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BIPOLAR DISORDERS Factsheet

October 2021

How are skin disorders related to bipolar disorder?

People with bipolar disorder often show increased rates of co-occurring conditions, including skin disorders. Skin disorders include psoriasis, which is a long-term autoimmune condition that accelerates the life cycle of skin cells. This allows cells to build up on the surface of the skin, which form scales and red patches that are often itchy and painful. Hidradenitis suppurativa is a chronic inflammatory skin disorder of the hair follicles, characterized by recurrent lesions affecting the apocrine glands including nodules, abscesses, fistulas and draining sinus tracts.

What is the evidence for comorbid skin disorders?

Moderate to high quality evidence finds people with hidradenitis suppurativa had higher rates of bipolar disorder than people without hidradenitis suppurativa. They also had higher rates of bipolar disorder than people with psoriasis.

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/donate/

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