



# NeuRA

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## BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

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### What are adenosine modulators?

Bipolar disorder is thought to be associated with a purinergic system dysfunction, particularly in the manic phases of the disorder. Moreover, depressive temperaments have been related to both high and low levels of uric acid. Allopurinol is used for the treatment of gout and hyperuricemia; it inhibits purine degradation and subsequently increases adenosine levels.

### What is the evidence for adenosine modulators?

Moderate quality evidence suggests adjunctive allopurinol may improve mania symptoms in people with bipolar disorder, but not for those in a mixed mood state.

For more 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 bipolar disorder 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](http://neura.edu.au).