

Soci t  Alzheimer Society

Title of Study: Investigating the effect of repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) as a treatment for Alzheimer's Disease

Location: Manitoba

Study Description:

The aim of this study is to investigate the effects of repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (rTMS) treatment on patients with probable early or moderate Alzheimer's disease. rTMS uses short magnetic pulses from a coil placed on the scalp. It is a non-invasive procedure that doesn't involve any medication.

What will happen during the study?

The study involves either 10 treatments performed over 2 weeks or 20 treatments performed over 4 weeks (5days/week). Patients will be randomly assigned to one of these two groups upon signing up for the study. Additionally there are 6 assessments - before treatment, after 2 weeks of treatment, after 4 weeks of treatment, and then every 6 weeks from the end of treatment up to 6 months after the start of the study. Each treatment takes about 20 minutes and the assessments take a couple of hours. We can compensate for your transportation and accommodation (if you come from outside Winnipeg) costs if needed.

To investigate the placebo effect, we have to randomly assign half of our volunteers to receive sham treatment. However, we will offer the real treatment to those in placebo group after 6 months of their first participation.

The assessment data will be analyzed statistically within and between the groups to investigate if rTMS real treatment has any benefit to slow the Alzheimer's progression.

Eligibility: Who Can Participate?

Individuals with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's at early or moderate stage of Alzheimer's are potential candidates for this study. In addition, they must be between 55 to 95 years of age, have no pacemaker, no history of seizures and not being diagnosed with a major depression.

Recruitment Start Date: 2016/12/01

Recruitment End Date: 2021/09/01

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