

Press release from Emotra AB (publ)

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Update on our research on depression relapse

Our efforts to plan and recruit clinics for our study to document the connection between hyporeactivity and depression relapse continues. In this newsletter, we have asked Professor Toomas Timpka to give a more detailed description of our current work and the challenges that depression relapse poses.

“Around the world, depression is one of the largest public health problems. It causes enormous suffering and creates many challenges for the victim. In many cases, it leads to long absences from work or studies. This disorder also comes with a large risk of relapses. The greatest risk for recurring relapses occurs among patients who fall ill early in life. In their case, the risk of relapse is 60–70 percent.

Hence, depression relapse is one of the mental health care sector’s greatest challenges, and one which front-line doctors face every day. An assessment of the risk of relapse is to a large extent based on the patient’s age, gender, gravity of the depression and patient history. Hyporeactivity has previously been shown to be independent of these factors, which means that it provides additional, biological information to the assessment.

More comprehensive patient data helps mental health care providers to put in relapse-preventive treatment at the right time, while enabling caregivers to give patients the right kind of attention and actively help them to self-diagnose early signs of a relapse.

Since depression and depression relapse are so common and their public-health effects are so vast, EDOR is a relevant technology. These new results are interesting, and the fact that they build on an innovation with its roots in Linköping makes it even more exciting. Part of this work has already begun through our contribution to the writing of an article about the initial findings of hyporeactivity being connected to an increased risk of depression relapse. We will now continue our work by organising and planning a clinical study designed to verify these initial findings,” says Toomas Timpka, Professor at Linköping University.

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Emotra AB (publ) is a medical technology company that carries out research, development, clinical studies and marketing in the area of mental health. The Company’s method, EDOR®, is a proprietary and objective psychophysiological test for detecting if patients suffering from depression are hyporeactive.

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