Seeking Aussies for world’s largest anorexia nervosa genetics study

Today, (Tuesday, March 31, 2015) scientists are calling for Australians either living with, or having recovered from anorexia nervosa, to enrol in the world’s largest and most rigorous genetic investigation into the illness.

The groundbreaking research aims to identify the genes that predispose people to the serious and potentially life-threatening illness, affecting an estimated 53,000 Australians. Anorexia nervosa affects people from all age groups and socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. The illness affects four-in-every-100 adolescent girls and serious forms of the illness occur in adults aged 25-to-45 years.

To learn how this research will transform current knowledge on the causes of anorexia nervosa and ultimately pave the way towards a cure, tee up an interview with the visiting US research lead investigator, a local anorexia nervosa expert and/or an Australian whose life has been touched by the illness.

EXPERTS

Prof Cynthia Bulik
US ANGI Lead Investigator & Distinguished Professor of Eating Disorders, Dept of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, University of North Carolina, USA & Professor, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden, visiting SYD

Prof Nick Martin
Australian ANGI Lead Investigator & Head of Genetic Epidemiology group, QIMR Berghofer, BRISB

Dr Sarah Maguire
Director, Centre for Eating & Dieting Disorders, SYD

Christine Morgan
Chief Executive Officer, The Butterfly Foundation & National Director, The Eating Disorder Association, SYD

Dr Sloane Madden
Co-director of The Eating Disorder Service, the Children’s Hospital, Westmead, SYD

Dr Warren Ward
Director of Eating Disorder Service, Royal Brisbane & Women’s Hospital, BRISB

Dr Fiona Wagg
Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services, The Royal Hobart Hospital, HOBART

Julie Molthmann
Paediatric Eating Disorders Clinical Nurse Specialist, The Royal Hobart Hospital, HOBART

Prof Susan M Sawyer
Professor of Eating Disorders, Dept of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, University of North Carolina, USA & Professor, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden, visiting SYD

Dr Elizabeth Hughes
Research Fellow for Eating Disorders, The University of Melbourne & The Royal Children’s Hospital, MELB

Prof Tracey Wade
Australian ANGI Associate Investigator & Dean, School of Psychology, Flinders University, ADEL

Dr Kate Fairweather-Schmidt
Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Psychology, Flinders University, ADEL

Dr Anthea Fursland
Principal Clinical Psychologist, Eating Disorders Programme, Centre for Clinical Interventions (CCI), PERTH

EVERYDAY AUSTRALIANS

Karen, 50
Clinical nurse specialist & mother-of-three opens up about ongoing anorexia nervosa battle, SYD

Kate, 27
Entrepreneur, anorexia nervosa survivor & ANGI participant, SYD

Ingrid & Victoria, 53 & 22
Mother, counsellor & psychotherapist whose daughter, Victoria is in late stage recovery from anorexia nervosa, SYD

Carmel, 51
Mother-of-four & fitness professional who secretly battled anorexia nervosa in her teens, SYD

Nikki, 32
Forensic specialist & anorexia nervosa survivor, BRISB

Mel, 28
Occupational therapist now recovered from five year anorexia nervosa battle, SUNSHINE COAST

Jessica, 30
Café manager’s 17 year battle with anorexia nervosa, GOLD COAST

Anne-Margaret, 47
Practice nurse continuing her 33 year-long battle with anorexia nervosa, TOWNSVILLE

Lisa, 56
Retired public servant & volunteer living with anorexia nervosa, ACT

Ulli, 20
University student living with anorexia nervosa, ACT

Nicholas, 30
High-powered solicitor offering insights into the isolation of a man living with anorexia nervosa, MELB

Cate, 41
PE teacher, author & mother-of-three fighting a marathon battle with anorexia nervosa, MELB

Rachel, 33
Communications professional contributing to groundbreaking anorexia nervosa research, MELB

Maddy, 20
Working professional who battled anorexia nervosa in her early teens, HOBART

Juliana, 21
University student, competitive power-lifter & anorexia nervosa survivor, ADEL

Kirsty, 22
Young woman battling the “all-consuming” illness, anorexia nervosa, PERTH

Amy, 32
Counsellor & personal assistant now recovered from anorexia nervosa, PERTH

Laura, 28
Communications professional & bride-to-be in full recovery from anorexia nervosa, PERTH

MEDIA KIT:
Available for download TUES, MARCH 31 from https://angi.qimr.edu.au/news

BROADCAST VISION:
Vision avail. via satellite feed @ 9.15am AEDT on TUES, MARCH 31 from 7 Network (SYD) – please record & ask

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References

