



# NeuRA

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## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

March 2022

### What are antecedents?

Antecedents are subtle deviations in development that may become evident during childhood or adolescence. The presence of these deviations may foreshadow the later development of schizophrenia, however most children who exhibit these antecedents do not develop the disorder. Studies exploring antecedents are ideally based on representative, population-based samples that follow the group from birth through childhood and adolescence to adulthood. These studies can provide unique insights into the changes in developmental trajectories that may be associated with schizophrenia.

### What is the evidence for IQ and academic performance in childhood and adolescence?

Moderate to high quality evidence found lower IQ scores, lower general academic scores, and lower mathematics scores during childhood or adolescence in those who were later diagnosed with schizophrenia. They also recorded lower education levels.

Lower general academic achievement was found in youth with psychotic-like experiences and in youth with a family history of schizophrenia when compared to children not at risk of schizophrenia. There were also lower education levels in these youth.

For more information see the technical table



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*NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) is one of the largest independent medical and clinical research institutes in Australia and an international leader in neurological research.*

*Diseases of the brain and nervous system pose the greatest health, economic and social burden of any disease group because they are chronic, debilitating and have no known cures.*

*Medical research is the cornerstone of efforts to advance the health and wellbeing of families and the community. Our dedicated scientists are focussed on transforming their research into significant and practical benefits for all patients.*

*While we hope you find this information useful, it is always important to discuss any questions about schizophrenia or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.*

### HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

We are able to make significant advances due to the generosity of countless people. Your donation allows us to continue to work towards transforming lives. For information on how you can support our research, phone **1300 888 019** or make a secure donation at [neura.edu.au/donate](http://neura.edu.au/donate).

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