

# Virtual reality intervention for anxiety in children with ASD

<b>Submission date</b> 22/04/2015	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
<b>Registration date</b> 23/04/2015	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Last Edited</b> 15/02/2019	<b>Condition category</b> Mental and Behavioural Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

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

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
18461

## Study information

**Scientific Title**  
Reducing anxiety in children with autism spectrum disorders through virtual reality environments

## Study objectives

The aim of this study is to investigate whether a virtual reality environment is effective at treating specific fears/phobias in young people with autism spectrum disorders.

## Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)

North East - Tyne & Wear South Research Ethics Committee, 15/12/2014, ref: 14/NE/1177

## Study design

Randomised; Interventional; Design type: Treatment

## Primary study design

Interventional

## Study type(s)

Treatment

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

Topic: Children, Mental Health; Subtopic: All Diagnoses, Anxiety, Autism spectrum disorders; Disease: Anxiety, Autism spectrum disorders, All Diseases

## Interventions

Virtual reality: Computer generated images of the phobia/fear that a child with ASD has. Follow Up Length: 12 month(s); Study Entry : Single Randomisation only

## Intervention Type

Other

## Primary outcome(s)

Reduction in anxiety and improvement in functional behaviour; Timepoint(s): 2 weeks after intervention, 6 months after intervention and 12 months after intervention

## Key secondary outcome(s)

N/A

## Completion date

01/03/2016

# Eligibility

## Key inclusion criteria

1. Children aged 8-14 years old, boys and girls, with a diagnosis of autism, ASD or Asperger's syndrome
  2. Learning ability/IQ estimated to be within the average range
  3. Fluent verbal skills; having situation specific anxiety
  4. Parent/carer and young person willing to attend sessions at the VRE
- Target Gender: Male & Female; Upper Age Limit 14 years ; Lower Age Limit 8 years

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Child

**Lower age limit**

8 years

**Upper age limit**

14 years

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

Children without fluent verbal skills due to the need to have sufficient feedback on the use of the VRE. Children unable/unwilling to travel to the VRE. Insufficient English or intellectual ability to understand the forms.

**Date of first enrolment**

01/03/2015

**Date of final enrolment**

01/03/2016

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

**Study participating centre****Newcastle University**

Institute of Neuroscience

Sir James Spence

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NE1 4LP

**Sponsor information**

## Organisation

Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust

## ROR

<https://ror.org/01ajv0n48>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Government

### Funder Name

National Institute for Health Research

### Alternative Name(s)

National Institute for Health Research, NIHR Research, NIHRresearch, NIHR - National Institute for Health Research, NIHR (The National Institute for Health and Care Research), NIHR

### Funding Body Type

Government organisation

### Funding Body Subtype

National government

### Location

United Kingdom

## 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	01/05/2019		Yes	No
<a href="#">HRA research summary</a>			28/06/2023	No	No