



**FROM
RESEARCH
TO REALITY**

Global Summit on
Psychedelic-Assisted
Therapies and Medicine

Overview

“From Research to Reality: Global Summit on Psychedelic-Assisted Therapies and Medicine” (R2R2022) will be held in Toronto, Canada, May 27-29, 2022, with pre-conference workshops scheduled for May 26, 2022. The conference is being co-sponsored by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA), and the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC), with financial support from the Nikean Foundation.

While psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy is not a new treatment option for mental health and substance use disorders, it has recently experienced a resurgence in interest among diverse stakeholders. It is time for careful consideration of the evidence base and the healthcare and legal frameworks in which it may be delivered going forward. The goal of R2R2022 is to bring policymakers, researchers, and clinicians together, in the interest of moving research on psychedelic-assisted therapies forward and enabling policy frameworks for practice. It will focus on rigorous quantitative and qualitative research studies that reflect high-quality scholarship and draw on diverse ways of knowing, with a view to identifying implications and next steps for policy and practice. It will also feature panels on pathways to the regulation of psychedelic substances for therapeutic purposes and on the intersection of science and spirituality, among other topics. The conference will also have a dedicated track to examine the use of psychedelics in the treatment and management of substance use disorders, including nicotine, cocaine, alcohol, and opioids.

A mix of plenary lectures, panel discussions and paper presentations is planned as well as poster presentations and pre-conference workshops, organized around selected sub-topics – neuroscience and clinical applications, traditional medicine and cultural considerations, and policy/public health. Given the diverse audience for whom a broad sweep of current topics will be of interest, we are aiming for a single-track conference. For the plenaries, designated discussants will provide oral comments and written feedback. Pre-conference workshops are planned (May 26th) as well as an evening event (May 28th) that will be open to the public, including people with lived experience.

All abstracts related to substance use disorders and related harms will be considered for a journal supplement or a special section of the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs (JSAD) . Manuscripts will be invited after the conference.

The key aims of the conference are to:

- Encourage collaboration among researchers in the conduct of high quality research;
- Enable knowledge exchange with policymakers to help increase the scale and visibility of research on psychedelics and examine pathways for clinical practice and policy; and
- Overcome hurdles and stimulate progress for different communities by emphasizing equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

This conference will be unique from other conferences devoted to psychedelic therapies and medicine because of its:

- Focus on academic research;
- Focus on the use of psychedelic medicine in treating substance use disorders and related harms;
- Engagement of leaders in public policy and regulation;
- Interdisciplinary scope; and
- Prioritization of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility at all levels.

Call for Abstracts

Research to Reality (R2R2022) is pleased to announce the call for abstracts for our 2022 conference. Our conference acknowledges the principle that all voices should have a platform to share knowledge and experience. With this in mind, we welcome submissions for research, program or policy abstracts for 15 minute oral presentations as well as posters.

Submissions are due **Wednesday, December 15, 2021**. For more information about the conference, visit the Research to Reality [website](#).

See this section for more information on [Abstract Submissions](#) and to submit an abstract.

There are four streams for abstract submissions:

- Neuroscience and clinical applications – this stream will include research ranging from pre-clinical to clinical research studies of psychedelic compounds and treatment protocols, as well as observational studies focusing on clinical and psychosocial outcomes;
- Traditional medicine and cultural considerations – this stream will include studies and review papers on the use of traditional medicine/traditional healing approaches, including but not limited to the use of entheogens or psychedelic medicines for healing and wellness in different cultural contexts, anthropological studies of psychedelics in folk medicine, and Indigenous methodologies.
- Public health – this stream will include epidemiological and health services research on the potential impact of psychedelic-assisted therapies on the organization of mental health and addiction treatment services, the potential demand for services, potential risk and unintended consequences, and the influence of psychedelics and psychedelic-assisted therapies on population health.
- Policy and regulatory directions – this stream will include policy research and analysis on key factors shaping policies and regulation related to psychedelic-assisted therapies and medicine.

R2R2022 is seeking abstracts for scientific presentations as well as presentations for program descriptions, commentaries, literature syntheses, case studies and personal narratives from lived and living experience.

Abstracts should be 500 words or less in English or French. All abstracts will be reviewed and scored based on their Aims, Conclusions, Quality, and Potential Impact. Scientific abstracts must also include Methods and Results sections. Abstracts should also clearly indicate their funding support, author affiliations, and any potential conflicts of interest. “Any funding received over the past three years from drug companies, private treatment programs, the alcohol or tobacco industry, for example, should be declared.

We are requiring presenters to consider ethnicity, race, sex, gender and other forms of diversity as part of their work to help create more useful and specific evidence, guidance and perspectives for different groups of people. Additionally, if your study focused on a specific population (e.g., Indigenous peoples, people with lived of living experience, youth, etc.), we are asking presenters to describe their engagement with this population. For all abstracts, as part of the submission process, you will be asked to provide a brief summary (100 words or less) about how your project has considered diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Sponsorship

CAMH is Canada's largest mental health and substance use/addiction teaching hospital, as well as one of the world's leading research centers in these health domains. CAMH is affiliated with the University of Toronto, a major research university and academic medical center. CAMH researchers are currently collaborating on a number of clinical trials and observational studies in the area of psychedelic science.

CCSA and MHCC are NGOs that provide Canadian leadership on substance use and mental health. In addition, the University of Connecticut (UConn) will play a key role in the planning, publication and dissemination of the planned substance abuse part of the conference program (via a special issue or section of the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs* or JSAD).

Financial support for the conference planning has been graciously provided by the Nikean Foundation. The Nikean Foundation devotes its resources to programs that advance psychedelic science in hopes of building better tools for mental health care. Nikean commits to working with open science partners to promote research and education in support of the beneficial use of psychedelics.

For any additional questions, please visit: <https://fromresearchtoreality.com/contact-us/>.