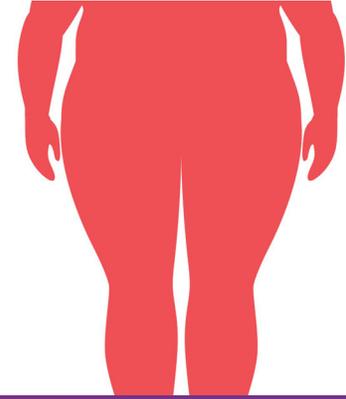


NeuRA

Discover. Conquer. Cure.

SCHIZOPHRENIA LIBRARY



SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

August 2020

What are antecedents?

Antecedents such as abnormal height and BMI are subtle deviations in development that may become evident during childhood or adolescence. The presence of these deviations may foreshadow the later development of schizophrenia, however most children who exhibit these antecedents do not develop the disorder. Studies exploring antecedents are ideally based on representative, population-based samples that follow the group from birth through childhood and adolescence to adulthood. These studies can provide unique insights into the changes in developmental trajectories that may be associated with schizophrenia.

What is the evidence for height and body mass?

Moderate quality evidence suggests a small increased risk of schizophrenia in males who were underweight or shorter than average around 5 years prior to the onset of schizophrenia. Moderate to low quality evidence suggests a medium effect of more leanness at birth, shorter height at 2.5 and 9 years, and higher BMI at 7 years, although no differences in BMI were reported at 2.5 and 9 years in a separate study. There may be slower growth in early childhood in females who later develop schizophrenia, with no differences in growth rate for males. High quality evidence showed differences in birth length between people with schizophrenia and controls.

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.