**Review: Empirical Studies on The Medicinal Effects of Psilocybin**

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Emerging research is demonstrating the utility of psychedelic drugs (i.e., serotonergic hallucinogens) as having medicinal effects for various psychiatric disorders.  Psychedelic drugs are strong psychoactive substances that produce altered perceptual experiences and modulations to numerous cognitive and affective processes. Psilocybin, an agonistic psychoactive compound found in specific mushrooms, is one of the many psychedelic substances currently being studied for its medical benefits. Prior clinical trials have demonstrated the effectiveness of psilocybin treatment for an array of psychiatric disorders, including depression, anxiety, Alzheimer's disease, and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In addition to prior research, several on-going clinical trials are being coordinated to examine the benefits of psychedelics on depression and anxiety for patients with advanced stage cancer. The present proposal aims to (1) summarize the research literature on the medicinal effects of psilocybin across different psychiatric disorders, (2) outline the present state of the field by summarizing the current work being carried out in ongoing clinical trials, (3) outline important clinical considerations and safety precautions relevant to the study of psychedelics, and (4) outline procedures for a study proposal, currently in preparation, that examines attitudes and experiences of psychedelic drug-use. Implications for the future study of psilocybin and its effectiveness on mental health disorders will be discussed.