



# NeuRA

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POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER LIBRARY



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## POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER Factsheet

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### How do personal characteristics impact on risk for PTSD?

Personal characteristics, such as family factors, can influence one's degree of risk for developing PTSD. How such personal characteristics may affect the development of PTSD would be influenced by other personal characteristics as well as differences in the trauma experience itself.

### What is the evidence on how family and social factors impact on risk for PTSD?

Moderate to low quality found small increases in rates of PTSD following earthquakes in adults with low vs. high SES, low vs. high employment, and low vs. high social support. This quality evidence also found a small increase in PTSD symptoms following a burn injury in unmarried vs. married patients.

Moderate to high quality evidence found low social support was associated with more PTSD symptoms following childbirth. There were no associations between PTSD following childbirth and socio-economic factors or marital status. This quality evidence also found associations between more PTSD symptoms in children and adolescents following any trauma and poor family functioning, low social support, low SES, and pre- and post-trauma parental psychological problems.

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 PTSD and 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/donate](https://neura.edu.au/donate)