Clinical Trial Protocol
Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

22 Nov 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.autims 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

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Janbazan Medical and Engeenering Research Center
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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 Institude

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 autims social skills profile by parent

3

Description
sterotyped 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 Pouretemad
Street address
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Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor
Name of organization / entity
Family Research Institude
Full name of responsible person
Dr Hamid Reza Pouretemad
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Shahid Beheshti University
City
Tehran
Grant name
Grant code / Reference number
Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?
Yes
Title of funding source
Family Research Institude
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
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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