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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What are the costs involved in schizophrenia?

The burden of schizophrenia includes direct costs, indirect costs, and intangible costs. Direct costs are estimated by the amount of services used and the price of treatment. Indirect costs are estimated by the averaged reduced future earnings of both patients and caregivers. Intangible costs are those that may be associated with the illness, such as trauma and depression. This topic presents evidence on direct pharmaceutical costs, including cost of drug treatments and related mental health care services. For more information on the global costs of schizophrenia, please see the Population Burden topic.

What is the evidence for pharmaceutical costs?

Moderate or moderate to low quality evidence suggests the cost of olanzapine is lower than haloperidol, but higher than risperidone. The cost of risperidone is also lower than fluphenazine, haloperidol, or other first generation antipsychotics. The cost of clozapine is lower than first generation antipsychotics including haloperidol and chlorpromazine, and mental healthcare and total healthcare costs of clozapine may be higher than risperidone. The cost of trifluoperazine alone, or in addition to individual psychotherapy, is lower than electroshock or milieu treatments.

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/schizophrenia.