# DALPAS study: Dynamic Assessments to determine Learning Potential After Stroke

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The objectives of this study are to investigate the feasibility, the construct and criterion validity of dynamic assessments in stroke patients.

**Ethical review** Approved WMO **Status** Recruitment stopped

**Health condition type** Central nervous system vascular disorders

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

NL-OMON37341

Source

ToetsingOnline

**Brief title**DALPAS study

## **Condition**

Central nervous system vascular disorders

#### **Synonym**

Cerebro Vascular Accident, Stroke

## **Research involving**

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universiteit Maastricht

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Ministerie van OC&W

#### Intervention

**Keyword:** Dynamic assessment, Stroke, Validity

## **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

Three dynamic assessments will be administered in patients diagnosed with stroke. These dynamic assessments are; the Wisconsin Card Sorting Test, the Battery of Learning Potential for Assessing Dementia (BEPAD) and the California Verbal Learning test II.

#### **Secondary outcome**

The Barthel Index and a custom-designed questionnaire about the learning potential of clients will be completed by respectively the care coordinator and the paramedic team.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Cognitive impairments after stroke are a major cause of disability for everyday functioning. Learning potential refers to the ability to improve cognitive performance after training. Therefore, learning potential could be a mediator between basic cognition and functional outcome. Dynamic assessments identify the learning potential of the individual, instead of measuring their static cognitive ability. With this information, it is reasonable to believe that individuals with limited learning potential may benefit to a lesser extent from rehabilitation interventions.

Dynamic assessments, unlike static assessments, are able to measure learning potential in patients with schizophrenia and Alzheimer Disease according to current literature. Currently, dynamic assessments are not used in stroke patients, but may provide clinically helpful diagnostic and prognostic information about the rehabilitation potential of stroke patients. Therefore, it is important to gain insight in dynamic assessments used in patients diagnosed with stroke. Because dynamic assessments are a promising way to gain

insight into learning potential, the aim of this study is to determine whether learning potential of patients diagnosed with stroke can be assessed with dynamic assessments.

## Study objective

The objectives of this study are to investigate the feasibility, the construct and criterion validity of dynamic assessments in stroke patients.

## Study design

A cross-sectional design will be used for this study. Data collection of 30 clients diagnosed with stroke will take place in the nursing homes of Vitalis WoonZorg Groep in Eindhoven. Three dynamic assessments will be administered by a trained occupational therapist. The researcher will contact the client (after the approval of the client, obtained by a care assistant from the clients ward), gives verbal and written information and answers possible questions. After obtaining informed consent, an appointment for the assessments will be made with the client.

#### Study burden and risks

There is no potential risk for the participants. The assessments, in a static version, are already used in other settings and in patients diagnosed with a stroke. In this study, the assessments are adapted for dynamic assessments, which means that the test is applied in a test-train-test format. During the train-interval the patients are given instructions to improve their performance on the test after which the test is administered again. Thus, a dynamic assessment measures how well patients benefit from instructions. The results of the dynamic assessments or the termination of participation in this study will not affect the care and treatment that a participant is entitled to.

## **Contacts**

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## **Trial sites**

#### **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

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

## Inclusion criteria

- The diagnosis stroke should be confirmed by the physician specialized in geriatric medicine;
- Time post-stroke should be maximum 10 years;
- Clients must be able to give informed consent (this will be determined by the physician and by the Sheffield Screening Test for Acquired Language Disorders);
- Clients should be current patients of Vitalis WoonZorg Groep;
- All clients should be clinically stable, defined by having no negative hemodynamic changes occurred in the last week (determined by a physician);
- Clients should at least be able to understand simple instructions. Therefore all clients are screened with the first three items of the Sheffield Screening Test for Acquired Language Disorders. Only clients who score the total eight points of these three items are included.

## **Exclusion criteria**

- Living in the psychiatric or psycho-geriatric wards of the nursing home;
- Diagnosed with dementia;
- Age under 50;
- Not able to sit awake for at least three consecutive hours in a (wheel) chair;
- Comatose.

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Diagnostic

#### Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 16-03-2012

Enrollment: 30

Type: Actual

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 05-03-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC academisch ziekenhuis Maastricht/Universiteit

Maastricht, METC azM/UM (Maastricht)

# **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 ID

CCMO NL38401.068.11

# **Study results**

Date completed: 31-12-2013

Actual enrolment: 17

## **Summary results**

Trial is onging in other countries