

Research Opportunity



Centre of Research
and Education in
Forensic Psychology
(CORE-FP)

Kent and Medway
NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust



EMDR Multi-Site Clinical Trial

We are looking for services to participate in a new multi-site research project which is evaluating the effectiveness of Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing Therapy (EMDR) for male and female mentally disordered violent offenders.

The trial is being run by Dr. Theresa Gannon, Dr. Lauren Clark and Nichola Tyler from the University of Kent and Kent Forensic Psychiatry Services.

What is the overall aim?

To evaluate the effectiveness of EMDR for mentally disordered violent offenders with complex trauma.

What does the trial involve?

Mentally disordered violent offenders will be screened to identify those whose symptoms fit the DSM-IV criteria for PTSD (i.e., unresolved trauma). Once a patient has been identified as experiencing unresolved trauma they will be randomly allocated to either the EMDR or Placebo condition. Note, however, that all patients will eventually receive EMDR therapy during the trial period.

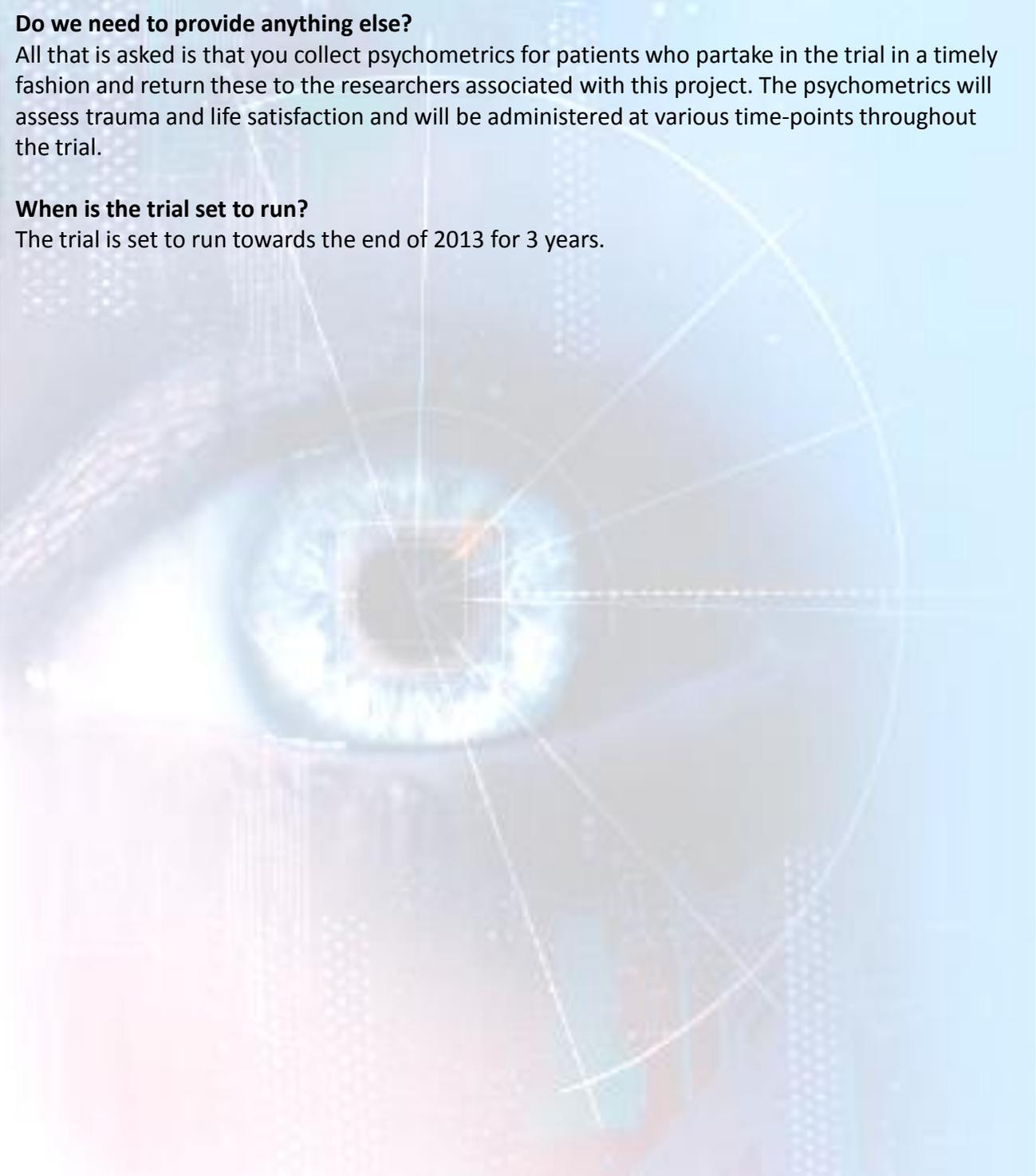
Patients allocated to the EMDR condition will receive EMDR therapy followed by the placebo therapy (relaxation with visualisation). The other half will receive the placebo therapy *prior to* EMDR therapy. The trial will allow us to measure any reductions in trauma and/or associated increases in life satisfaction as a direct result of EMDR therapy.

Can we participate?

Any secure forensic psychiatric hospital (including Learning Disability Directorates) across low, medium and high secure services can participate.

If your service has qualified EMDR therapists would they be happy for their time to be paid for to run EMDR as part of the project?

If you do not have qualified EMDR therapists this does not mean that you cannot participate in the trial - we may be able to provide EMDR therapists to deliver the treatment at your service.



Do we need to provide anything else?

All that is asked is that you collect psychometrics for patients who partake in the trial in a timely fashion and return these to the researchers associated with this project. The psychometrics will assess trauma and life satisfaction and will be administered at various time-points throughout the trial.

When is the trial set to run?

The trial is set to run towards the end of 2013 for 3 years.

If you are interested in participating or would like further information on the project please contact Nichola Tyler (University of Kent and Kent Forensic Psychiatry Services) at nt202@kent.ac.uk