



JLS Fund Report

A Psytech Venture Fund

October 2021

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In 2008, in the Journal of Social Work in Health Care, Dr. Jill Littrell from the School of Social Work at Georgia State University, published a report that effectively proved the theory of the mind-body connection.

In it, she wrote ...

"Research has documented the mechanisms through which stressful emotions alter white blood cell function. Stress diminishes white blood cell response to viral infected cells and to cancer cells. Moreover, vaccination is less effective in those who are stressed and wounds heal less readily in those who are stressed. While stress decreases the activity of some white blood cells, stress does not compromise the function of all types of white blood cells. Indeed, some types of autoimmune disease, which involve particular subsets of white blood cells, are exacerbated by stress."

Her studies went on to document the efficacy of talk-therapy interventions in altering immune system parameters and enhancing the body's ability to combat disease.

What had long been simply a hunch had transitioned into an observation of fact based on real data analysis. And since then, discussions of mind-body connections have moved into the halls of medical schools, universities, and the public discourse.

So it was not surprising when, on October 14th, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) added mood disorders to the list of conditions that put people at high risk for severe COVID-19, resulting in hospitalization, the need for a ventilator or death related to COVID-19 infection.

Certainly this is a big deal, as a recent study published in the journal Lancet, showed that globally, the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in 53 million new cases of depression in 2020. That's nearly a 30% increase over 2019.

The CDC's decision came after two meta analyses published by the American Medical Association confirmed that those suffering from serious mental illness are at a greater risk for severe illness related to COVID-19.

Of course, this goes well beyond COVID-19.

You see, now that the CDC has recognized that mood disorders can put people at risk for severe COVID-19, this effectively translates into the argument that mood disorders put people at risk for virtually any infectious disease.




We already know that public health experts across the world recognize that there is a global mental health crisis. Couple that with the CDC's recognition of the mind-body connection regarding protecting those suffering from mental health disorders from infectious disease, and you have the perfect recipe for even more vigilance in treating various mental health maladies.

It's unfortunate that it has to take a pandemic, bureaucratic approval and record high mood disorder diagnoses for the world to recognize how big of a crisis this is, but this is certainly good news for those companies actively studying psychedelic medicines to treat mental illness, as this will likely bolster continued regulatory support from governments and continued financial support from the investment community.

Of course, we've been monitoring this quite closely for a couple years now, and it should be noted that a few of our portfolio companies are actively working on psychedelics-based treatments for anxiety and depression.

Gilgamesh has a development pipeline with a heavy focus on depression.

Check it out ...

PROGRAMS	DESCRIPTION	DISCOVERY	PRE-CLINICAL	IND	PHASE 1
GM-1020: Oral NMDAR Antagonist	Orally Bioavailable, Rapid-acting, Fewer Dissociative Effects, Indications: Depression and Others				
GM-2505: 5-HT2A Agonist/5-HT Releaser	Rapid-acting, Cost-effective, Improved Cardiac Safety Profile, Indications: Depression and Others				
GM-200X: 5-HT2AR Non-Hallucinogenic	Non-hallucinogenic, Abuse-deterrent, Improved Cardiac Safety Profile, Indications: Depression and Others				

And a few months ago, Wesana announced that it was beginning a series of functional animal studies to investigate the effects of a psilocybin-based regime to treat traumatic brain injury on locomotor activity, anxiety and depression.

Tripp is currently participating in several clinical trials focusing on anxiety reduction and depression. And Fluence, our most recent investment, is actively providing education and training for mental health providers that are seeking to use psychedelic therapies to treat a number of mental health issues, including anxiety and depression.

In terms of first-mover advantage in training and education programs for medical professionals and researchers integrating psychedelic-assisted therapies, Fluence is the clear leader. The company's team is also considered to be one of the most advanced in the space. Particularly Dr. Elizabeth Nielson and Dr. Ingmar Gorman.

Dr. Nielson is a psychologist with a focus on developing psychedelic medicines as empirically supported treatments for PTSD, substance use problems, and mood disorders.

She is a Site Co-Principal Investigator and therapist for an FDA approved Phase 3 clinical trial of MDMA-assisted Psychotherapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and has served as a therapist on FDA approved clinical trials of psilocybin-assisted treatment of alcohol use disorder, psilocybin-assisted treatment of treatment resistant depression, and earlier phase 2 and 3 trials of MDMA-assisted psychotherapy.

Who is JLS?

JLS was formed to invest in the exciting intersection of science, technology and neurology, leveraging the enormous potential of plant-based and psychedelic medicines to heal illness and enhance wellness. We focus on the development of drugs for intractable mental and physical conditions and enabling technology and tools that can accelerate and enhance the delivery of those therapies.

Dr. Gorman is a psychologist who simultaneously served as site co-principal investigator on an FDA approved Phase 3 clinical trial of MDMA-assisted Psychotherapy for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and is currently a study therapist on the same study, as well as another FDA approved clinical trial of psilocybin for treatment resistant depression.

He has also published on the topics of classic psychedelics, ketamine, MDMA, and Psychedelic Harm Reduction and Integration.

Getting these psychedelic substances through FDA clinical trials is only half the battle in terms of getting this medicine to the people who need it. Proper education and training is also paramount, and is in extremely high demand right now, thereby putting Fluence in a very good position to capitalize on this demand.

The company has already collaborated with Tryp Therapeutics, Beckley Psytech, and the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies (MAPS), just to name a few. And there are more coming.

Research Highlights

Psychedelics and mindfulness: A systematic review and meta-analysis:
<https://psyarxiv.com/yu7jf/>

Psilocybin for End-of-Life Anxiety Symptoms: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34619818/>

Rediscovering Psilocybin as an Antidepressive Treatment Strategy:
<https://www.mdpi.com/1424-8247/14/10/985>

Final Note

On November 8th and 9th, we'll be attending Wonderland: Miami. This is the psychedelic business conference being put on by Microdose.

Lindsay will be presenting at the event on an investment-focused panel entitled: Psychedelic Capital Live. She has also been nominated in the "Investor of the Year" category for the First Annual Microdose Awards.

And Senior Advisor to JLS Fund, Leonard Pickard and Regulatory Affairs Advisor Ethan Nadelmann will be speaking as well, on the Pathway to Federal Acceptance panel.

Leonard has also been nominated in the “Industry Pioneer of the Year (Lifetime Achievement Award)” category for the Microdose Awards.



Please let us know if you plan on attending, as we would love to meet up with you. And if you haven't gotten your ticket yet, click here: <https://microdose.buzz/>

We look forward to seeing you there.

In gratitude ...
JLS Team

CONTACT US

If you have any questions or would like to set up a call to discuss our progress, learn more about any of these companies or increase your investment into the fund, feel free to contact us at news@jls.fund.

For those of you who have not invested with us yet, you can reach us by filling out our [inquiry form](#).