

Mescaline HCL Summary

Background & History

Mescaline (3,4,5-trimethoxyphenethylamine), “a magic compound” as Shulgin describes it, is a psychedelic alkaloid of the phenethylamine class. It is mainly used as; a recreational drug, an entheogen, and a tool in use to supplement various types of practices for transcendence. (including in meditation, psychonautics, and psychedelic psychotherapy) Shulgin noted how it made him see the intricacies of the world and also opened up reality like the eyes of a child. (at least for a brief time)

‘Psychedelic’ emerged from a correspondence between Huxley and Humphry Osmond, the psychiatrist who supplied him with the mescaline he took at his home in the Hollywood Hills in May 1953. (Huxley thought the spelling should be ‘psychodelic’ and persisted with it, to little avail.) His essay on the experience, *The Doors of Perception* (1954), kickstarted the psychedelic era. In this regard, mescaline holds a special place in the history and timeline of psychedelics but the substance has found little uptake due to it's long acting nature which is/was often deemed impractical .

Mescaline HCL (the oral salt extract) is currently being tested by one major company exploring the potential for treating alcoholism. (1) From their description of the compound, “Mescaline HCl is less potent & longer lasting than other psychedelics, potentially allowing for patients to experience a greater degree of mental clarity while experiencing a longer re-learning period— opening up more opportunity for psychological adaptability.” Mescaline also holds great potential in psychotherapy treatment.

The mescaline HCL form is convenient as it avoids the stomach upset issue people sometimes experience with raw SanPedro powder.

Comparative Potency

It is reported that mescaline is 1000-3000 times less potent than LSD, and 30 times less potent than psilocybin. About half the initial dosage is excreted after 6 hours, but some studies suggest that it is not metabolized at all before excretion.

Slow tolerance builds with repeated usage, and it is suggested that a cross tolerance can be developed with LSD.

Dosage & Safety

Synthetic mescaline is usually administered orally. It has an effective oral dosage range of 200 to 400 mg, with most studies using a standard dose of 200 mg (2) A typical microdose would be in the 40mg range. 500mg is also a dosage occasionally used to ensure a full breakthrough.

Light 50-200 Mg

Common 200-400 Mg

Strong 400-800 Mg

Heavy 800 Mg+

Mescaline poses little risk to the body. While there are side effects, there have never been any reported deaths caused by mescaline directly.

The LD50 of mescaline in humans is reported to be approximately 880 mg/kg. (3)

That’s an extremely high dose. The average-sized human (140 lbs) would need nearly 60,000

milligrams of mescaline. This is about 300 times the standard psychoactive dose.

People using antidepressants, anti-anxiety medications, blood pressure medications, heart medications, or statin drugs should probably avoid mescaline (please seek qualified medical advice)

Similar to most classical psychedelics, mescaline is not addictive.

Effects

The effects are generally compared to LSD or psilocybin most closely, but there are key differences. Mescaline seems to be more able to allow for being more extroverted and active, rather than introverted. Mescaline generally won't induce full-blown hallucinations which broadens its appeal and usefulness for being fully functional. Mescaline is (generally speaking) a more mild psychedelic and it's therefore interesting that it hasn't been adopted more. Mescaline does not have dissociative effects.

In a study (4) comparing mescaline, psilocybin, and LSD, mescaline (n = 32) was the only substance that induced significant subacute adverse effects (12–24 h) compared with placebo, which may be attributable to its later effect onset and longer duration of action.

- In fact, 500 mg mescaline was the strongest releaser of oxytocin among the psychedelics that were tested herein.
- We found no evidence of qualitative differences in altered states of consciousness that were induced by 500 mg mescaline, 100 µg LSD, and 20 mg psilocybin. The substances showed relevant differences in their durations of action.
- In the present study, both 500 mg mescaline and LSD, but not psilocybin, enhanced circulating oxytocin.

In summary, mescaline Hcl offers an intriguing avenue for personal growth and exploration purposes, or for therapeutic & psychotherapeutic purposes. For those willing to go on a slightly longer journey, mescaline may be an important ally for the evolution of consciousness, and may have benefit in regards to self-destructive patterns including addiction.

REFERENCES

- 1) <https://www.journeycolab.com/our-research>
- 2) (Dinis-Oliveira et al., 2019; Thomann, Ley, Klaiber, Liechti, & Duthaler, 2022).
- 3) Buckingham J (2014). "Mescaline." Dictionary of Natural Products: 254–260
- 4) <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41386-023-01607-2>