

# A randomized controlled trial of an online aftercare program in pain rehabilitation and a qualitative study of the experiences of users and their opinions on support by a health care professional.

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<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	Other condition
<b>Study type</b>	Interventional

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON46255

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

Online aftercare in chronic pain rehabilitation

### Condition

- Other condition

### Synonym

chronic pain, non-acute pain

### Health condition

chronische pijn

## Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Revalidatiecentrum Het Roessingh

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Roessingh;centrum voor revalidatie

## Intervention

**Keyword:** Acceptance & Commitment Therapy, Pain interference, Physical condition training, telemedicine

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Main study outcome is pain interference measured at 3 month follow-up.

### Secondary outcome

Secondary study parameters are pain intensity, psychological distress and psychological flexibility at 3 months follow-up..

Outcomes of the qualitative part are user experiences and the opinions of participants concerning support by a health care professional.

## Study description

### Background summary

Many chronic pain patients find it difficult to retain behavior changes after multidisciplinary pain rehabilitation program. They experience barriers in living according to their personal values and to realize a balanced daily activity schedule in the presence of pain or negative thoughts. An aftercare program that prevent relapses is needed but not routinely offered due to limited therapist time and a lack of (financial) resources. A relapse prevention program based on e-health might overcome these barriers. Thus far, it is unknown whether patients can use the program on their own or whether a minimum of professional support is needed.

### Study objective

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The first objective is to evaluate if the online aftercare program is more effective when it is supported by e-mail contact with a health care professional compared to no support in decreasing interference of pain complaints with daily life.

The secondary aim is to assess the clinical benefits of the online program on the outcomes pain intensity, psychological distress and the process variable psychological flexibility.

The third objective is to qualitatively evaluate the experiences of a subsample of 20 participants while using the program and to assess their opinions concerning support of a health care professional.

## **Study design**

The design is a randomised controlled superiority study with two conditions. In the experimental condition patients get access to the online aftercare program and to a contact module that enables them to exchange e-mails with a healthcare professional. In the control condition patients only get access to the online aftercare program.

In addition, a qualitative study will be done with a subsample of 20 participants from both the experimental and control condition.

## **Intervention**

The intervention consists of a psychosocial module, a physical module and a contact module in the experimental condition. The psychosocial module based on Acceptance & Commitment Therapy. The website and mobile application aim at sustaining valued actions. The physical training program consists of films and instructions of physical exercises that can be adapted individually. The contact module offers the opportunity to exchange e-mails in a safe environment. Participants are free to send as much e-mails as they want, the healthcare professional reacts once a week.

## **Study burden and risks**

Participants who receive the online aftercare program can gain direct benefit from participation in this study, as the program is expected to prevent relapse. No risks are expected from participation in this study. Questionnaires used in the study are non-invasive and they are part of the standard measurement procedures of Roessingh Rehabilitation Centre. Additionally, no drugs or physical procedures are involved in the protocol.

Telephone interviews in the qualitative part take 30 minutes at the most.

## Contacts

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### Scientific

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## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### Inclusion criteria

- \* Patients aged between 18 and 65 years old
- \* Primary complaint is chronic musculoskeletal pain
- \* Having finished a pain rehabilitation treatment at RCR
- \* Being able to use an online program
- \* Disposal of a smartphone, I-pad or PC
- \* Permission to use data for scientific purposes

### Exclusion criteria

There are no exclusion criteria for including participants into the study

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Interventional
Intervention model:	Parallel
Allocation:	Randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Single blinded (masking used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Other

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	29-07-2016
Enrollment:	142
Type:	Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	09-02-2016
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC Twente (Enschede)
Approved WMO	
Date:	01-08-2017
Application type:	Amendment
Review commission:	METC Twente (Enschede)

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

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**Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register**

ID: 27656  
Source: Nationaal Trial Register  
Title:

**In other registers**

Register	ID
Other	23539
CCMO	NL55824.044.15
OMON	NL-OMON27656