



Psychedelic Medicine Task Force Meeting Summary

Dec. 4, 2023, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Member attendance is in the meeting Voting Log. The Voting Log and all other meeting documents, including the presentation slides providing more detail, are available on the [Minnesota Psychedelic Medicine Task Force webpage \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/psychmed/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/psychmed/index.html).

Welcome

Facilitator Stacy Sjogren, with Management Analysis and Development (MAD), welcomed everyone to the meeting. She shared member participation reminders, addressed meeting observers, and gave reference to the task force webpage.

Chairperson, Dr. Jessica Nielson's statement

Task force chairperson Dr. Jessica Nielson talked about some of the issues related to filling the final task force seat, representing Ojibwe tribes in Minnesota. She noted the delay in the task force's first meeting was due, in part, to those seats being unfilled. While the seat representing Dakota tribes was filled before the first meeting, the Ojibwe seat remains open.

Dr. Nielson thanked MDH staff for advocating for the tribal seats to be filled and thanked the Governor's office for working to fill the final seat. She noted how important Indigenous representation is for the task force's work, particularly because of issues around cultural appropriation of Indigenous sacraments and practices in the psychedelic field. Dr. Nielson also said she is committed to the task force to be transparent about these issues to avoid perpetuating inequities. She invited other task force members and the public to comment on this via the task force website: [Psychedelic Medicine Task Force \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/psychmed/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/psychmed/index.html), or via email: Health.psychedelicmedicine@state.mn.us.

Agenda overview, roll call and approval of minutes

Chairperson Nielson thanked everyone for attending and reviewed the agenda.

Quorum was secured during roll call. See the meeting Voting Log for attendance.

The Nov. 6, 2023 meeting minutes were approved as written. See the meeting Voting Log for details.

Overarching workflow and benchmarks

Jess Burke, MAD, reviewed the legislative charge of the task force, their specific duties, the scientific research as outlined in legislation (Subd. 5.), and a tentative work cadence.

Task force member input was given on the Mural platform. Overall, members expressed that the basic timeline with benchmarks is reasonable as drafted.

With workgroups most likely needed to complete the charge of the task force, member reviewed suggested workgroups:

- Legal/Regulatory
- Implementation/Sociopolitical

A suggestion was made to form three (3) subgroups. Members moved to the Mural platform to share ideas of how the groups might look and concerns. No final decisions were made.

Study of existing research

Chairperson Nielson opened her presentation regarding research by acknowledging that there is conflict with current regulations and the alignment of effective treatments. She reviewed with members the following:

- The process of new drug approval
- The state of current psychedelic clinical trials
- FDA draft guidance on clinical trials with psychedelics

Proposed scientific research methods

Caroline Johnson, research scientist with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), began with the scope of her presentation, explaining that this presentation will focus on scientific/medical research. She added that the proposed method is mostly standard protocol, but that there is some room for task force member input. Johnson reviewed:

- Methodology overview
- Scientific review type: Meta-analysis, Systematic Review, Rapids Review.
 - Members were asked their input of what type of review this task force should focus on.
- Subdivision 5, duties
- Define the boundaries of scientific research
- Define the research questions
 - Members were asked whether they wanted to focus on efficacy or effectiveness.
 - Members were asked for their input on search questions for each of the three (3) drugs that are part of the charge.
- Identify the Databases: Academic Literature, Grey Literature
 - Member were asked their input on any other recommended sources.
- Develop search strategies
- Confirm levels of evidence: graphic shared

- Member were asked for their preferred level of studies (e.g., randomized controlled trial, cohort studies)
- Develop inclusion/exclusion criteria for the literature search
- Perform search & analyze results
- Write the scientific report
- Proposed timeline review
- Use of outside sources

Members were given until December 8 to finish posting their thoughts to these questions on Mural.

Caroline offered office hours for anyone who would like to ask more clarifying questions about the scientific research method.

Charter revisions

Today's goal is not to finalize the charter but to make sure members can "live with" content of some key sections and understand content of other areas:

- Guiding principles
- Working Agreements
- Scope of Authority: in/out of bounds
- Public communication and comments

Members used a gradients of agreement activity on the Mural platform to review and make recommendations. Again, members were reminded they had until Dec. 8, 2023 to complete their input.

Next task force meeting

Monday, Jan. 8, 2024, 9:30 am – 12: 30 pm