New Online Project Tracks the Status of Current Research

MAPS is developing a web-based "master list" of current psychedelic research projects at www.maps.org/research/psyprojects.html. The studies are listed by drug and by status, — i.e. "study in progress," "study under development," and "study completed." The title of the project, investigators' names, study site, sponsor, e-mail contact, brief description and where possible published references and links to more information are included in each listing.

We are adding pages to the MAPS site such as MDMA Research in Switzerland and Ketamine Research in Russia wherever there are many references and links to include. In some cases we link to the Erowid Entheogen Vaults (erowid.org/entheogens), where controversial articles are posted and discussed.

Our hope is that this webpage will be useful to researchers, students and people who are simply curious about current psychedelic research. We've reprinted the list in this issue and invite readers to bring to our attention additional studies that may not yet be listed. We are focusing on studies with human subjects and not animal studies. The page is to be updated regularly. It has been made possible by a generous grant from the Promind Foundation.

MDMA—in progress

Psychobiologic Effects of MDMA in Humans
Investigators: Charles Grob, MD, and Russell Poland, Ph.D. Harbor-UCLA Medical Center—Torrance, California
Sponsor: MAPS, Harbor/UCLA
E-mail: Charles Grob; grob@humc.edu, Russell Poland; poland@humc.edu
FDA-approved Phase 1 dose-response safety study .25 to 2.25 mg/kg, dose administration phase completed, data for .25 to .75 mg/kg published. Data for 1.00 to 2.25 mg/kg being analysed for publication.

Effects of MDMA on the Human Brain
Investigators: Franz Vollenweider et al. Psychiatric University Hospital—Zürich, Switzerland
E-mail: gamma@bli.unizh.ch, vollen@bli.unizh.ch
Sponsors: Swiss National Science Foundation, UBS Science Foundation
Psychobiologic studies including: assessment of possible neurophysiological, psychological and cognitive alterations in chronic MDMA users; evaluation of the role of serotonin, dopamine and norepinephrine systems in mediating the effect of MDMA on mood, psychomotor behavior and sensorimotor gating in humans, investigating whether regular MDMA users show alterations in 5-HT reuptake site densities indicative of neurotoxic effects after long-term MDMA use. MAPS has donated $6,000 to a sub-study in which 10 MDMA-naive subjects will receive a PET scan to measure serotonin reuptake sites before and after a single dose of MDMA (1.5 mg/kg).

MDMA Pharmacokinetics in Humans
Investigators: John Mendelson, MD and Reese Jones, MD University of California—San Francisco
Contact person: Matthew Baggott, mba@itsa.ucsf.edu
Sponsor: NIDA
Drug administration phase completed, data being analysed for publication. Eight subjects were given 0.5 and 1.5 mg/kg MDMA HCl.

Serotonin and Dopamine system interactions in the reinforcing properties of psychostimulants
Investigators: Manny Tancer, MD and Charles Schuster, Ph.D. Wayne State University—Detroit, Michigan
E-mail: mtancer@med.wayne.edu
Sponsor: NIDA
Psychobiologic studies. Approved and in process. MDMA dose-response phase underway.
additional comment: The research is supported by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Additional support is provided by the Addictions Research and Education Foundation (AREF) and the California Institute for Medical Research (CIMR). The study was conducted at the University of California, San Francisco, and is published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The authors declare no conflicts of interest. The study was approved by the institutional review boards at all participating institutions.

MDMA—Developed by Dr. James A. Davis, M.D., Ph.D., and Dr. Andrew D. Smith, M.D., Ph.D., at the University of California, San Francisco, and is published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The study was conducted at the University of California, San Francisco, and is published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The authors declare no conflicts of interest. The study was approved by the institutional review boards at all participating institutions.

Additional commentary: The research is supported by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Additional support is provided by the Addictions Research and Education Foundation (AREF) and the California Institute for Medical Research (CIMR). The study was conducted at the University of California, San Francisco, and is published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The authors declare no conflicts of interest. The study was approved by the institutional review boards at all participating institutions.

MDMA—Developed by Dr. James A. Davis, M.D., Ph.D., and Dr. Andrew D. Smith, M.D., Ph.D., at the University of California, San Francisco, and is published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The study was conducted at the University of California, San Francisco, and is published in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. The authors declare no conflicts of interest. The study was approved by the institutional review boards at all participating institutions.
MDMA Pharmacokinetics
Investigator: Rudolf Brenneisen, Ph.D.
University of Bern, Switzerland
E-mail: brenneisen@dkf5.unibe.ch
Completed and published, just a few subjects.

Psycholytic Therapy with MDMA and LSD in Switzerland
Investigators: Marianne Bloch, MD, Juraj Styk, MD and Samuel Widmer, MD
Sponsor: Swiss Medical Society for Psycholytic Therapy
From 1988 to 1993 therapists with the Swiss Medical Society for Psycholytic Therapy worked with MDMA and LSD as adjuncts to psychotherapy.

MDE—Completed
The psychological, neuroendocrine, cardiovascular and sleep-EEG effects of MDE
Investigator: Euphorosyne Gouzoulis-Mayfrank, MD and Leo Hermle, MD
Psychiatric Department of the Technical University (RWTH)—Aachen, Germany
Human research on neurobiological and subjective effects of MDE.

LSD—Under development
LSD-Assisted Psychotherapy in the Treatment of Cancer Patients
Investigators: Albert A. Kurland, MD, Richard Yensen, Ph.D., and Donna A. Dryer, MD
Orenda Institute—Baltimore, Maryland
E-mail: ryensen@orenda.org
Sponsor: Orenda Institute, MAPS
Psychotherapy study, protocol design process underway.

Receptor Profiles of Lysergamides related to LSD
Investigator: David E. Nichols, Ph.D.
Purdue University—West Lafayette, Indiana
E-mail: drdave@pharmacy.purdue.edu
Sponsor: Heffter, Promind
Laboratory research, no human or animal subjects.

Follow-up study of Bastiaans LSD therapy
Investigators: Nicole Maalsté, Hans Ossebaard
Utrecht, The Netherlands
E-mail: n.maalste@fss.uu.nl
Sponsor: MAPS, Promind Foundation
Retrospective survey study with former clients who were treated with drug therapy by Dr. Jan Bastiaans. Data collection and analysis for pilot study completed (see page 3). Funding sought for further research.

Follow-up study of Janiger LSD research
Investigators: Rick Doblin, Jerry Beck, Ph.D.,
Kate Obata, Maureen Alioto
Los Angeles Area, California
E-mail: info@maps.org
Sponsor: MAPS
Retrospective survey study with 45 people who participated in the LSD research of Dr. Oscar Janiger between 1954 and 1962.

Psycholytic Therapy with MDMA and LSD in Switzerland
Investigators: Marianne Bloch, MD, Juraj Styk, MD and Samuel Widmer, MD
Sponsor: Swiss Medical Society for Psycholytic Therapy
From 1988 to 1993 therapists with the Swiss Medical Society for Psycholytic Therapy worked with MDMA and LSD as adjuncts to psychotherapy.

IBOGAINE—In progress
Ibogaine treatment study with addiction
Investigator: Deborah Mash, Ph.D.
Healing Visions Institute for Addiction Recovery, Ltd., St. Kitt, Virgin Islands
E-mail: dmash@mednet.med.miami.edu
Sponsor: Healing Visions Institute for Addiction Recovery, Ltd.
Treatments ongoing for a variety of addictions.

IBOGAINE—Under development
Ibogaine Psychotherapy Study with Cocaine Addicts
Investigator: Moshe Kotler, MD
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel
Contact person: Research associate Adam Darnell, MD
E-mail: darnellam@hotmail.com
Sponsor: Humatech, Inc.
Protocol completed and being reviewed by Israeli Health authorities, approval expected mid-1999.

Safety studies in preparation for proposed study of ibogaine therapy in the treatment of cocaine addiction
Investigators: William Weiner, MD, Ph.D. and Deborah Mash, Ph.D.
University of Miami Medical School—Florida
E-mail: dmash@mednet.med.miami.edu
Clinical study Phase I, continuation of dose response study which stopped at 2 mg/kg, approved for 4, 6 and 8 mg/kg, cannot begin until funding is secured.
AVAHUACA—Completed

Psychopharmacology of Agamenesia: Phase I

Investigation: Denmark's, M.D. and James, T.M., P.D.

Ten years of clinical studies completed and published

Trial Addiction Therapy—MAPS

St. Francis Research Foundation Center for Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Therapy—California

Investigation: Everett, M.D., P.D.

In the Treatment of Alcoholics

Ketamine—Completed

Clinical Study, IRIS approved and funded mid to late 1999

Sponsor: N/A

Investigation: E. Kopf, M.D.

In the Treatment of Alcoholics

Ketamine—Psychotherapy Therapy

A Study of Using the Drug to Replace Addictions

Avahanca—Under Development

Treatment for Schizophrenia

TIAFYN I, III and 2 have been approved with substance abuse


E-mail: pf@pf.com

Avahanca—Current Status

Investigation: Sonny, M.D. and John, M.D.

Investigation: Scott, M.D.

A Study of Using the Drug to Replace Addictions

Ketamine—In Progress

Clinical Study, IRIS approved and funded mid to late 1999

Sponsor: N/A

Investigation: J. Courage, M.D.

In the Treatment of Addiction

Avahanca—In Progress

Psychopharmacology of Agamenesia

A pharmaco-ecological study of substance abuse

Study set to begin spring 1999.

E-mail: pf@pf.com

Avahanca—In Progress

Psychopharmacology of Agamenesia: Phase I

Investigation: Denmark's, M.D. and James, T.M., P.D.

In the Treatment of Alcoholics
**DMT—Completed**

**Human Psychopharmacology of N,N-dimethyltryptamine**
Investigator: Rick Strassman, MD
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
E-mail: rstrassm@islandnet.com
Sponsor: NIDA

Psychobiological study, finished and published.

**PSilocybin—Under development**

**Psychopharmacology and Cognitive Effects of Psilocybin in 24 Physicians**
Investigators: Leo Hermle, MD, Michael Szukaj, MD, Michael Schlichting, MD and Thomas Heinz
Münster, Germany
E-mail contact person: t.heinz@lw1.org
Sponsor: MAPS has pledged partial support,
Perfect Fungi Europe
Psychobiological study, protocol being designed, pending final approval.

**Psilocybin Psychotherapy Study**
Investigators: Franz Vollenweider, MD, Juraj Styk, MD et al.
Psychiatric University Hospital—Zürich, Switzerland
E-mail: vollen@bli.unizh.ch, styk@magnet.ch
Sponsor: Heffter
Psychotherapy study, protocol being designed.

**Psilocybin in the Treatment of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder**
Investigators: Pedro Delgado, MD and Francisco Moreno, MD
Tucson, Arizona
E-mail: delgado@u.arizona.edu
Psychopharmacology study, protocol being designed.

**Psilocybin's effects on cognition**
Investigators: Manfred Spitzer, MD, Ph.D. et al.
Psychiatrische Universitäts Klinik, Heidelberg, Germany
Human clinical study, completed and published.

**Human Psychopharmacology of Psilocybin**
Investigator: Rick Strassman, MD
University of New Mexico, USA
E-mail: rstrassm@islandnet.com
Psychobiological study. Phase 1 dose-response study
Sponsor: NIDA

Begun, not completed due to personal reasons unrelated to study itself.

**PEYOTE—In progress**

**Peyote Neuropsychological Study**
Investigators: John Halpern, MD and Harrison Pope, MD
Harvard Medical School—Cambridge, Massachusetts
E-mail: jhalpern@warren.med.harvard.edu
Sponsor: Heffter, NIDA, Harvard Medical School

Investigators have begun neuropsychological testing with Native American Church members.

**SALVIA DIVINORUM—In progress**

**Meditation with Salvia Divinorum**
Investigators: Ian Soutar and Rick Strassman, M.D.
E-mail: soutar@horizon.bc.ca
Sponsor: MAPS

This project evaluates *Salvia divinorum* as a tool for enhancing meditation work. Buddhist, Quaker, Sufi and other meditation techniques are used by participants in this double blind evaluation of group meditation combined with low doses of *Salvia divinorum*. One third of the subjects will receive a placebo, one third will receive a very low dose and one third will receive a low dose.

**Mescaline—In progress**

**Effects of Mescaline on the Human Brain**
Investigator: Roy Matthew
Duke University, North Carolina
Sponsor: NIDA

Study investigating what part of the brain is activated by mescaline, using PET scan.

**Ongoing Clinical Research—Multi-drug**

**Differential Effects of Hallucinogens, Entactogens, and Psychostimulants**
Investigators: Euphrosyne Gouzoulis-Mayfrank, MD and Mark Geyer, Ph.D.
Aachen, Germany and UC San Diego—La Jolla, California
E-mail: mark@rat.ucsd.edu
Sponsor: Heffter Research Institute

**Receptor Mechanisms Contributing to Psychedelic Drug Effects**
Investigators: Franz Vollenweider, MD and Mark Geyer, Ph.D.
Psychiatric University Hospital—Zürich, Switzerland and UC San Diego—La Jolla, California
E-mail: vollen@bli.unizh.ch, mark@rat.ucsd.edu
Sponsor: Heffter Research Institute
American ideas about mind-body interaction 

The expression of how psychedelics helped achieve a shift in 

Experiences of American Civilizations 

Investigating the Mind-Body Interaction 

A cross-cultural study of altered states of consciousness 

The role of belief in West Africa

Cross-cultural Studies

Eurasian Research around the World
Salvia with Meditation Study Update
Ian Soutar, E-mail: soutar@horizon.bc.ca

This project evaluates Salvia divinorum as a tool for enhancing meditation work. Buddhist, Quaker, Sufi and other meditation techniques are used by participants in a double blind evaluation of group meditation combined with low doses of Salvia divinorum. One third of the subjects will receive a placebo, one third will receive a very low dose and one third will receive a low dose.

These dosage levels are being established through a set of non-blind dose establishment sessions. The herb is administered sublingually in dried leaf form. Dosages range from one-fourth gram to one gram of dried leaf. This quantity is about one-fifth to one-tenth of the amount normally used to induce psychedelic states. Preliminary sessions have shown that the effects at this dosage level cannot be detected except when the subject sits quietly with eyes closed. These effects include alertness, unusual clarity of mind and an enhanced ability to concentrate. Some subjects are reporting space and time distortion effects. One unusual result that has been observed is headache relief. Data on this effect will be collected in an informal manner during the experiment. One subject who suffers from migraine found his headache completely eliminated over 30 minutes. Another observed the same effect with a minor headache. If informal results look promising we may do a follow up study to see if Salvia divinorum might have some merit for headache treatment. We have been contacted by another researcher who wants to start his own project to evaluate Salvia divinorum for headache relief.

The double blind phase of the experiment began in early June 1999. During each session volunteers will meditate as a group while holding a small quantity of the herb (or placebo) under the tongue. After the session each person will answer a questionnaire to evaluate the effects of the herb and to determine whether or not it enhanced their ability to meditate. The questionnaire is a modified version of the HRS (Hallucinogen Rating Scale) developed by Rick Strassman.

This amateur research project has progressed quite smoothly without the usual bureaucratic and approval delays that are the rule with professional studies. With proper guidance a project such as this can be carried out in a scientific and methodical way and deliver valuable data to other researchers.

MAPS has purchased the materials and paid for the chemical analysis. Continuing assistance is being offered at no charge, in the spirit of amateur research, by MAPS (professional) members. Thanks to all who are currently contributing their knowledge to this project.

The Second Generation Project
Adele Getty, E-mail: huxley@nets.com

Since the announcement of the Second Generation Project in the last MAPS Bulletin I have been contacted by a number of researchers offering help and encouragement. At the moment I am working on the questionnaire and technical details surrounding the study. I have also received e-mails from volunteers and parents that have been heart-warming and supportive. I would like to share a few excerpts of these letters with MAPS readers.

One parent wrote:
"Yes, right now, today, my son dropped some acid and went to a beautiful wilderness area to celebrate the April 19th anniversary of Albert Hofmann's bicycle ride. There is no doubt my son's deep spiritual affinity for Nature is a direct outgrowth of some of his entheogenic experiences. Certainly, certainly true for me. My son is 19 and a freshman in college who is good in Physics and math—completely unlike me in that regard. I've worked hard to educate my son and his younger sister to respect and use entheogens wisely. They haven't always done so. But, by and large, they've done well and had some very positive experiences. I truly believe my son has developed much of his considerable philosophical depth as a result of the good (and maybe the bad?) experiences. By the way, I want to praise you for this undertaking... for obvious reasons."

A young adult wrote:
"Saw your article in the MAPS newsletter (sic) last night. I imagine I am one of those second generation 20-somethings who grew up with a lay psychedelic chemist yogi father (among other things!). Lots of stories. First introduced to psilocybin around 15. Thirteen years later (I'm 28), plant medicine continues to be an integral part of a yogic spiritual practice I share with my father."

Another second generation person wrote:
"I am giving you my info as a potential interview. I grew up in an environment with psychedelic adults. I am 25, living in Texas. Finished school and moved here in search of something, haven't figured it out yet. My mom had mentioned the study and it sounded interesting. I hope it is going well."

Since word of this study has gone out I have been approached by many second generation people who are anxious to participate in the project. Volunteers are more numerous than I thought. I have also been touched by the parent-child relationships. At the moment my challenge is to develop the appropriate questionnaire and then to do a pilot study with a few volunteers. I would like to thank MAPS and the MAPS staff for their support and those researchers, volunteers, and parents who have contacted me. I believe this study will contribute something of value to the field of psychedelic research and it flies in the face of conventional attitudes towards drug use among young adults. It is my hope, with your help, to generate the funding to have this study go forward and to create a forum in which the stories of the second generation can be told."