



## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

September 2020

### What is adenosine?

Adenosine modulates dopamine and glutamine which are both implicated in schizophrenia's pathophysiology; therefore adenosine modulators may be useful adjunctive treatments for schizophrenia. Allopurinol is used for the treatment of gout and hyperuricemia; it inhibits purine degradation and subsequently increases adenosine levels. Dipyridamole and propentofylline inhibit cellular reuptake of adenosine and increases extracellular adenosine concentration.

### What is the evidence for adenosine?

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests adjunctive adenosine modulators (particularly dipyridamole and propentofylline) may improve symptoms, particularly positive symptoms, in people with schizophrenia.

For more information see the technical table



*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/schizophrenia](http://neura.edu.au/donate/schizophrenia).