

## BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

## What is imipramine?

Imipramine is a tricyclic antidepressant that is widely prescribed for both depression and anxiety. It works by increasing levels of serotonin and norepinephrine and by blocking certain serotonin, adrenergic, histamine, and cholinergic receptors.

What is the evidence for imipramine as treatment for bipolar disorder?

Low quality evidence is unable to determine the benefits of imipramine for bipolar disorder.

Review authors conclude that the existing evidence does not support the use of antidepressants in general for people with bipolar disorder.

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.

For more information see the technical table

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