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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet April 2022

How is homelessness related to schizophrenia?

Many studies have reported a high prevalence of various health problems, including mental health problems, among homeless people. However, the rate of schizophrenia in this population may be difficult to measure exactly due to diversity between studies in the definitions of homelessness and the diagnostic criteria used for schizophrenia.

What is the evidence for homelessness?

Moderate to high quality evidence found the prevalence of schizophrenia spectrum disorders was around 12.4% in high-income countries and 22% in developing countries. The prevalence rate of any psychotic disorder in homeless people was around 21%. Rates of schizophrenia were higher in people who were homeless over the long term, and were generally higher in homeless women than in homeless men.

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.