

## **BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet**

#### How are thyroid disorders related to bipolar disorder?

People with bipolar disorder may show increased rates of co-occurring conditions, including thyroid disorders. The thyroid gland makes hormones that help control many of the body's metabolic processes, such as heart rate, blood pressure, body temperature and weight. If the thyroid becomes deregulated (overactive or underactive), or cancerous, this can result in a range of physical symptoms, as well as depression.

# What is the evidence for thyroid disorders in people with bipolar disorder?

Low quality evidence is unclear of the prevalence of thyroid disorders in people with bipolar disorder. Review authors suggest no association between bipolar disorder and thyroid disease, although there may be increased prevalence of circulating thyroid autoantibodies in people with bipolar disorder.

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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.

#### 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**.

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