestibular system.

## Onderzoeksopzet

### Opzet

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

### Deelname

Nederland	
Status:	Werving gestart
(Verwachte) startdatum:	24-09-2016
Aantal proefpersonen:	46
Type:	Verwachte startdatum

### Voornemen beschikbaar stellen Individuele Patiënten Data (IPD)

**Wordt de data na het onderzoek gedeeld:** Nog niet bepaald

## Ethische beoordeling

Positief advies	
Datum:	22-06-2015
Soort:	Eerste indiening

# Registraties

## Opgevolgd door onderstaande (mogelijk meer actuele) registratie

ID: 47155

Bron: ToetsingOnline

Titel:

## Andere (mogelijk minder actuele) registraties in dit register

Geen registraties gevonden.

## In overige registers

Register	ID
NTR-new	NL5032
NTR-old	NTR5261
CCMO	NL52021.029.15
OMON	NL-OMON47155

# Resultaten