



September 2020

## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

### What are amphetamines?

Amphetamines are potent stimulants that are used to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, narcolepsy, and obesity. Amphetamines may also be related to an increased risk, or worsening, of psychoic symptoms.

#### What is the evidence for amphetamines?

Moderate quality evidence suggests single dose dexamfetamine or methylphenidate may increase severity and frequency of positive symptoms, particularly in patients who are not in remission.

Compared to placebo, moderate to low quality evidence suggests no benefit of dexamfetamine or methylphenidate for cognition.



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.

#### 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.

NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) Foundation