

# Lea Julia Mertens, M. Sc.

## Research Associate/PhD Candidate

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Current Position: Research associate/PhD Candidate

### Positions

Since 10/2018 Research associate and PhD candidate in the Department of Molecular Neuroimaging at the Central Institute of Mental Health  
02/2018 – 08/2018 Research internship and Master's Thesis at Imperial College London, Division of Brain Sciences, Centre for Psychedelic Research  
10/2017 – 02/2018 Clinical and research intern at the Department of Epileptology, University Hospital Bonn  
02/2017 – 10/2017 Research assistant at the Department of Neuropsychology & Psychopharmacology, Maastricht University  
07/2015 – 08/2015 Clinical intern at the LVR-Klinik Düren

### Education

2016 – 2018 Research Master (M. Sc.) in Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience, Neuropsychology Specialization (cum laude), Maastricht University  
*Thesis: Treatment Mechanisms of Psychedelic Drugs – Changes in amygdala and ventromedial prefrontal cortex functional connectivity during emotional processing after psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression*  
2013 – 2016 B. Sc. in Psychology (cum laude), Leiden University  
*Thesis: Borderline Personality & its role in the relationship between Childhood Abuse and Intimate Partner Violence*

### Publications

Mertens, L. J., Wall, M. B., Roseman, L., Demetrius, L., Nutt, D. J., Carhart-Harris, R. L. (2020). Therapeutic Mechanisms of Psychedelic Drugs: Changes in amygdala and prefrontal functional connectivity during emotional processing after psilocybin for treatment-resistant depression. *Journal of Psychopharmacology*, 34, 167 – 180, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0269881119895520>

Mertens, L. J., Witt, J. A., Helmstaedter, C. (2018). Affective and Behavioral Dysfunction under Antiepileptic Drugs in Epilepsy: Development of a New Drug-Sensitive Screening Tool. *Epilepsy & Behavior*, 83, 175 – 180. doi: 10.1016/j.yebeh.2018.03.040

Krause-Utz, A., Mertens, L. J., Renn, J. B., Lucke, P., Wöhlke, A. Z., van Schie, C., Mouthaan, J. (2018). Childhood Maltreatment, Borderline Personality Features, and Coping as Predictors of Intimate Partner Violence: A Serial Mediation Analysis. *Journal of Intimate Partner Violence*. doi: 10.1177/0886260518817782

Mertens, L. J. (2018). The Neurotrophic Hypothesis of Depression: An Exemplary Exploration of the Treatment Potential of Erythropoietin. *Maastricht Student Journal of Psychology and Neuroscience*, 7, 21 – 34.