

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.

Great job! It's a very interesting study. I enjoyed reading the paper.

Some suggestions:

It would be very useful to include a brief paragraph in the introduction with the toxicological characterization of N₂O and the risks that its frequent consumption theoretically or empirically represents. In the same section, could you check the first use of N₂O? (See: <https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/chemical/details/DTXSID8021066>, <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12751548/#:~:text=Long%2Dterm%20exposure%20to%20high,clinical%20anaesthesia%2C%20are%20considered%20harmless,https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33770366/>, https://www.emcdda.europa.eu/spotlights/spotlight-recreational-use-nitrous-oxide-laughing-gas_en).

For Table 1, I would like to know how long the participants have used or consumed N₂O and what substances they have used with N₂O. Of course, it depends on the research team's data, but it could be great information to better understand the consumption patterns and the characterization presented later.

Could you check the following sentences?

- "En general, encontramos que el N₂O rara vez se presenta solo o en combinación con otras sustancias". I understand that N₂O is mostly consumed with other substances, but the sentence seems to say the opposite.
- "efectos secundarios negativos mínimos". It would be clearer if the authors stated that these negative effects were evaluated from a short-term perspective by the participants, who are active consumers and did not receive any information about them.
- "Appropriate harm reduction strategies and psychoeducation must be employed in ways that are accessible to young people to ensure they can mitigate harms." I suggest "to ensure they can mitigate harms and make self-determined healthy choices."

I know the study focuses on harm reduction. However, I hope to see future research that explores in greater depth the reasons (motivations and meaning) behind the decisions to consume, not consume, or quit consumption. That information can be valuable for thinking about prevention.

