Dr Bronwyn Raykos BA (Hons), MPsych/PhD Clinical psychologist, researcher & founder, Morgan Psychology, PERTH

Dr Bronwyn Raykos is a clinical psychologist, researcher, and founder of Morgan Psychology – a private practice dedicated to compassionate, evidence-based care for individuals experiencing eating disorders and co-occurring difficulties.

Dr Raykos has developed *Morgan's* online platform, offering advanced training in evidence-based treatment for mental health clinicians and virtual care services (clinical psychology and dietetics), to enable clients to access support when they need it, wherever they live.

Based in Western Australia (WA), she also works with WA Country Health Service, extending her commitment to improving access to high quality treatment in regional and remote WA.

Dr Raykos holds a Master of Clinical Psychology/PhD. She was awarded the 2021 ANZAED Distinguished Achievement Award for her contributions to the field



of eating disorders, and received the 2024 Innovation Award from North Metropolitan Health Service for her work developing an innovative, mobile application, *Grounded*, that offers evidence-based support and clinical monitoring for patients with eating disorders at the point in which they ask for help.

Having worked at the Institute of Psychiatry in London, and led the eating disorders programme at The Centre for Clinical Interventions, WA, Dr Raykos is passionate about transforming care pathways through digital innovation, early intervention, and co-design.

She is a member of the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Eating Disorders and the editorial board of the *International Journal of Eating Disorders*. Her research has been published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at national and international conferences.

Dr Raykos is an advocate for the Eating Disorders Genetic Initiative 2 (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.

"Eating disorders are complex and often misunderstood mental illnesses that affect one in 20 Australians. They can have a devastating impact not only on those experiencing them, but also on families and loved ones," said Dr Raykos.

"What often comes as a surprise is the significant role that genetics plays in a person's vulnerability to developing an eating disorder.

"Understanding the genes involved is a crucial step towards improving how we identify risk, intervene early, and tailor treatments," Dr Raykos said

To volunteer for the EDGI2, head to edgi.org.au or email edgi.org.au</a

ends#

To coordinate an interview with Dr Bronwyn Raykos, please contact:

Kirsten Bruce or Sam Jacobs, VIVA! Communications:

M 0401 717 566 | 0434 799 839

T 02 9968 3741 | 1604

E <u>kirstenbruce@vivacommunications.com.au</u> | <u>sam@vivacommunications.com.au</u>