



Scuola di Scienze del Farmaco  
e dei Prodotti della Salute



in collaborazione con  
Scuola di Studi Superiori 'Carlo Urbani'

## Neurotalks

# Neuroimmune Mechanisms Engaged in MDMA-Assisted Therapy for Comorbid Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Alcohol Use Disorder

**Carolina Haass-Koffler**

Brown University, Providence, RI, USA

**Camerino** Monday, **May 4, 2026**, 3:00 PM

Polo Sant'Agostino - Aula 2 - via Sant'Agostino

speaker invited by [nazzareno.cannella@unicam.it](mailto:nazzareno.cannella@unicam.it)

PTSD and alcohol use disorder often occur together in Veterans and are hard to treat. MDMA-assisted therapy may help by changing brain circuits involved in emotion, memory, and inflammation. In this pilot study, Veterans with both conditions underwent brain scans before and after treatment. After MDMA-assisted therapy, connectivity between the amygdala and hippocampus, two regions involved in threat and memory, was reduced. Researchers also found lower levels of myo-inositol in the amygdala, a marker linked to brain inflammation. These early findings suggest that MDMA-assisted therapy may help restore healthier brain function and could guide future treatment research for these disorders.

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