Improvisational music therapy for children with autism spectrum disorder assessed using brain imaging

Submission date	Recruitment status	Prospectively registered
17/02/2019	No longer recruiting	[_] Protocol
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan
04/04/2019	Completed	[_] Results
Last Edited	Condition category	[_] Individual participant data
21/08/2019	Mental and Behavioural Disorders	[_] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex neuro-developmental disorder that begins in early childhood and persists throughout adulthood. ASD affects three crucial areas of development: social communication, social interaction and creative or imaginative play. Early intensive intervention is recommended for young children who are affected by it. Previous studies indicated intact musical responsiveness in children with ASD and the interactive potential of music that can be used to improve skills in social-affective interaction in children with ASD. Up until now, most of previous early intervention studies in music therapy focused on examining behavioral changes. This study employs one of the most pragmatic trial design investigating effects of improvisational music therapy for a year exploring the children's behavioral and neurological, developmental changes, and the relationship of those changes with the mother's maternal behavior and that of the mental health state.

Who can participate?

Children with autism spectrum disorder aged between 24 – 72 months old without complication of other serious disorders such as visual and hearing impairments, attention deficit & hyper activity, schizophrenia, etc.

What does the study involve?

Improvisational music therapy plus standard care will be compared with standard care without improvisational music therapy condition. Standard care condition may involve a wide range of other treatments such as speech language therapy, early special education, behavioral cognitive therapy, kindergarten, special physical education, sensory integration therapy, etc. Some discrepancies of each child regarding standard care condition such as types of intervention, frequency and duration are expected, as we do not determine what interventions each child should receive, as this is a real world trial (pragmatic trial).

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

As we are recruiting children only for experimental group (improvisational music therapy) and using already existing data for control group. Research funding covers for almost all costs of

tests and once a week music therapy for a year. Majority of tests are non-invasive and improvisational music therapy employs child-centered approach. In order to conduct the child neuroimaging, sedative will be administered, and the child might experience drowsiness after the MRI procedure due to the sedative medication (pocral). During the MRI, the child might experience some anxiety and fear. In such case, the MRI procedure will be stopped. There has been no reported case of side effect in improvisational music therapy for children with ASD.

Where is the study run from?

There are six centres: Jeonju University and Seoul National University Hospital are two leading centres in this trial, and four music therapy centres (Hanvit Music Therapy Center; SookMyung Child Development Center; Susaek Child Development Center; Jiuem child development center).

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? 01/08/2018 to 31/08/2020

Who is funding the study? National Research Foundation of Korea (Korean government)

Who is the main contact? Prof. Jinah Kim, jinahkim@jj.ac.kr

Contact information

Type(s) Scientific

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Type(s)

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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number Nil known

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number Nil known

Secondary identifying numbers NRF- 2017S1A5A2A03068100

Study information

Scientific Title

Music therapy outcome study for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder through integration of child neuroimaging and neuropsychology: An exploratory study

Acronym

MANE

Study objectives

Finely tuned, sensitive, responsive and attentive use of music towards the developmental needs and state of the child with ASD will open and maintain the communicative channel with the child. The child's ability for social communication will increase positively over time and restricted and repetitive behaviours will decrease over time. Skills in social communication and self-regulation may be better in improvisational music therapy than in the standard care condition, and these behavioural changes may be reflected in overall neurological changes examined through child neuroimaging and neuropsychology.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 26/07/2018, Seoul National University College of Medicine Institutional review board (Seoul National University Hospital, Jongro-gu, Yengun-dong 128, Seoul, 03080; 82-2-2072-0694; snuhirb@gmail.com), ref: 1805-045-945

Study design

Interventional design using propensity score matching method (non-randomized), single-blinded (assessor blinded) multicenter study.

Primary study design

Interventional

Secondary study design

Non randomised study

Study setting(s) Other

Study type(s) Treatment

Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use contact details to request a participant information sheet (available only in Korean)

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Autism Spectrum Disorder

Interventions Music Therapy

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome measure

Severity of autism measured using the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) and Childhood Autism Rating Scale-2 (CARS 2) at baseline, 6 months, post-intervention (12 months)

Secondary outcome measures

Collected at baseline, in-between (6 month later/ approx. 24th session), and post (12 month later, 48th session):

Child questionnaires:

1. Social Responsiveness Scale (SRS)

2. Aberrant Behavior Checklist (ABC)

- 3. The Social Communication Questionnaire (SCQ)
- 4. Social Maturity Scale (SMS)
- 5. Child Behavior Checklist 1.5-5 (CBCL 1.5-5)

Parent's questionnaires:

- 6. Beck Depression Inventory (BDI)
- 7. State-Trait Anxiety Inventory (STAI-T/S)
- 8. Maternal Behavior Research Instrument (MBRI)
- 9. Korean Parenting Stress Index (PSI)
- 10. Mental Health Continuum-Short Form (MHC-SF)
- 11. Carer-QoL-7D / Child QoL (VAS)
- 12. Concomitant Treatment form

Pre and Post tests (baseline and 12 months later):

- 13. Neuroimaging: aMRI/DTI/rsfMRI
- 14. Psychoeducational Profile-Revised (PEP-R)

15. Baseline test only: Blood and Urine for detecting DNA and harmful environmental exposure 16. Post-trial in-depth interview with the mothers and the therapist (thematic analysis; qualitative study)

17. Behavioral analysis through video recording of music therapy session for establishing treatment fidelity18. Parents/ therapists interviews after the completion of the trial

Overall study start date 01/11/2017

Completion date

31/10/2020

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Aged between 24 - 72 months
Autism Spectrum Disorder confirmed by DSM-V and ADOS

Participant type(s) Patient

Age group Child

Lower age limit 24 Months

Upper age limit 72 Months

Sex Both

Target number of participants

50, with N=25 in each arm.

Key exclusion criteria

1. Hearing/visual impairement, congenital genetic disease (cerebral palsy)

2. Seizure and other neurological condition

3. Other psychiatric disorder such as ADHD, schizophrenia, depression, bi-polar

4. Previous and on-going experiences of music therapy

5. Medication such as risperidone, aripirazole, SSRI, etc.

Date of first enrolment

15/09/2018

Date of final enrolment 30/08/2019

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Korea, South

Study participating centre Seoul National University Hospital Jongro-gu Yengun-dong 128 Seoul Korea, South 03080

Study participating centre Sukmyung child development center Kyungi-do Jeonjeonyup Hamilyedang 1 ro 30-9 Namyangju-si Korea, South 12066

Study participating centre Hanvit Music Therapy Center Kwangjin-g Kwangjang-dong 114 Kresco 610 Seoul Korea, South 04969

Study participating centre Jiuem psycho-education center Kawngjin-gu Jayangro 130 Seoul Korea, South 05343

Study participating centre Susaek Child-Adolescent Counseling Center Eunpyung-gu Susaek-dong 366-1 Seoul Korea, South 03489

Study participating centre Creative Arts Therapy Department, Jeonju University Jeonju Wansan-gu Hyojadong Cheonjam-ro 303 Jeonju Korea, South 55069

Sponsor information

Organisation Seoul National University Hospital, IRB

Sponsor details Seoul National University Hospital Jongro-gu Yengun-dong 28 Seoul Korea, South 03080 82-2-2072-4056 yaelim.snuh@gmail.com

Sponsor type Research council

Website http://www.snuh.org

ROR https://ror.org/01z4nnt86

Funder(s)

Funder type Research organisation **Funder Name** National Research Foundation of Korea

Alternative Name(s) , National Research Foundation (South Korea), NRF

Funding Body Type Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location Korea, South

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan

- 1. Publication of research findings in peer-reviewed journals
- 2. Presentation on research at conferences (international/domestic)
- 3. Local autism communities, parent workshops and educations, and possible media exposure

Intention to publish date

30/10/2021

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The current data sharing plans for this study are unknown and will be available at a later date

IPD sharing plan summary

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date