

Best Evidence Summaries of Topics in Mental Healthcare

BEST in MH *clinical question-answering service*

Question

“For adults with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder with comorbid psychosis who have experienced complex/multiple trauma, how effective is Eye-Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) compared to any other intervention for improving patient outcomes?”

Clarification of question using PICO structure

Patients: Adults with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder with comorbid psychosis who have experienced complex/multiple trauma
Intervention: Eye-Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR)
Comparator: Any
Outcome: Any patient-related outcomes

Clinical and research implications

No relevant high-quality evidence, such as systematic reviews and randomised controlled trials (RCT), are available to answer this question. Therefore, this is a clinically relevant topic which requires high-quality research to be conducted.

Some evidence is available from pilot studies which examine the efficacy of EMDR for treating comorbid PTSD and psychosis, although in these studies the PTSD was not specifically a result of multiple/complex trauma (de Bont, van Minnen, & de Jongh, 2013; van den Berg & van der Gaag, 2012). Since these are pilot studies and not RCTs, their findings have been excluded from this summary. A protocol is available for an RCT which compares the effects of prolonged exposure, EMDR, and waiting list, on patients with current psychosis and comorbid PTSD (de Bont et al., 2013).

What does the evidence say?

Number of included studies/reviews (number of participants)

N/A

Main Findings

N/A

Authors Conclusions

N/A

Reliability of conclusions/Strength of evidence

N/A

What do guidelines say?

Neither National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) nor Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) guidelines comment upon the use of EMDR for treating comorbid PTSD and psychosis.

Date question received: 27/11/2014

Date searches conducted: 04/12/2014

Date answer completed: 05/12/2014

References

de Bont, P.A., van den Berg, D. P. G., van der Vleugel, B. M., de Roos, C., Mulder, C. L., Becker, E. S., ... & van Minnen, A. (2013). A multi-site single blind clinical study to compare the effects of prolonged exposure, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing and waiting list on patients with a current diagnosis of psychosis and co morbid post-traumatic stress disorder: Study protocol for the randomized controlled trial Treating Trauma in Psychosis. *Trials*, 14(1).

de Bont, P. A., van Minnen, A., & de Jongh, A. (2013). Treating PTSD in Patients With Psychosis: A Within-Group Controlled Feasibility Study Examining the Efficacy and Safety of Evidence-Based PE and EMDR Protocols. *Behavior Therapy*, 44(4), 717-730.

van den Berg, D. P., & van der Gaag, M. (2012). Treating trauma in psychosis with EMDR: A pilot study. *Journal of Behavior Therapy and Experimental Psychiatry*, 43(1), 664-671.

Search Details

Source	Search Strategy	Number of hits	Relevant evidence identified
SRs and Guidelines			
NICE	emdr psychosis ptsd	4	0
DARE	1 (EMDR OR (eye adj2 move*) OR desensitis* OR desensitiz* OR de-sensitiz* OR de-sensitis*) IN DARE 123 Delete 2 MeSH DESCRIPTOR Desensitization, Psychologic EXPLODE ALL TREES 31 Delete 3 MeSH DESCRIPTOR Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing EXPLODE ALL TREES 5 Delete 4 #1 OR #2 OR #3 141 Delete	0	0
Primary studies			
CENTRAL	#1 MeSH descriptor: [Stress Disorders, Post-Traumatic] explode all trees 956 #2 PTSD 1339 #3 #1 or #2 1660 #4 MeSH descriptor: [Psychotic Disorders] explode all trees 1552 #5 psychosis or psychotic 5402 #6 schizophrenia 9813 #7 #4 or #5 or #6 12546 #8 #3 and #7 106 #9 MeSH descriptor: [Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing] explode all trees 13 #10 EMDR 120 #11 "EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION THERAPY" 9 #12 #9 or #10 or #11 130 #13 #8 and #12 11 Central only 2	2	0
PsycINFO	1. PsycINFO; POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER/; 22542 results. 2. PsycINFO; PTSD.ti,ab; 20784 results.	8	0

	<p>3. PsycINFO; 1 OR 2; 26267 results.</p> <p>4. PsycINFO; exp PSYCHOSIS/; 93832 results.</p> <p>5. PsycINFO; (psychosis OR psychotic).ti,ab; 51590 results.</p> <p>6. PsycINFO; 4 OR 5; 115695 results.</p> <p>7. PsycINFO; 3 AND 6; 669 results.</p> <p>8. PsycINFO; EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION THERAPY/; 1014 results.</p> <p>9. PsycINFO; EMDR.ti,ab; 1096 results.</p> <p>10. PsycINFO; "Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing".ti,ab; 45 results.</p> <p>11. PsycINFO; 8 OR 9 OR 10; 1193 results.</p> <p>12. PsycINFO; 7 AND 11; 8 results.</p>		
Embase	<p>13. EMBASE; POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER/; 36174 results.</p> <p>14. EMBASE; PTSD.ti,ab; 16656 results.</p> <p>15. EMBASE; 13 OR 14; 36907 results.</p> <p>16. EMBASE; exp PSYCHOSIS/; 209940 results.</p> <p>17. EMBASE; (psychosis OR psychotic).ti,ab; 56251 results.</p> <p>18. EMBASE; 16 OR 17; 219530 results.</p> <p>19. EMBASE; 15 AND 18; 2911 results.</p> <p>20. EMBASE; EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION THERAPY/; 0 results.</p> <p>21. EMBASE; EMDR.ti,ab; 446 results.</p> <p>22. EMBASE; "Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing".ti,ab; 48 results.</p> <p>23. EMBASE; 20 OR 21 OR 22; 457 results.</p> <p>24. EMBASE; 19 AND 23; 16 results.</p> <p>25. EMBASE; EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION AND REPROCESSING/ OR EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION REPROCESSING/; 36720 results.</p> <p>26. EMBASE; 23 OR 25; 36840 results.</p> <p>27. EMBASE; 19 AND 26; 138 results.</p> <p>28. EMBASE; random*.ti,ab; 913640 results.</p> <p>29. EMBASE; factorial*.ti,ab; 23604 results.</p> <p>30. EMBASE; (crossover* OR cross-over*).ti,ab; 70464 results.</p>	26	0

	<p>31. EMBASE; placebo*.ti,ab; 204147 results.</p> <p>32. EMBASE; (doubl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab; 144724 results.</p> <p>33. EMBASE; (singl* ADJ blind*).ti,ab; 14881 results.</p> <p>34. EMBASE; assign*.ti,ab; 245285 results.</p> <p>35. EMBASE; allocat*.ti,ab; 86655 results.</p> <p>36. EMBASE; volunteer*.ti,ab; 179450 results.</p> <p>37. EMBASE; CROSSOVER PROCEDURE/; 40609 results.</p> <p>38. EMBASE; DOUBLE BLIND PROCEDURE/; 116034 results.</p> <p>39. EMBASE; RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL/; 353243 results.</p> <p>40. EMBASE; SINGLE BLIND PROCEDURE/; 19033 results.</p> <p>41. EMBASE; 28 OR 29 OR 30 OR 31 OR 32 OR 33 OR 34 OR 35 OR 36 OR 37 OR 38 OR 39 OR 40; 1451064 results.</p> <p>42. EMBASE; 27 AND 41; 26 results.</p>		
Medline	<p>13. MEDLINE; POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER/; 22910 results.</p> <p>14. MEDLINE; PTSD.ti,ab; 13974 results.</p> <p>15. MEDLINE; 13 OR 14; 25853 results.</p> <p>16. MEDLINE; exp PSYCHOSIS/; 39920 results.</p> <p>17. MEDLINE; (psychosis OR psychotic).ti,ab; 43285 results.</p> <p>18. MEDLINE; 16 OR 17; 65225 results.</p> <p>19. MEDLINE; 15 AND 18; 537 results.</p> <p>20. MEDLINE; EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION THERAPY/; 0 results.</p> <p>21. MEDLINE; EMDR.ti,ab; 280 results.</p> <p>22. MEDLINE; "Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing".ti,ab; 37 results.</p> <p>23. MEDLINE; 20 OR 21 OR 22; 290 results.</p> <p>24. MEDLINE; 19 AND 23; 5 results.</p> <p>25. MEDLINE; EYE MOVEMENT DESENSITIZATION REPROCESSING/; 83 results.</p> <p>26. MEDLINE; 23 OR 25; 311 results.</p> <p>27. MEDLINE; 19 AND 26; 5 results.</p>	5	0
Summary	NA	NA	

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