# TSND-201 (methylone) for the Treatment of PTSD, MDD, and Other CNS Disorders

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For all \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001, \*\*\*\*p<0.0001

### Introduction

- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a serious debilitating disorder impacting approximately 13M Americans each year<sup>1</sup>
- Suicide risk in PTSD is increased by at least 6-fold compared to the general population<sup>2</sup>
- Approximately half of people diagnosed with PTSD also have a diagnosis of major depressive disorder (MDD)<sup>3</sup>
- Approved pharmacotherapies for the treatment of PTSD (sertraline and paroxetine) have limited effectiveness. Less than 30% of patients treated with first-line pharmacotherapy achieve remission, which often takes many weeks to achieve4
- There is an urgent need for rapid-acting, non-hallucinogenic treatments for PTSD and depression

# **About TSND-201 (methylone)**

- Methylone is a rapid-acting neuroplastogen
- Rapid induction of neuroplasticity gene expression (e.g., BDNF) in brain areas underlying pathophysiology of PTSD, depression and anxiety<sup>5</sup>
- Well-characterized primary pharmacology
- Monoamine transporters are primary site of action
- No binding to 5HT2A receptors, not hallucinogenic
- Rapid, robust serotonin and norepinephrine release in the frontal cortex

# Methods

**Preclinical Studies:** All studies were performed using standard protocols. FST and OFT were performed in male SD rats. Results and methods have been published<sup>6</sup>. Fear extinction was performed in male C57BL/6J mice based on published methods<sup>7</sup>. Methylone was given intraperitoneally 30 min prior to all tests.

#### **IMPACT-1A Study Design**

- TSND-201 was administered once a week for 4-weeks. Each dose was given as an initial dose followed by a second dose 90 min later. Participants were accompanied by a trained Mentor during the dosing session who provided non-directive support After the 4-week treatment period, participants attended follow-up visits at 1, 2, 3, and 6-weeks following the last dose. The primary endpoint was CAPS-5. Data shown also include MADRS and an anxiety subscale of MADRS (i.e., 4 items: inner tension; reduced sleep; reduced appetite; concentration difficulties).
- Safety was assessed via standard measures including adverse events (AE).

#### **Key Inclusion** Age 18-65

- DSM-5 diagnosis of PTSD
- CAPS-5 ≥ 35
- Failed 1 prior PTSD treatment (therapy or pharmacological)
- **Key Exclusion** Concurrent substance abuse disorder
- 12 months · History of schizophrenia, psychotic disorder, bipolar, personality disorder, etc.

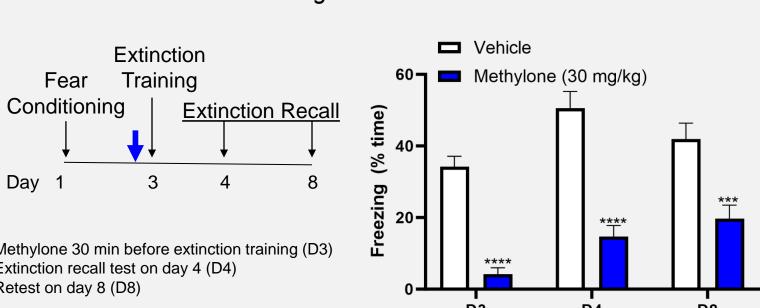
Use of MDMA or psychedelic within the past

# Results

# PTSD Rapid and Long-Lasting Improvement

Less time freezing = More beneficial effect

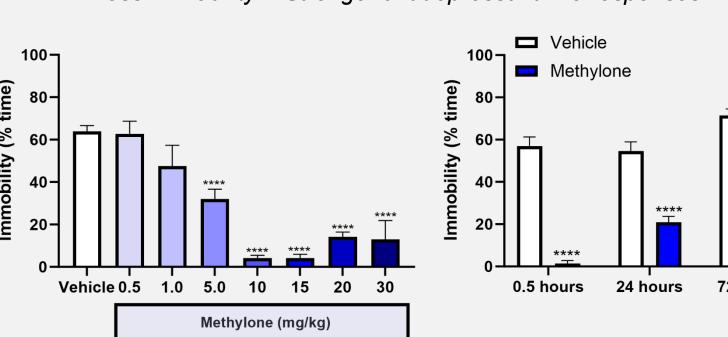
in Fear Extinction Learning



# **Depression**

#### Rapid and Long-Lasting Antidepressant-Like **Activity in the Forced Swim Test**

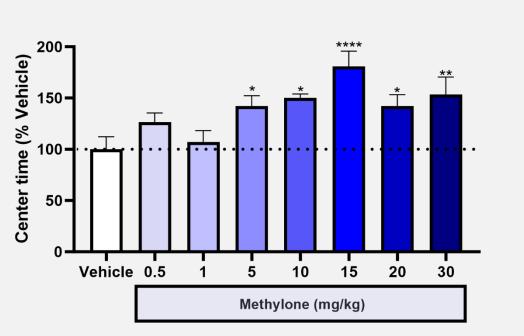
Less immobility = Stronger antidepressant-like responses



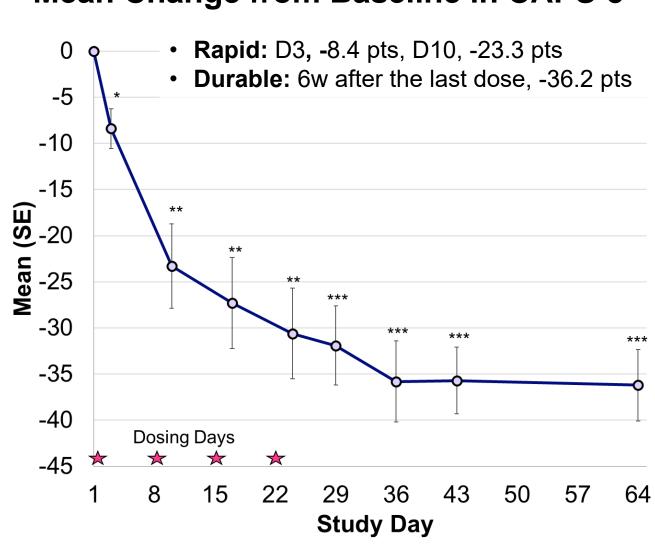
#### Rapid and Robust Anti-Anxiety Activity in the Open Field Test

**Anxiety** 

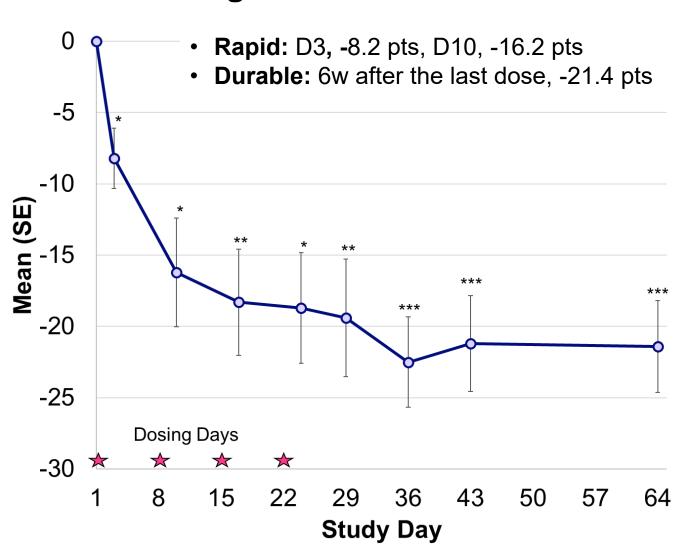
More center time = Less anxious



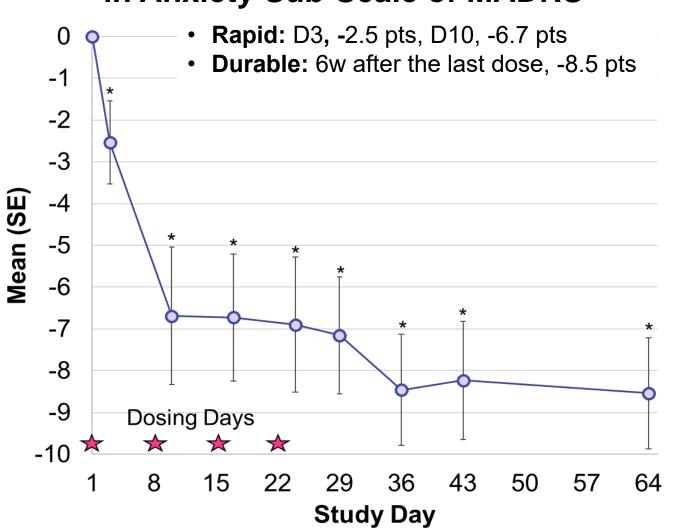
#### **Mean Change from Baseline in CAPS-5**



#### Mean Change from Baseline in MADRS



#### **Mean Change from Baseline** in Anxiety Sub-Scale of MADRS



## Conclusions

- In preclinical studies, TSND-201 demonstrated rapid, robust, and long-lasting beneficial effects on PTSD-like, depression-like, and anxiety-like behaviors.
- In humans, TSND-201 demonstrated rapid, robust and durable effects on PTSD, depression and anxiety symptoms; however, limitations of this study include an open-label design and small sample size. TSND-201 was generally safe and well-tolerated, the most common AE was headache.
- Together, this work supports further development of TSND-201 as a treatment for PTSD, MDD, and anxiety. A randomized, placebo-controlled study in PTSD patients is currently enrolling.

# References

1. NIMH, 2023. 2. Bachynski et al., *Injury Prevention,* 2012. 3. Flory and Yehuda, *Dialogues Clin Neurosci,* 2015. 4. Kelmendi et al, European Journal of Psychotraumatology, 2016. 5. Warner-Schmidt et al., Frontiers in Neuroscience, 2024. 6. Warner-Schmidt et al., Frontiers in Psychiatry, 2023. 7. Young et al., Transl Psychiatry, 2015.

# **Disclosures**

JW-S, AJ, MS, BM are full-time employees with equity in Transcend Therapeutics BK has equity in Transcend Therapeutics.