

Clinical Trial Protocol

Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

09 Jun 2026

The study of efficacy of intercessory prayer on symptoms of children with autism and parental stress

Protocol summary

Summary

There are great challenges in the treatment of autism. In order to assess the efficacy of intercessory prayer on symptoms improvement in autistic children, we designed a randomized clinical trial (RCT) in 30 children with autism described in DSM-4 and ICD-10. The study population will be randomized into intervention and control groups. Both groups will receive the routine therapies. The intervention group will also receive the intervention including two months of intercessory prayer by 5 physicians. Standardized measures including:

1. Gilliam Autism Rating Scales (GARS) Questionnaire
2. Autism Treatment Evaluation Checklist
3. autisms social skills profile
4. Parental stress index questionnaire; will be used to assess the efficacy of intercessory prayer treatment on improvement of the autism symptoms, as well as the parental stress level.

General information

Acronym

IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT138808202698N1**
Registration date: **2010-10-10, 1389/07/18**
Registration timing: **registered_while_recruiting**

Last update:

Update count: **0**

Registration date

2010-10-10, 1389/07/18

Registrant information

Name

Batool Mousavi

Name of organization / entity

Janbazan Medical and Engineering Research Center

Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

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Recruitment status

Recruitment complete

Funding source

Family Research Institute

Expected recruitment start date

2010-08-11, 1389/05/20

Expected recruitment end date

2011-08-26, 1390/06/04

Actual recruitment start date

empty

Actual recruitment end date

empty

Trial completion date

empty

Scientific title

The study of efficacy of intercessory prayer on symptoms of children with autism and parental stress

Public title

Efficacy of intercessory prayer on severity of symptoms of children with autism and parental stress

Purpose

Treatment

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria

Definitive Diagnosis of Autism based on DSM- 4

Age

From **3 years** old to **9 years** old

Gender

Both

Phase

1

Groups that have been masked

No information

Sample size

Target sample size: **30**

Randomization (investigator's opinion)

Randomized

Randomization description

Blinding (investigator's opinion)

Double blinded

Blinding description

Placebo

Not used

Assignment

Parallel

Other design features

Secondary Ids

empty

Ethics committees

1

Ethics committee

Name of ethics committee

Family Research Institute

Street address

Shahid Beheshti University

City

Tehran

Postal code

Approval date

2010-06-13, 1389/03/23

Ethics committee reference number

62/850/ص

Health conditions studied

1

Description of health condition studied

Childhood Autism

ICD-10 code

F84.0

ICD-10 code description

Childhood autism

Primary outcomes

1

Description

verbal skills

Timepoint

2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

Method of measurement

Gilliam Autism Rating Scale-GARS- Questionnaire by the trainers and Autism Treatment and Evaluation Checklist by the parent

2

Description

social skills

Timepoint

2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

Method of measurement

Gilliam Autism Rating Scale-GARS- Questionnaire by trainers and Autism Treatment Evaluation Checklist and autisms social skills profile by parent

3

Description

stereotyped behavior

Timepoint

2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

Method of measurement

Autism Treatment Checklist by Parent, Gilliam Autism Rating Scale-GARS- by Trainers

4

Description

cognitive and sensory awareness

Timepoint

2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

Method of measurement

Autism treatment evaluation checklist by the parent

Secondary outcomes

1

Description

parental stress

Timepoint

2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

Method of measurement

parental stress index questionnaire by the parents

Intervention groups

1

Description

Intervention group: They will receive both their routine treatment and intercessory prayer for 8 weeks- 3 times per week for 10 minutes. 5 phisicians will accomplish the intervention

Category

Treatment - Other

2

Description

Control group: The group will receive their routine treatment but not the intervention

Category

N/A

Recruitment centers

1

Recruitment center

Name of recruitment center

Center for the treatment of autistic disorders

Full name of responsible person

Dr Hamid Reza Pouretamad

Street address

City

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Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor

Name of organization / entity

Family Research Institute

Full name of responsible person

Dr Hamid Reza Pouretamad

Street address

Shahid Beheshti University

City

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Grant name

Grant code / Reference number

Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?

Yes

Title of funding source

Family Research Institute

Proportion provided by this source

100

Public or private sector

empty

Domestic or foreign origin

empty

Category of foreign source of funding

empty

Country of origin

Type of organization providing the funding

empty

Person responsible for general inquiries

Contact

Name of organization / entity

Tehran University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

Mojgan Karbakhsh

Position

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Other areas of specialty/work

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Person responsible for scientific inquiries

Contact

Name of organization / entity

Dept. of psychology, Shahid Beheshti University/ The center for the treatment of autistic disorder

Full name of responsible person

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Person responsible for updating data

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Sharing plan

Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)

empty

Study Protocol

empty

Statistical Analysis Plan

empty

Informed Consent Form

empty

Clinical Study Report

empty

Analytic Code

empty

Data Dictionary

empty