

Restorative virtual environments for rehabilitation

Submission date	Recruitment status	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
27/06/2014	No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date	Overall study status	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
27/06/2014	Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited	Condition category	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
29/05/2020	Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

16714

Study information

Scientific Title

REstorative Virtual Environments for REhabilitation: Does Virtual Nature Therapy enhance sleep on the Intensive Care Unit?

Acronym

Study objectives

Interactive technology can be used to improve the patients perception of their environment. Engagement in this environment will lead to relaxation and improvement in sleep quality.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

NRES Committee West Midlands - South Birmingham; 26/03/2014, ref: 14/WM/0058

Study design

Non-randomised; Interventional and Observational; Design type: Process of Care, Qualitative

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Topic: Critical care; Subtopic: Critical care; Disease: All Critical care

Interventions

Exposure to virtual nature therapy (VNT) will comprise:

1. Viewing the virtual reality scene (Virtual Wembury a virtual reality reconstruction of the South Devon coastal path) on a 32in computer screen.
2. Listening to the sounds using noise cancelling headphones (noise cancelling function can be switched off at the patients request)

Three conditions will be used in sequence

A. Static image. Patient unable to navigate or alter their position within Virtual Wembury but objects within Virtual Wembury will move; including sun setting, sea wave motion and animal movements.

B. Toggle view with 180 degree viewing motion. Patients will be able to toggle between different viewpoints and look around from a static position

C. Interactive version of VNT, whereby patients can navigate Virtual Wembury.

Each condition represents increasing complexity of and potential engagement within VNT. Patients offered condition B or C will be able to revert to condition A by not using their hand controllers if they wish. The HIT team will record this activity and the results used to inform patient usage preferences.

The intervention will comprise up to two hours of access to VNT before they go to sleep. This will usually be following the 22:00 drug round prior to their sleep time, however if patients wish to go to sleep earlier they may receive the VNT any time after 20:00. Patients will not be woken up to receive VNT. Should patients fall asleep before receiving VNT and wake before 04:00, they will be offered VNT if they wish to try to go back to sleep. Timings of sleep and offering of VNT will be documented by the nurse caring for the patient

On study day 1 the patient will receive control conditions (no VNT), usual clinical care (night sedation prescription will be standardised, environmental conditions will be recorded).
On study day 2 the patient will be offered VNT A
On study day 3 the patient will be offered VNT B
On study day 4 the patient will be offered VNT C
On study day 5 the patient will receive control conditions, usual clinical care.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

Richard Campbell Sleep questionnaire; Timepoint(s): Each night of study participation

Key secondary outcome(s)

Secondary outcomes (where overnight is 20:00 08:00):

1. Hours of sleep recorded by nursing staff.
2. Systolic blood pressures, pulse rate, respiratory rate recorded at hourly intervals overnight.
3. Arterial CO₂ concentrations recorded at 2-4 hourly intervals (usual care) overnight, or End tidal CO₂ concentrations if arterial line not in situ.
4. Presence of delirium, identified by a positive CAM-ICU or RASS score >2 or <-2
5. Pain scores overnight usual numerical rating scale 0-3.
6. Nausea, sickness and anti-emetic use
7. Qualitative patient feedback of factors affecting sleep and their perceptions of the VNT system.
8. Patient usage of VNT duration and type of activity, downloaded directly from embedded software within the VNT system.

Completion date

19/01/2015

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Patient in intensive care unit
2. Conscious and able to communicate
3. Aged over 18 years
4. RASS score 1 to +1
5. Considered unlikely to be discharged from critical care for 5 days

Target Gender: Male & Female; Upper Age Limit 90 years ; Lower Age Limit 18 years

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Bilateral upper limb paralysis or limb loss preventing ability to use hand controller
2. Severe visual or hearing loss
3. Active delirium or psychosis at screening from RASS and CAMICU SCOR
4. Severe cognitive impairment including dementia or hepatic encephalopathy
5. Active infection or colonisation with multidrug resistant organism

Date of first enrolment

16/06/2014

Date of final enrolment

19/01/2015

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Edgbaston

Birmingham

United Kingdom

B15 2TT

Sponsor information

Organisation

Queen Elizabeth Hospital (UK)

ROR

<https://ror.org/048emj907>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Hospital/treatment centre

Funder Name

Defence Medical Services Surgeon General's Research Group; Grant Codes: 20110914_DMSRSG_REFR

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
HRA research summary		28/06/2023		No	No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes