

# Clinical Trial Protocol

## Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

10 Jun 2026

### The effectiveness of Mindful Interoceptive Exposure on improvement of symptoms of patients with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

#### Protocol summary

##### Study aim

Evaluating the effectiveness of exposure techniques in the treatment of obsessive-compulsive disorder and their application in working with patients diagnosed with OCD

##### Design

The study is a parallel-group clinical trial conducted on 30 patients diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

##### Settings and conduct

The study will be conducted in Kurdistan Province (Sanandaj city) at the Psychology Clinic of Ghods Hospital. After screening and random allocation without knowledge of their assigned group, participants will enter the study. The statistical assessor will also be blinded to the group assignments. Additionally, participants will not incur any costs for the services provided

##### Participants/Inclusion and exclusion criteria

inclusion criteria: • Willingness to participate in the study • Ability to read and write at a middle school level • Diagnosis of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) based on a psychiatric evaluation • Not currently undergoing any psychotherapy • No changes in medication during the psychotherapy period  
Not inclusion criteria: • Presence of a psychotic disorder or lack of insight in OCD • Having intellectual or cognitive impairments such as intellectual disability, dementia, or delirium • Concurrent substance use disorders

##### Intervention groups

The study includes two groups: one group receives a structured and direct intervention of mindfulness-based exposure and response prevention (ERP), while the other group does not receive any specific intervention concurrently. The intervention program is based on a protocol that integrates cognitive-behavioral therapy with mindfulness.

##### Main outcome variables

Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (Y-BOCS)  
Depression Anxiety and Stress Scale Anxiety sensitivity index 3  
Multidimensional Assessment of Interoceptive

Awareness-2

#### General information

##### Reason for update

##### Acronym

##### IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT20220113053705N2**

Registration date: **2025-07-06, 1404/04/15**

Registration timing: **registered\_while\_recruiting**

Last update: **2025-07-06, 1404/04/15**

Update count: **0**

##### Registration date

2025-07-06, 1404/04/15

##### Registrant information

##### Name

Fateh Sohrabi

##### Name of organization / entity

##### Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

##### Phone

+98 87 3371 8025

##### Email address

f.sohrabi20@gmail.com

##### Recruitment status

**Recruitment complete**

##### Funding source

##### Expected recruitment start date

2025-07-02, 1404/04/11

##### Expected recruitment end date

2025-12-02, 1404/09/11

##### Actual recruitment start date

empty

##### Actual recruitment end date

empty

##### Trial completion date

empty

### Scientific title

The effectiveness of Mindful Interoceptive Exposure on improvement of symptoms of patients with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

### Public title

The effectiveness of Mindful Interoceptive Exposure on improvement of OCD symptoms

### Purpose

Treatment

### Inclusion/Exclusion criteria

#### Inclusion criteria:

- Willingness to participate in the study
- Ability to read and write at a middle school level
- Diagnosis of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) based on a psychiatric evaluation
- Not currently undergoing any psychotherapy
- No changes in medication during the psychotherapy period

#### Exclusion criteria:

- Presence of a psychotic disorder or lack of insight in OCD
- Having intellectual or cognitive impairments such as intellectual disability, dementia, or delirium
- Concurrent substance use disorders

### Age

From **18 years** old

### Gender

Both

### Phase

3

### Groups that have been masked

- Data analyser

### Sample size

Target sample size: **30**

### Randomization (investigator's opinion)

Randomized

### Randomization description

After identifying and selecting eligible participants, they will be randomly assigned to the study groups through a lottery method. Specifically, the participants' names will be written on identical cards, which will then be randomly drawn from a designated container to divide the individuals into intervention and control groups. This approach is used to eliminate any potential bias in the allocation process and to enhance the internal validity of the study.

### Blinding (investigator's opinion)

Single blinded

### Blinding description

During the data analysis phase, the clinical evaluator or researcher reviewing the data is kept unaware of the participants' group assignments and their characteristics. The data are coded or anonymized in a way that prevents the evaluator from identifying which data belongs to which group. This procedure helps prevent evaluator bias in interpreting and assessing the data, thereby enhancing the validity of the study results.

### Placebo

Not used

### Assignment

Parallel

### Other design features

## Secondary Ids

empty

## Ethics committees

### 1

#### Ethics committee

##### Name of ethics committee

research ethics committees of Kurdistan university of medical sciences

##### Street address

Faculty of Medicine, Kurdistan University of Medical Sciences, Pasdaran Ave.

##### City

Sanandaj

##### Province

Kurdistan

##### Postal code

۱۵۱۷۵-۶۶۱۷۷

#### Approval date

2025-06-10, 1404/03/20

#### Ethics committee reference number

IR.MUK.REC.1404.089

## Health conditions studied

### 1

#### Description of health condition studied

Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

#### ICD-10 code

F42

#### ICD-10 code description

Obsessive-compulsive disorder

## Primary outcomes

### 1

#### Description

Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (Y-BOCS)

#### Timepoint

Before the intervention starts - after completing the treatment sessions - and three months after the last session

#### Method of measurement

Yale-Brown Obsessive Compulsive Scale (Y-BOCS)

### 2

#### Description

Anxiety Sensitivity Index-3

#### Timepoint

Before the intervention starts - after completing the treatment sessions - and three months after the last session

#### Method of measurement

**3****Description**

Multidimensional Assessment of Interoceptive Awareness-2

**Timepoint**

Before the intervention starts - after completing the treatment sessions - and three months after the last session

**Method of measurement**

Multidimensional Assessment of Interoceptive Awareness-2

**4****Description**

Depression, Anxiety and Stress scale

**Timepoint**

Before the intervention starts - after completing the treatment sessions - and three months after the last session

**Method of measurement**

Depression, Anxiety and Stress scale

**Secondary outcomes**

empty

**Intervention groups****1****Description**

Intervention group: The intervention group receives mindfulness-based exposure therapy as the treatment, which consists of four therapy sessions with specific goals and strategies. Details of the weekly sessions are provided in Table 1. This therapy is a third-wave cognitive-behavioral treatment and is one of the transdiagnostic approaches that utilize mindfulness skill training along with cognitive-behavioral techniques. All sessions (Sessions 1-8) are outlined according to the relevant protocol (Sohrabi et al., 2024; Kiyon, 2011; Kiyon, Francis & Shirz, 2018). The primary goal of the therapy, following the therapeutic contract and client preparation, is to facilitate the process of change, which continues with several main objectives pursued across multiple sessions. The first phase is introversion, which focuses on developing attention skills, attention restoration, and attention regulation within the context of emotion regulation, using mindfulness techniques. Next, in the extroversion phase, the learned skills provide a basis for confronting intrapersonal problems, employing mindful exposure techniques to address harmful personal contexts. Then, as skills expand, the interpersonal and extrapersonal phases broaden this confrontation to wider interpersonal contexts. Finally, these stages are integrated into a comprehensive therapeutic package.

**Category**

Treatment - Other

**2****Description**

Control group: After being assigned to the control group, participants do not receive any specific psychotherapeutic intervention concurrently and continue to receive only their usual medication treatment.

**Category**

Treatment - Other

**Recruitment centers****1****Recruitment center****Name of recruitment center**

Psychological Clinic of Ghods Hospital

**Full name of responsible person**

Dr Fateh Sohrabi

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Ghods Hospital. Pasdaran Ave. Shohadayy nirooy entezami Blv.

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f.sohrabi20@gmail.com

**Sponsors / Funding sources****1****Sponsor****Name of organization / entity**

Sanandaj University of Medical Sciences

**Full name of responsible person**

Dr Fardin Maleki

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**Grant name****Grant code / Reference number****Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?**

No

**Title of funding source**

kurdistan University Of medical Sciences  
**Proportion provided by this source**  
100  
**Public or private sector**  
Public  
**Domestic or foreign origin**  
Domestic  
**Category of foreign source of funding**  
*empty*  
**Country of origin**  
**Type of organization providing the funding**  
Academic

## Person responsible for general inquiries

**Contact**  
**Name of organization / entity**  
Sanandaj University of Medical Sciences  
**Full name of responsible person**  
Fateh Sohrabi  
**Position**  
Assistant Professor  
**Latest degree**  
Ph.D.  
**Other areas of specialty/work**  
Psychology  
**Street address**  
Clinical Psychology Branch, Faculty of Medicine,  
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## Person responsible for scientific inquiries

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## Person responsible for updating data

**Contact**  
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## Sharing plan

**Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)**  
Yes - There is a plan to make this available  
**Study Protocol**  
No - There is not a plan to make this available  
**Statistical Analysis Plan**  
Yes - There is a plan to make this available  
**Informed Consent Form**  
No - There is not a plan to make this available  
**Clinical Study Report**  
Yes - There is a plan to make this available  
**Analytic Code**  
No - There is not a plan to make this available  
**Data Dictionary**  
No - There is not a plan to make this available  
**Title and more details about the data/document**  
Data related to the study will be provided in response to  
legitimate requests from the relevant organizations.  
**When the data will become available and for how  
long**  
After publication of the data  
**To whom data/document is available**  
Academic researchers can access the data upon  
submitting a formal and justified request.  
**Under which criteria data/document could be used**

The individual must have a verified identity and submit the request through an official or academic organization. They must accept responsibility for maintaining confidentiality and not disclosing the data without permission, in accordance with ethical principles.

**From where data/document is obtainable**

They can correspond via the following email to make a

request: F.sohrabi20@gmail.com

**What processes are involved for a request to access data/document**

After receiving the email and reviewing it through official channels, the request will be responded to as soon as possible.

**Comments**