



# NeuRA

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## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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### What is dysphagia?

Dysphagia refers to swallowing impairment, and can lead to severe outcomes including malnutrition, asphyxiation (suffocating), which can be fatal. It is sometimes reported in people with schizophrenia and other mental illnesses, and may be a side effect of a number of neuroleptic medications including antipsychotics, but may also be due to behavioural disturbance or other neurological disorders.

### What is the evidence for dysphagia?

Low quality evidence is unclear as to risk of dysphagia following any specific neuroleptic medication.

For more information see the technical table

### 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).



## 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.*