

The Social Norms Questionnaire-Dutch version (SNQ-NL) as neuropsychological marker for Frontotemporal Dementia.

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Cognitive changes in FTD often occur in the domains of executive function, language, and social cognition (Seelaar et al. JNNP, 2011; 82 476-486). The latter refers to a psychobiological process of socially comprehending others and consists of three hierarchical levels. The third level is acknowledged as a higher-order process and comprises amongst others social reasoning and regulation. A neuropsychological task measuring this level of social cognition is the Social Norms Questionnaire (SNQ), as it measures the ability of understanding and identifying social norms (Kramer et al. JINS 2014; 20 11-19). Last year, the Dutch version of the SNQ (SNQ-NL) has been validated and proved to differentiate between patients with FTD and Alzheimer's dementia (van den Berg et al. Assessment 2021; 1-12). However, possible alterations in this level of social cognition are not yet examined in the presymptomatic and prodromal phase of genetic FTD. The aim of the current study is therefore to identify if the SNQ-NL can detect early social cognitive changes to aid early diagnosis and to track disease progression. At this moment, cross-sectional SNQ-NL data of 150 participants has been collected in the FTD risk Cohort and the Erasmus MC outpatient memory clinic. Longitudinal data is available in a subset of participants. Between-group differences in SNQ-NL scores will be examined, controlling for age, sex, and level of education. In addition, SNQ-NL scores will be examined in relationship to imaging data and other neuropsychological tests. Data collection is currently still ongoing. At ISFTD, we will present the first results.

Conflicts of interest

N/A