



SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

February 2021

How are optical alterations related to schizophrenia?

People with schizophrenia may show increased rates of co-occurring conditions. These can include short-sightedness (impaired long distance sight) and long-sightedness (impaired near distance sight), as well as reductions in the peripapillary retinal nerve fibre layer, and in macular thickness and volume.

What is the evidence for optical alterations in people with schizophrenia?

Moderate quality evidence finds a large increased risk of visual impairment in people with schizophrenia compared to people without schizophrenia. There was a medium-sized effect of thinner overall peripapillary retinal nerve fibre layer thickness and small effects of thinner nasal and temporal peripapillary retinal nerve fibre layers as well as thinner ganglion cell + inner plexiform layers in people with schizophrenia. There were no significant differences in superior or inferior retinal nerve fibre layers or in choroidal or macula thickness and volume.

For more information see the technical table



NeuRA

Discover. Conquer. Cure.

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.