athletes, as well as constant awareness-raising among families, are essential for promoting physical and mental well-being in sport, and for actively combatting the use of performance and image enhancing drugs. Scherma Bradamante helps athletes understand the work of WADA and NADO Italia, encouraging them to use ADAMS correctly. The organisation also raises awareness of anti-doping policies, rules and regulations. The association also aims to raise awareness of the importance of respecting the rules and defending sporting ethics. Doping means cheating and therefore risking death: Scherma Bradamante supports preventing the distress that drives athletes to resort to substances and medical methods aimed at altering tests and athletic performance.

To this end, it offers training and psychological support for prevention and rehabilitation purposes. Furthermore, combining fencing with psychotherapy provides athletes with effective tools to combat addiction. Indeed, Scherma Bradamante undertakes to prevent the discomfort that leads professional and amateur athletes to resort to doping due to dissatisfaction with their sporting performance or physical appearance.

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Understanding the Off-Label Use of Semaglutide-Based Products: A Dual Analysis of Online Discourse and Scientific Literature

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Introduction: Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists, such as semaglutide, are approved for type 2 diabetes and obesity treatment. However, their rising off-label use by healthy individuals for cosmetic weight loss raises public health and ethical concerns, including drug shortages for patients with medical needs.
Methods: To investigate this phenomenon, we conducted two complementary studies. First, we analyzed 46,491 Reddit posts from Ozempic-related communities using BERTopic, a natural language processing approach for topic modeling. In parallel, we performed a document co-citation analysis on 1,932 scientific publications (and their 77,278 cited references) to map the dominant research domains related to semaglutide.
Results: Reddit discussions focused on off-label weight loss use, dosing practices, insurance challenges, side effect management, and personal weight loss journeys, with limited discussion of potential health risks. Scientific literature primarily addressed clinical outcomes like metabolic and cardiovascular effects and diabetes treatment, paying little attention to emerging off-label use patterns. Conclusion: Together, these two studies expose a significant gap between the focus of academic research and the lived experiences reflected in online discourse. They underscore the urgent need for greater scientific and public health engagement with the off-label, unsupervised use of GLP-1 receptor agonists and their potential consequences.

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Clinical Frontiers in Psychedelic Research: A Scientometric Review of the Evolving Literature

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Introduction: Psychedelics have long been used in spiritual and medicinal contexts. Recently, growing scientific interest, driven by preliminary evidence of clinical efficacy, has renewed focus on their therapeutic potential. This study explores the historical evolution of clinical psychedelic research using a scientometric approach.
Methods: We downloaded 1664 documents from Scopus, covering the period from 1964 to 2025. Subsequently, we performed a document co-citation analysis on their 113,612 cited references to identify influential publications and thematic domains.
Results: Co-citation analysis revealed 81 key publications and ten thematic clusters, addressing topics such as the therapeutic use of LSD, the application of ketamine for treatment-resistant depression, the neurophysiological effects of psychedelics, and their implication in the treatment of depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders. The role of psychedelics also emerged within emerging therapeutic approaches, such as psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy, combining psychotherapeutic techniques with controlled administration of psychedelics. The analysis further highlighted recent key methodological, legislative, and ethical challenges associated with clinical implementation.
Conclusions: This study highlights the main thematic domains of research in the scientific literature on the clinical use of psychedelics. Findings suggest a strong focus on incorporating psychedelics in treating anxiety, depression, and substance use disorder, alongside persistent ethical concerns.

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Mortality Associated with Nitazenes May Be Underestimated Due to Post-Mortem Degradation

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Introduction: Nitazenes are highly potent synthetic opioids that are being increasingly detected in the UK illicit drug market. Following reports from toxicologists of inconsistent post-mortem test results, we investigated the stability of nitazenes in post-mortem tissues and performed pharmacoepidemiological modelling to understand the impact nitazene degradation may be having on mortality statistics.
Methods: In vivo study: rats (n=12) were administered a nitazene with post-mortem samples taken on post-mortem Day 1 and Day 7 to assess pre-sampling stability. These samples were then stored in the fridge for 1 month and re-tested to assess post-sampling stability. Pharmacoepidemiology study: Nitazene cases were extracted from the National Programme on Substance Use Mortality with exponential smoothing modelling performed to assess forecasted and actual trends in non-nitazene deaths.
Results: All three nitazenes tested (metonitazene, n-desethyl isotonitazene, n-pyrrolidino etonitazene) degraded in post-mortem blood. On average only 14% of the nitazene detected in the Day 1 samples which were tested immediately remained in the Day 7 samples stored in the fridge for 1 month (n=12). Pharmacoepidemiological modelling revealed a 30% increase in excess death in areas with known nitazene outbreaks in 2023.
Conclusions: Nitazene-related-deaths are likely being underestimated due to their degradation in post-mortem blood samples.

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The Relative Impact of UK and Chinese Drug Controls on NPS Detections in Deaths in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

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Introduction: Novel psychoactive substances (NPS) are typically controlled as evidence of their harms emerge. While individual countries implement their own drug controls, broader restrictions can be intro-