Clinical Trial Protocol
Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

23 Oct 2026

Comparing the effectiveness of mindful interoceptive desensitization and behavioral exteroceptive desensitization in reducing the anxiety symptoms

Protocol summary

Study aim

Comparing the effectiveness of mindful interoceptive desensitization and behavioral exteroceptive desensitization in reducing the anxiety symptoms

Design

As a one-way blind randomized clinical trial intervention, all eligible individuals selected (at least 90 individuals), and randomly assigned to three groups. Each group will be evaluated before entering the study, after four intervention sessions, and finally two months after the intervention (follow-up). The first group will receive intervention based on MiCBT protocol, the second group will receive four session of systematic desensitization, and the third group will receive Jacobson's progressive muscle relaxation.

Settings and conduct

The study is performed in Tehran and in the psychology clinic of Taleghani Hospital. Meetings are held in-person and in accordance with the protocol, and in order not to create bias for participants, all individuals will receive medical intervention.

Participants/Inclusion and exclusion criteria

1) having the consent to participate in the study, 2) having a score of 16 in the Beck Anxiety Questionnaire, 3) not having psychotic symptoms or a recognizable psychotic disorder (assessed by a clinical psychologist), 4) not having an acute cognitive problem, 5) not participating in a Simultaneous psychological intervention, 6) not receiving medication for psychological problems, 7) not having suicidal thoughts Exclusion criteria: 1) need to be hospitalized or prescribed medication, 2) refusal to continue research

Intervention groups

The study groups consist of three groups, the first group will receive introceptive desensitization, the second group will receive extroceptive desensitization, and the third group will receive progressive muscle relaxation treatment as the active control group.

Main outcome variables

State-trait Anxiety Beck scale for anxiety Mindfulness Based Self-efficacy Sale SCL-90

General information

Reason for update

Acronym

IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT20220113053705N1**
Registration date: **2022-02-01, 1400/11/12**
Registration timing: **prospective**

Last update: **2022-02-01, 1400/11/12**
Update count: **0**

Registration date

2022-02-01, 1400/11/12

Registrant information

Name

Fateh Sohrabi

Name of organization / entity

Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

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+98 87 3371 8025

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f.sohrabi20@gmail.com

Recruitment status

Recruitment complete

Funding source

Expected recruitment start date

2022-02-20, 1400/12/01

Expected recruitment end date

2022-07-23, 1401/05/01

Actual recruitment start date

empty

Actual recruitment end date

empty

Trial completion date

empty

Scientific title

Comparing the effectiveness of mindful interoceptive desensitization and behavioral exteroceptive desensitization in reducing the anxiety symptoms

Public title

Comparing the effectiveness of mindful interoceptive desensitization and behavioral exteroceptive desensitization

Purpose

Treatment

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria:

having the consent to participate in the study, having a score of 16 in the Beck Anxiety Inventory, not having psychotic symptoms or a recognizable psychotic disorder (assessed by a clinical psychologist), not having an acute cognitive problem, not participating in a Simultaneous psychological intervention, not receiving medication for psychological problems, not having suicidal thoughts

Exclusion criteria:

the necessity of hospitalization or proscribing medication being resentful for continuing the research

Age

From **18 years** old

Gender

Both

Phase

N/A

Groups that have been masked

No information

Sample size

Target sample size: **90**

Randomization (investigator's opinion)

Randomized

Randomization description

All eligible individuals are assigned a code in the form of ordinal numbers and then randomly selected by drawing lots. the first of thirty subjects assigned to intervention group 1 (introversion desensitization), the second thirty to intervention group 2 (extroversion desensitization), And 30 people will be assigned to the active control group (progressive muscle relaxation).

Blinding (investigator's opinion)

Not blinded

Blinding description

Placebo

Not used

Assignment

Parallel

Other design features

Secondary Ids

empty

Ethics committees

1

Ethics committee

Name of ethics committee

research Ethicscommittees of school of medicine-Shahid Beheshti University of medical sciences

Street address

Next to Taleghani Hospital, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Erabi St, Velenjak

City

Tehran

Province

Tehran

Postal code

1983969411

Approval date

2021-07-13, 1400/04/22

Ethics committee reference number

IR.SBMU.MSP.REC.1400.238

Health conditions studied

1

Description of health condition studied

Anxiety

ICD-10 code

F06.4

ICD-10 code description

Anxiety disorder due to known physiological condition

Primary outcomes

1

Description

State and Trait Anxiety: Measures the characteristics of persistent and unstable anxiety symptoms,

Timepoint

Participants will evaluated in the three level of time; Before the intervention (pre-test stage), after the intervention (post-test stage), and after the intervention (follow-up)

Method of measurement

State and Trait Anxiety Questionnaire,

2

Description

Beck anxiety; measures anxiety in general based on its symptoms,

Timepoint

Participants will evaluated in the three level of time; Before the intervention (pre-test stage), after the intervention (post-test stage), and after the intervention (follow-up)

Method of measurement

Beck Anxiety Scale,

3

Description
Mindfulness-based self-efficacy: Measures a person's sense of effectiveness based on symptoms (toward symptoms a\of anxiety),
Timepoint
Participants will evaluated in the three level of time; Before the intervention (pre-test stage), after the intervention (post-test stage), and after the intervention (follow-up)
Method of measurement
Mindfulness-Based Self-Efficacy Scale,

4

Description
Symptom Checklist-90 that also measure the total psychological symptoms other than anxiety.
Timepoint
Participants will evaluated in the three level of time; Before the intervention (pre-test stage), after the intervention (post-test stage), and after the intervention (follow-up)
Method of measurement
Symptoms Checklist 90 (SCL-90)

Secondary outcomes

empty

Intervention groups

1

Description
Intervention group 1: This group receives 4 sessions of Mindfulness integrated Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy combined as a interoceptive desensitization program. in that, the process of desensitization will do according to the protocol.
Category
Treatment - Other

2

Description
Intervention group 2: This group, called the extroceptive desensitization group, receives 4 sessions of regular desensitization treatment, in which the extrinsic desensitization process is performed according to the treatment protocol.
Category
Treatment - Other

3

Description
Control group: This group, as an active control group, receives 4 sessions of progressive muscle relaxation treatment according to the treatment protocol of the relevant process.
Category
Treatment - Other

Recruitment centers

1

Recruitment center
Name of recruitment center
Taleghani Hospital
Full name of responsible person
Fateh Sohrabi
Street address
Psychology Clinic of Taleghani Hospital, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Shahid Arabi St, Velenjak.
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Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor
Name of organization / entity
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences
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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
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences
Proportion provided by this source
100
Public or private sector
Private
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
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences
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Sharing plan

Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)
No - There is not a plan to make this available
Justification/reason for indecision/not sharing IPD
There is no more information here
Study Protocol
Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available
Statistical Analysis Plan
Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available
Informed Consent Form
Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available
Clinical Study Report
Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available
Analytic Code
Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available
Data Dictionary
Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available