

Professor Patrick McGorry

2010 Australian of the Year

Biography



Professor Patrick McGorry AO is a leading international researcher, clinician and advocate for mental health reform.

As Executive Director of Orygen Youth Health, Professor McGorry is a world-renowned mental health organisation for young people that has put Australia at the forefront of innovation in the prevention and treatment of mental illness. Orygen targets the needs of young people with emerging serious mental illness, including first-episode psychosis and has become the model upon which many other youth mental health services in the world are based.

He is also a director of the National Youth Mental Health Foundation (headspace), believing that early intervention offers the greatest hope for recovery and he therefore takes every opportunity to educate the community to recognise the early signs of mental illness, without stigmatising or discriminating.

In January 2010, Professor McGorry was named as Australian of the Year in recognition of 'his extraordinary 27-year contribution to the improvement of the youth mental health sector [that] has transformed the lives of tens of thousands of young people the world over.'

Professor McGorry was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in June 2010.

