

## **A comparison of NN-DMT, Changa & 5-MeO-DMT and the Near-death Experience: Qualitative analyses and reviews of the neuroscience**

### **ABSTRACT:**

#### **Background**

The near-death experience (NDE) remains incompletely understood, but the parallels between psychedelic effects and NDE suggest a potential role for psychedelics in consciousness recovery. Psychometric and semantic analyses suggest psychedelics mimic NDEs. However, no dedicated comparative studies have explored qualitative differences, especially in participants experiencing both.

#### **Aims**

This project aimed to elucidate N,N-DMT experiences through thematic analysis of interviews conducted during a field study of DMT.

#### **Method**

Comparative analyses between this and classical NDEs were achieved, via near-death experience scale (NDES) administration, and comparing the DMT results with a re-analysis of a previously published thematic analyses of NDEs. NDE comparisons were also made in a within-subjects way, including a case study of 5-MeO-DMT and NDE, and two case studies of changa and NDE.

#### **Results**

DMT participants reported breakthrough experiences meeting entities with pervasive transformations. While some similarities to NDEs were found, notable differences in qualitative content were observed. 5-MeO-DMT showed partial replication of NDE mystical dimensions. Changa reports displayed moderate similarity to personal NDEs but higher similarity to NDEs in general.

#### **Conclusions**

Each drug state mimics some NDE features but fails to replicate identical content. Therapeutic applications and neural correlates were discussed, along with the neurobiological and parapsychological aspects. Suggestions for future research include qualitative investigations into long-term consequences of these states.

#### **Keywords**

Near-death experience, Psychedelic, DMT, Qualitative analysis, Neuroscience

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### **Published Work:**

Michael, P., Luke, D., & Robinson, O. (2021). An encounter with the other: A thematic and content analysis of DMT experiences from a naturalistic field study. *Frontiers in Psychology, 12*, 720717. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2021.720717

Michael, P., Luke, D., & Robinson, O. (2023). An encounter with the self: A thematic and content analysis of the DMT experience from a naturalistic field study. *Frontiers in Psychology, 14*, 1083356. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1083356

Michael, P., Luke, D., & Robinson, O. (2023). This is your brain on death: A comparative analysis of a near-death experience and subsequent 5-Methoxy-DMT experience. *Frontiers in Psychology, 14*, 1083361. doi:10.3389/fpsyg.2023.1083361

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