



# NeuRA

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## BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

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### What are antecedents?

Antecedents, including motor functioning, are usually subtle deviations in development that may become evident during childhood or adolescence. The presence of these deviations may foreshadow the later development of bipolar disorder, however most children who exhibit antecedents do not develop the disorder. Studies exploring antecedents are ideally based on representative, population-based samples that follow the group from birth through childhood and adolescence to adulthood.

### What is the evidence from long-term studies on motor functioning as antecedents of bipolar disorder?

Moderate to low quality evidence suggests a large effect of poor motor development in the childhood (at ~ 3 years of age) of people who developed mania in adulthood. There may also be more tics and unsteadiness, and more neurological problems in general in the childhood of people who developed affective psychosis in adulthood. Affective psychosis is a broad category that includes bipolar disorder.

For more information see the technical table



### NeuRA

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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).