# Corticosteroids or clobazam for ESES syndrome: a European, multicenter, randomized, controlled clinical trial

Published: 11-12-2013 Last updated: 24-04-2024

To compare the effect on cognition of treatment with clobazam or corticosteroids.

Ethical review Approved WMO

**Status** Recruitment stopped **Health condition type** Seizures (incl subtypes)

**Study type** Interventional

## **Summary**

## ID

NL-OMON55462

#### Source

**ToetsingOnline** 

#### **Brief title**

**RESCUE ESES** 

### Condition

Seizures (incl subtypes)

## **Synonym**

Electrical Status Epilepticus in Sleep (ESES), epilepsy in sleep

#### Research involving

Human

## **Sponsors and support**

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Source(s) of monetary or material Support: Nationaal Epilepsie Fonds en WKZ

onderzoeksfonds

## Intervention

Keyword: clobazam, corticosteroids, epilepsy, ESES

## **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

- Intelligence quotient, or developmental quotient
- Cognitive sumscore

Improvement is defined as significant when improved by at least 75% of the standard deviation.

## **Secondary outcome**

- Individual absolute test results, and IQ scores;
- Spike wave index during non-REM sleep. Improvement is defined as a rdecrease to less than

25%;

- Seizure frequency. Improvement is defined as a reduction of 50% or more as compared with

baseline;

- Global improvement of functioning assessed with a VAS score (-5 to 5)
- Safety and tolerability, as assessed by the occurrence of serious adverse events;
- Differences in pro-inflammatory cytokine levels in patients with ESES who respond to either treatment strategies compared to nonresponders. Secondary outcomes will be evaluated after 6 and 18 months.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Epileptic encephalopathy with ESES is a rare pediatric epilepsy syndrome with abundant interictal epileptiform discharges in sleep and impairment of cognition or behavior. ESES resolves spontaneously in puberty but cognitive dysfunction often remains, especially when untreated. Treatment with conventional anti-epileptic drugs yields limited effects. Observational data have suggested that clobazam and corticosteroid treatment may be beneficial. Evidence from randomized controlled trials (RCT) to prove efficacy of both treatment options, or superiority of one over the other, is still lacking and mandatory.

## **Study objective**

To compare the effect on cognition of treatment with clobazam or corticosteroids.

## Study design

This is a European randomized open clinical trial in 130 patients with recent onset epileptic encephalopathy with ESES, to compare the effects of corticosteroid versus clobazam on cognition. Clobazam treatment will be increased to 0.5-1.2 mg/kg/day if tolerated. Corticosteroids will be given either intravenously (pulsed methylprednisolone 20 mg/kg/day for 3 days, once monthly) or orally (prednisolone 2 mg/kg/day for one month, followed by tapering in 20 weeks).

#### Intervention

Treatment with clobazam or corticosteroids.

## Study burden and risks

The treatments and investigations that are given / performed in the setting of this study are part of standard clinical patient care, with the exception of cytokine profiling and detection of auto-antibodies. Blood withdrawal for cytokine profiling and detection of auto-antibodies will be combined with blood withdrawal for standard patient care as much as possible. Therefore we suggest that the burden and risks associated with participation in this study are not increased. Patients may benefit from the well-defined protocolized patient care that is implemented in this study (while there are no clear guidelines for standard clinical patient care in ESES patients outside of this study) and the patient group of ESES patients may benefit from an evidence based treatment

regimen that can result from this study.

## **Contacts**

#### **Public**

Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Lundlaan 6 Utrecht 3584 AE NL

Scientific

Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

Lundlaan 6 Utrecht 3584 AE NL

## **Trial sites**

## **Listed location countries**

**Netherlands** 

# **Eligibility criteria**

#### Age

Children (2-11 years)

## Inclusion criteria

- \*Age 2 to 12 years
- \*A diagnosis within six months prior to study inclusion (preferentially as soon as possible) of either typical or atypical ESES syndrome (as defined in study protocol)
- \*No previous treatment with either clobazam or corticosteroids
- \*No current treatment with carbamazepine, oxcarbazepine, vigabatrin, tiagabine, gabapentin and pregabalin and no treatment with any of these drugs in the previous three months;
- \*Written informed consent by parents / legal representatives.

## **Exclusion criteria**

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Interventional

Intervention model: Other

Allocation: Randomized controlled trial

Masking: Open (masking not used)

Control: Active

Primary purpose: Treatment

## Recruitment

NL

Recruitment status: Recruitment stopped

Start date (anticipated): 22-07-2014

Enrollment: 20

Type: Actual

## Medical products/devices used

Product type: Medicine

Brand name: Frisium

Generic name: Clobazam

Registration: Yes - NL intended use

Product type: Medicine

Brand name: prednisolone

Generic name: prednisolone

Registration: Yes - NL outside intended use

Product type: Medicine

<sup>\*</sup>Patients with a spike wave index during wakefulness of > 50%

<sup>\*</sup>Any condition that, in the investigator\*s judgement, contraindicates the use of clobazam or corticosteroids.

Brand name: Solu-Medrol

Generic name: methylprednisolone

Registration: Yes - NL outside intended use

Product type: Medicine
Brand name: Tapclob

Generic name: Clobazam

# **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 11-12-2013

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 11-02-2014

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 28-01-2016

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 01-03-2016

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 22-02-2018

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 27-02-2018

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 11-02-2021

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

# **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

EudraCT EUCTR2013-000531-27-NL

ISRCTN ISRCTN42686094 CCMO NL43510.041.13