

Eligibility form

Record ID

Reviewer initials:

Date form completed

(dd/mm/yyyy)

Study design

1. Any study design comparing cortisol levels between PTSD patients and controls? (only original studies, not reviews)

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Participants

2. Study in adults, aged 18 years and older?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

3. PTSD patients with current PTSD according to DSM/ICD criteria?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Exposures

4. Trauma exposure fulfilling DSM/ICD criteria occurred at least a month prior to assessment? (in patients and trauma exposed controls)

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

5. Controls without a history of prior PTSD (lifetime PTSD)?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Comparisons

6. Cortisol levels compared between which groups (tick all that apply)

- PTSD patients and trauma exposed controls (TEC)
 PTSD patients and trauma unexposed controls (TUC)
 PTSD patients and all controls (both trauma exposed and trauma unexposed)
 Other
 Unclear/not stated

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Outcomes

7. Study assesses baseline or basal cortisol levels? (Not psychological or pharmacological stress tests)

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

8. Sufficient data to compute effects sizes (mean cortisol levels and standard deviations in patients and controls) stated in articles or could possibly be obtained from authors?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Timing

9. All relevant measures completed at least a month since trauma exposure (PTSD diagnostic status, cortisol levels)?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Reviewer decision

Include study in the review?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear/uncertain

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Is additional information required from the study authors before a final assessment can be made?

- Yes
 No

What information is required before a decision can be made

To be completed after both reviewers have completed individual eligibility review

Do both reviewers agree?

- Yes
 No
 Unclear/uncertain

Notes (can include quotes from the text, location in the text and reviewer explanations)

Third reviewer decision (if both reviewers don't agree)

- Include
 Exclude

Study included?

- Yes
 No

Reason for exclusion

Retain study for:

- Background/discussion
 Review of references
 Other

Notes
