Investigating the effects of an eight-week intervention on cognitive function and gut health Reference: ISRCTN37389799

Participant flow:



Baseline characteristics:

Table 1: Mean (±SD) baseline characteristics

	Control	Intervention
Number	17	19
Age (years)	65 (±4)	70(±6)
Gender (M/F)	8/9	6/13
BMI (kg/m²)	25 (±3)	26 (±2)
Weight (kg)	71 (±9)	69 (±11)
Body fat (%)	27 (±9)	29 (±9)
SBP (mmHg)	140 (±15)	136 (±18)
DBP (mmHg)	86 (±7)	86 (±9)
Left grip (kg)	26 (±9)	26 (±8)
Right grip (kg)	27 (±9)	29 (±9)
Timed-up-and-go (s)	6.8 (±1.5)	6.2 (±0.9)
FEV ¹ (%)	82 (±9)	83 (±12)
FVC (ml)	25 (±9)	29 (±9)
Total SCFA (mmol/l)	30 (±18)	17 (±6)

Attentional intensity (ms)	1376 (±136)	1373 (±139)
Sustained attention (%)	93 (±3)	96 (±4)
Working memory capacity (%)	86 (±17)	93 (±9)
Cognitive reaction time (ms)	171 (±77)	186 (±51)
Attentional fluctuation	57 (±13)	62 (±18)
Memory retrieval speed	4158 (±591)	4202 (±905)

Abbreviations: BMI = body mass index, SBP = systolic blood pressure, DBP = diastolic blood pressure, FEV1 = forced expiratory volume, FVC = forced vital capacity, SCFA = short chain fatty acid

Primary outcome measures (changes in cognitive test scores assessed by CogTrack online cognition programme):

	Control	Intervention
Attentional intensity (ms)	1369 (±112)	1391 (±173)
Sustained attention (%)	96 (±3)	96 (±3)
Working memory capacity (%)	91 (±11)	91 (±12)
Cognitive reaction time (ms)	187 (±39)	154 (±45)
Attentional fluctuation	56 (±15)	51 (±13)
Memory retrieval speed	3856 (±376)	3873 (±599)

Table 2: Mean (±SD) cognitive test scores at week 9, following 8-week intervention

Secondary outcome measures (functional capacity measured by timed-up-and-go, grip strength and spirometry, gut microbiome measured by short-chain fatty acid production, and blood pressure):

	Control	Intervention
Left grip (kg)	25 (±9)	26 (±9)
Right grip (kg)	25 (±9)	28 (±10)
Timed-up-and-go (s)	6.8 (±1.3)	6.2 (±1.1)
FEV ¹ (%)	83 (±10)	83 (±9)
FVC (ml)	29 (±8)	30 (±8)
Total SCFA (mmol/l)	31 (±20)	24 (±4)
SBP (mmHg)	135 (±20)	128 (±14)
DBP (mmHg)	84 (±8)	84 (±10)

Table 3: Mean (±SD) functional capacity, gut microbiome and blood pressure values at week 9, following 8-week intervention

Adverse events:

There were no adverse events associated with this trial.