

## **Professor Sarah Maguire OAM BSc Psych Hons MA DCP PhD Chief Investigator, EDGI2 Australia, Clinical Psychologist & Director, InsideOut Institute, SYDNEY**

Professor Sarah Maguire OAM is a Sydney-based clinical psychologist, researcher, educator and policy maker with more than 25 years' experience in the field of eating disorders.

She serves as Director of the [InsideOut Institute for Eating Disorders](#) – Australia's first institute for research and clinical excellence in eating disorders. The Institute aims to provide every Australian living with an eating disorder, access to the best possible care, by re-thinking eating disorders from the "inside out".

Prof Maguire is also Co-Investigator for the Eating Disorders Genetics Initiative (EDGI2) – the world's largest genetic investigation of eating disorders ever performed, that aims to identify the hundreds of genes that influence a person's risk of developing the complex, devastating illnesses of anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge-eating disorder and Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID), to improve treatment, and ultimately, save lives.



EDGI2 follows the ground-breaking advances made in the initial EDGI investigation and collaborative Anorexia Nervosa Genetics Initiative (ANGI), in which researchers, including the EDGI team, identified the first eight genes for anorexia nervosa that implicate both psychiatric and metabolic causes for the condition. This was a total surprise and a finding that urgently needs replication and expansion to fully understand the pathways that lead to this debilitating condition – hence the need for a much larger sample size, which is the aim of EDGI2.

At InsideOut, Prof Maguire leads a research team with a broad research agenda, including biological, health systems, health economics, prevention, public health promotion, clinical intervention and translational research. InsideOut staff have published more than 580 publications, attracted more than AUD 46 million in research funding, and have conducted world-first research trials in eating disorders.

Prof Maguire and her InsideOut team are passionate about changing the way eating disorders are perceived and treated within the health system and the community, by driving clinical excellence, providing policy leadership, research translation, and research that changes practice and outcomes.

Prof Maguire acts as a senior adviser to the New South Wales (NSW) Ministry of Health, and at InsideOut, leads the implementation of NSW Health Policy in relation to eating disorders State-wide, including large-scale health system reform under the NSW Service Plan for Eating Disorders.

She also sits on various national committees for health service reform. She was a member of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Review Taskforce Advisory Group, and the Implementation Liaison Group for Medicare changes relating to eating disorders.

Prof Maguire has worked in hospital and community settings, and supervised clinical teams and trainees. She is a specialist clinical trainer and board approved supervisor.

In 2022, Prof Maguire was the recipient of an Order of Australia Medal – Queen's Birthday Honours List for her services to clinical psychology and community health.

In relation to her role with EDGI2, Prof Maguire explained "It is extremely important to have a better understanding of the genetics of eating disorders and identify potential genes that could distinguish individuals who are predisposed to developing an eating disorder.

"Identifying the genes that predispose people to eating disorders will revolutionise future research into causes, treatment and prevention of the illnesses," said Prof Maguire.

**To volunteer for the EDGI2, head to [edgi.org.au](https://edgi.org.au) or email [edgi2@qimrberghofer.edu.au](mailto:edgi2@qimrberghofer.edu.au).**

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**To coordinate an interview with Professor Sarah Maguire, please contact:**

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