

Clinical Trial Protocol

Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

07 Jul 2026

Comparing the Atomoxetine effectiveness in retention of patients in the stimulant (Meth-Amphetamine) dependence treatment with placebo in a three month period

Protocol summary

Summary

The main objective of this study is to compare effectiveness of atomoxetine with placebo in treatment of amphetamine-type stimulants (methamphetamine). The study is a triple-blind multi-center, phase 2, randomized controlled trial in which 90 clients with amphetamine-type stimulants use disorder will randomly assign to one of three groups including atomoxetine 120mg/d, atomoxetine 60 mg/day or placebo for three months. Inclusion criteria are having stimulant (methamphetamine) use disorder according to DSM-5, using 2 times or more methamphetamine in a week during last month and age 18 to 60 years old. The exclusion criteria are sensitivity to atomoxetine, rising of liver enzymes more than 3 times: hepatic failure, acute hepatitis, having other substance use disorders (except nicotine) and using MAOI medications during last 2 weeks. All participants will receive basic psychological interventions. Primary outcome of the study is retention in treatment and secondary outcomes of the study are methamphetamine abstinence measured by urine tests and self-report and addiction severity measured by Addiction Severity Index (ASI).

General information

Acronym

IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT2017070234844N1**
Registration date: **2017-07-19, 1396/04/28**
Registration timing: **prospective**

Last update:

Update count: **0**

Registration date

2017-07-19, 1396/04/28

Registrant information

Name

Alireza Noroozi

Name of organization / entity

Iranian National Center for Addiction Studies (INCAS)

Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Phone

+98 21 5542 1144

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Recruitment status

Recruitment complete

Funding source

Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Vice-chancellor for Research

Expected recruitment start date

2017-08-23, 1396/06/01

Expected recruitment end date

2018-11-22, 1397/09/01

Actual recruitment start date

empty

Actual recruitment end date

empty

Trial completion date

empty

Scientific title

Comparing the Atomoxetine effectiveness in retention of patients in the stimulant (Meth-Amphetamine) dependence treatment with placebo in a three month period

Public title

Effectiveness of Atomoxetine treatment for methamphetamine use disorder

Purpose

Treatment

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria: 1- Diagnosis of methamphetamine use disorder based on DSM-5; 2- Using methamphetamine 2 times or more in week during last month; 3- Age: 18 to 60 years old; 4. Referring to Psychiatric Clinic of Roozbeh Hospital or Iranian National Center for Addiction Studies (INCAS) Clinic Exclusion criteria: 1. Sensitivity to Atomoxetine; 2. Rising liver enzymes more than three times; Hepatic failure, acute hepatitis; 3. Other substance use disorders including alcohol, opioids and sedative and hypnotic medications (except nicotine); 4. More than 2 times illicit opioid use during last month; 5. Use of mono-amine oxidase inhibitor (MAOI) medications during last 2 weeks; 6. Severe cardiac disorder, history of MI during last month, uncontrolled hypertension (HTN); 7. Pregnancy or breastfeeding; 8. Risk of suicide, homicide or violence; 9. Psychosis; 10. Unable to comprehend study protocol and answer questionnaires; 11. Receiving opioid agonist medications such as MMT.

Age

From **18 years** old to **60 years** old

Gender

Both

Phase

2

Groups that have been masked

No information

Sample size

Target sample size: **90**

Randomization (investigator's opinion)

Randomized

Randomization description**Blinding (investigator's opinion)**

Triple blinded

Blinding description**Placebo**

Used

Assignment

Parallel

Other design features**Secondary Ids**

empty

Ethics committees**1****Ethics committee****Name of ethics committee**

Ethic Committee of Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Vice-chancellor for Research

Street address

6th Floor, Central Building of Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Ghods St., Keshavarz Blv.

City

Tehran

Postal code**Approval date**

2016-06-21, 1395/04/01

Ethics committee reference number**Health conditions studied****1****Description of health condition studied**

Other stimulants dependence syndrome

ICD-10 code

F15.24

ICD-10 code description

Dependence syndrome: A cluster of behavioral, cognitive, and physiological phenomena that develop after repeated substance use and that typically include a strong desire to take the drug, difficulties in controlling its use, persisting in its use despite

Primary outcomes**1****Description**

Retention

Timepoint

Weekly

Method of measurement

Participation in physician visit/s, psychological treatment sessions and completion of assessments

Secondary outcomes**1****Description**

Methamphetamine abstinence- Urine tests

Timepoint

Weekly

Method of measurement

Urine immunoassay test for methamphetamine

2**Description**

Methamphetamine abstinence- Self-report

Timepoint

Weekly

Method of measurement

Self-report measured by timeline follow-back (TLFB)

3**Description**

Addiction severity

Timepoint

Monthly

Method of measurement

Self-report measured by Addiction Severity Index (ASI)

Intervention groups

1

Description

Atomoxetine 120 mg group: Treatment will start with 40 mg/day atomoxetine capsule manufactured by Tadbir Kalay-e Jam Pharmaceutical Company for first week (days 1-7) and will continue with 80 mg/day atomoxetine in second week (days 8-14). The dose will be increased to final dose of 120 mg/day from week 3 (day 15) of treatment. In case of adverse events or intolerance of medication, the rate of dose increase will be decreased. The capsules of this group will be exactly similar to the capsules of other groups. Medication will be prescribed orally, once a day at morning. All patients will receive twice weekly individual basic cognitive, behavioral counselling during the study and after it.

Category

Treatment - Drugs

2

Description

Atomoxetine 60 mg group: Treatment will start with 20 mg/day atomoxetine capsule manufactured by Tadbir Kalay-e Jam Pharmaceutical Company for first week (days 1-7) and will continue with 40 mg/day atomoxetine in second week (days 8-14). The dose will be increased to final dose of 60 mg/day from week 3 (day 15) of treatment. The capsules of this group will be exactly similar to the capsules of other groups. Medication will be prescribed orally, once a day at morning. All patients will receive twice weekly individual basic cognitive, behavioral counselling during the study and after it.

Category

Treatment - Drugs

3

Description

Placebo group: Patients will receive placebo capsules which are exactly similar to capsules of other study arms and will be manufactured by Tadbir Kalay-e Jam Pharmaceutical Company. Placebo capsules will include starch. All patients will receive one capsule in first week, 2 capsules in second week and 3 capsules for the rest of study once a day at morning. The patients will receive medication for 12 weeks. After that if they want they could receive medication on open-label basis. All patients will receive twice weekly individual basic cognitive, behavioral treatment during the study and after it.

Category

Treatment - Drugs

Recruitment centers

1

Recruitment center

Name of recruitment center

Iranian National Center for Addiction Studies

Full name of responsible person

Alireza Noroozi

Street address

No 486, South Kargar St., Qazvin Sq., Next to Farabi Hospital

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Tehran

2

Recruitment center

Name of recruitment center

Psychiatric Clinic of Roozbeh Hospital

Full name of responsible person

Street address

South Kargar St, South of Lashgar Crossroad, Roozbeh Hospital

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Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor

Name of organization / entity

Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Vice-chancellor for Research

Full name of responsible person

Ms. Karimi

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6th Floor, Central Building of Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Ghods St., Keshavarz Blv.

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Tehran

Grant name

Grant code / Reference number

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

Yes

Title of funding source

Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Vice-chancellor for Research

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

Iranian National Center for Addiction Studies (INCAS)

Full name of responsible person

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Position

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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