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PSYCHOPATHOLOGY

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BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

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How is psychopathology relevant to relatives of people with bipolar disorder?

Due to the significant genetic loading of bipolar disorder, first-degree relatives of people with bipolar disorder may also show signs of psychopathology. This could include bipolar disorder or other mental illnesses.

What is the evidence for psychopathology in families of people with bipolar disorder?

Moderate to high quality evidence finds a large increased risk of bipolar disorder, a medium-sized increased risk of ADHD, and a small increased risk of a substance use disorder in relatives. Moderate quality evidence finds medium-sized increased risks of other mood or anxiety disorders in relatives, particularly generalized anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorders.

Moderate quality evidence also finds medium-sized increased risk of disruptive behavioural disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, and conduct disorder in offspring of parents with bipolar disorder.

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.

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