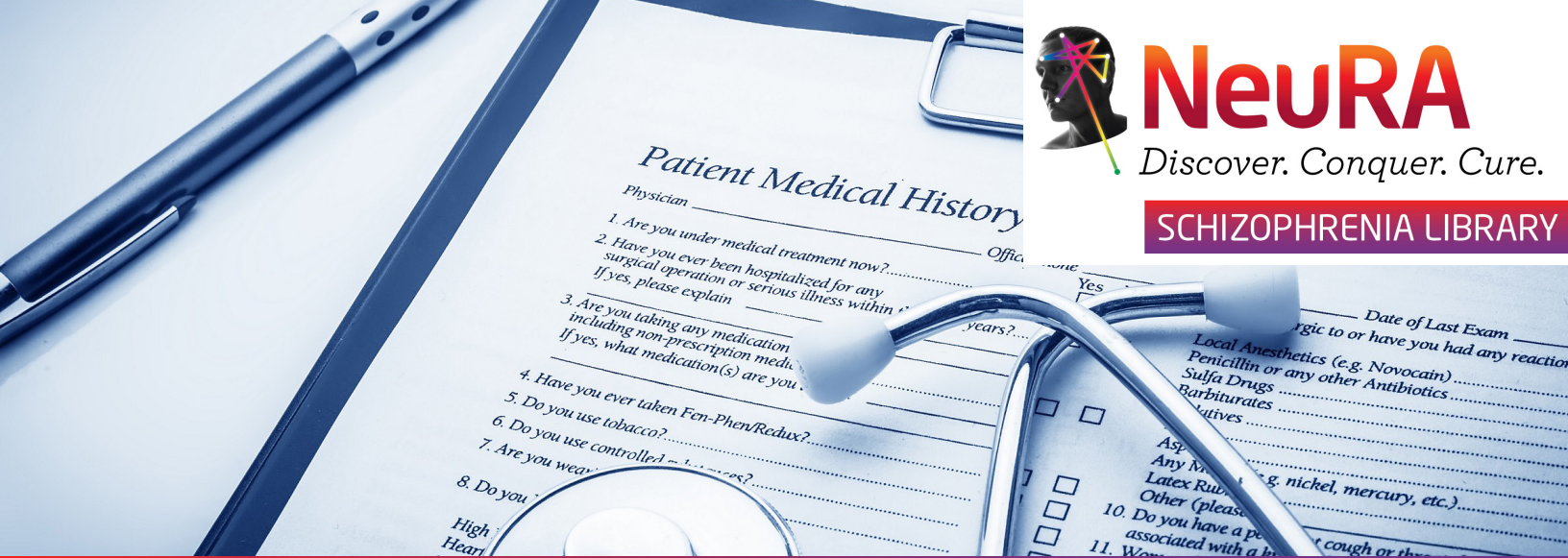




# NeuRA

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## SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

October 2020

### What is hyperprolactinaemia?

One potential side effect of antipsychotic use is hyperprolactinaemia, which can disrupt sex hormones and the production and flow of breast milk, and can cause infertility and erectile dysfunction in men.

Hyperprolactinaemia is caused by blocking of the D2 dopamine receptor at the anterior lobe of the pituitary gland, resulting in high prolactin levels. As different antipsychotics have different actions, they also differ in the degree to which they affect prolactin levels.

### What is the evidence for treatments for hyperprolactinaemia?

Moderate quality evidence shows a benefit of adjunctive metformin for reducing serum prolactin levels in people with schizophrenia taking antipsychotics. Note that all trials were conducted in China, so these results may not apply to other populations.

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/donate/schizophrenia](http://neura.edu.au/donate/schizophrenia).



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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 schizophrenia or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.*