

# The effect of Virtual Reality on pain in patients undergoing lumbar puncture. A randomized controlled trial

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The aim of this study is to determine whether VR used during lumbar puncture will significantly reduce pain and anxiety perception.

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

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON51820

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

ViRe LP

### Condition

- Other condition
- Administration site reactions
- Nervous system, skull and spine therapeutic procedures

### Synonym

Pain in lumbar punctures / spinal tap

### Health condition

Pijn en angst gerelateerd aan diagnostische ingreep (lumbaalpunctie)

### Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Zuyderland Medisch Centrum

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Zuyderland medical center

## Intervention

**Keyword:** Lumbar puncture, Pain, Reality, Virtual

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

The primary outcome is experienced pain measured by the 11-point NRS. Scores will be analysed by means with standard deviations.

### Secondary outcome

Anxiety: Anxiety will be measured with the 11-point NRS. This is a validated and reliable scale for measuring state anxiety. This will be measured before and after the procedure. In patients with VR the measurement of NRS will take place before starting the VR.

Complications: Complications will be assessed in a telephone call 3-5 days after the puncture.

Side-effect: Side effects of VR will be assessed after the procedure.

## Study description

### Background summary

Lumbar puncture (LP) is considered safe with a low risk of complications. However, LP are often experienced as painful, unpleasant and distressing, which is associated with more pain and anxiety. There is increasing evidence that virtual reality is effective in the reduction of acute pain during medical procedures and treatments. [9] Furthermore it has been proven to reduce pre-operative anxiety, mainly in children. [15] There is a tendency of pain reduction with the use of VR in adolescents undergoing LP [8]. VR has not been

studied in adults undergoing LP.

### **Study objective**

The aim of this study is to determine whether VR used during lumbar puncture will significantly reduce pain and anxiety perception.

### **Study design**

A single center, non-blinded, randomized controlled trial.

### **Intervention**

Patients in the intervention group will have additional VR-experience before and during LP.

### **Study burden and risks**

Patients included in this study will have a negligible medical risk when participating in this study, since VR has minimal and non-threatening side-effects (e.g. dizziness). The burden to participate in the study is also low considering that only an extra telephone call, which will take maximum of 15 minutes, is done on top of normal LP procedure.

## **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

- At least 18 years
- Indication for lumbar puncture
- Outpatient setting

### Exclusion criteria

- Any contraindication for lumbar puncture:
  - o Suspicion of increased intracranial pressure in decreased consciousness, papilledema, focal loss or suspected increased intracranial pressure based on imaging
  - o Space occupying lesions with mass effect
  - o Space occupying lesions in posterior fossa of any kind such as tumor, hemorrhage or recent cerebellar infarction
  - o Spinal mass
  - o Infection at puncture site
  - o Thrombocytopenia  $<40 \times 10^9$
  - o Use of blood-thinning medication (with the exception of acetylsalicylic acid)
- Patients who have epilepsy
- Patients who have had lumbar puncture before
- Patients who are completely deaf or blind

## Study design

### Design

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Parallel

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial  
Masking: Open (masking not used)

**Primary purpose:** Diagnostic

## Recruitment

NL  
Recruitment status: Recruiting  
Start date (anticipated): 04-02-2023  
Enrollment: 140  
Type: Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO  
Date: 13-01-2022  
Application type: First submission  
Review commission: METC Z: Zuyderland-Zuyd (Heerlen)  
Approved WMO  
Date: 28-03-2022  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Z: Zuyderland-Zuyd (Heerlen)  
Approved WMO  
Date: 31-07-2023  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Z: Zuyderland-Zuyd (Heerlen)

## 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	NL79216.096.21