



# NeuRA

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## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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### What is dual diagnosis?

Dual diagnosis is the term used for people with both mental health and substance use disorders. Studies targeting this population often investigate outcomes relating to both diagnoses, such as symptoms, substance use, social function, quality of life, and cognitive outcomes.

### What is the evidence for treatments for dual diagnosis?

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests olanzapine was superior to perphenazine, quetiapine, risperidone, and ziprasidone for overall symptoms in people with a dual diagnosis. Olanzapine was superior to perphenazine, quetiapine, and ziprasidone for positive symptoms. Olanzapine was superior to perphenazine, risperidone, and ziprasidone for negative symptoms.

The remaining evidence on antipsychotics and other agents (e.g. mazinol, lamotrigine, antidepressants, anti-craving agents, or disulfiram) for symptoms, substance use or other outcomes was based on small sample sizes, so no conclusions can be drawn.

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