

Information on the CogBio study

"The role of cognitive and biological factors in the development of PTSD symptomatology"

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Negative experiences are interpreted and processed very differently by people. (Social) cognitive information processing and psychobiological mechanisms play an important role in this process. After stressful events, a feeling of threat may persist. This feeling is influenced by memory and evaluation processes. For example, the ability to understand others by grasping their mental states may favor certain evaluative processes that can trigger either positive, more neutral, or negative feelings. Various strategies can be used to deal with negative feelings. Decision-making processes could play a crucial role in their choice. For example, one strategy may be very unpleasant in the short term but helpful in the long term, while another may be pleasant in the short term but harmful in the long term. These processes may be modulated by biological processes. Little is known so far about the influence of these (social) cognitive information processing processes and biological processes on memories that may be triggered by stressful events. In this study, we therefore aim to investigate these relationships.

A better understanding of the development and maintenance of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can make an important contribution to the development of new testing procedures for early detection and targeted preventive and therapeutic measures.

For our study, we are looking for individuals,

... are between 18 and 65 years old

... have sufficient knowledge of German

... find further criteria will be asked for in the screening.

Would you like to participate in our study? With the help of an online screening we will check whether you are suitable for our study.

Link to the online screening: <https://t1p.de/678g>

What is the procedure for the film study?

First, we ask you to complete an online screening (<https://t1p.de/678g>) to ensure your eligibility for the study. Since we are looking for people with certain trait characteristics, you will then receive an email to let you know if you belong to our target group. We will then invite you to participate in our study.

The study itself takes place on two examination dates, one week apart. The first examination appointment lasts about 2.5 hours. In addition to some questionnaires and two different tasks to be completed on the computer, we will show you a film clip that may or may not contain

potentially stressful content. During the first appointment, we will take saliva samples from you at four different times.

During the week between the two testing appointments, we will ask you to complete a diary, as well as take three independent saliva samples. We will of course explain to you exactly how this task is performed.

At the second examination appointment, which lasts about one hour, you will again be asked to fill out a few questionnaires and complete a task on the PC. After completion of your participation you will receive your expense allowance.

What is the benefit for me?

Personally, the participants cannot expect any immediate advantage or benefit for their health from participating in this study. Since this is a purely scientific study in which larger groups are compared with each other, it is unfortunately not possible to provide comprehensive feedback on individual results. We will be happy to inform you about the results of the group evaluations. By participating in the study, you will contribute to a better understanding of the development and maintenance of post-traumatic stress disorder and make an important contribution to the development of new methods of prevention and, if necessary, therapy. As a thank you for your participation, all participant:s will receive 20-25€ expense allowance (depending on how much money was collected in one of the tasks) after the second appointment. Psychology students can receive subject hours instead of money.

How can I contact the study team?

If you have further questions, please contact the following email address: filmstudie@tu-dresden.de

Link to online screening: <https://t1p.de/678g>