

# Clinical Trial Protocol

## Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

19 Sep 2026

**The effect of 8 weeks of combined exercise training (aerobic-resistance) on microRNAs involved in pain, inflammation and fatigue in patients with MS.**

### Protocol summary

#### Study aim

The general purpose of this research is to investigate the effect of a combined exercise protocol (aerobic resistance) on microRNAs involved in pain, inflammation and fatigue in MS patients.

#### Design

First, we randomly divided 36 men and women with relapsing-remitting MS into control and exercise groups. The randomization method will be simple. Then the training group starts to do the training protocol for 8 weeks while the control group does not do any training during these 8 weeks.

#### Settings and conduct

The study site will be the MS Research Center of Sinai Hospital.

#### Participants/Inclusion and exclusion criteria

The main criteria for entering the research Male and female patients with MS with EDSS 1 to 4 Only patients using interferon-beta medication alone will participate in the study. Age range from 25 to 45 years Lack of regular physical activity in the last 6 months Ability to perform sports protocol The main criteria for exiting the research Worsening of the patient's condition Inability to complete the exercise protocol The beginning of the relapse period

#### Intervention groups

The intervention considered in this research is 8 weeks of combined sports training (aerobic-resistance) which only the training group will be able to do, and the control group will not have any sports activities during these 8 weeks.

#### Main outcome variables

The main variables considered in this research are micro RNAs involved in pain, inflammation and fatigue of MS patients, which will include miR-155, miR-326, miR-23b, miR146a. Also, the amount of pain, quality of sleep, quality of life, time to reach fatigue and EDSS score are other variables considered for measurement.

### General information

#### Reason for update

#### Acronym

#### IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT20230618058515N1**

Registration date: **2023-07-04, 1402/04/13**

Registration timing: **prospective**

Last update: **2023-07-04, 1402/04/13**

Update count: **0**

#### Registration date

2023-07-04, 1402/04/13

#### Registrant information

##### Name

mohammad torab

##### Name of organization / entity

Tehran university

##### Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

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##### Email address

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#### Recruitment status

**Recruitment complete**

#### Funding source

#### Expected recruitment start date

2023-07-08, 1402/04/17

#### Expected recruitment end date

2023-07-15, 1402/04/24

#### Actual recruitment start date

empty

#### Actual recruitment end date

empty

#### Trial completion date

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| empty                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Scientific title</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Name of ethics committee</b>                                                                                                                              |
| The effect of 8 weeks of combined exercise training (aerobic-resistance) on microRNAs involved in pain, inflammation and fatigue in patients with MS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Ethics Committee of Neuroscience Research Institute<br><<Neural Rehabilitation>>                                                                             |
| <b>Public title</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Street address</b>                                                                                                                                        |
| The effect of 8 weeks of combined exercise training (aerobic-resistance) on microRNAs involved in pain, inflammation and fatigue in patients with MS.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | No. 2-4th West Dead End-Shahid Naeqebi Alley-Kamali St.-Tehran                                                                                               |
| <b>Purpose</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>City</b>                                                                                                                                                  |
| Supportive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Tehran                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Inclusion/Exclusion criteria</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Province</b>                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Inclusion criteria:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Tehran                                                                                                                                                       |
| Male and female patients with MS with EDSS 1 to 4 Only patients using interferon-beta medication alone will participate in the study. Age range from 25 to 45 years Lack of regular physical activity in the last 6 months Ability to perform sports protocol                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Postal code</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Exclusion criteria:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 1331777463                                                                                                                                                   |
| Worsening of the patient's condition Inability to complete the exercise protocol The beginning of the relapse period                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Approval date</b>                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Age</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2023-06-11, 1402/03/21                                                                                                                                       |
| From <b>25 years</b> old to <b>45 years</b> old                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Ethics committee reference number</b>                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Gender</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | IR.TUMS.NI.REC.1402.006                                                                                                                                      |
| Both                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Phase</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>Health conditions studied</b>                                                                                                                             |
| N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <u>1</u>                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Groups that have been masked</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Description of health condition studied</b>                                                                                                               |
| No information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | multiple sclerosis                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Sample size</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>ICD-10 code</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| Target sample size: <b>36</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | G35                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Randomization (investigator's opinion)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>ICD-10 code description</b>                                                                                                                               |
| Randomized                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Multiple sclerosis                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Randomization description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Simple randomization Randomization unit: individual The randomization method will be a coin toss. Usually, this method is used to create a random sequence in two-group experiments in such a way that one of the studied groups is considered a lion and the other group is considered a line, and based on the desired sample size, the same number of coins are thrown. and people are divided into two groups. They find it by accident. | <b>Primary outcomes</b>                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Blinding (investigator's opinion)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <u>1</u>                                                                                                                                                     |
| Not blinded                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Blinding description</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | miR-155 , miR-326, miR-23b, miR-146a                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Placebo</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>Timepoint</b>                                                                                                                                             |
| Not used                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Before starting the training program and 24 hours after the last training session                                                                            |
| <b>Assignment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <b>Method of measurement</b>                                                                                                                                 |
| Parallel                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | RT-PCR                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Other design features</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Secondary Ids</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>Secondary outcomes</b>                                                                                                                                    |
| empty                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <u>1</u>                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Ethics committees</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| <u>1</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Sleep quality                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Ethics committee</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <b>Timepoint</b>                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Before starting the training program and 24 hours after the last training session                                                                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Method of measurement</b>                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | In order to measure the effect of the combined exercise program on the sleep quality of these patients, the Sleep Quality Questionnaire (PSQI) will be used. |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <u>2</u>                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Description</b>                                                                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Quality of Life                                                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Timepoint</b>                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Before the start of the training program and after the end of the training program                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Method of measurement</b>                                                                                                                                 |

In order to measure the effect of the combined exercise program on the quality of life of these patients, the quality of life questionnaire of MS patients (MSQOL-54) will be used.

### 3

#### **Description**

Fatigue rate

#### **Timepoint**

Before starting the training program and after it ends

#### **Method of measurement**

In order to measure the effect of the combined exercise program on the fatigue level of this patient, the comprehensive fatigue assessment scale in patients with MS (CFAB-MS) from the questionnaire related to fatigue in these patients will be used.

### 4

#### **Description**

The amount of pain

#### **Timepoint**

Before starting the training program and after it ends.

#### **Method of measurement**

The McGill Pain Questionnaire (SF-MPQ) will be used to measure the effect of the combined exercise program on the pain level of these patients.

### 5

#### **Description**

EDSS

#### **Timepoint**

Before starting the training program and after its termination

#### **Method of measurement**

by a neurologist

### 6

#### **Description**

Time to get tired

#### **Timepoint**

Before starting the training program and after its termination

#### **Method of measurement**

6 minute walk test

## **Intervention groups**

### 1

#### **Description**

Intervention group: The intervention group (exercise) will be monitored for 8 weeks to start sports activities. In this way, two sessions of aerobic exercise per week using a stationary bike and two sessions per week of resistance exercise using bodybuilding machines are performed in the form of knee flexion and extension. Before starting the training program, all movements are closely taught to the returnees.

#### **Category**

Rehabilitation

### 2

#### **Description**

Control group: control The control group will avoid any planned and regular physical activity during the time that the training group is doing the activity.

#### **Category**

Rehabilitation

## **Recruitment centers**

### 1

#### **Recruitment center**

##### **Name of recruitment center**

Sinai Hospital MS Research Center

##### **Full name of responsible person**

Dr. Maryam Abolhasani

##### **Street address**

Sina Hospital- Narsideh to Hasan Abad Square- Imam Khomeini St.-Tehran

##### **City**

Tehran

##### **Province**

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##### **Postal code**

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##### **Web page address**

## **Sponsors / Funding sources**

### 1

#### **Sponsor**

##### **Name of organization / entity**

Research Institute of Neuroscience, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Tehran

##### **Full name of responsible person**

Dr. Akbar Fatuhi

##### **Street address**

Reyhaneh Building - Imam Khomeini Hospital - End of Keshavarz Boulevard - Tehran

##### **City**

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Tehran

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##### **Fax**

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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**

Sinai Hospital MS Research Center

**Proportion provided by this source**

10

**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**

Persons

**Person responsible for general inquiries****Contact****Name of organization / entity**

Tehran university

**Full name of responsible person**

Mohammad Torab

**Position**

Student

**Latest degree**

Master

**Other areas of specialty/work**

Exercise physiology

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**Person responsible for scientific inquiries****Contact****Name of organization / entity**

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**Person responsible for updating data****Contact****Name of organization / entity**

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**Sharing plan****Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)**

Yes - There is a plan to make this available

**Study Protocol**

Yes - There is a plan to make this available

**Statistical Analysis Plan**

Yes - There is a plan to make this available

**Informed Consent Form**

Yes - There is a plan to make this available

**Clinical Study Report**

Yes - There is a plan to make this available

**Analytic Code**

Not applicable

**Data Dictionary**

Yes - There is a plan to make this available

**Title and more details about the data/document**

After the completion of the research, all the data of this research will be published with full interpretation in the form of student thesis and scientific-research articles.

**When the data will become available and for how long**

It is expected that data related to this research will be available from February 1402.

**To whom data/document is available**

All researchers in the field of clinical sports physiology

and specialist doctors can access these data after the publication of articles from the project.

**Under which criteria data/document could be used**

The current research is an applied research and the data and protocol obtained from this plan are used to prevent the severity of the disease.

**From where data/document is obtainable**

To get the raw data, you can refer to the main researchers of this project (Mr. Mohammad Torab, Dr.

Mohammad Reza Kordi, and Ms. Dr. Maryam Abolhasani).

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

In order to receive data, the researcher must submit an official request to the university and the research institute where he is working, in which it is clearly stated for what purpose he wants to use this data and whether this data is effective in advancing his research.

**Comments**