

# The Brabant Study: a prospective cohort study among pregnant women

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<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	Thyroid gland disorders
<b>Study type</b>	Observational invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON52874

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

The Brabant Study

## Condition

- Thyroid gland disorders
- Pregnancy, labour, delivery and postpartum conditions
- Mood disorders and disturbances NEC

### Synonym

thyroid dysfunction during pregnancy

### Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Universiteit van Tilburg

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

## Intervention

**Keyword:** depression, obstetric complications, pregnancy, thyroid function

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Thyroid hormone levels (TSH and fT4) and TPO-Ab and hCG assessed at 12, 20 and 28 weeks.

### Secondary outcome

Pregnancy complications (e.g. pre-eclampsia, pre-term birth, SGA), mode of delivery (spontaneous versus instrumental delivery) and depressive symptoms related to thyroid trajectories and/or poor obstetric outcome.

## Study description

### Background summary

Adequate maternal thyroid function (thyrotropin (TSH) and free thyroid hormone (fT4)) is extremely important during pregnancy for the developing foetus and is subject to substantial physiological changes throughout gestation. Cross-sectional measurements of TSH and fT4 have been related in many studies to various obstetric outcomes including gestational diabetes, pre-eclampsia and abnormal foetal position. Only few studies have observed an association between outcomes and both TSH and fT4, whereas most others have reported a relationship either with TSH but not fT4, or vice versa. Similarly, there are numerous studies reporting a possible relation between thyroid dysfunction and depression / depressive symptoms at a cross-sectional level and most of the time for fT4 or TSH separately. LCA analyses recently showed new insights of physiological thyroid function changes during pregnancy. However, the power of these first LCA gestational thyroid function analyses was low and hCG assessments (an important pregnancy hormone with major impact on thyroid function as well) were not performed. Therefore, larger samples are needed in order to compare the incidence of these complications between different trajectories and TSH / fT4 should be adjusted for hCG. LCA has also been used to report trajectories of depressive symptoms during pregnancy.

### Study objective

The main objective of the Brabant Study (BS) is to investigate possible different trajectories of thyroid function during pregnancy taking hCG hormone into account. Moreover, we aim to investigate whether pregnancy complications (e.g. pre-eclampsia, pre-term birth) and mode of delivery (spontaneous versus instrumental delivery) are related to these trajectories. Also, we will investigate whether trajectories of thyroid dysfunction are related to depressive symptoms during pregnancy. Finally, the role of partner relationship on pregnancy distress will be investigated and the possible role of distress on absenteeism.

## **Study design**

The current study is a longitudinal, prospective cohort study among 4000 pregnant women. They will be recruited among community midwife practices in South-East Brabant in the Netherlands (Tilburg, Eindhoven and Den Bosch).

## **Study burden and risks**

Participants will receive three questionnaires (15-20 minutes to complete) and will provide three blood samples during pregnancy. The blood samples at 12 and 28 weeks are part of regular routine obstetric care, only the collection of an additional tube of blood is needed. The blood sample at 20 weeks is an additional burden for participants in this study. Moreover, the women will receive a (optional) home visit or telephone interview, at 8-10 weeks postpartum (lasting 1 hour).

No risks have been reported for the burden for the participants into the current study: an additional blood assessment by vena-puncture and completing of questionnaires by the women.

## **Contacts**

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## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Inclusion criteria

- Pregnant women (18+ y) who have their first antenatal visit < 14 weeks
- Dutch or English-speaking or understanding Dutch or English

### Exclusion criteria

- Multiple pregnancy
- Known endocrine disorder before pregnancy
- Use of thyroid medication
- Severe psychiatric disease (e.g. schizophrenia, borderline, bipolar disorder or depression with known suicidal ideation)
- HIV
- Drug or alcohol addiction problems
- Any other disease resulting in treatment with drugs that are potentially adverse for the foetus and need careful follow-up during pregnancy (e.g. Type 2 Diabetes with use of insulin, Rheumatoid Arthritis with use of prednison or methotrexate, Multiple Sclerosis or Crohn's disease).
- No access to internet

## Study design

### Design

**Study type:** Observational invasive

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Uncontrolled

Primary purpose: Basic science

## Recruitment

NL  
Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped  
Start date (anticipated): 13-05-2018  
Enrollment: 4000  
Type: Actual

## Ethics review

Approved WMO  
Date: 01-02-2018  
Application type: First submission  
Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO  
Date: 21-01-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO  
Date: 16-04-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO  
Date: 26-08-2020  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

Approved WMO  
Date: 02-02-2022  
Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Maxima Medisch Centrum (Veldhoven)

## 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	NL64091.015.17