

Publication

Oxytocin and Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 4152793

Author(s) Ooi, Yoon Phaik; Weng, Shih-Jen; Kossowsky, Joe; Gerger, Heike; Sung, Min

Author(s) at UniBasel [Ooi, Yoon Phaik](#) ; [Kossowsky, Joe](#) ; [Gerger, Heike](#) ;

Year 2017

Title Oxytocin and Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials

Journal Pharmacopsychiatry

Volume 50

Number 1

Pages / Article-Number 5-13

Mesh terms Autism Spectrum Disorder, drug therapy; Databases, Bibliographic, statistics & numerical data; Humans; Oxytocics, therapeutic use; Oxytocin, therapeutic use; Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic

Aim: Oxytocin presents an exciting potential to target the core symptoms of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) pharmacologically in an easily administered, cost-effective form with possibly minimal adverse effects. But, there are still major gaps in this area of research. This paper reviewed randomized controlled trials (RCTs) examining the effects of oxytocin administration on social cognition and restricted, repetitive behaviors in individuals with an ASD. **Method:** Electronic literature searches were conducted from PsycINFO, PubMed, Web of Knowledge, and EMBASE for RCTs published through June 2015. **Results:** 12 RCTs were included in this review. 7 out of the 11 studies that examined social cognition reported improvements. Additionally, one out of the 4 studies on restricted, repetitive behaviors, reported improvements following oxytocin administration. However, results from our meta-analyses suggest that oxytocin has no significant effect on these 2 domains. **Conclusion:** Previous evidence revealed mixed findings about the effects of oxytocin on ASD. Given the limited number of RCTs, our summary of findings on the effectiveness of oxytocin on ASD should still be considered tentative.Â© Georg Thieme Verlag KG Stuttgart Â© New York.

Publisher Thieme

ISSN/ISBN 0720-4280

edoc-URL <http://edoc.unibas.ch/58277/>

Full Text on edoc No;

Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1055/s-0042-109400

PubMed ID <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27574858>

ISI-Number 27574858

Document type (ISI) Review