

Evaluating mental health professional attitudes of a new treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

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Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	University of Sydney
Enrollment	200 participants

Plain Language Summary

This study explores how mental health professionals — psychologists, psychiatrists, and mental health researchers — feel about a relatively new treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) involving MDMA-assisted therapy. PTSD can be a debilitating condition, and while MDMA-therapy has shown promise in clinical trials, there are concerns that professionals may have biases about it due to the drug's recreational history.

To test this, participants will be randomly shown one of two scenarios describing the same treatment approach: one labelled as MDMA-therapy and one described with a neutral name. They'll then answer questions about their perceived safety concerns, predicted effectiveness, and willingness to recommend the treatment. This clever design helps reveal whether the name of the substance — not the actual science — is shaping professional attitudes.

You are eligible to participate if you currently work in Australia as a registered psychologist, psychiatrist, or mental health researcher registered with AHPRA, and you are 18 years of age or older. People who do not work in Australia or are under 18 are not eligible.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (2)

- Participants must be working within Australia as a psychologist, psychiatrist or mental health researcher.
- Psychologists and psychiatrists must be registered with AHPRA.

Exclusion (2)

- People under the age of 18.
- People who do not work in Australia.

Locations (1 total)

ACT,NSW,NT,QLD,SA,TAS,WA,VIC, Australia