

## Professor Sarah Medland PhD

**Coordinator of the Mental Health Research Program, Head of Psychiatric Genetics & Lead Investigator, Australian *Genetics of Bipolar Study*, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, *BRISBANE***

Professor Sarah Medland is the Coordinator of the Mental Health Research Program and Head of Psychiatric Genetics, QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, Brisbane. She is Lead Investigator for the *Australian Genetics of Bipolar Disorder Study* – a ground-breaking international collaboration exploring the genetic risk factors associated with the illness, and how genes influence one's response to treatment.

Prof Medland is also a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Senior Research Fellow and an Honorary Professor in the Department of Psychology and the School of Medicine, University of Queensland.

She has published more than 270 research papers. Her work has been cited over 20,000 times and over 100 of these papers have been cited on more than 50 occasions.

Prof Medland serves on the board of the International Society for Psychiatric Genetics and is a member of the Australian Psychological Society.

Her major interests are in the discovery of genetic and environmental risk factors influencing psychiatric disorders and in identifying biomarkers that might help predict treatment response and minimise side effects.

Prof Medland is the recipient of the *Ruth Stephens Gani Medal* from the Australian Academy of Science (which recognises excellence in early career research in human genetics) and the *Theodore Reich Young Investigator Award* from the International Society of Psychiatric Genetics.

She holds grants from the NHMRC and is a co-investigator on grants from the National Institutes of Health in the US.

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To coordinate an interview with Professor Sarah Medland, please contact Kirsten Bruce or Holly Hamilton from VIVA! Communications on 0401 717 566 / 0434 799 839.