



TUMI THERAPEUTICS



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# Pain, fatigue and persistent somatic symptoms

*Translation from scientific research to clinical practice*

17/05/2024

Prof. dr. Katleen Bogaerts





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OGP

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STRESS - HYPERVENTILATIE - MEDISCH ONVERKLAARDE KLACHTEN

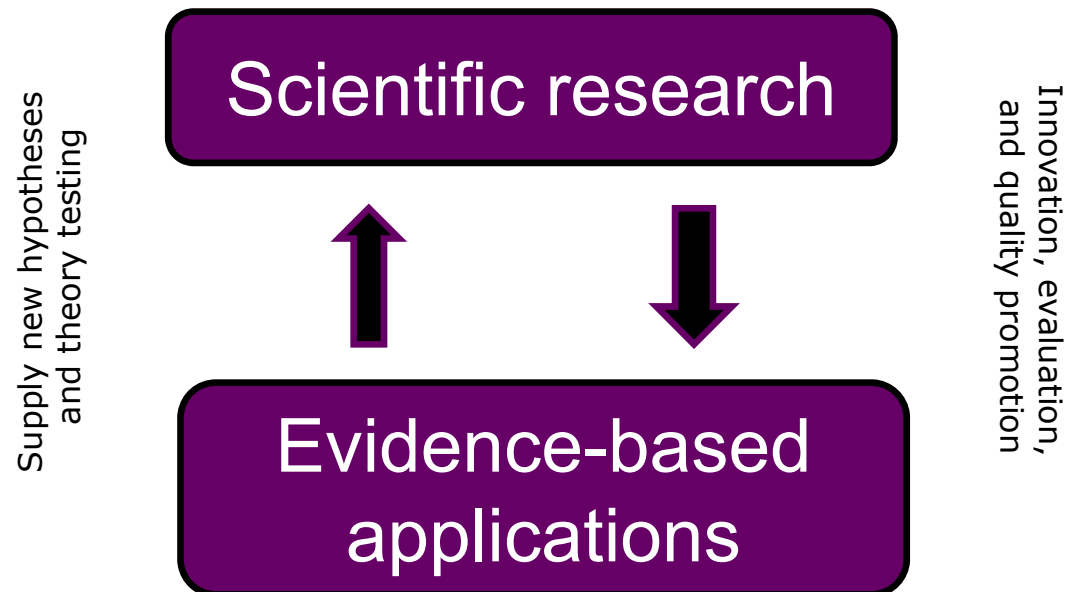
Multidisciplinary Center of Expertise for the prevention, diagnostics and treatment of hyperventilation, stress-related disorders and persistent somatic symptoms



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# MISSION

**Expanding scientific knowledge** in our field of expertise, **knowledge dissemination** and **translation** of evidence-based findings into **healthcare** and **company** applications





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# DIVISIONS

- Tumi Science
- Tumi Care
- Tumi B2B





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# Tumi Science

Scientist- practitioner bridge



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# **REVAL Pain, Fatigue and Persistent Somatic Symptoms**

## **Health and Rehabilitation Psychology (HRP)**



**FACULTY OF  
REHABILITATION  
SCIENCES**

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**Since 2018**

# Team

## Lead scientist (PI):

Prof. dr. Katleen Bogaerts

## Post-doctoral researchers:

dr. Maaïke Van Den Houte

dr. Stef Feijen

## PhD students:

Indra Ramakers

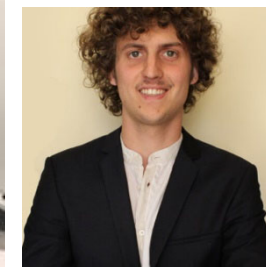
Ynse Doods

Sofie Van Wesemael

Joanna Mourad

Gianluca Florio

Tara Petzke (visiting)





# Research topic

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# Mission

## Main focus:

To identify underlying mechanisms of *stress-related and/or persistent somatic symptoms in daily life*, and to translate into (2) treatment components, and (3) interventions for primary prevention

*Key words:* stress – burnout – chronic pain – fibromyalgia – chronic fatigue – tinnitus – dizziness – dyspnea – hyperventilation

# PSYCHO - PHYSIOLOGY LAB



## RESEARCH DOMAINS

- Pain
- Fatigue
- Persistent somatic symptoms



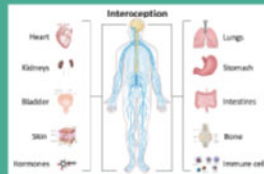
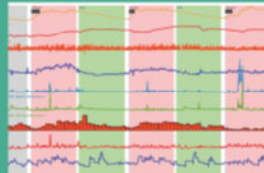
## RESEARCH METHODS





- Capnography
- Stress reactivity tasks
- Respiratory set-ups
- Interoception and symptom perception
- Stress-physiology measures
- Pain measures

## MANIPULATIONS

- Visual, auditory, affective, cognitive, tactile, temperature, pain
- Respiratory loads & occlusions, CO2 inhalation, rebreathing, ...



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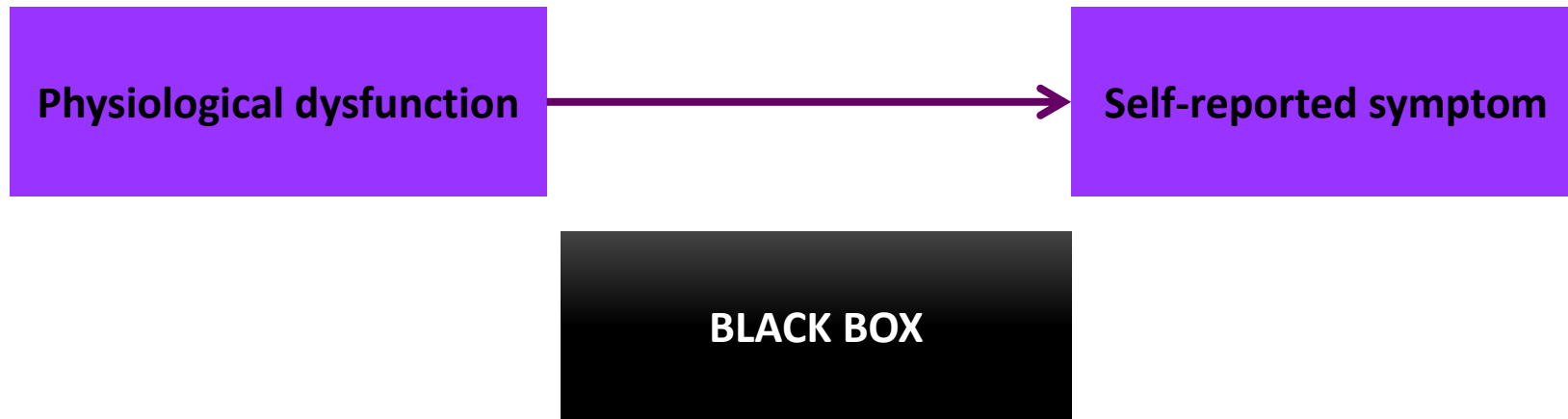
# DUALISM OF DESCARTES

Body versus mind





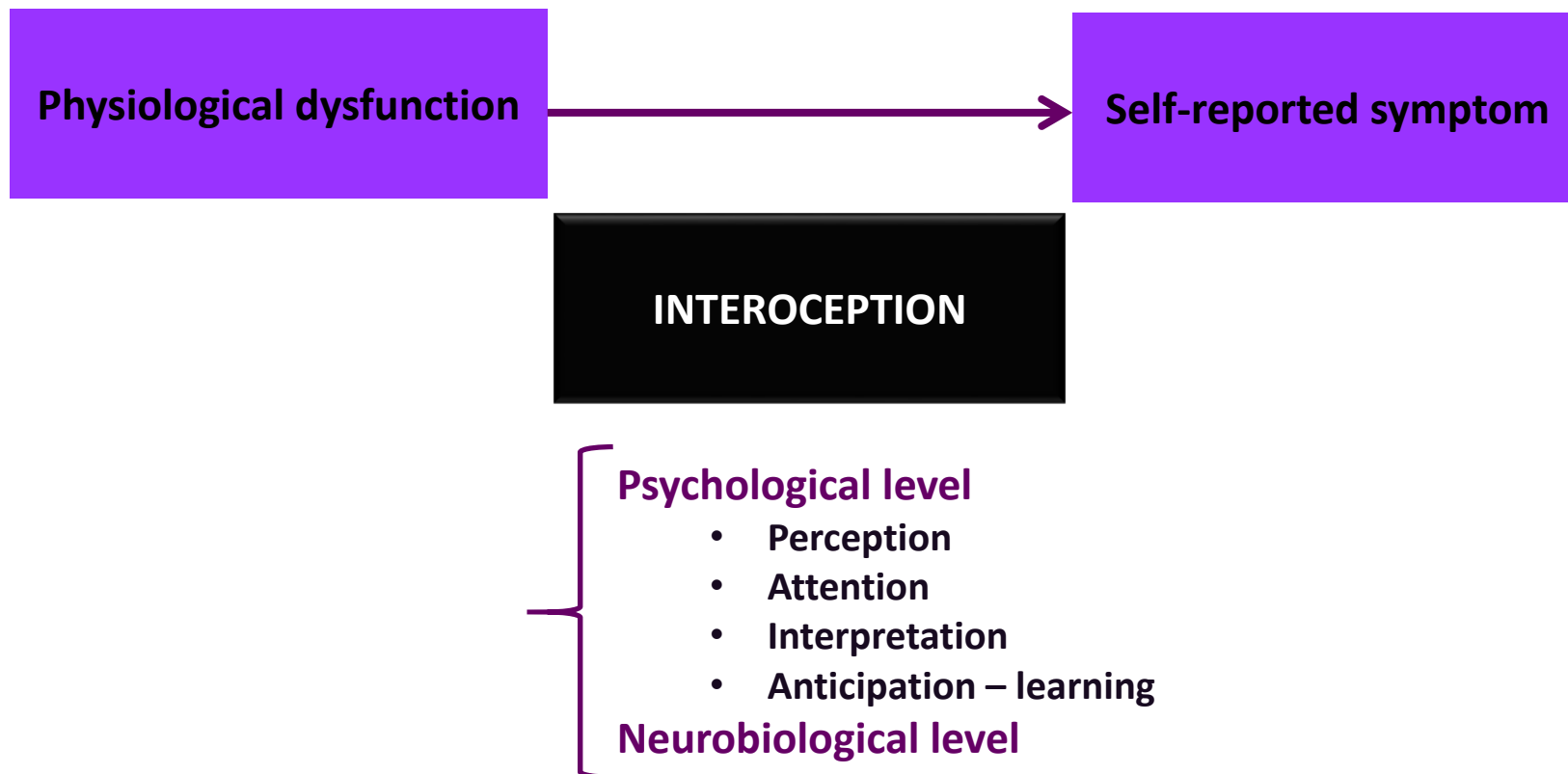
# ONE-ON-ONE CORRESPONDENCE?



**Brain: passive conduit?**



# NO ONE-ON-ONE CORRESPONDENCE





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# SYMPTOM REPORTING

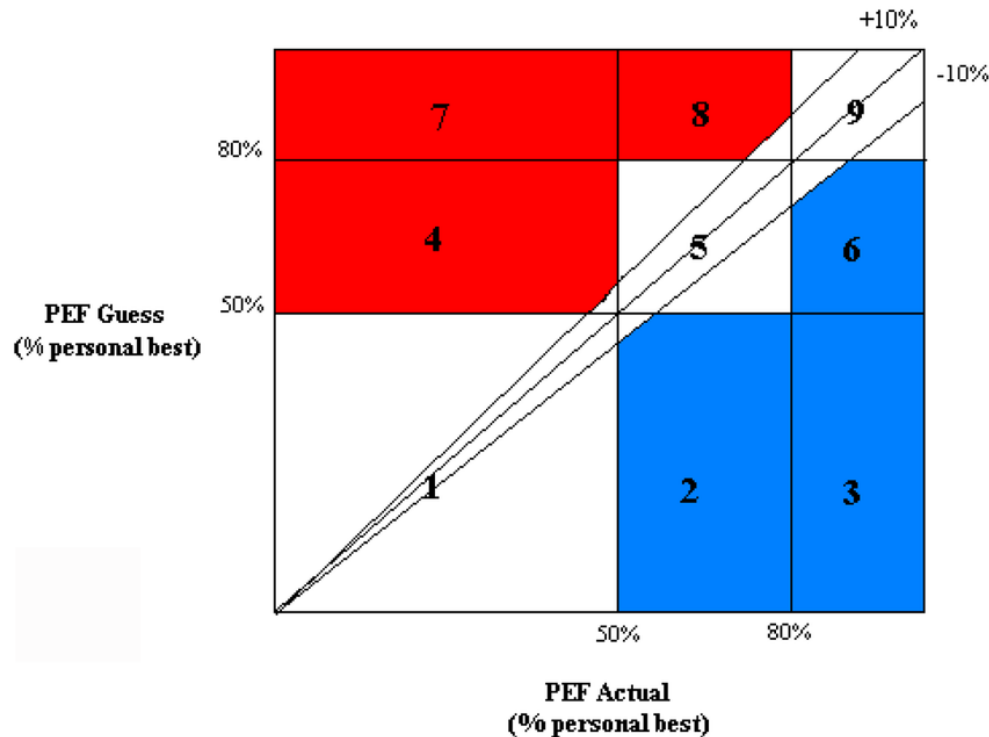
## **Self-reported health complaints**

are always the result of a **complex integration** in the brain of afferent signals from the body (**bottom-up**) and perceptual-cognitive and affective (**top-down**) processes



# HOW WELL DOES THE TRANSLATION WORK?

*Also in well-known organic diseases there is no strict one-on-one relationship, cfr. Asthma*



*Asthma Risk Grid, Klein et al., 2004*





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# HOW WELL DOES THE TRANSLATION WORK?

*In at least 1 / 3<sup>th</sup> of all medical contacts a sufficient explanation in terms of a clearly defined organic disease is absent*



**Medically Unexplained Symptoms (MUS)  
Functional Physical Complaints  
Persistent Somatic Symptoms**



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# FUNCTIONAL DISORDERS



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## Specialismen

## Diagnose

Cardiologie

Gynaecologie

Reumatologie

Pneumologie

Neurologie

Gastroenterologie

Allergie en klinische  
immunologie

Neus-, Keel-, en Oorziekten

Tandheelkunde

Psychiatrie

Algologisch centrum;  
Orthopedie; Fysische  
geneeskunde en revalidatie

Inwendige geneeskunde

Militaire geneeskunde

Atypische pijn op de borst

Chronische pelvische pijn

Fibromyalgie; Spasmodie

Chronisch hyperventilatiesyndroom

Spanningshoofdpijn; Functionele neurologische  
stoornis

Prikkelbare darmsyndroom; Functionele dyspepsie;  
Chronische idiopathische misselijkheid

Idiopathische omgevingsintolerantie; Multipele  
Chemische Sensitiviteit; Elektrogevoeligheid

Globus syndroom; Chronische tinnitus en hyperacusis

Temporomandibulaire dysfunctie; Atypische  
gezichtspijn

Conversiestoornis; Somatische-symptoomstoornis en  
verwante stoornissen

Chronische lage rugpijn; Chronisch whiplash syndroom

Chronisch vermoeidheidssyndroom

Golfsyndroom; Balkansyndroom



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# RESTRICTIONS OF A WITHIN-SYSTEM APPROACH





# IMPLICATIONS



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- ❖ Absenteïsm and presenteïsm
- ❖ Frustrated doctors and patients
- ❖ Overconsumption of health care services
- ❖ Controversial discussions in media  
"Are the symptoms real or are they between the ears?"

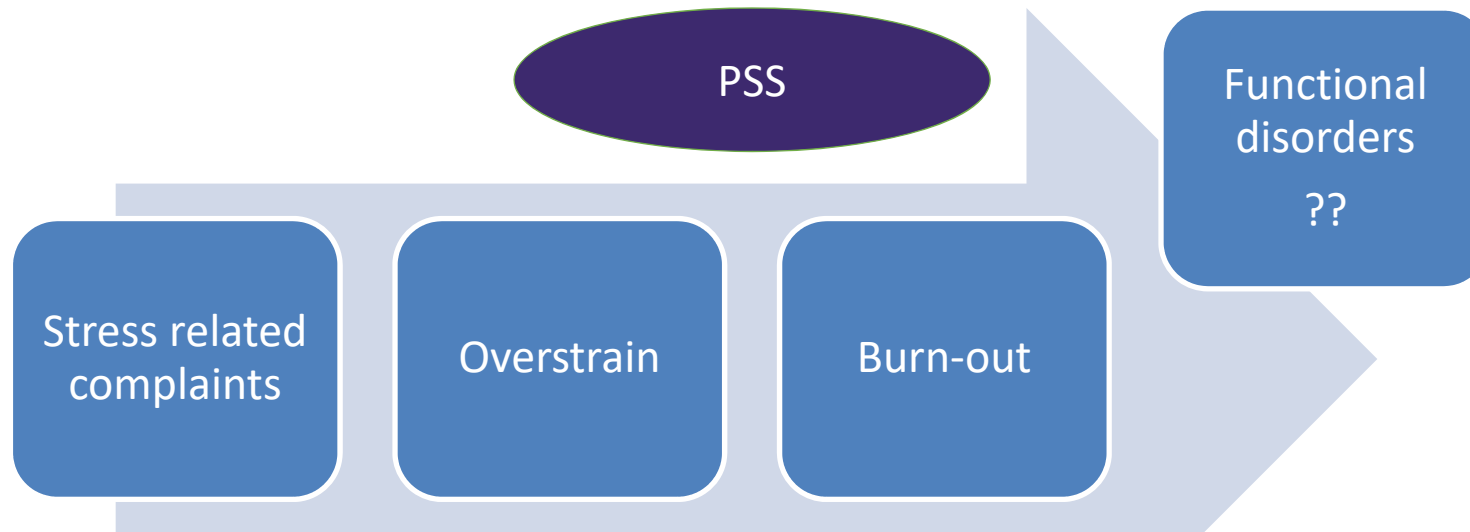


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# Towards an integrative model



*Netherlands Society of Occupational Medicine, 2011; Terluin et al., 2005; Van Der Klink & Van Dijk, 2003*

- Chronicity
- Comorbidity
- Specificity/generalisation

*Ramakers et al., 2022*



# UNDERLYING MECHANISMS

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## Biomedical Research

- Immune function
- Central Nervous System
- Autonomic Nervous System
- Microbiota
- (Epi)genetic factors
- ....

?



## Psychosocial Research

- Chronic stress
- Personality traits
- Aversive experiences
- Symptom perception
- Learning processes
- Maintaining factors
- ....



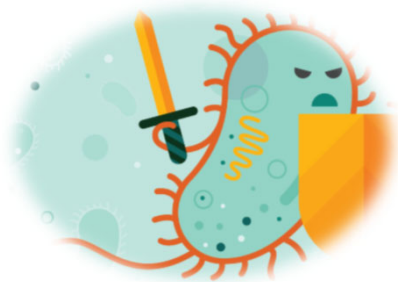
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# CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME



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Immune system  
dysregulation



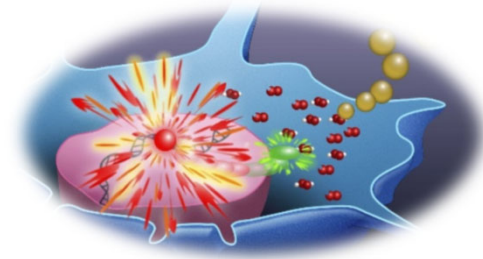
Endocrine dysfunction



Changes in Central  
Nervous System



Oxidative stress





# Methods

- **Stress reactivity** (on a subjective, physiological and neurobiological level, in the lab as well as in daily life)
- **Symptom perception** (experimental induction of symptoms such as pain, fatigue, dizziness, dyspnea by use of standardized research paradigms)
- **Interoception** (how accurate are people in perceiving internal signals from their bodies) and **proprioception** (how accurate are people in perceiving the position, motion and equilibrium of their body)
- **Optimalisation of interventions for treatment and prevention** (CBT interventions, biofeedback, bodily perception accuracy training, VR applications, wearables, digital health, ...)



# Methods

## Stress reactivity

Inducing stress in het lab:



PURPLE YELLOW RED  
BLACK RED GREEN  
RED YELLOW ORANGE  
BLUE PURPLE BLACK  
RED GREEN ORANGE

Cognitive tasks



Emotional talk

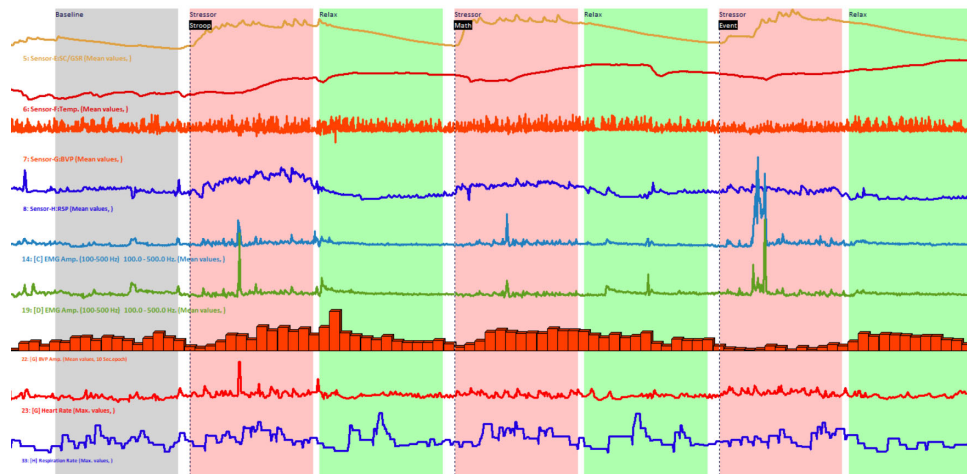
Negative feedback



# Methods

## Stress reactivity

Measuring stress reactivity in the lab:



**Autonomic nervous system**



**Cortisol in saliva**



**Neuroimaging**

## Methods

### **Stress reactivity**

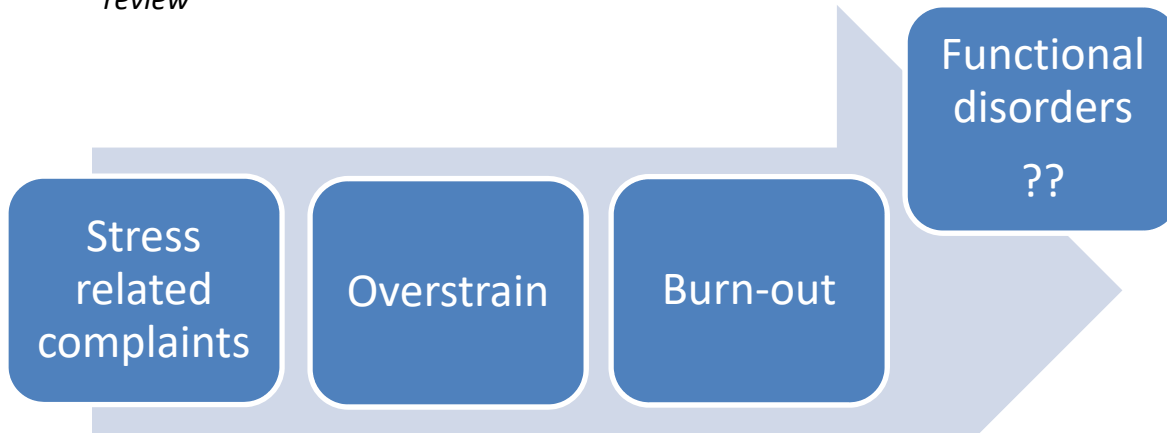
Measurement of stress reactivity in daily life (ESM):





Our results showed a dominance of the SNS regarding HR and SC in SRS and FSS patients compared to HC, suggesting the presence of ANS dysfunctionalities as a transdiagnostic underlying working mechanism

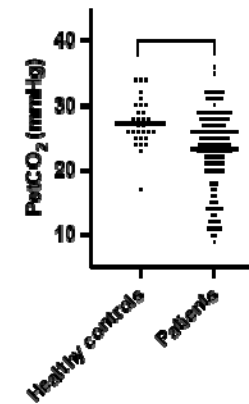
*Ramakers et al., 2021, Clin Exp Rheumatol; Van Den Houte et al., under review*



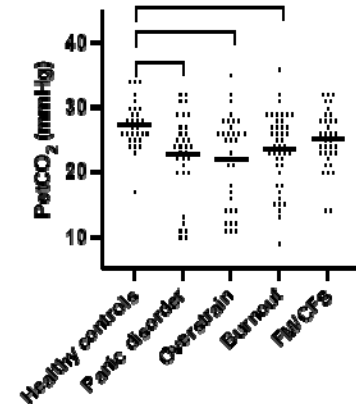
## Comparing task-induced psychophysiological responses between persons with stress-related complaints and healthy controls: A methodological pilot study

Elena Smets<sup>1,2</sup> | Giuseppina Schiavone<sup>3</sup> | Emmanuel Rios Velazquez<sup>3</sup> | Walter De Raedt<sup>2</sup> | Katleen Bogaerts<sup>4,5</sup> | Ilse Van Diest<sup>5</sup> | Chris Van Hoof<sup>1,2,3</sup>

2.A



2.B



Taken together, our results suggest: 1) an overactive respiratory system to be a possible transdiagnostic underlying factor of overstrain, burnout, and panic disorder, and 2) the presence of a less active respiratory fight-flight response in the more chronic and severe functional syndromes (FM/CFS).

*Ramakers et al., 2022, Appl Psychophysiol Biofeedback*



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# HYPERVENTILATION IN CLBP



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Gait & Posture

Volume 107, January 2024, Pages 253-268



## The association between pain-related psychological variables and postural control in low back pain: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Sofie Van Wesemael<sup>a,1</sup>  , Katleen Bogaerts<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Liesbet De Baets<sup>c</sup>, Nina Goossens<sup>a</sup>, Elke Vlemincx<sup>b,d</sup>, Charlotte Amerijckx<sup>a</sup>, Suniya Sohail<sup>a,e</sup>, Thomas Matheve<sup>a,f,2</sup>, Lotte Janssens<sup>a,2</sup>



Breathing interventions for spinal pain and disability: a systematic review and discussion on underlying working mechanisms.

Sofie Van Wesemael (\*), Lotte Janssens (\*), Charlotte Amerijckx, Nina Goossens, Sim Klaps, Elke Vlemincx, (\*\*), & Katleen Bogaerts (\*\*)

*“Hyperventilation in patients with non-specific chronic low back pain (LBP)”*



## Biomedical Research

- Immune function
- Central Nervous System
- Autonomic Nervous System
- Microbiota
- (Epi)genetic factors
- ....

?



## Psychosocial Research

- Chronic stress
- Personality traits
- Aversive experiences
- Symptom perception
- Learning processes
- Maintaining factors
- ....

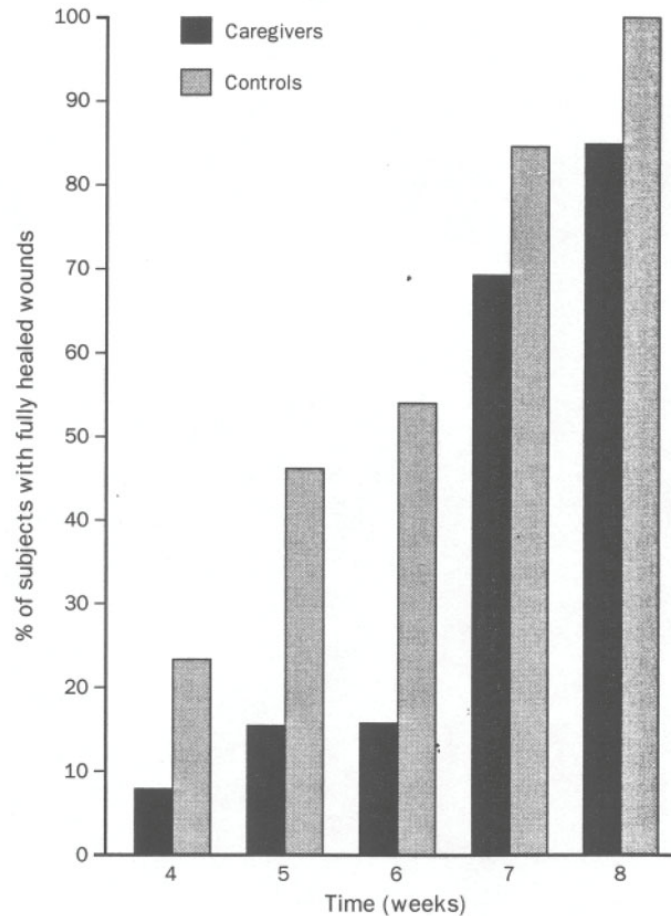


# CHRONIC STRESS

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*Generaal E, Vogelzangs N, Macfarlane GJ, Geenen R, Smit JH, de Geus EJ, Penninx BW, Dekker J 2016 Biological stress systems, adverse life events and the onset of chronic multisite musculoskeletal pain :a 6-year cohort study. Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases 75: 847–854*

*Melzack's body-self neuromatrix model of pain. From "Pain and the Neuromatrix in the Brain," by R. Melzack, 2001, Journal of Dental Education, 65, p. 1382.*

Figure 1: Percentage of caregivers and controls whose wounds had healed with time  
Range 24–68 days.





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## EARLY ADVERSE LIFE EXPERIENCES



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*Ladd, C.O., Huot, R.L., Thrivikraman, K.V., Nemeroff, C.B., Meaney, M.J., & Plotsky, P.M. (2000). Long-term behavioral and neuroendocrine adaptations to adverse early experience. Progress in Brain Research, 122, 81-103.*

*Häuser, W., Kosseva, M., Uceyler, N., Klose, P., & Sommer, C. (2011). Emotional, physical, and sexual abuse in fibromyalgia syndrome: A systematic review with meta-analysis. Arthritis Care and Research, 63(6), 808-820.*

*Afari, N., Ahumada, S.M., Wright, L.J., Mostoufi, S., Golnari, G., Reis, V., & Cuneo, J.G. (2014). Psychological trauma and functional somatic syndromes: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Psychosomatic Medicine, 76(1), 2-11.*

*Oliveira, P., & Costa, M.E. (2009). Interrelationships of adult attachment orientations, health status and worrying among fibromyalgia patients. Journal of Health Psychology, 14(8), 1184-1195.*

*Meredith, P., Ownsworth, T., & Strong, J. (2008). A review of the evidence linking adult attachment theory and chronic pain: Presenting a conceptual model. Clinical Psychology Review, 28(3), 407-429.*



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# ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES IN CFS



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**Table 2. Logistic Regression Models Estimating the Likelihood of Having Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Relative to Childhood Trauma Exposure<sup>a</sup>**

Predictor	No. (%) Over Cutoff <sup>b</sup>		OR (95% CI)	P Value <sup>c</sup>
	Individuals With CFS (n=106)	Well Control Subjects (n=122)		
Any category				
Yes	66 (62.3)	29 (23.8)	5.6 (3.1-10.0)	<.001
No	40 (37.7)	93 (76.2)	1 [Reference]	
Emotional abuse				
Yes	35 (33.0)	9 (7.4)	6.4 (2.9-14.3)	<.001
No	71 (67.0)	113 (92.6)	1 [Reference]	
Physical abuse				
Yes	35 (33.0)	12 (9.8)	4.7 (2.6-9.7)	<.001
No	71 (67.0)	110 (90.2)	1 [Reference]	
Sexual abuse				
Yes	35 (33.0)	13 (10.7)	4.2 (2.0-8.6)	<.001
No	71 (67.9)	109 (89.3)	1 [Reference]	
Emotional neglect				
Yes	27 (25.5)	11 (9.0)	3.5 (1.6-7.6)	.001
No	79 (74.5)	111 (91.0)	1 [Reference]	
Physical neglect				
Yes	26 (24.5)	6 (4.9)	6.5 (2.5-16.7)	<.001
No	80 (75.5)	116 (95.1)	1 [Reference]	

## **The Need for Controllability and Predictability questionnaire: Psychometric properties and first findings in a clinical sample**

Indra Ramakers<sup>1</sup> MSc (indra.ramakers@uhasselt.be)

Riet Fonteyne<sup>2</sup> PhD (riet.fonteyne@asster.be)

Marta Walentynowicz<sup>3,4</sup> PhD (marta.walentynowicz@kuleuven.be)

Lukas Van Oudenhove<sup>2,6,7</sup> MD, PhD (lukas.vanoudenhove@kuleuven.be)

Maaïke Van Den Houte<sup>1,5</sup> PhD (maaike.vandenhoute@uhasselt.be)

Katleen Bogaerts<sup>1,8,9</sup> PhD (katleen.bogaerts@uhasselt.be)

## **The Interoceptive Sensitivity and Attention Questionnaire: Evaluating Aspects of Self-Reported Interoception in Patients With Persistent Somatic Symptoms, Stress-Related Syndromes, and Healthy Controls**

Katleen Bogaerts, PhD, Marta Walentynowicz, PhD, Maaïke Van Den Houte, PhD, Elena Constantinou, PhD, and Omer Van den Bergh, PhD



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www.sciencedirect.com

Elsevier Masson France  
**EM|consulte**  
www.em-consulte.com



Review

## Are contextual factors associated with activities and participation after total hip arthroplasty? A systematic review

Abner Sergooris<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jonas Verbrugghe<sup>a</sup>, Liesbet De Baets<sup>b,g</sup>, Mira Meeus<sup>c,g</sup>, Nathalie Roussel<sup>c,g</sup>, Rob J.E.M. Smeets<sup>d,e,g</sup>, Katleen Bogaerts<sup>a,f</sup>, Annick Timmermans<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> REVAL Rehabilitation Research, Faculty of Rehabilitation Sciences, UHasselt, Diepenbeek, Belgium

<sup>b</sup> Department of Physiotherapy, Human Physiology and Anatomy, Faculty of Physical Education and Physiotherapy, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium

<sup>c</sup> Department Rehabilitation Sciences and Physiotherapy (MOVANT), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Antwerp University, Antwerp, Belgium

<sup>d</sup> Department Rehabilitation Medicine, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands

<sup>e</sup> Research School CAPHRI and CIR Revalidatie, Eindhoven, the Netherlands

<sup>f</sup> Department Health Psychology, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>g</sup> Pain in Motion Research Group (PAIN), Belgium



BMC Musculoskeletal  
Disorders

Open Access



## Clinical phenotypes and prognostic factors in persons with hip osteoarthritis undergoing total hip arthroplasty: protocol for a longitudinal prospective cohort study (HIPPROCLIPS)

Abner Sergooris<sup>1\*</sup>, Jonas Verbrugghe<sup>1</sup>, Thomas Matheve<sup>1,2</sup>, Maaïke Van Den Houte<sup>1,3</sup>, Bruno Bonnechère<sup>1</sup>, Kristoff Corten<sup>4,5</sup>, Katleen Bogaerts<sup>1,6</sup> and Annick Timmermans<sup>1</sup>

# Methods

- **Stress reactivity** (on a subjective, physiological and neurobiological level, in the lab as well as in daily life)
- **Symptom perception** (experimental induction of symptoms such as pain, fatigue, dizziness, dyspnea by use of standardized research paradigms)
- **Interoception** (how accurate are people in perceiving internal signals from their bodies) and **proprioception** (how accurate are people in perceiving the position, motion and equilibrium of their body)
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## Methods

### Symptom perception

→ By experimentally inducing, in the lab, physical symptoms and investigating how participants react subjectively and (neuro)physiologically

*Pain*



*Dyspnea*



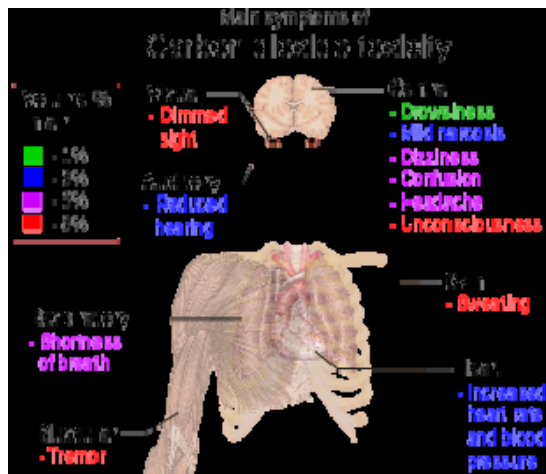
*Fatigue*



# Experimental dyspnea induction



Respiratory flow resistors

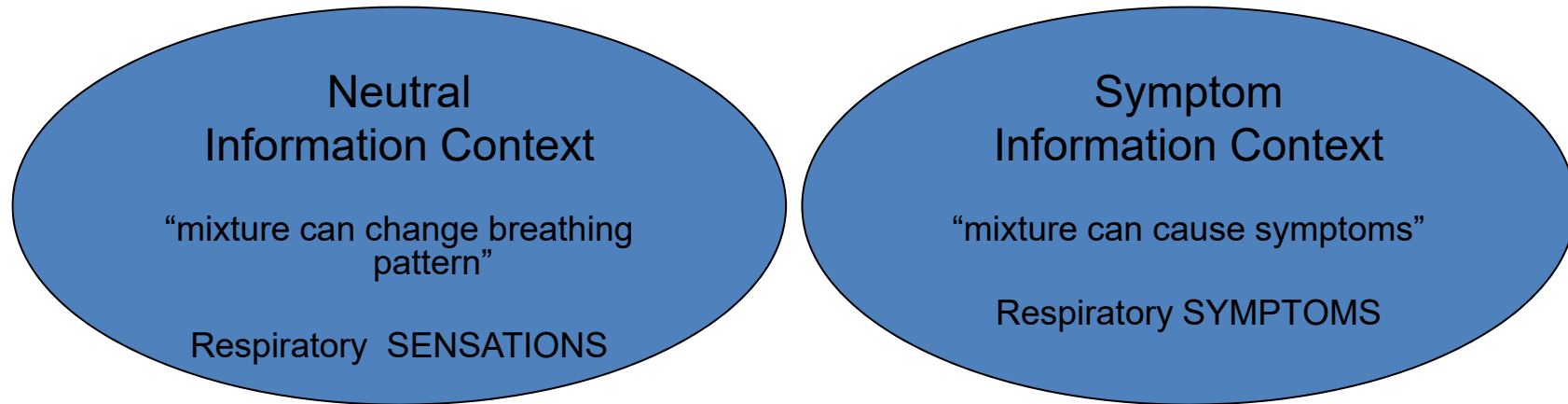


CO<sub>2</sub> inhalation



Rebreathing test

# Rebreathing test (Bogaerts et al., JPR, 2008)



Switch to rebreathing bag

Switch to room air

Basislijn (60 sec)	Rebreathing (150 sec)	Recovery (150 sec)
-----------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------

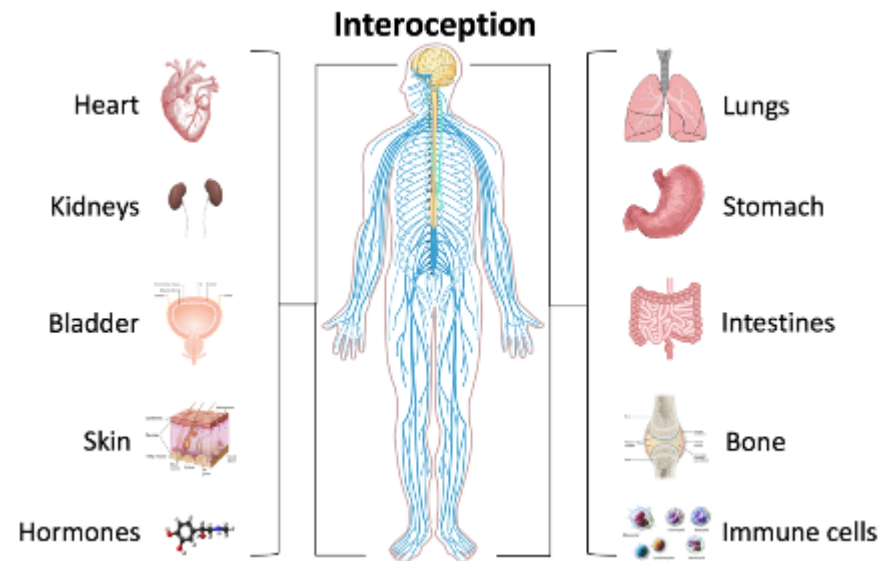
Online subjective and respiratory measures  
(correspondance measure)



## Methods

### Interoception

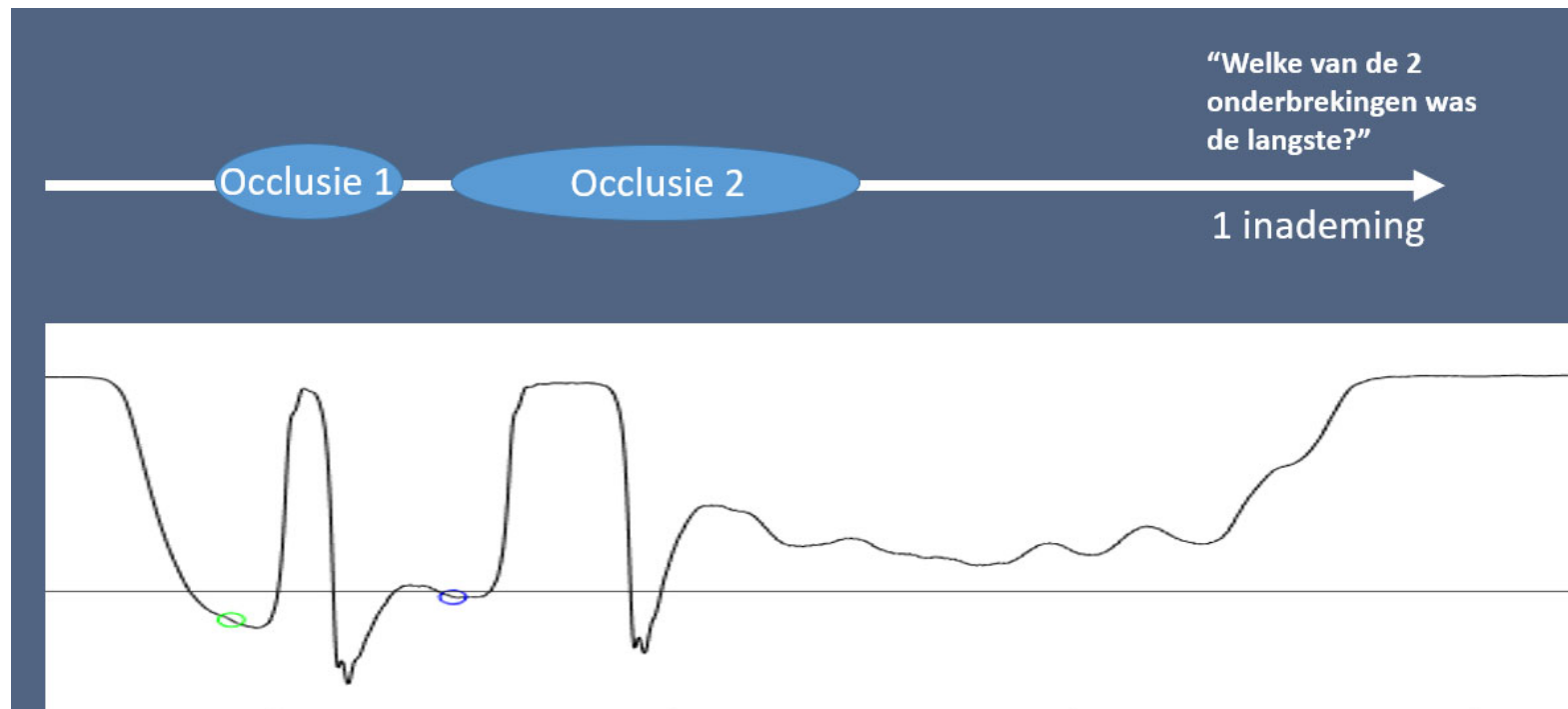
Accuracy tasks, in which a (non-aversive) physical sensation/change is induced, and is tested how accurate participants are in the perception of these changes



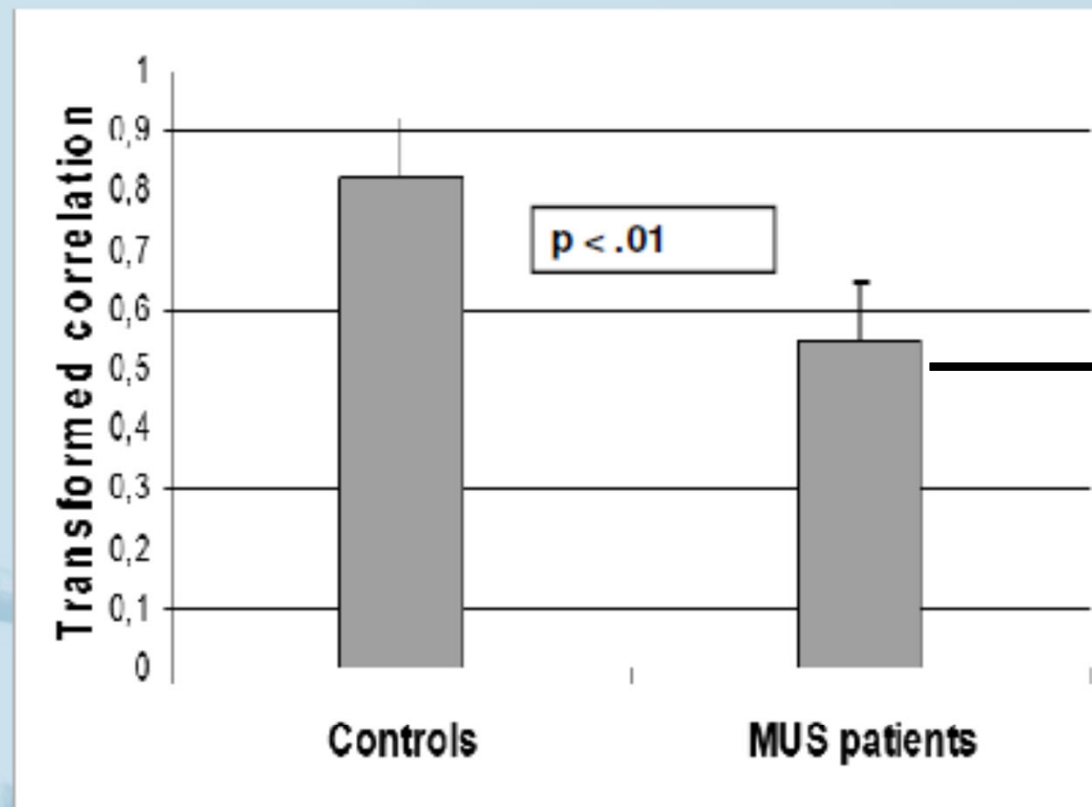
## Methods

**ROD task** (Van Den Houte et al., Psychophysiology, 2021)

F.e. : accuracy of estimation of the length of short respiratory occlusions (interoceptive detection)



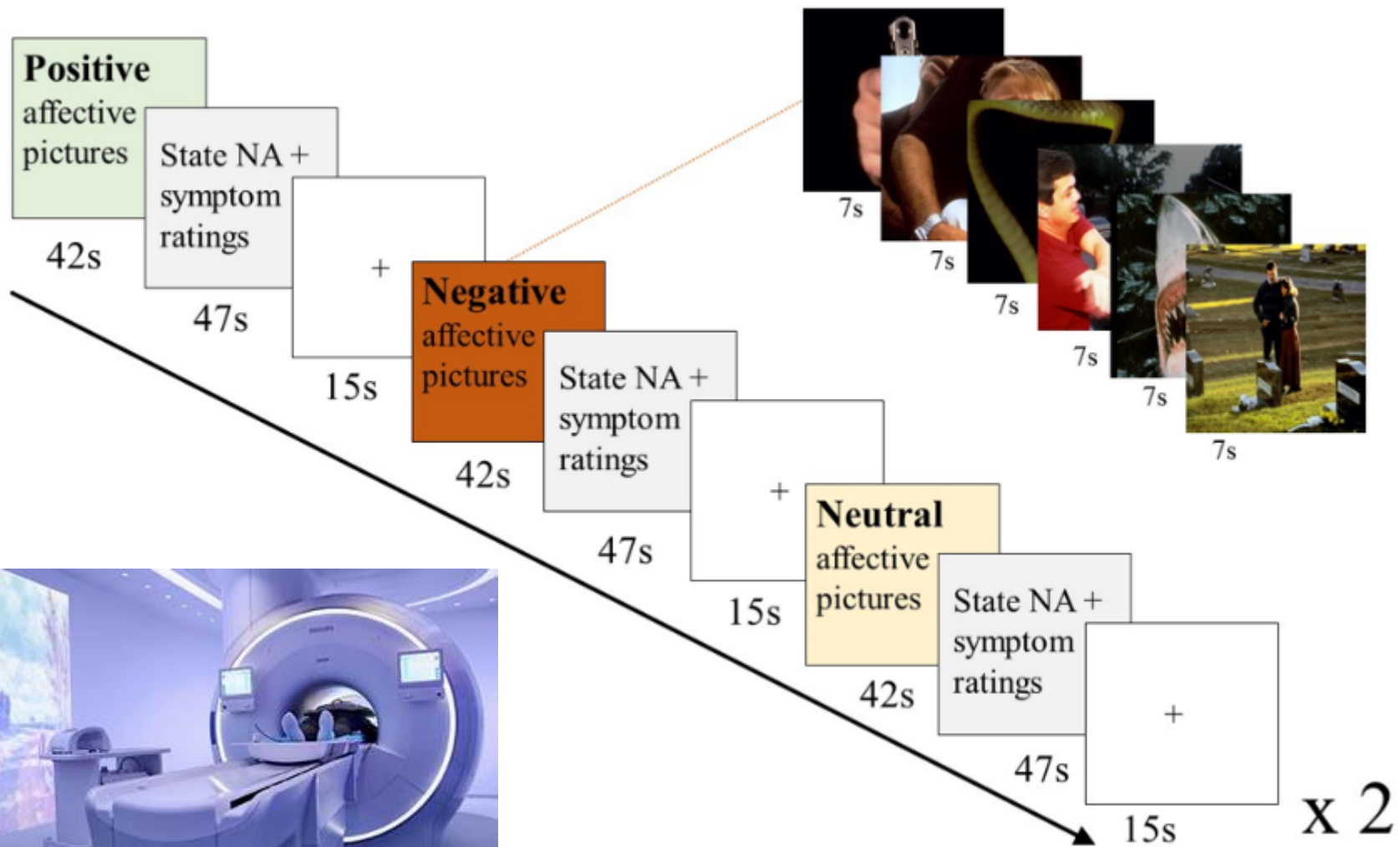
# Clinical somatizing patients

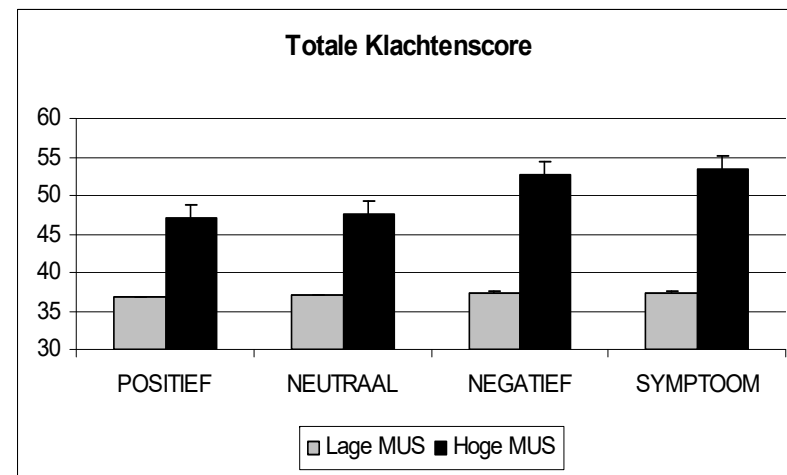
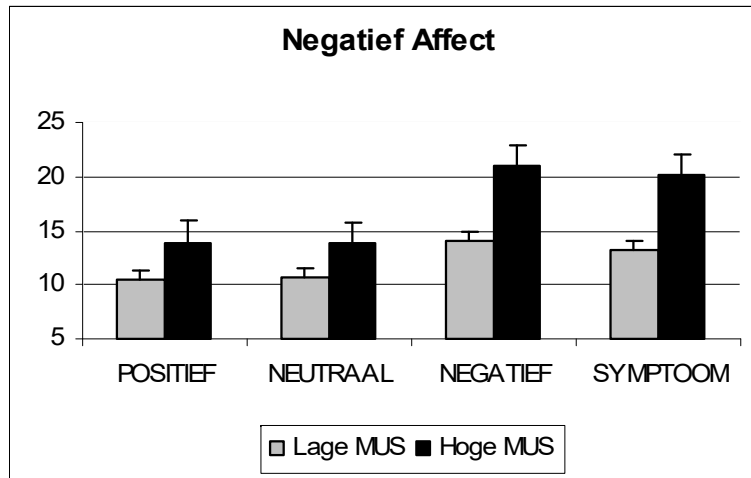


Contrast **objective** interoceptive accuracy and **self-reported** interoceptive sensibility in patients with FD

(ISAQ, Bogaerts et al., Psychosom Med, 2022)

# Affective picture paradigm (APP; Bogaerts et al., 2010)

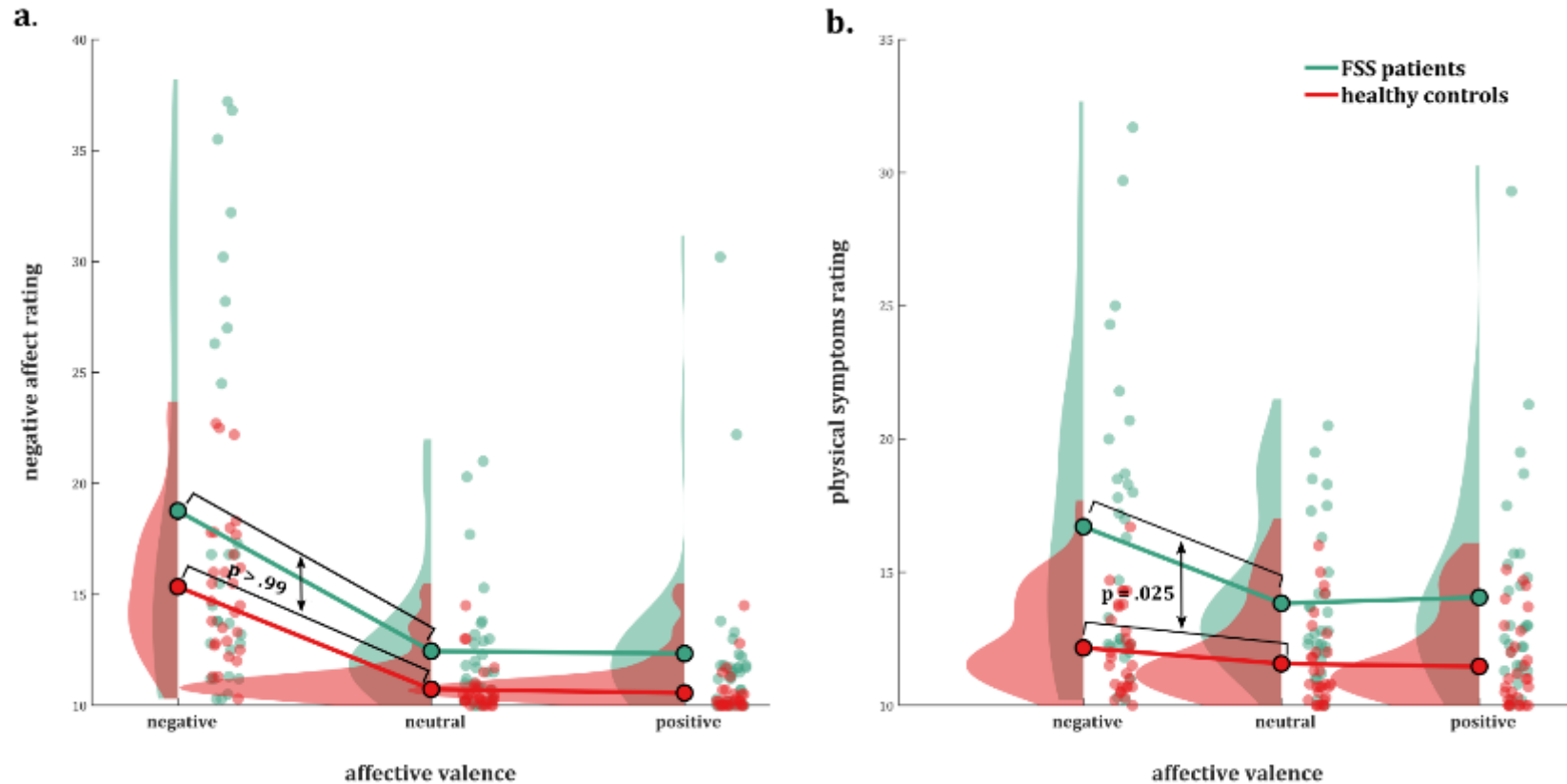




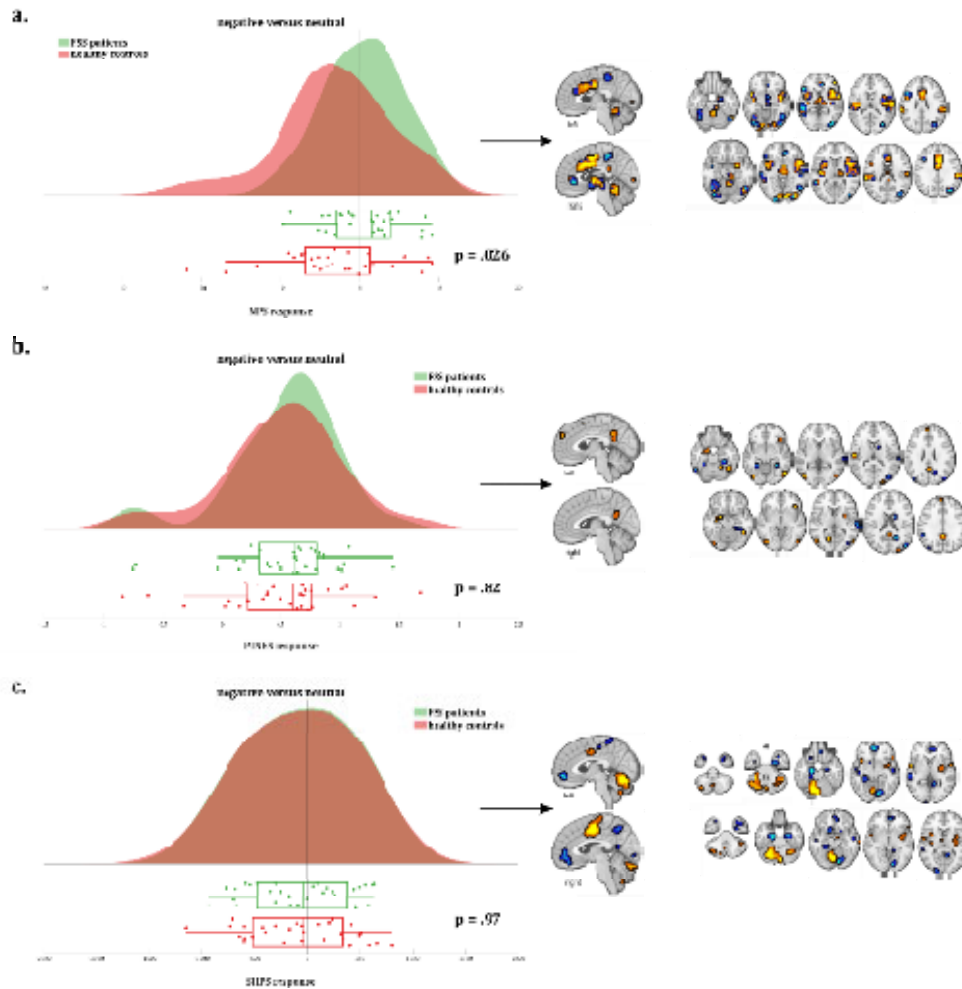
Mere viewing of negative pictures, disregarded of their reference to symptoms, caused significant increases in self-reported symptoms in high MUS versus low MUS persons, and this without group differences in peripheral physiological activity

*Bogaerts et al., 2010, Psychology & Health*

We replicated that negative – compared to neutral – pictures cause more physical symptoms (pain, fatigue, cardiorespiratory, cerebral, gastrointestinal) in patients with FSS than in healthy controls (p=0.025).



Bogaerts, K. \*, Van Den Houte, M. \*, Jongen, D., Giau Ly, H., Coppens, E., Schruers, K., Van Diest, I., Tack, J., Van Wambeke, P., Petre, B., Kragel, P.A., Lindquist, M.A., Wager, T.D., Van Oudenhove, L. \*, & Van den Bergh, O\*. (2023). Brain mediators of negative affect-induced physical symptom reporting in patients with functional somatic syndromes. *Translational Psychiatry*.



Patients showed stronger activation in somatosensory regions and NPS activation during negative versus neutral pictures

NPS (neurologic pain signature), but not SIIPS (stimulus intensity-independent pain signature) and PINES (picture-induced negative emotion signature) responses were higher in patients than controls during negative versus neutral pictures.

Differential NPS responses mediated between-group differences in physical symptoms.

Bogaerts, K. \*, Van Den Houte, M. \*, Jongen, D., Giau Ly, H., Coppens, E., Schruers, K., Van Diest, I., Tack, J., Van Wambeke, P., Petre, B., Kragel, P.A., Lindquist, M.A., Wager, T.D., Van Oudenhove, L. \*, & Van den Bergh, O\*. (2023). Brain mediators of negative affect-induced physical symptom reporting in patients with functional somatic syndromes. *Translational Psychiatry*.

## Interoceptive accuracy and symptom perception are influenced by:

- Intensity of input
- Learning history, earlier aversive experiences

*Bogaerts et al., 2005, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2015; Constantinou et al., 2013, 2014, 2015, Van Den Houte et al., 2017, 2018, 2019*

## Distorted sensory-perceptual processing in negative contextual cues:

“Better safe than sorry” processing strategy  
at threat instead of extensive, detailed  
sensory-perceptual processing

*Van den Bergh et al., 2021*

negative  
affectieve  
cue ?



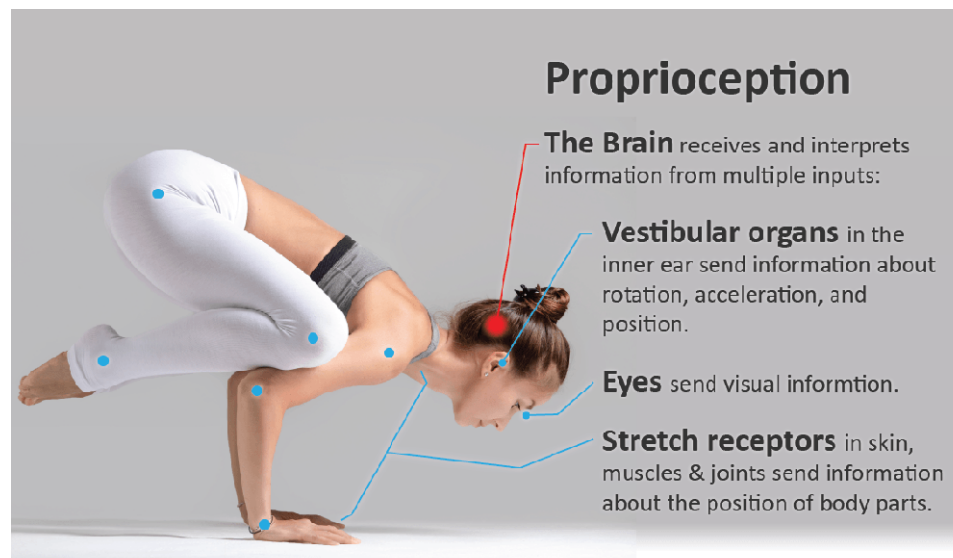
Rational for bodily perception accuracy training  
(perceptual differentiation of bodily sensations) and interoceptive  
exposure?



## Methods

### Proprioception

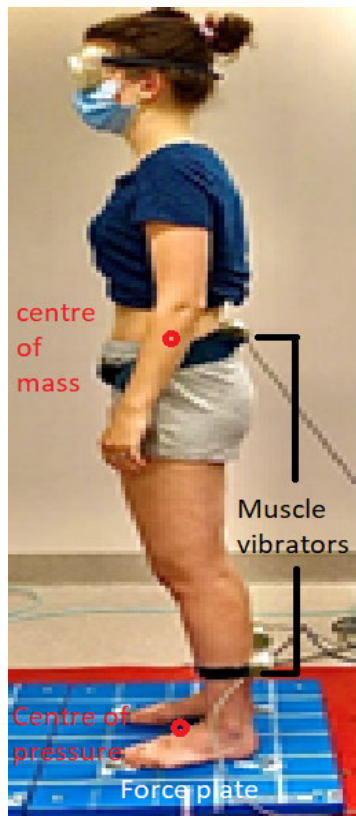
Accuracy task in which a change in body posture is induced and is tested how accurate participants are in perceiving the change



Ramakers, I. \*, Feijen, S. \*, Janssens, L., Meyns, P., Van Den Houte, M., Sercu, P., & Bogaerts, K. (under review). Proprioception in patients with fibromyalgia : A systematic review.

# Methods

## Proprioception



Postural control tasks



Joint position matching tasks

## MoveLab



Diagnostics, VR, biofeedback, sensomotory exercises (dizziness, pain, kinesiophobia, fear of falling, ...)



# Methods

- **Stress reactivity** (on a subjective, physiological and neurobiological level, in the lab as well as in daily life)
- **Symptom perception** (experimental induction of symptoms such as pain, fatigue, dizziness, dyspnea by use of standardized research paradigms)
- **Interoception** (how accurate are people in perceiving internal signals from their bodies) and **proprioception** (how accurate are people in perceiving the position, motion and equilibrium of their body)
- **Optimalisation of interventions for treatment and prevention** (CBT interventions, biofeedback, bodily perception accuracy training, VR applications, wearables, digital health, ...)



RESEARCH

Open Access

## Virtual reality distraction induces hypoalgesia in patients with chronic low back pain: a randomized controlled trial



Thomas Matheve<sup>1\*</sup>, Katleen Bogaerts<sup>1,2</sup> and Annick Timmermans<sup>1</sup>



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Lumbar range of motion in chronic low back pain is predicted by task-specific, but not by general measures of pain-related fear

Thomas Matheve , Liesbet De Baets, Katleen Bogaerts, Annick Timmermans

**Persistent physical fatigue in virtual reality:  
New paradigms to modify sensory input and priors and their clinical relevance.**



# Recent research projects

**FACULTY OF  
REHABILITATION  
SCIENCES**

**▶▶ UHASSELT**

# Stress prevention

Research focused on preventive, nature-based and/or technology-supported screening and interventions of stress (on the workplace) and the promotion of mental health

## 1. The effect of a nature-based multidisciplinary intervention program on the prevention of burnout



## 2. Interreg project: Healthy lifestyle in the EMR blue zone: an integrated preventive medicine approach



Meuse – Rhine (NL – BE – DE)

## 3. HORIZON-HLTH-2024 TEENSMART

Personalised prevention of non-communicable diseases

Submitted



Collaboration with **Tumi Therapeutics**

# Identification of underlying mechanisms and translation into treatment components

## 1. Detection of underlying working mechanisms of Medically Unexplained Symptoms (MUS) and its translation into treatment components

01/10/2020 - 30/09/2024

## 2. Body Schema in Adults with Autism

01/01/2023 - 31/12/2027

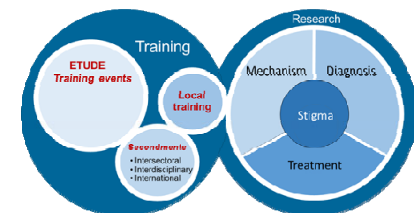
## 3. Cognitive, psychological, and physical functioning in long-covid patients with different levels of chronic fatigue

01/10/2021 - 30/09/2024

## 4. European Union's H2020 Project Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Training Group "ITN ETUDE" on the topic of functional disorders (956673)

01/01/2021 -31/12/2024

Project information: <https://etude-itn.eu/>



Collaboration with **Tumi Therapeutics**

# Identification of underlying mechanisms and translation into treatment components

**5. Hyperventilation in recurrent non-specific low back pain: a bottom-up and top-down perspective**

01/10/2021 - 30/09/2025

**6. Your smart performance: Understanding perceptive accuracy for motor performance to personalize task-specific training in people with multiple sclerosis.**

01/10/2023 - 30/09/2027

**7. Validation of the WAIS-5-NL in Flanders**

01/05/2024 – 01/03/2026

**8. Identifying (psycho)physiology-based subgroups in chronic fatigue syndrome and their relevance for rehabilitation**



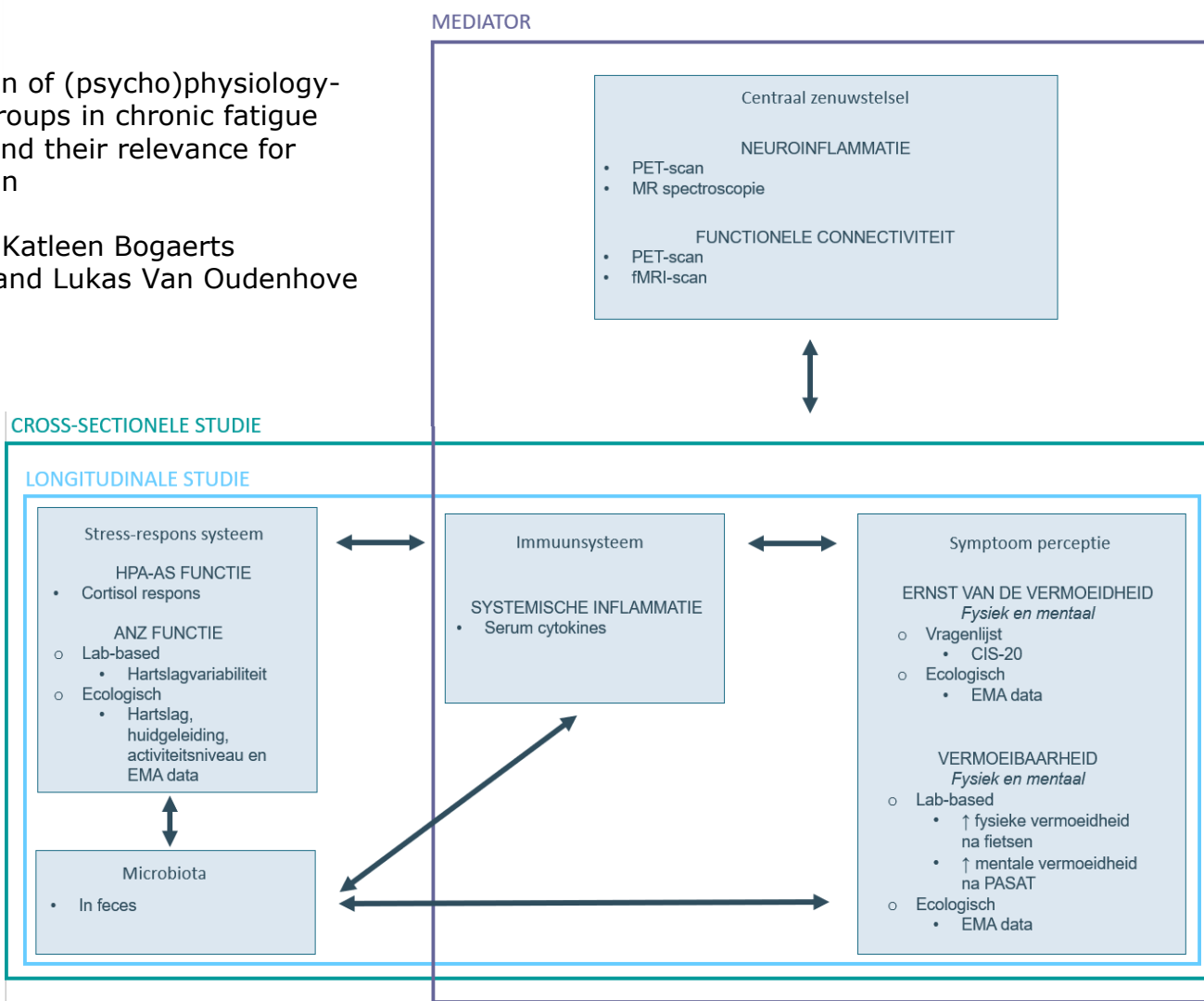
**FWO junior research project (G057921N)**

01/01/2021 - 31/12/2025



Identification of (psycho)physiology-based subgroups in chronic fatigue syndrome and their relevance for rehabilitation

Promotors: Katleen Bogaerts (UHasselt) and Lukas Van Oudenhove (KULeuven)





TUMI THERAPEUTICS

# Tumi Care



TUMI THERAPEUTICS

# BUSINESS OPERATION

- Multidisciplinary team (N = +30): clinical and health psychologists, child psychologists, trauma psychologists, diagnosticians, neuropsychologists, work and organizational psychologists, psychiatrists, physiotherapists, dieticians, remedial educationalists, sexuologists, relationship and family therapists, cognitive-behavioral therapists, HR specialists
- Five locations in Belgium (covering two provinces Vlaams-Brabant and Limburg)
- Expertise in diagnostics, stressphysiological measurements and state-of-the art prevention and treatment



TUMI THERAPEUTICS

# BUSINESS OPERATION

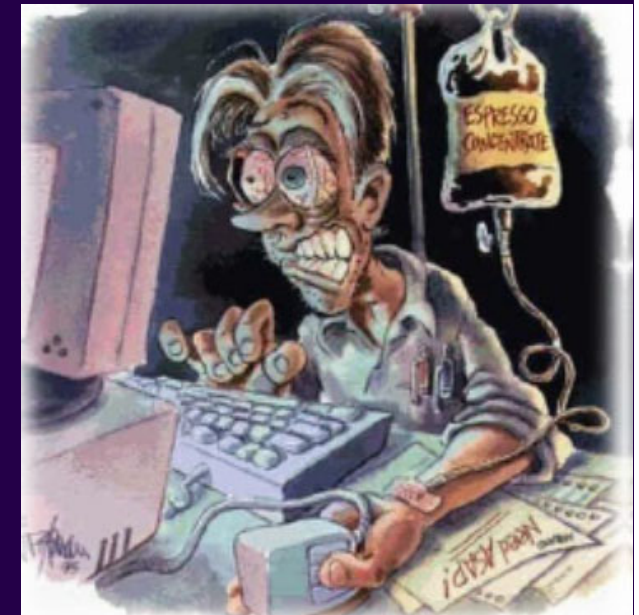
- Full focus on quality management
  - Academic post-graduates
  - Unique internal training program for all Tumi co-workers
- Commitment to qualitative, consistent, and innovative services
- High satisfaction rates in clients and referrers

# Target groups



## *A. Stress-related problems*

- Hyperventilation complaints
- Tension headache
- Overstrain
- Burn-out
- Stress in relation to:
  - Infertility
  - Relational problems
  - Chronic diseases
  - ...



# Target groups



## *B. Psychological problems*

- Sleeping disorders
- Panic disorder
- PTSD
- Hypochondria
- OCD
- Body dysmorphic disorder
- Trichotillomania
- Skin picking



# Target group



## *B. Psychological problems*

- Sexual problems
- Specific phobias
  - ✓ Asthenophobia
  - ✓ Emetophobia
  - ✓ Anginophobia
  - ✓ Algophobia
  - ✓ Claustrophobia
  - ✓ Medical phobia
  - ✓ Blood phobia



# Target group



## *C. Functional disorders*

- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
- Fibromyalgia
- Idiopathic Environmental Intolerance
  - ✓ *Multipel chemical sensitivity (MCS)*
  - ✓ *Electrosensitivity*
  - ✓ *Sick Building Syndrome*
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome; Functional dyspepsia; chronic idiopathic nausea; globus syndrome
- Chronic pelvic pain

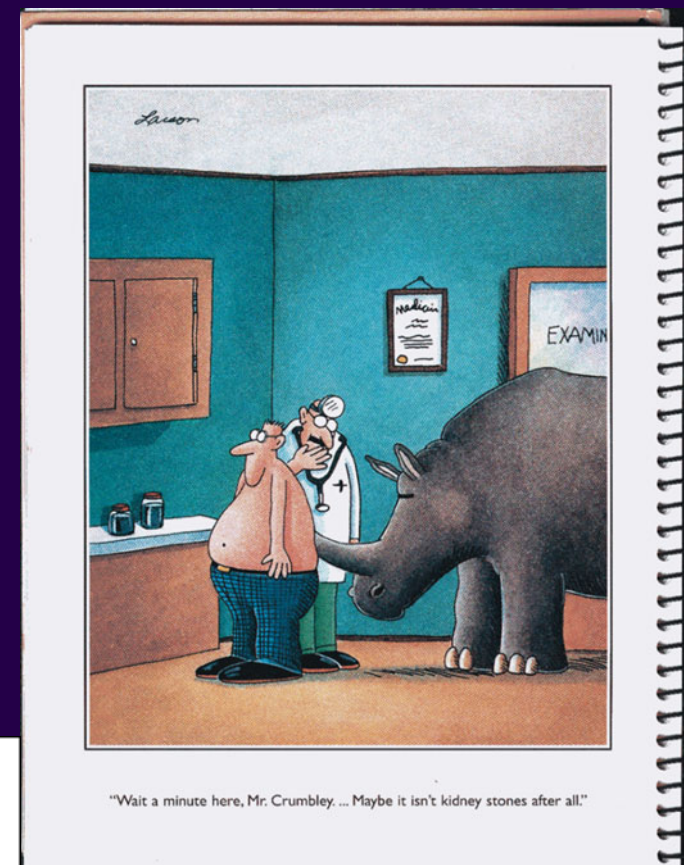


# Target group

## *C. Functional disorders*

- Chronic low back pain
- Chronic whiplash
- Atypical facial pain
- Temporomandibular dysfunction
- Chronic tinnitus and hyperacusis
- Functional Neurologic Symptom disorder

Wait a minute here, Mr. Crumbley, maybe its not kidney stones after all!





TUMI THERAPEUTICS

# DIAGNOSTIC PHASE

- **Diagnostic phase: 2 à 4 sessions**

- 1. Intake (1u) – diagnosticus**

- Anamnesis (SCEGS-model)
- Underlying mechanisms (cfr. Tumi working model)
- Differential diagnostics – psychiatric examination
- Comorbidities
- Physical examination and lab results; reports physical specialists
- Clinical examination physiotherapist

- 2. Stressphysiology (2u) – diagnosticus**

- *Optional*
- Stress reactivity (ANS) during standardized stress tests: PetCO<sub>2</sub>, HRV, SC, ST, EMG, HR, breathing parameters
- Psycho-education

- 3. (Standardized) Tumi questionnaire battery – at home by patient**

- 4. Treatment plan (1u) – diagnosticus**

- Shared-decision making



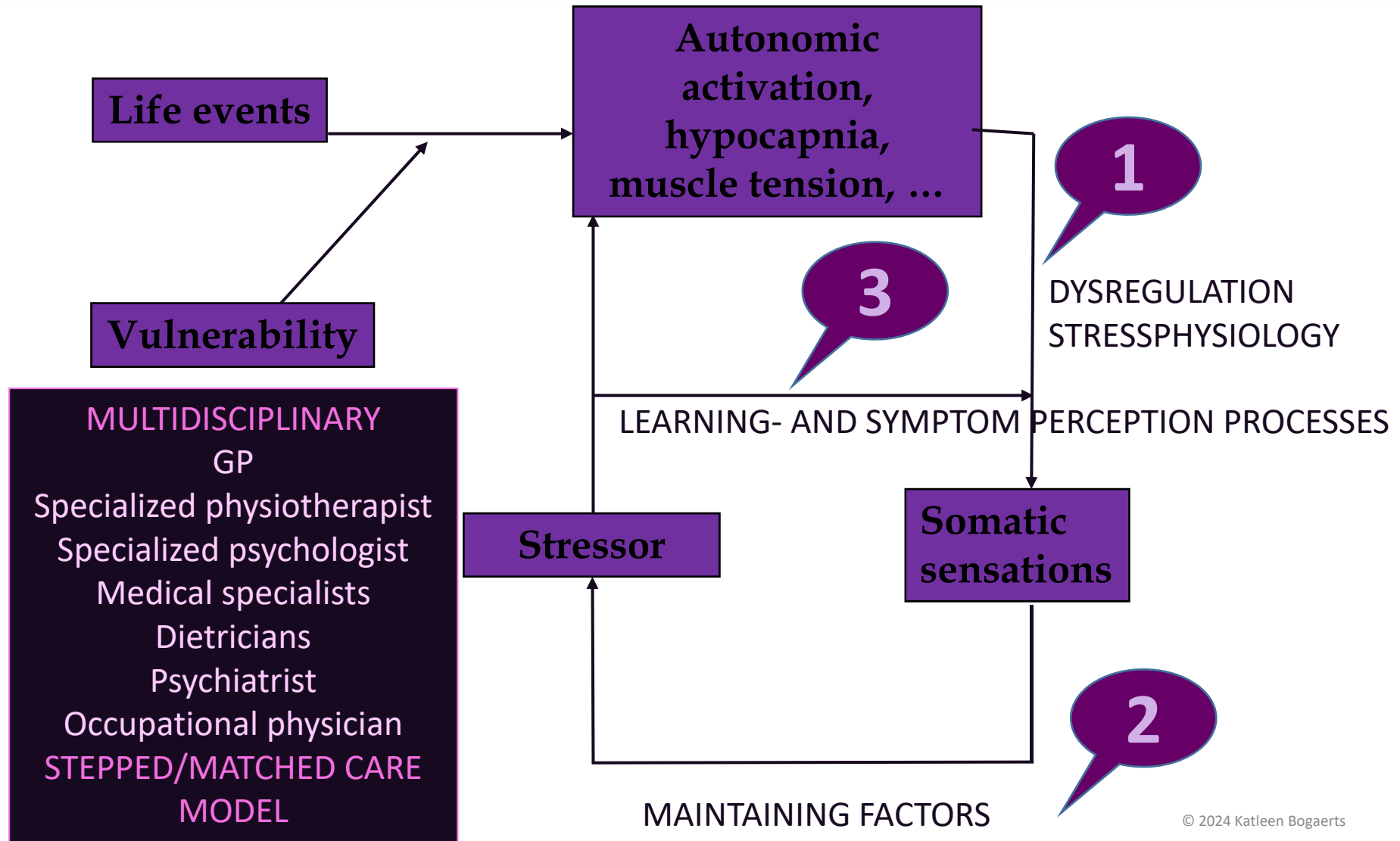
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# TUMI WORKING MODEL

(BOGAERTS ET AL., 2020)



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# What is a “difficult” patient?

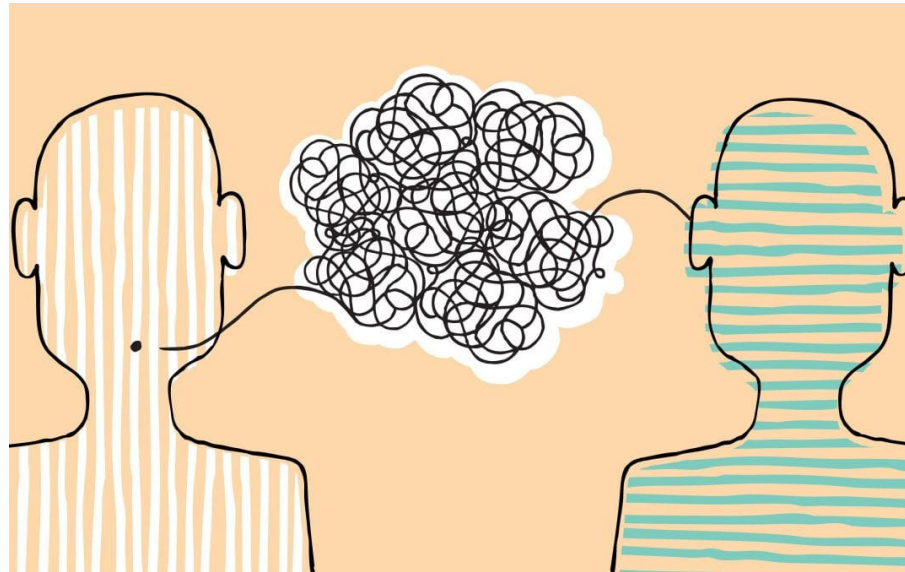




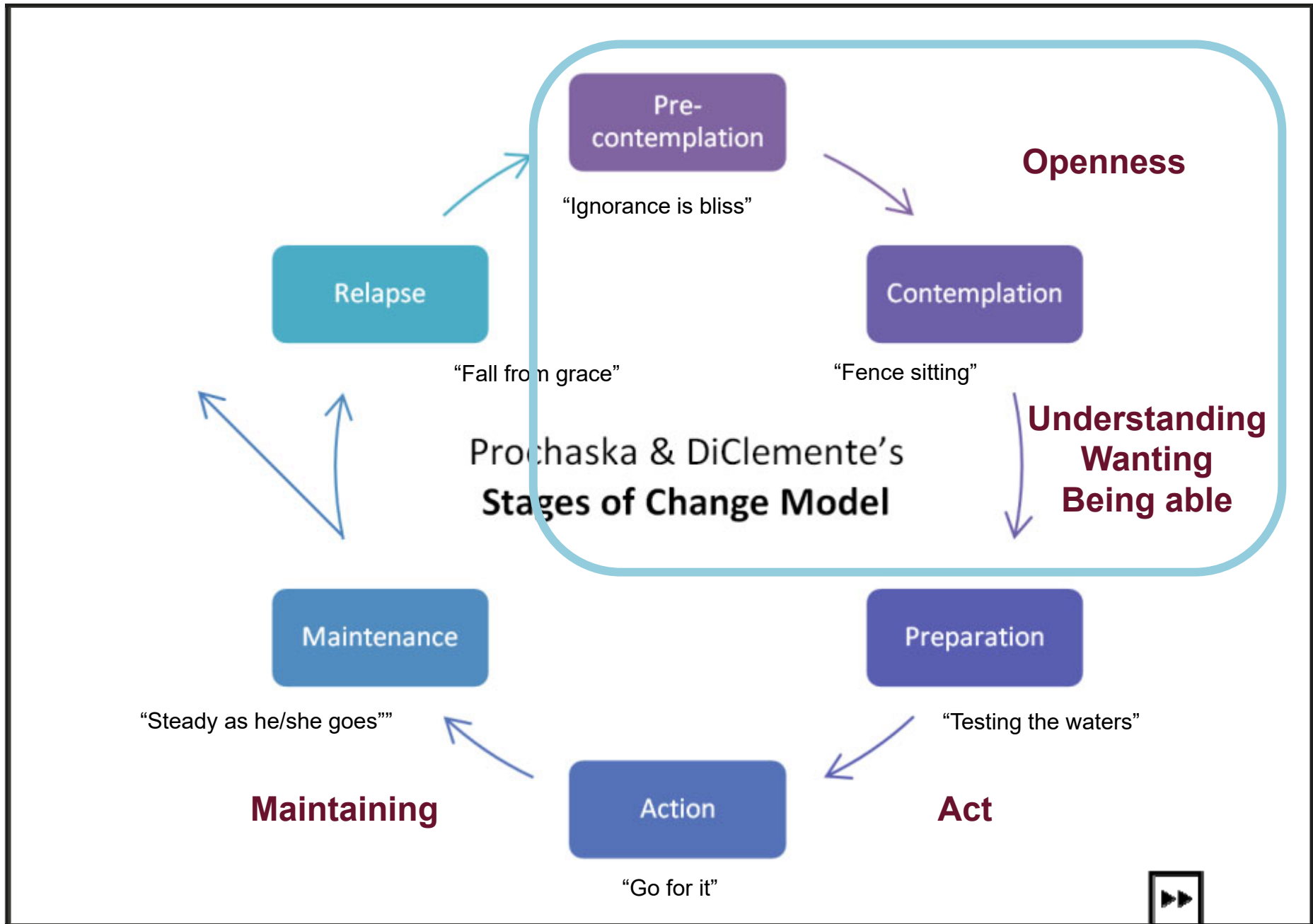
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The “difficult” patient does not exist





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# POINTS OF INTEREST

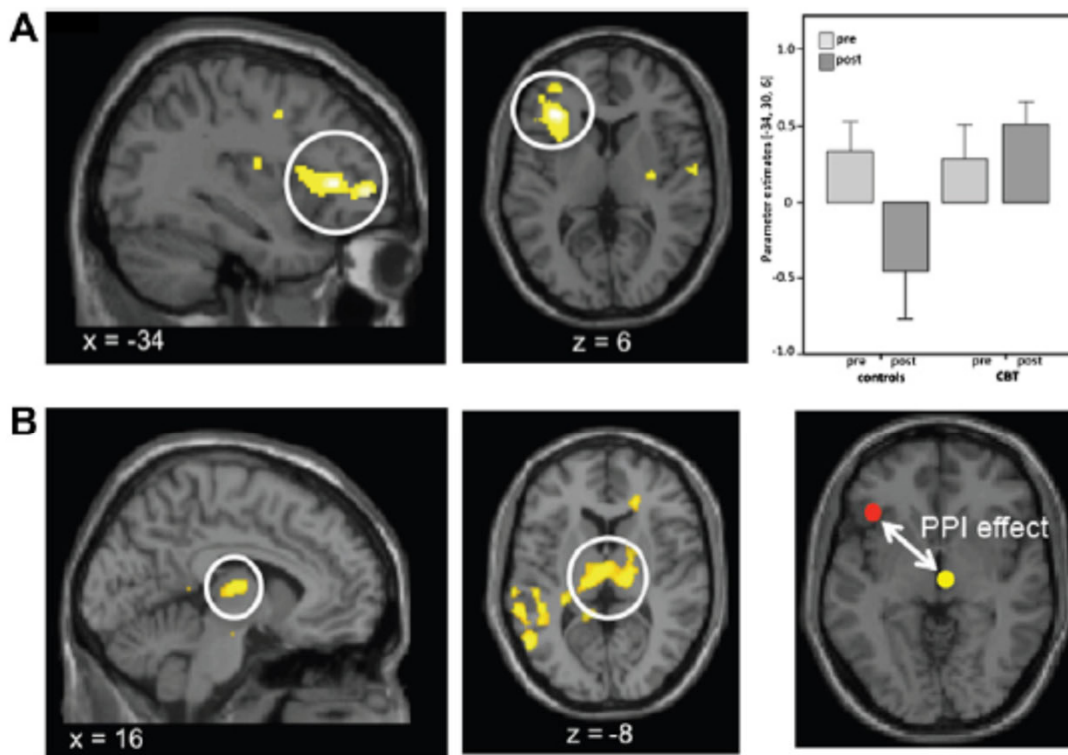
## ❖ Tips (attachment style; personality)

- ✓ Validation and explanation
- ✓ Use of metaphors
- ✓ Sensitivity in word choice
- ✓ Horse of Troy



## Cognitive Behavioral Therapy increases pain-evoked activation of the prefrontal cortex in patients with fibromyalgia

Karin B. Jensen<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Eva Kosek<sup>c,d</sup>, Rikard Wicksell<sup>c,e</sup>, Mike Kemani<sup>c,e</sup>, Gunnar Olsson<sup>e,f</sup>, Julia V. Merle<sup>g</sup>, Diana Kadetoff<sup>c,d</sup>, Martin Ingvar<sup>c,d</sup>





# Biofeedback





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# TREATMENT PHASE

- **Based on transdiagnostic and specific underlying mechanisms**
  - Tailor-made
  - Multi/interdisciplinary
    - Psychotherapy
    - Specialized physiotherapy
    - ...
  - Tumi working model and decision tree
    - Personalized
    - Evidence-based or best-practice



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# TREATMENT PHASE

- **First and third wave CBT**
  - Education
  - Defusion
  - Attention training/Mindfulness
  - Acceptance (vs fight/flight)
  - Values, goals and action
  - Interoceptive exposure
  - Schema therapy (if needed)



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# TREATMENT PHASE

- **Specialized body oriented interventions**

- Biofeedback
- Breathing exercises
- Activity pacing/graded activity/exposure
- Bodily perception accuracy training
  - Body awareness interventions
  - Tension in the body
  - Slow movement interventions
  - Manual interventions
  - Balance interventions
  - Sensations versus symptoms
  - Paradigms
  - ...



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# Questions



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# Scientist-practitioner model?



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# Challenges and differences across countries?



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## THE MAN IN THE ARENA

“IT IS NOT THE CRITIC WHO COUNTS; NOT THE MAN WHO POINTS OUT HOW THE STRONG MAN STUMBLES, OR WHERE THE DOER OF DEEDS COULD HAVE DONE THEM BETTER. THE CREDIT BELONGS TO THE MAN WHO IS ACTUALLY IN THE ARENA, WHOSE FACE IS MARRED BY DUST AND SWEAT AND BLOOD; WHO STRIVES VALIANTLY; WHO ERRS, WHO COMES SHORT AGAIN AND AGAIN, BECAUSE THERE IS NO EFFORT WITHOUT ERROR AND SHORTCOMING; BUT WHO DOES ACTUALLY STRIVE TO DO THE DEEDS; WHO KNOWS GREAT ENTHUSIASMS, THE GREAT DEVOTIONS; WHO SPENDS HIMSELF IN A WORTHY CAUSE; WHO AT THE BEST KNOWS IN THE END THE TRIUMPH OF HIGH ACHIEVEMENT, AND WHO AT THE WORST, IF HE FAILS, AT LEAST FAILS WHILE DARING GREATLY, SO THAT HIS PLACE SHALL NEVER BE WITH THOSE COLD AND TIMID SOULS WHO NEITHER KNOW VICTORY NOR DEFEAT.”

---

*Theodore Roosevelt*





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# MORE INFORMATION?

Prevention, diagnostics and treatment:

<http://www.tumitherapeutics.be>

Research:

<http://ppw.kuleuven.be/home/english/research/ogp/>

<https://www.uhasselt.be/nl/onderzoeksgroepen/reval/pijn-vermoeidheid-somatisch-onverklaarbare-klachten>

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**"I am not a lazy bum! I am a potential workaholic with highly developed stress management skills!"**