

# A televised, web-based randomised trial of an herbal remedy (valerian) for insomnia

<b>Submission date</b> 22/01/2007	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 01/03/2007	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 25/10/2007	<b>Condition category</b> Signs and Symptoms	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Dr Andrew David Oxman

**Contact details**  
Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services  
P.O. Box 7004  
St. Olavs plass  
Oslo  
Norway  
N-0130  
oxman@online.no

## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
2005001TVT

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

**Acronym**

### **Study objectives**

The primary objective is to evaluate whether valerian root (valerian) improves the self-assessed quality of sleep compared with placebo for people with primary insomnia

### **Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

### **Ethics approval(s)**

Regional Committee for Medical Research Ethics for Southern Norway (Regional komité for medisinsk forskningsetikk, Sør- Norge) 5 January 2006, Ref: S-05280

### **Study design**

Randomised, double-blind, parallel group, placebo controlled trial

### **Primary study design**

Interventional

### **Study type(s)**

Treatment

### **Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Primary insomnia

### **Interventions**

Coated Valerian Forte tablets 200 mg extract per tablet, corresponding to 1200 mg Valeriana officinalis. 3 tablets to be taken every night for 14 days

Information about the study will be televised nationally on a weekly health program. Viewers interested in participation will be invited to visit the web pages of the study to enrol. Participant registration and data collection will be by use of Internet.

### **Intervention Type**

Other

### **Phase**

Not Specified

### **Primary outcome(s)**

Proportion of participants in each group with an improvement in self-assessed quality of sleep of  $>$  or  $= 0.5$  units between the average score for the 2 weeks before and 2 weeks during treatment

### **Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. Proportion of participants in each group with an improvement of  $>$  or  $= 0.5$  units between the average score for the 2 weeks before and 2 weeks during treatment for each of the four variables:

1.1 Sleep latency

- 1.2 Number of awakenings
- 1.3 Total sleep time
- 1.4 Energy level during the day

2. Mean changes in the five outcomes listed above

3. Global self-assessment

If a difference is not found between the treatment groups for the primary and secondary variables, the following explorative variables will be analysed:

1. Proportion of participants in each group with any improvement in mean difference (i.e. all score changes > 0) between the average score for the 2 weeks before and 2 weeks during treatment for each of the five variables:

- 1.1 Quality of sleep
- 1.2 Sleep latency
- 1.3 Number of awakenings
- 1.4 Total sleep time
- 1.5 Energy level during the day

2. Difference in the profile of the five endpoints during the intervention period taking into account the baseline period, including a potential time effect

#### **Completion date**

30/03/2007

## **Eligibility**

#### **Key inclusion criteria**

- 1. Aged 18-75 years, both inclusive
- 2. Insomnia lasting more than one month
- 3. Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQI) score of > 5
- 4. Provide name of primary physician
- 5. Access to internet and own email address
- 6. At least 10 days of the sleep diary completed prior to randomisation

#### **Participant type(s)**

Patient

#### **Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

#### **Age group**

Adult

#### **Lower age limit**

18 years

#### **Sex**

Not Specified

#### **Key exclusion criteria**

1. Secondary insomnia
2. Use of hypnotics by prescription
3. Depression
4. Alcohol or drug abuse
5. Psychotherapy within the past six months
6. Sleep apnoea, periodic limb movements disorder or restless legs syndrome
7. Pregnant or lactating women or women of childbearing potential who do not use an approved method of contraception (oral contraceptives or Intrauterine device [IUD])
8. Shift workers
9. History of hypersensitivity to valerian or its constituents
10. Participant rating of usually or always to the following questions in the Global Sleep

#### Assessment Questionnaire:

During the past four weeks, how often:

- a. Did you hold your breath, have breathing pauses, or stop breathing in your sleep?
  - b. Did you have restless or "crawling" feelings in your legs at night that went away if you moved your legs?
  - c. Did you have repeated rhythmic leg jerks or leg twitches during your sleep?
  - d. Did you have nightmares, or did you scream, walk, punch, or kick in your sleep?
  - e. Did any of the following disturb you in your sleep:
  - f. Pain?
  - g. Other physical symptoms?
  - h. Medications?
  - i. Did you snore loudly?
11. Current participation in another trial using an investigational compound

#### Date of first enrolment

29/01/2007

#### Date of final enrolment

30/03/2007

## Locations

#### Countries of recruitment

Norway

#### Study participating centre

Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services

Oslo

Norway

N-0130

## Sponsor information

#### Organisation

Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services (Norway)

ROR

<https://ror.org/01thff661>

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**

Government

**Funder Name**

Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services (Norway)

## 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?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	Results	17/10/2007		Yes	No
<a href="#">Study website</a>	Study website	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes