

Review of: "Exploring the Experiences and Perceptions of Young People's Recreational Nitrous Oxide Use"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I really appreciate the peer-researcher approach you used. Too bad the final sample is somewhat small, but you managed to extract some useful notions.

In the first line of the introduction (page 2), I would not suggest that it was developed for recreational use, rather that it was found, during experimental studies, that it could have psychotropic properties, eventually leading to recreational use.

Please correct the year, it should be 1772.

On page 6, the first sentence is not clear: are you claiming that N₂O use potentiates the effects of other drugs? If so, the following participant quote reported does not support that. Also, the same statement on intensifying other drugs effects is present in the Conclusion section: please check if there are any arguments to support this. As far as I know, and understand from your manuscript, is the other way round, that N₂O effects are better while under influence of other drugs.

As for other drugs used in combination, there is a reference to paper n. 36 (page 14): it is worth specifying that their sample is of medical school students, relatively older (and mostly females too).

On page 9 it is mentioned the urge of wanting more, in the context of a session of use. Instead, did you collect any evidence of actual "craving" for N₂O, intended as urge or desire to use the drug following a period of no use? Even if you don't have that data you could still discuss it briefly and perhaps cite some reference (like Back et al, "Does nitrous oxide addiction exist?. Addiction 2024)..