Psychedelics and Prosocial Behaviour: A Rapid Scoping Review

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Characteristics of Included Studies

Study	Design	Compound and dose	Participants	Economic game(s)	Timing of games	Country
Belinger et al. (2026)	Randomised, double-blind, parallel-group trial; conference abstract reporting a blinded interim analysis	MDMA 100 mg, psilocybin 15 mg or methylphenidate 60 mg	120 healthy volunteers (interim analysis n = 110)	Zurich Prosocial Game	Before dosing and 4 weeks later	Switzerland
Borissova et al. (2021)	Double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover	MDMA 100 mg vs placebo	25 (7 female, 18 male); prior MDMA use	Trust Investment Task, Public Project Game, Dictator Game, Ultimatum Game	2–4 h after dosing	UK
Dolder et al. (2016)	Pooled analysis of two double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover trials	LSD 100 µg or 200 µg vs placebo	40 (20 female, 20 male); mostly hallucinogen-naïve	SVO Slider Measure	5–6 h (100 µg) or 7–8 h (200 µg) after dosing	Switzerland
Gabay et al. (2018)[a]	Experiment 1: open-label, within-subject comparison with a drug-free session. Experiment 2: double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover	Experiment 1: psilocybin 2 mg IV. Experiment 2: MDMA 100 mg vs placebo	Experiment 1: 20 male; prior psychedelic use. Experiment 2: 20 male; prior MDMA use	Ultimatum Game; nine-item SVO measure (Experiment 2 only)	60 min (psilocybin) or 95 min (MDMA) after dosing	UK
Gabay et al. (2019)[a]	Double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover	MDMA 100 mg vs placebo	20 male; prior MDMA use	Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma (during fMRI)	95 min after dosing	UK
Hysek et al. (2014)[b]	Double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover	MDMA 125 mg vs placebo	32 (16 female, 16 male); mainly MDMA-naïve	SVO Slider Measure	4 h after dosing	Switzerland
Kuypers et al. (2014)	Blinded, placebo-controlled, four-condition crossover	MDMA 75 mg; MDMA 75 mg + pindolol 20 mg; intranasal oxytocin 40 IU; placebo	20 (8 female, 12 male); poly-drug MDMA users	Trust Game	About 2 h after dosing	Netherlands
Schmid et al. (2014)	Double-blind, placebo-controlled, three-period crossover	MDMA 75 mg, methylphenidate 40 mg or placebo	30 (15 female, 15 male); mainly MDMA-naïve	SVO Slider Measure	4 h after dosing	Switzerland
Stewart et al. (2014)	Naturalistic, independent groups, repeated measures	Self-selected recreational ecstasy; dose and purity unknown	39: 17 ecstasy users (5 female, 12 male), 22 controls (13 female, 9 male)	Public Good Game, Dictator Game, Ultimatum Game	Night of use (day 0) and 3 days later	UK
Vizeli & Liechti (2018)[b]	Pooled analysis of eight double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover trials	MDMA 125 mg vs placebo	69 with SVO data (from 132 genotyped participants)	SVO Slider Measure	3–4 h after dosing	Switzerland
Wunderli et al. (2018)	Cross-sectional comparison; no drug administered	Chronic recreational MDMA use, verified by hair analysis	94: 38 abstinent users (18 female, 20 male), 56 MDMA-naïve controls (26 female, 30 male)	Distribution Game, Dictator Game	Single session; mean 25 days since last use	Switzerland

Note. Doses were oral unless stated. fMRI = functional magnetic resonance imaging; IV = intravenous; LSD = lysergic acid diethylamide; MDMA = 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine; SVO = Social Value Orientation.

[a] Experiment 2 of Gabay et al. (2018) and Gabay et al. (2019) appear to report the same 20 participants. [b] The pooled sample of Vizeli and Liechti (2018) includes the participants of Hysek et al. (2014).