

Why is this study being done?

We are studying the EEG of auditory hallucinations in people **with schizophrenia or borderline personality disorder**. We think we can measure the changes that occur when someone hears an **auditory hallucination** – a voice or sound that no one else can hear – and want to test this.

We hope this information will lead to earlier diagnosis and the development of better treatments.

Who can participate?

We are seeking participants who:

- Aged between 18 – 65 years
- Have a diagnosis of schizophrenia, schizophreniform, schizoaffective, (with or without auditory hallucinations) OR
- Borderline personality disorder who are experiencing auditory hallucinations
- Are willing and able to give informed consent.

Exclusion criteria are:

- Inability to provide consent
- Substance dependence
- Organic brain disorder i.e., epilepsy
- ECT in the last 6 months
- Medical condition that might interfere with assessment i.e., hearing impairment

Contact Us

If you have any questions, or if you are interested in the study, please contact:

Dr Carla Haroutonian

Ph: 9114 4377

E: carla.haroutonian@wimr.org.au

Professor Anthony Harris

Ph: 8890 6688

E: anthony.harris@sydney.edu.au

The Westmead Institute for Medical Research:

176 Hawkesbury Rd, Westmead, 2145

Transport: Parking areas are located close to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research and the train station is a 10-minute walk. A taxi can also be arranged. Participants will be reimbursed for all travel costs.

This research study is approved by WSLHD HREC



THE VOICES STUDY

Establishing the neural mechanisms for auditory-verbal hallucinations in schizophrenia

Information for Clinicians

What is involved in the study?

Participants will come to The Westmead Institute for Medical Research to participate in the study.

Timeline (done on one day):

1. **A clinical interview** (45 – 90 mins)
2. **Self-report questionnaires** (30 mins)
3. **An electroencephalogram (EEG)** (90mins)

Lunch will be provided on the day and participants will be reimbursed for travel expenses.



Optional component (done on separate day, within two weeks of initial assessment)

1. **Brain magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)** (90 mins)

Interested?

Ways in which to help:

1. Refer new participants

Please think of this research project when a person is admitted to your service. If you are concerned about their capacity for consent, please discuss this with us.

2. Help us keep up to date with participants

We may contact you to obtain additional information regarding your patient's symptoms to aid diagnosis and help establish participant symptom profiles.

We may ask you to assist us in keeping in contact with your client, with the participant's permission.

We appreciate your help and collaboration!



Health
Western Sydney
Local Health District



UNSW
SYDNEY



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY



The Westmead Institute

FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION