

Professor Nick Martin, Ph.D.
Australian Lead EDGI Investigator, Geneticist & Head,
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Professor Nick Martin is Head of the Genetic Epidemiology Laboratory, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Brisbane and Lead Investigator for the Australian arm of the Eating Disorders Genetics Initiative (EDGI) – a ground-breaking international collaboration exploring the genetic risk factors associated with anorexia, bulimia and binge-eating-disorder, and how genes influence one's response to treatment.



The scientist and Adjunct Professor in Psychology at the University of Queensland is a leader in behaviour genetics research using longitudinal twin studies, and a pioneer in the field of multivariate genetic modelling.

His more recent research focus has shifted into the field of genome-wide association studies to discover the particular genes which predispose people to clinical depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety, eating disorders, alcoholism, melanoma and other common disorders.

Prof Martin is a Fellow of the Australian Academies of Science, Health and Medical Science, and Social Science, and has previously served as President of the Behaviour Genetics Association. He is also editor of *Twin Research and Human Genetics*, an associate editor of *Molecular Psychiatry*. He has published more than 1,200 papers and won many international accolades.

As Lead Investigator for the Australian arm of EDGI – the world's largest genetic investigation of eating disorders ever performed, Prof Martin is aiming to identify the hundreds of genes that influence a person's risk of developing anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge-eating disorder, to improve treatment, and ultimately, save lives.

"The ANGI study found eight genes influencing anorexia, giving us insight into the biology of the disorder. With EDGI we hope to amplify this research by finding many more genes that can further explain the neurochemistry and biochemistry behind these devastating illnesses," said Prof Martin.

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