



NeuRA

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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What is dissociation?

Dissociation is described as disruption or discontinuity in the normal integration of consciousness, memory, identity, emotion, perception, body representation, motor control, or behaviour. Common dissociative experiences include mild forms of absorption, such as daydreaming. Less common and more severe dissociative experiences include amnesia, derealisation, depersonalisation, and fragmentation of identity. Dissociative features may play a role in the pathology of schizophrenia.

What is the evidence for dissociation symptoms?

Moderate to high quality evidence finds more dissociation in people with schizophrenia than in people without schizophrenia. Moderate to low quality evidence finds less dissociation in people with schizophrenia than in people with dissociative disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, borderline personality disorder, or conversion disorder.

Moderate quality evidence finds a medium-sized association between increased rates of childhood adversity and increased dissociation scores. There were also medium to strong associations between increased dissociation and increased psychotic symptoms.

For further 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.

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