

Michael Berk

Professor Michael Berk is currently a NHMRC Senior Principal research Fellow, and is Alfred Deakin Chair of Psychiatry at Deakin University and Barwon Health, where he heads the IMPACT Strategic Research Centre. He also is an Honorary Professorial Research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry, the Florey Institute for Neuroscience and Mental Health and Orygen Youth Health at Melbourne University, as well as in the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at Monash University. He is past president of the International Society for Bipolar disorders and the Australasian Society of Bipolar and Depressive Disorders. He is an ISI highly cited researcher who has published over 800 papers predominantly in mood disorders. He is ranked globally #3 in bipolar disorder and #10 in depression by the bibliometric website expertscape. His major interests are in the discovery and implementation of novel therapies, and risk factors and prevention of psychiatric disorders. He is the recipient of a number of national and international awards including the Brain and behaviour Foundation Colvin prize, and holds grants from the National Institutes of Health (US), Simon Autism Foundation, NHMRC CRE and project grants, Beyondblue and Stanley Medical Research Institute and is a lead investigator in a Collaborative Research Centre.

His primary interest is in the discovery and implementation of novel therapies. These include the first two published randomised trials of the atypical antipsychotics and lamotrigine in bipolar disorder, currently established treatments. He completed one of the first and largest trials of fluoxetine in acral lick dermatitis, now a routine veterinary treatment, and the first trials of mirtazapine in schizophrenia, the first two randomised placebo controlled trials of N-acetyl cysteine in both depression and bipolar disorder maintenance treatment, which follow up two positive trials of NAC in schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. These have established both a novel treatment and implicated a novel mechanism of disease. NAC has begun to be used globally and appears in the latest treatment guidelines. He group has recently completed the first positive large scale trial of internet psychotherapy for bipolar disorder, the first trial showing that dietary modification can treat depression, the first trial of minocycline in depression, and completed the first trial of mitochondrial targeted therapy for bipolar disorder.

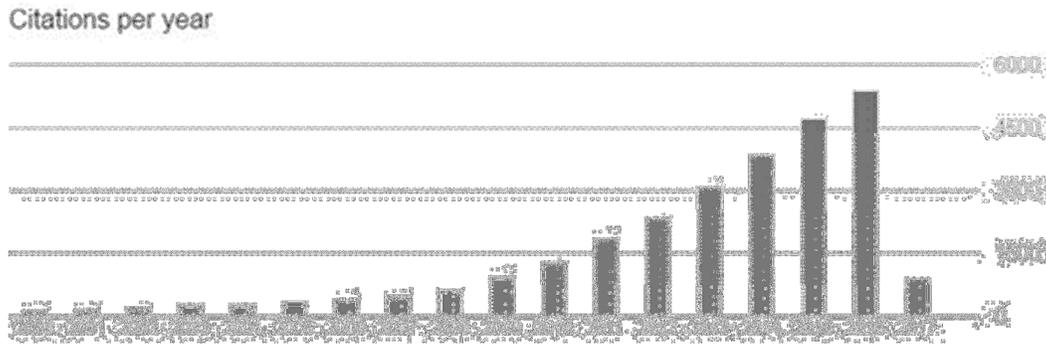
Overall Track record in the last 5 years

Current Research Support:

1 NIH R34 Grant
NHMRC Senior Principal Research Fellow
3 NHMRC Project Grants
NHMRC Targeted Call for Research Grant
NHMRC CRE
CRC for Mental Health
2 Stanley Medical Research Institute grants
Simons Autism Foundation
2 Rotary Health Grants
National Natural Science Foundation of China
Harry Windsor Foundation Grant
Avant Quality Improvement grant

Publications in the past 5 years:

In the past 5 years he has published 365 articles, which have been cited 22,639 times since 2012, including papers in top-tier journals (Lancet, Am J Psychiatry, JAMA Psychiatry, Biological Psychiatry, World Psychiatry, Neuroscience and Biobehavioural reviews) with 72 papers cited >100 times.



Recent and current professional Involvement:

Executive Committee Member, Alliance for the Prevention of Mental Disorders
Chair, Board of Governance, International Society for Bipolar Disorders
Vice President, Australasian Society of Bipolar and Depressive Disorders
Scientific Committee, World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry
Scientific Advisory Board, beyondblue

International Standing:

Multiple fully funded invitations to speak at international conferences. On the bibliometric website expertscape, he is ranked #3 globally in bipolar disorder, #10 in depression and #52 in psychotherapy (out of 42,454).

Supervision and Mentoring:

10 PhD students graduated over the past 5 years
Currently supervising 14 PhD students

Peer Review Involvement:

Associate Editor of 6 journals, Member of the editorial board of 24 journals
Reviewer, New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet and many others
NHMRC grant review panel member

Recent Awards:

Alfred/Deakin Professorship (2012)
RANZCP MSD Senior Research Award (2012)
Prime Ministers Award for Science (Finalist 2014)
ISI Highly cited (2015, 2016)
Brain and Behaviour Foundation NARSAD Colvin prize (2015)
Society for Mental health Research Founders Medal (2015)