

Supplemental Information

Threat-Related Attention Assessment - The Dot-Probe Task

Study 1

The dot-probe task used in Study 1 consisted of 160 trials (128 threat-neutral trials and 32 neutral-neutral trials). Each trial began with a 500ms centrally- presented fixation cross. Fixation was then replaced by a pair of words presented for 500ms. The words were presented in 12 size Ariel font 1.5 cm above and below the location of the fixation cross. Following the words display a target probe (the letter E or F) appeared in the location previously occupied by one of the words, and participants had to discriminate the probe type via button press. Target probes remained on screen until response, after which the next trial began. Word type location, target location, and target type were counterbalanced in presentation. Participants were instructed to identify the probe type as quickly as possible without compromising accuracy. Stimuli were presented using E-Prime2 software (Psychology Software Tools, Pittsburgh, PA).

Before threat bias and attention bias variability calculations, we first excluded trials with incorrect response or trials in which reaction time was extremely short (<150ms) or long (>2000ms). Then, trials in which the reaction time was outside ± 2.5 standard deviations of the participant's mean were also excluded.

Study 2

A faces-based variant of the dot-probe task was used with pairs of angry and neutral faces displayed simultaneously one above the other on the computer screen. Face stimuli were photographs of 20 individuals (10 male, 10 female) taken from NimStim stimulus set (46). Each face photograph measured 45mm in width and 34mm in height. The top

photograph was positioned 20mm from the top edge of the screen. Faces were presented with a distance of 14mm between them. The face pairs were divided into two sets so each participant was tested for threat-related attention bias during assessments with one set, and trained with the other set. The two sets were used for either measurement or training in a counterbalanced manner across participants within each treatment group. In each trial, participants were presented with a fixation cross (500ms), followed by a face pair display (500ms), followed by a target display (“<” or “>”) that appeared on the screen until response. The measurement task consisted of 120 trials, 80 angry-neutral trials (with targets appearing equally at the angry and neutral face location), and 40 neutral-neutral trials with targets appearing with equal probability at the locations of the top and bottom faces.

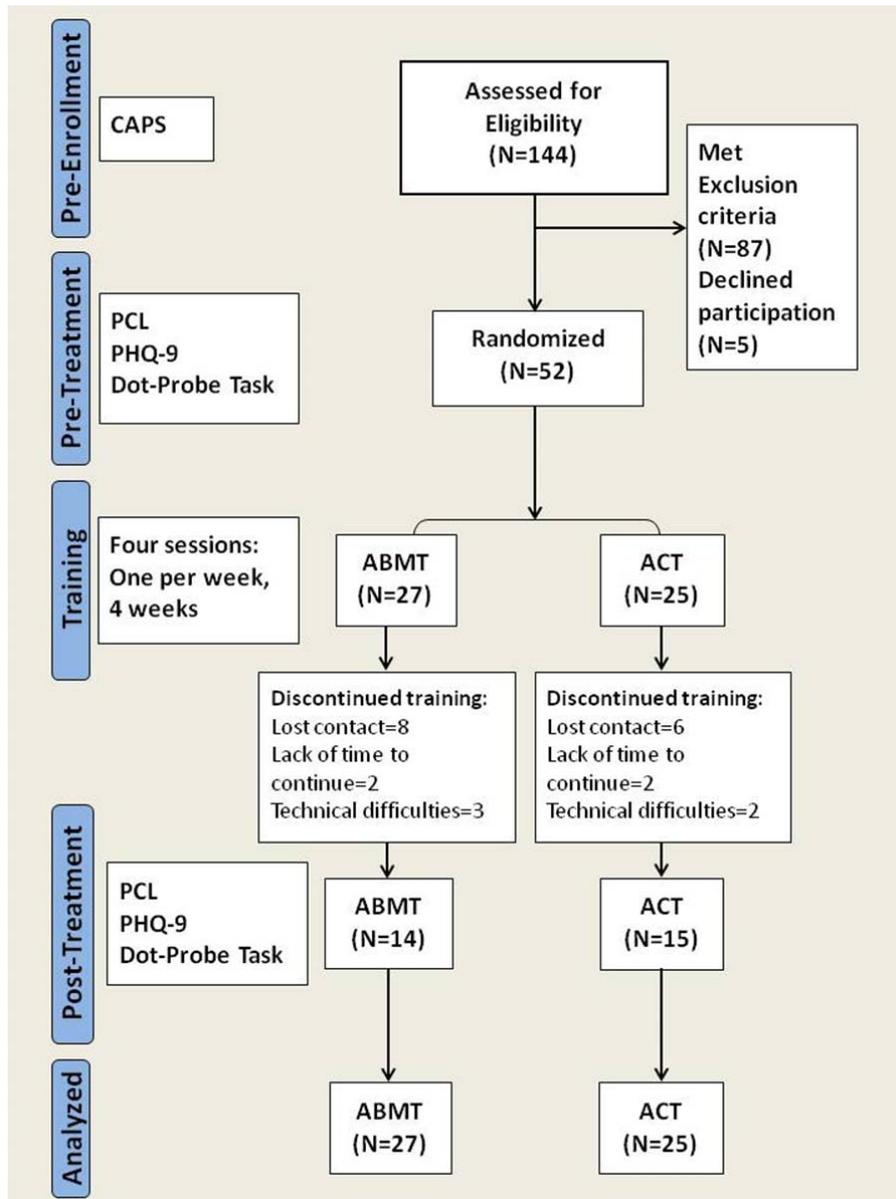
Table S1: Disorders comorbidity distribution (percentage) for Study 1, of participants diagnosed, beside PTSD diagnosis, with other disorders (according to DSM-VI) for the different attention training groups.

Psychiatric Diagnosis	Percentage
Attention Bias Modification training:	
Depression	54%
Generalized Anxiety Disorder	31%
Personality Disorder- Cluster B	15%
Attention Control training:	
Depression	56%
Generalized Anxiety Disorder	48%
Personality Disorder- Cluster B	16%

Table S2: Disorders comorbidity distribution (percentage) for Study 2, of participants diagnosed, beside PTSD diagnosis, with other disorders (according to DSM-VI) for the different attention training groups.

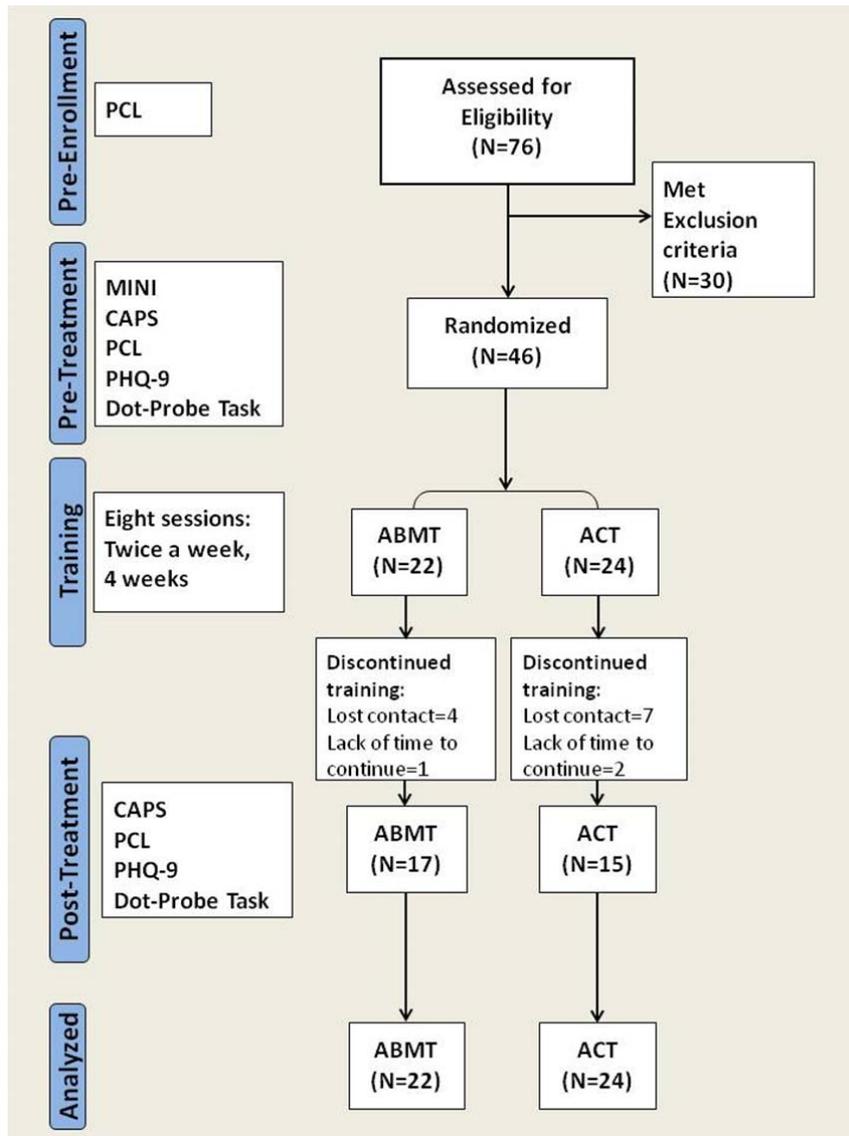
Psychiatric Diagnosis	Percentage
Attention Bias Modification training:	
Depression	50%
Generalized Anxiety Disorder	9%
Panic	14%
Social Phobia	9%
Personality Disorder- Cluster B	4%
Attention Control training:	
Depression	67%
Generalized Anxiety Disorder	8%
Panic	17%
Social Phobia	0%
Personality Disorder- Cluster B	4%

Figure S1: Consort Diagram illustrating the Flow of Participants through Study 1^a



^a CAPS =The Clinician Administered PTSD Scale; PCL=PTSD Checklist; PHQ-9= Patient Health Questionnaire-9; ABMT=Attention Bias Modification Training; ACT=Attention Control Training.

Figure S2: Consort Diagram illustrating the Flow of Participants through Study 2^a



^a MINI= Mini International Neuropsychiatric Inventory; CAPS =The Clinician Administered PTSD Scale; PCL=PTSD Checklist; PHQ-9= Patient Health Questionnaire-9; ABMT=Attention Bias Modification Training; ACT=Attention Control Training.