



NeuRA

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BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

September 2021

How is dissociation related to bipolar disorder?

Dissociative symptoms may be present in people with bipolar disorder. 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.

What is the evidence for dissociation symptoms?

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests less dissociation in people with bipolar disorder than in people with dissociative disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, borderline personality disorder, or conversion disorder.

Similar dissociation scores were found in people with bipolar disorder and in people with somatic symptom disorder, substance-related and addictive disorders, eating disorders, schizophrenia, and other affective disorders.

For further 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.



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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 bipolar disorder or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.

NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) Foundation
T 1300 888 019 F +61 2 9399 1082
ABN 57 008 429 961

Margarete Ainsworth Building
Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031
PO Box 1165 Randwick Sydney NSW 2031 Australia

neura.edu.au