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Comparison of neurofeedback and computerised attention skills training in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

Submission date
31/03/2008

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
15/05/2008

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
04/07/2011

Condition category
Mental and Behavioural Disorders

[ ] Prospectively registered
[ ] Protocol
[ ] Statistical analysis plan
[X] Results
[ ] Individual participant data

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
MO-726/2

Study information

Scientific Title
Neurofeedback in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder: clinical efficacy and neurophysiological mechanisms

Acronym
Neurofeedback - ADHD

Study objectives
1. Neurofeedback training is more effective than a computerised attention training in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
2. Neurophysiological mechanisms of a successful neurofeedback training can be revealed (distinct patterns for different neurofeedback protocols)

Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)
Ethics approval received from the Ethics Committee of the University of Erlangen on the 29th April 2004 (ref: 3135).

Study design
Randomised, controlled, multicentre clinical trial

Primary study design
Interventional

Study type(s)
Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)

Interventions
Experimental intervention: neurofeedback training (comprising so-called theta/beta training and training of slow cortical potentials)
Control intervention: computerised attention skill training

Children are randomly assigned to one of the two trainings. Both trainings consist of two blocks of 18 sessions (double sessions of about 50 minutes each, separated by a short break), two to three double sessions a week. There is an intermission of about two to three weeks between the two blocks. In the training, the children develop strategies for focusing their attention and are instructed on how to practice these strategies at home and in school.

Intervention Type
Other

Phase
Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

Changes from baseline to end of training in ADHD symptoms (German ADHD rating scale[FBB-HKS]).

Key secondary outcome(s))
Behavioural level (parent and teacher ratings):
1. Positive and negative attributes using the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ-D)
2. Oppositional behaviour and delinquent and physical agression (FBB-SSSV)
3. Behaviour problems of the child in specific home situations (HSQ-D); including homework (HPC-D)

Neurophysiological level:
4. Brain electrical activity measures (electroencephalogram [EEG], event-related potentials) at rest and during computerised attention tasks

All measures are assessed at baseline, between the two training blocks and at the end of training. Behavioural measures will additionally be assessed at the six-month follow-up.

Completion date
30/09/2008

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
1. Aged 8 - 12 years
2. Gender: both
3. Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders - Fourth Edition [DSM IV] criteria: combined type or predominantly inattentive)
4. Children with the following associated disorders are allowed to participate:
4.1. Conduct disorders
4.2. Tic disorders
4.3. Emotional disorders
4.4. Dyslexia

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Child

Lower age limit
8 years

Upper age limit
12 years

Sex
All

Key exclusion criteria
1. Comorbid disorders other than those mentioned in the inclusion criteria
2. Gross neurological or other organic disorders
3. Pharmacological treatment or other psychotherapies
4. Intelligence quotient (IQ) less than 80

Date of first enrolment
01/05/2005

Date of final enrolment
30/09/2008

Locations

Countries of recruitment
Germany

Study participating centre
University of Erlangen
Erlangen
Germany
D91054

Sponsor information

Organisation
University of Erlangen (Germany)

ROR
https://ror.org/00f7hpc57

Funder(s)

Funder type
Research organisation

Funder Name
German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft [DFG]) (Germany)

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?
Results article	main results	01/07/2009		Yes	No
Results article	results on EEG effects	01/11/2009		Yes	No
Results article	result	01/05/2011		Yes	No