

Psychedelic Learner Decision Tree

Explore psychedelic agents currently under investigation for their potential benefits as adjuncts to psychotherapy.

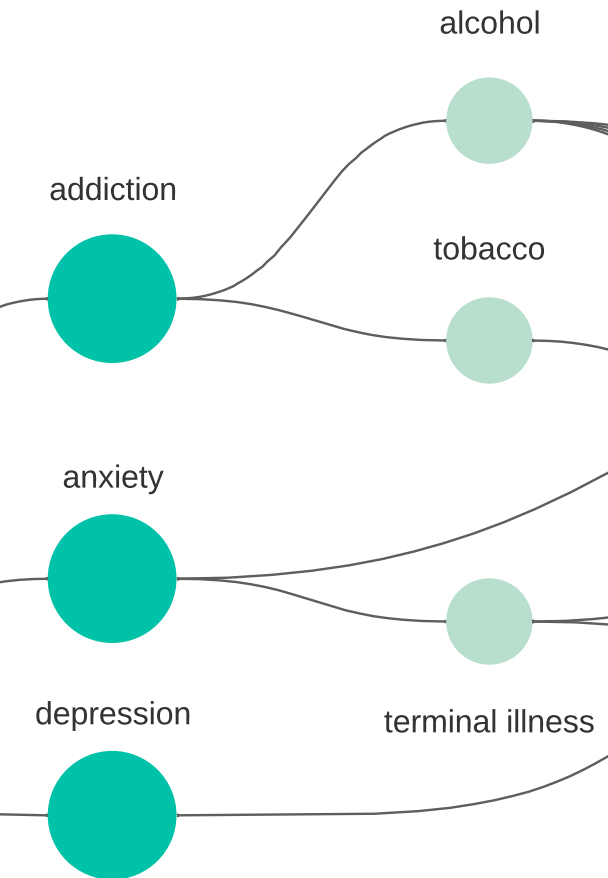
Source: CMAJ 2015. DOI:10.1503/cmaj.141124



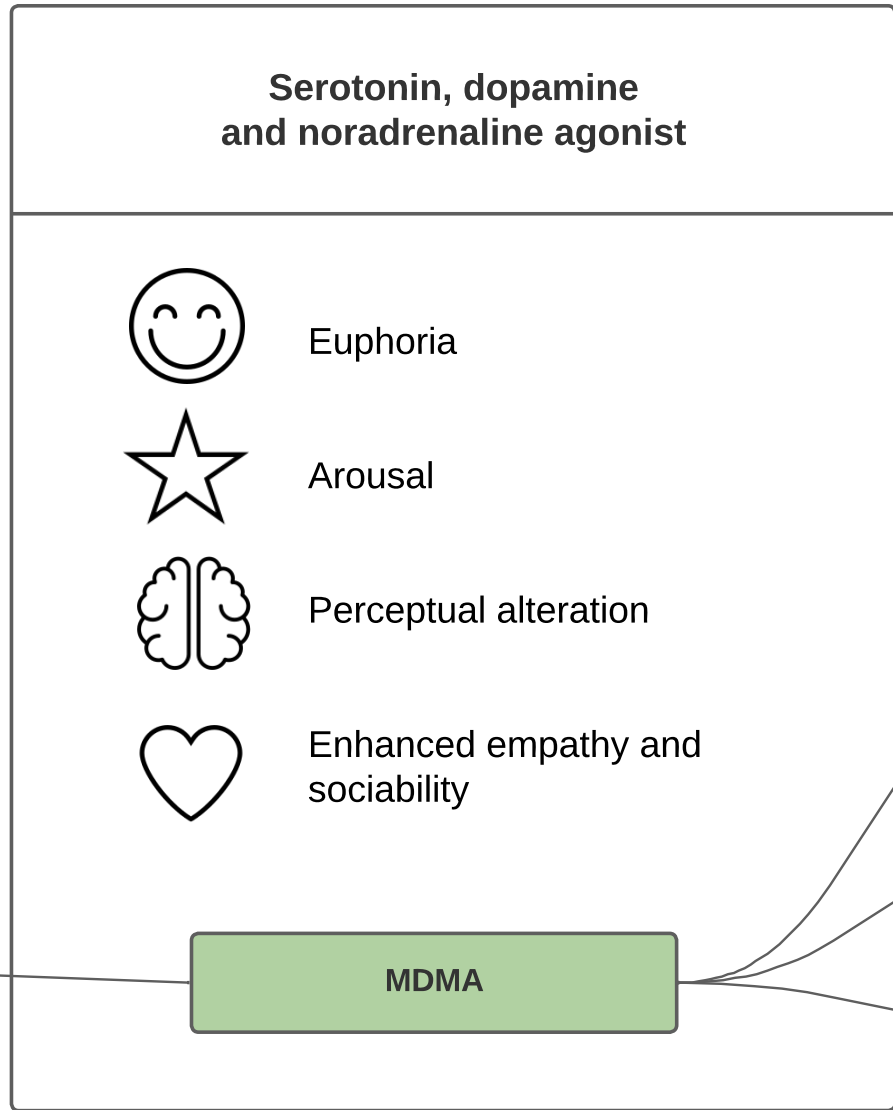
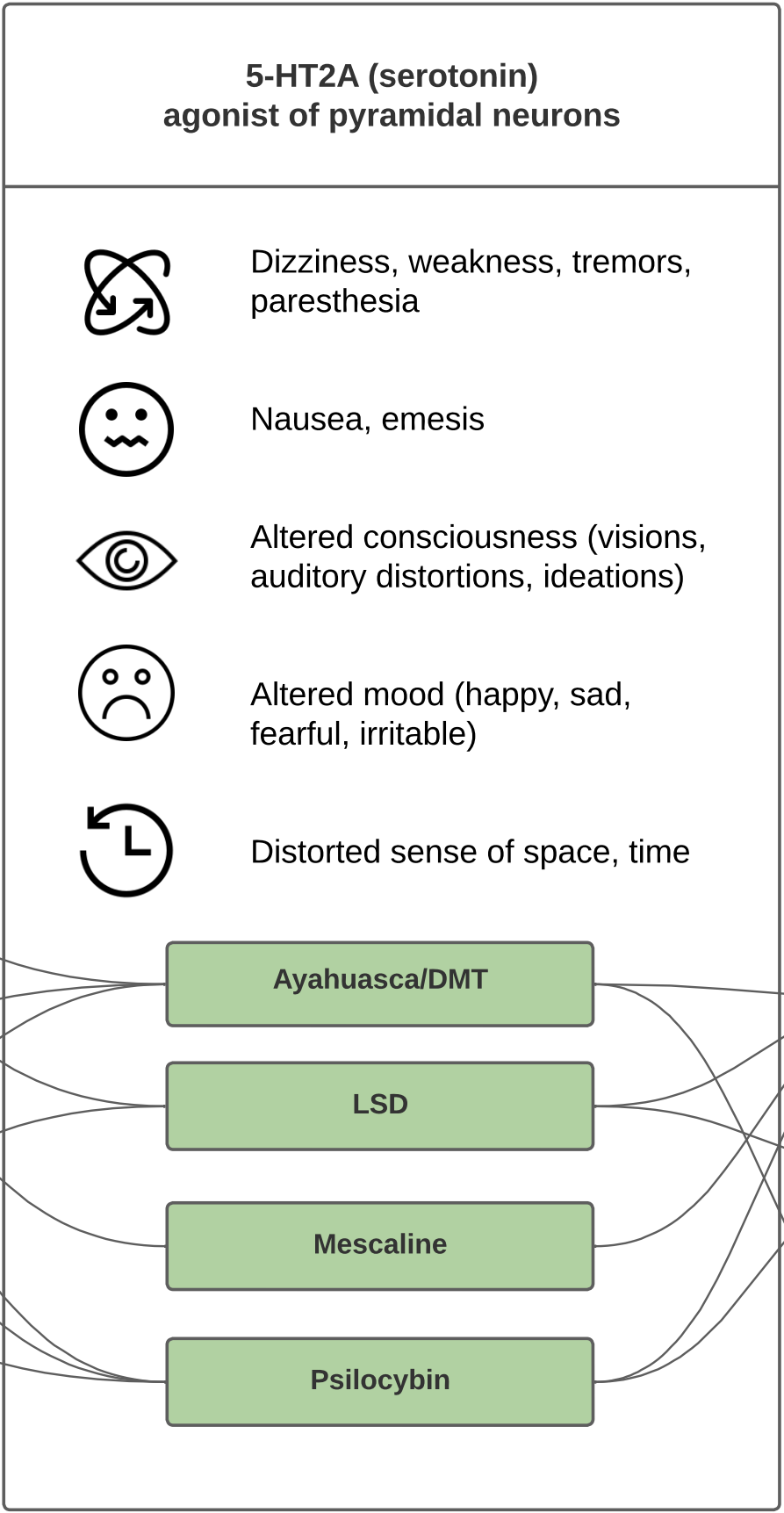
Which potential therapeutic uses might be considered?

Note:
 DMT = dimethyltryptamine,
 LSD = lysergic acid diethylamide,
 MDMA = methylenedioxyamphetamine,
 PTSD = posttraumatic stress disorder.
 *Potential harms identified here are associated with illicit and unsupervised nonmedical uses of psychedelic substances (often in the context of polysubstance use); current clinical studies on psychedelic agents have not reported such chronic adverse sequelae.
 †Potential therapeutic uses are identified based on evidence from past (i.e., 1950s–1960s) and current research on psychedelic drugs.

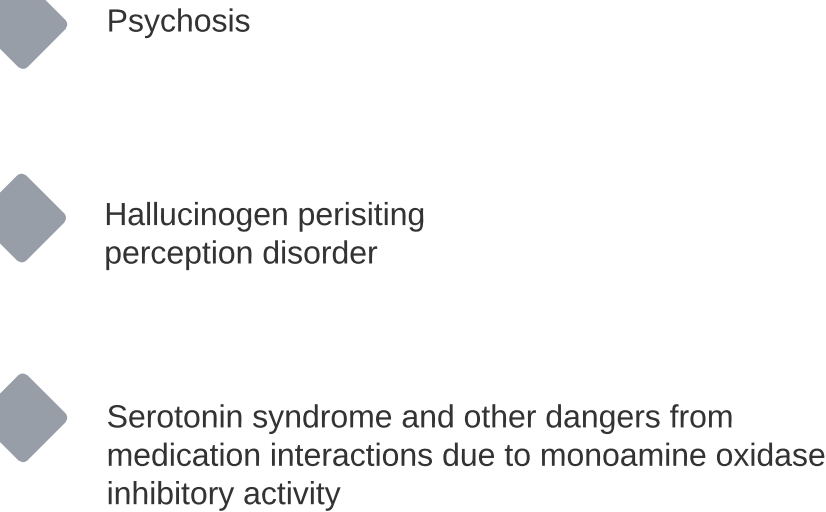
Potential therapeutic uses†



General effects and properties



Potential harms*



Substance Derivation or chemical analogues

Ayahuasca brew (admixtures contain DMT)
 Chacruna leaf (*Psychotria viridis*); Chagropanga vine (*Diplopterys cabrerana*); ayahuasca vine (*Banisteriopsis caapi*); assorted other admixture plants

LSD
 Ergot fungus (*Claviceps purpurea*); morning glory (*Turbina corymbosa*); Hawaiian baby woodrose (*Argyreia nervosa*) — sources of ergine or lysergic acid amide

Mescaline
 Peyote cactus (*Lophophora williamsii*); San Pedro cactus (*Echinopsis pachanoi*)

Psilocybin
 Psilocybe and other genera of mushrooms (various species)

MDMA
 Sassafras tree (*Sassafras albidum*) — source of safrole, precursor chemical