# Prevention of decline in cognition after stroke trial

Submission date	Recruitment status  No longer recruiting	[X] Prospectively registered		
03/08/2009		[X] Protocol		
Registration date	Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan		
23/09/2009	Completed	[X] Results		
Last Edited	Condition category	Individual participant data		
19/01/2017	Mental and Behavioural Disorders			

# Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

A stroke occurs when the blood supply to part of the brain is cut off, either due to a blood clot (an ischaemic stroke) or a blood vessel bursting (a haemorrhagic stroke). Stroke can lead to cognitive decline and dementia. Intensive lowering of blood pressure and/or lipids (LDL-cholesterol) may reduce the risk of dementia after stroke. The aim of this study is to find out whether intensive blood pressure and/or lipid lowering are better than moderate blood pressure and/or lipid lowering to prevent cognitive decline after stroke.

# Who can participate?

Patients who have had an ischaemic or haemorrhagic stroke in the last three to seven months.

# What does the study involve?

Participants with ischaemic stroke are randomly allocated to either moderate or intensive blood pressure lowering treatment and to either moderate or intensive lipid lowering treatment. Participants with haemorrhagic stroke are randomly allocated to either moderate or intensive blood pressure lowering treatment. The study is testing treatment strategies, not individual drugs.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating? Not provided at time of registration

Where is the study run from? Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for? January 2010 to January 2018

Who is funding the study?

- 1. The Stroke Association (UK)
- 2. The Alzheimer's Society (UK)

Who is the main contact?
Prof. Philip Bath
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# Study website

http://www.podcast-trial.org

# Contact information

# Type(s)

Scientific

#### Contact name

Prof Philip Bath

#### Contact details

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# Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS** number

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Secondary identifying numbers

Version 1.0

# Study information

#### Scientific Title

Prevention Of Decline in Cognition After Stroke Trial (PODCAST): a factorial randomised controlled trial of intensive versus guideline (moderate) lowering of blood pressure and lipids

# Acronym

**PODCAST** 

**Study objectives** 

To study if intensive blood pressure and/or lipid lowering post stroke, is better than moderate blood pressure and/or lipid lowering, to prevent cognitive decline after stroke.

# Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

# Ethics approval(s)

Nottingham Research Ethics Committee 1, 24/07/2009

# Study design

Multicentre prospective randomised open-label blinded end-point controlled partial-factorial phase IV trial

# Primary study design

Interventional

# Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

# Study setting(s)

Hospital

# Study type(s)

Treatment

# Participant information sheet

Not available in web format, please use the contact details to request a patient information sheet

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

Cognitive impairment after stroke

#### **Interventions**

The trial will assess whether intensive blood pressure lowering (systolic blood pressure less than 125 mmHg) and lipid lowering (low density lipoprotein [LDL]-cholesterol less than 2.0 mmol/L) is better than moderate blood pressure lowering (systolic blood pressure less than 140 mmHg) and cholesterol lowering (LDL-cholesterol less than 3.0 mmol/L).

Participants with ischaemic stroke will be randomised to both the blood pressure and lipid lowering arms; participants with haemorrhagic stroke will be randomised only to the blood pressure lowering arm.

The study will test management strategies and not individual drugs. Algorithms taking account of 'National Institute of Clinical Excellence, UK Guidelines', relating to stroke, hypertension, lipids and Type 2 Diabetes will aid investigators in treatment decision-making using standard antihypertensive and lipid lowering drugs so that participants are treated as randomised.

The total duration of the trial is 8 years and follow up for participants will range from 1 - 8 years depending on the time of enrolment. The trial intervention will be for the same duration.

## Intervention Type

Other

#### **Phase**

Phase IV

## Primary outcome measure

Comparison of cognition (Addenbrooke's Cognitive Examination extended to include death) between 'intensive' and 'moderate' BP/lipid lowering groups, measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months.

## Secondary outcome measures

For each of BP-lowering and lipid-lowering arms, comparison between 'intensive' and 'moderate' groups:

- 1. Dementia: measured at 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months -
- 1.1. Using alzheimers disease (AD) National Institute of Neurological and Communicative Disorders and Stroke and the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association (NINCDS-ADRDA) and vascular dementia (VaD) National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and Association Internationale pour la Recherché et l'Enseignement en Neurosciences (NINDS-AIREN)
- 1.2. With/without recurrent stroke
- 2. Cognition: all tests at 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months, except telephone-administered mini-mental state examination (tMMSE) and Telephone Interview for Cognitive Status (TICS-M) done at 0, 12, 24, 36, 48, 70 and 84 months over the telephone
- 2.1. Global mini-mental state examination (MMSE), tMMSE, TICS
- 2.2. Association trail making A/B
- 2.3. STROOP test
- 2.4. Cognitive decline with/without recurrent stroke
- 2.5. Ordinal cognition (MMSE greater than 28/23 28/10 22/less than 10/dementia/dead)
- 2.6. Informant (IQCODE)
- 3. Quality of life EuroQoL, informant (DEMQoL), measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 4. Depression (Zung), measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 5. Dependency (modified Rankin Scale [mRS]), measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 6. Disability (Barthel Index [BI]), measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 7. Stroke recurrence, measured at baseline and every six months until the end of the trial
- 8. Myocardial infarction, measured every six months until the end of the trial
- 9. Composite vascular events (non-fatal stroke, non-fatal MI, fatal vascular), measured every six months until the end of the trial
- 10. Stroke: fatal/severe non-fatal/mild/transient ischaemic attack [TIA]/none, measured at baseline and every six months until the end of the trial
- 11. Myocardial infarction: fatal/non-fatal/angina/none, measured at baseline and every six months until the end of the trial
- 12. Vascular: fatal/non-fatal/none, measured at baseline and every six months until the end of the trial
- 13. New diabetes, measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 14. New atrial fibrillation, measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 15. Residence (home, institution), care package, informal family support, measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months
- 16. Blood pressure (systolic BP, diastolic BP, pulse pressure, rate-pressure product), measured at

baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months

17. Lipids (total cholesterol [TC], triglycerides [TG], HDL, calculated LDL), measured at baseline, 6, 18, 30, 42, 54, 66, 78, 90 and 96 months

18. Neuroimaging (in a subset of participants), measured at baseline and at 3 years

# Overall study start date

01/01/2010

# Completion date

01/01/2018

# **Eligibility**

# Key inclusion criteria

- 1. Age greater than 70 years and telephone-administered mini-mental state examination (MMSE) greater than 16; or aged greater than 60 years and telephone-MMSE 17 19, either sex
- 2. Functionally independent (modified Rankin Scale [mRS] 0 2)
- 3. Ischaemic stroke (any cortical Oxfordshire Community Stroke Project [OCSP]/Trial of ORG 10172 in Acute Stroke Treatment [TOAST] type) or primary intracerebral haemorrhage (cortical or basal ganglia)
- 4. Three to seven months post-event (to allow cognitive, neurological, blood pressure [BP] and lipid stabilisation, but avoid attrition)
- 5. Systolic BP 125 170 mmHg
- 6. Total cholesterol 3 8 mmol/l
- 7. Presence of a reporter: partner, sibling, child, friend (for Informant Questionnaire of Cognitive Decline [IQCODE]/Dementia Quality of Life [DEMQoL])
- 8. Capacity and willingness to give consent

# Participant type(s)

Patient

# Age group

Senior

#### Sex

Both

# Target number of participants

3400 participants (600 in the start-up phase and 2800 in the main phase)

# Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Participants not meeting inclusion criteria
- 2. Subarachnoid haemorrhage
- 3. Secondary intracranial haemorrhage (trauma, arteriovenous malformation [AVM], cavernoma)
- 4. Posterior circulation ischaemic stroke
- 5. Posterior circulation haemorrhage
- 6. No computed tomography (CT)/magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) during index stroke
- 7. Inability to give consent or do study measures, e.g. severe dysphasia, weakness of dominant arm
- 8. Severe hypertension (systolic BP greater than 170 mmHg)

- 9. Definite need for 'intensive' BP control
- 10. Severe hypercholesterolemia (total cholesterol [TC] greater than 8 mmol/l)
- 11. Definite need for 'high intensity' statin or ezetimibe
- 12. Definite need for a cholinesterase inhibitor
- 13. Familial stroke associated with dementia, e.g. cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leucoencephalopathy (CADASIL)
- 14. Chronic renal failure: glomerular filtration rate (GFR) less than 50
- 15. Liver disease, alanine aminotransferase (ALT) greater than 60
- 16. Ongoing participation in trials involving drug and/or devices, or within the last 3 months

## Date of first enrolment

01/01/2010

# Date of final enrolment

01/01/2018

# Locations

#### Countries of recruitment

England

**United Kingdom** 

# Study participating centre Institute of Neuroscience

Notttingham United Kingdom NG5 1PB

# Sponsor information

# Organisation

The University of Nottingham (UK)

# Sponsor details

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# Sponsor type

University/education

#### Website

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#### **ROR**

https://ror.org/01ee9ar58

# Funder(s)

# Funder type

Charity

## Funder Name

Stroke Association (UK) (ref: TSA2008/09)

# Alternative Name(s)

# **Funding Body Type**

Private sector organisation

# **Funding Body Subtype**

Associations and societies (private and public)

#### Location

**United Kingdom** 

## **Funder Name**

Alzheimer's Society (UK) (ref: TSA 2008/09)

#### Alternative Name(s)

alzheimerssoc

## **Funding Body Type**

Private sector organisation

## **Funding Body Subtype**

Associations and societies (private and public)

## Location

**United Kingdom** 

# **Results and Publications**

# Publication and dissemination plan

Not provided at time of registration

# Intention to publish date

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?
Protocol article	protocol	22/11/2013		Yes	No
Results article	results	07/11/2015		Yes	No
Results article	results	17/01/2017		Yes	No