

Randomised controlled trial of the effectiveness of Big White Wall compared to other online support

Submission date 03/10/2016	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
Registration date 01/11/2016	Overall study status Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Last Edited 26/04/2021	Condition category 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

Background and study aims

Depression and anxiety are common mental health problems and are the second and seventh leading causes of years lived with disability in the world among all health problems respectively. These mental health problems are so common that it is necessary to find a broader means of supporting sufferers, as many do not receive adequate treatment. The internet has proved to be an effective way of helping people to access treatment that may not have been able to do so previously. Big White Wall (BWW) is a digital service which helps support people suffering from common mental health problems, using peer support. It is an anonymous service which allows users to interact with and support one another, without needing to reveal who they are. The aim of this study is to investigate the effectiveness of BWW in helping to improve mental wellbeing in people with symptoms of depression and anxiety.

Who can participate?

People aged 16 years and over who have symptoms of depression and anxiety.

What does the study involve?

Participants are randomly allocated to one of two groups. Those in the first group receive six months free access to the Big White Wall (BWW) website. Participants are able to access any part of the BWW site (apart from the option of personalised therapy or counselling sessions that are currently available on BWW for certain users with NHS prescriptions) and interact with other users within the boundaries of the site's House Rules. Those in the second group are directed to the Moodzone area of the NHS Choices website where they are able to access information about depression and anxiety. The website contains reading material and suggestions about maintaining mental health as well as providing ways to test themselves for depression and anxiety. At the start of the study and then after 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks, participants in both groups complete a range of questionnaires to measure their mental wellbeing.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participants may benefit from receiving information and support from the web-based services. There are no notable risks involved with participating.

Where is the study run from?

The study is run from the Institute of Mental Health and takes place online (UK)

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

January 2016 to December 2018

Who is funding the study?

National Institute for Health Research (UK)

Who is the main contact?

Dr Catherine Kaylor-Hughes

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Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Additional identifiers

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)

NCT02902159

Protocol serial number

32184

Study information

Scientific Title

Randomised controlled trial of an established direct to public peer support and e-therapy programme (Big White Wall) versus information to aid self-management of depression and anxiety

Acronym

REBOOT Notts

Study objectives

The aim of this study is to:

1. Investigate the impact on wellbeing of an online peer support site (Big White Wall) that provides 24 hour supported self-management compared to online information alone (NHS Moodzone), for people with symptoms of depression and anxiety
2. Explore who and how many people might wish to utilise such a service and include those that are socially isolated and hard to reach

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

East Midlands - Nottingham 1 Research Ethics Committee, 07/06/2016, ref: 16/EM/0204

Primary study design

Interventional

Study design

Randomised; Interventional; Design type: Treatment, Education or Self-Management, Psychological & Behavioural, Complex Intervention

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Specialty: Mental Health, Primary sub-specialty: Depression; UKCRC code/ Disease: Mental Health/ Mood [affective] disorders

Interventions

Participants will be randomised to one of two groups. Randomisation will be made via a computer generated pseudo-random code using random permuted blocks of varying size by a system embedded within the website. No stratification or minimisation is required. The outcome will be single-blind with the research team responsible for the collection, cleaning and analysis of the data remaining blind to arm allocation until data collection has been completed.

Arm 1: Big White Wall

Participants will receive six months free access to the Big White Wall website. They will create a user profile using a pseudonym which will be linked to the trial ID that they are assigned within the study website. Participants will be able to access any part of the BWW site (apart from the option of personalised therapy or counselling sessions that are currently available on BWW for certain users with NHS prescriptions) and interact with other users within the boundaries of the site's House Rules. A record of their logins, time on site, interactions and page categories will be recorded by BWW on behalf of the study team.

Arm 2: Moodzone

Participants will be directed to the Moodzone area of the NHS Choices website where they will

be able to access all of the available material on Mental Health including depression and anxiety for six months. The site contains reading material and suggestions about maintaining mental health and provides measures of depression and anxiety for visitors to use.

Participation in the study will be for six months, receiving electronic follow up invitations at 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks after randomization which are to be completed on the website through their user login. Participants may also be asked to take part in a short interview by phone or face to face to talk about their experiences of services and/or the study within three months of the end their participation

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

Change in self-rated well-being at 6 weeks after baseline using the 14-item Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-Being Scale (WEMWBS) at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks.

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. Maintenance of well-being is measured using the WEMWBS at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks
2. Anxiety is measured using the 7-Item Generalised Anxiety Disorder Scale (GAD-7) at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks
3. Levels of depression are measured using the 9-Item Personal Health Questionnaire (PHQ9-9) at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks
4. Health Related Quality of Life is measured using the 12-item medical outcomes study short form health survey version 2.0 (SF-12v2) at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks
5. Social support is measured using the Medical Outcomes Study 8-Item Social Support Survey at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks
6. Social function is measured using the 8-item Work and Social Adjustment Scale (WSAS) at baseline, 3, 6, 12 and 26 weeks

Completion date

31/12/2018

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Aged 16 years and over
2. Live in the County of Nottinghamshire, including Nottingham City
3. Scores between 10-20 on the Personal Health Questionnaire (PHQ9); added 24/04/2018: and /or 10+ on GAD7
4. Access to internet through a PC or smartphone (Windows, iOS, Android)
5. Able and willing to give informed consent

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 Years

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

397

Key exclusion criteria

1. Scores 20 or more on the PHQ-9 (severe depression)
2. Scores 2 or 3 on PHQ-9 item "thoughts that you would be better off dead or of hurting yourself in some way"
3. Participant does not feel that they are sufficiently proficient in the use of the English language

Date of first enrolment

19/09/2016

Date of final enrolment

31/05/2018

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Institute of Mental Health

Triumph Road

Nottingham

United Kingdom

NG7 2TU

Sponsor information

Organisation

University of Nottingham

ROR

<https://ror.org/01ee9ar58>

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

The current data sharing plans for the current study are unknown and will be made available at a later date.

IPD sharing plan summary

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		23/04/2021	26/04/2021	Yes	No
Protocol article	protocol	18/12/2017		Yes	No
HRA research summary			28/06/2023	No	No
Preprint results	results		19/02/2021	No	No