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## Placebo and nocebo effects on itch: An experimental approach

Bartels, D.J.P.

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**Author:** Bartels, D.J.P.

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Propositions for the dissertation

# Placebo and nocebo effects on itch

## An experimental approach

Danielle Bartels

1. Placebo and nocebo effects play an important role in the treatment of various symptoms and diseases.
2. Placebos can work even when you know you get a placebo.
3. Itch is contagious and susceptible to suggestions (*this dissertation*).
4. Placebo and nocebo effects influence the experience of itch (*this dissertation*).
5. Itch can be worse than pain.
6. The combination of conditioning and verbal suggestion is effective for inducing placebo and nocebo effects on itch (*this dissertation*).
7. Once established, nocebo effects can be counteracted (*this dissertation*).
8. Physicians, as well as patients, should be informed about the role that expectations play in medical treatments.