

Mind Medicine Australia

2023 CPAT Testimonials

"This is by far the best PD course that I have ever attended! (Having attended over thirty different workshops, and PD of all sorts). To the facilitators and teachers: there are honestly not enough sufficient words to express my gratitude and appreciation to you!"

Tamryn Morgan, Psychologist, NSW

"A truly ground-breaking course on a new-old area of psychiatry. A must for anyone interested in challenging their preconceptions and offering something new to their patients. Delivered by a world class faculty and thoroughly recommended."

Dr Kevin Ong, Psychiatrist, VIC

"This training not only marries scientific, Western, research-based knowledge with ancient, age-old, holistic knowledge. It puts the participant through a journey as well. Change is not only individual. It is not only in groups. It is all of the above. And more."

Dr Paul Meens, Psychiatrist, New Zealand

"I'm a doctor, an Aboriginal grandmother. The CPAT course was a highlight in a lifetime of learning experiences. The impressive cadre of teachers and colleagues gave us a feeling of privileged connection. I loved our teachers. And seeing what our colleagues brought with them to the Residential made it a memorable, mind-expanding and spirit-nurturing experience. It's not often in the world that a group of people comes together knowing they can create something beyond the ordinary. This course was that. I got smarter in the many different kinds of intelligence. I feel ready to use what I've learned to care for people in a profound, powerful way."

Dr Janelle Trees, General Practitioner, VIC

"Any self-proclaimed 'evidence based' clinician should do this course. Psychedelic medicine is here; learn about it and you will not only understand it better, but it may reinvigorate your career."

Dr John Farrow, General Practitioner, NSW

"The CPAT course covers all didactic material relevant to 'psychedelic therapy' delivered by international and Australian experts. The 'retreat', led by experienced facilitators, is the peak and heart of the course, giving trainees a deep, natural, transpersonal, drug-free experience of mimicking the psychedelic state."

Dr Stephen Proud, Psychiatrist, WA

"The MMA course was such an incredible collaboration of science and soul, mind and heart, knowledge, and gnosis. Not only were we given all the education and skills to do this work, but we were also given the deep exposure into psyche, to ensure that we do it with compassion, professionalism, and reverence. I'm so excited for the future of psychiatry thanks to MMA."

Ashe Young, Psychotherapist, WA

"I have found the CPAT course very educational. I feel that my understanding of the medicine has improved, and the course has prepared me to both sit with patients on the medicine and to help them integrate their experiences. I would highly recommend this course to other practitioners interested in this emerging science."

Rimona Burke, GP, NSW

"I had a great, meaningful time. It's so rare to bring a group of people with the same interest and passion for self-growth and helping others together. This world suffers from a huge PTSD and needs this so much. Thank you."

Helena Andrejkova, Counsellor, NSW

"The course was exceptional. The content was so well put together and delivered by extremely professional presenters. Ben and Lauren were completely amazing. I felt challenged and held throughout the entire experience and the balance of 'head' and 'heart' worked very well. The breathwork was the highlight of my experience. I went into the session with a lot of anxiety but felt completely safe and held by both my sitters and the facilitator. Craig and Maurizio have an incredible presence and skill at creating a safe container. Overall, I would strongly recommend anyone thinking of doing the course to jump in and expand your mind and heart. Thank you all."

Susann Keating, Psychologist, WA

"I came to acquire knowledge about being a psychedelic therapist, and I got that, and so much more! This was such a mind-expanding, heart-opening experience. If you are curious follow your instinct, enrol, and enjoy the journey!"

Angie Randell, Psychologist, QLD

"I was somewhat sceptical about attending the course and uncertain if CPAT is something I would contemplate using in my clinical work. Since gaining a greater understanding of Psychedelic Assisted Psychotherapy (PAT) through reading the journal articles and research evidence provided throughout the course, my scepticism lifted. The teachers were of high calibre consisting of renowned academics, highly respected researchers and experienced practitioner in this field. There was a mix of cutting-edge research information and practical experiences presented throughout the course. I feel I have gained more than I expected from attending this course."

Alfred Chung, Psychiatrist, QLD

"Before this course, I knew very little about how psychedelics could be used in therapy. But what I've learned and experienced has completely changed my perspective about this medicine and line of treatment. All staff were incredible, each one brought their own stories and knowledge from the world of psychedelic research. They made the complex ideas easy to understand and really interesting. Their passion wasn't just inspiring; it made me excited to learn more every day. One of the best parts of the course was the variety of knowledge and experiential components, these weren't just lessons; they felt like personal journeys into understanding how to help others with this medicine. The residential experience was one like no other, it is very rare that you can connect with so many like-minded people and have such vibrant discussions."

"But more than the lessons and the teachers, this course made me feel like I was part of something big. Being involved in the psychedelic renaissance, a movement that's exploring new ways to heal and understand our minds is really special. It's more than just a course for me; it's a community where I feel like I belong and can make a real difference."

Zena Chahine, Therapist, NSW

“One of the best courses I have attended since graduating, all those centuries ago. Well organized and presented; the instructors were world leaders and very good teachers. The residential was the highlight for me; not only mixing with a varied group of people, but having the chance to experience breathwork and sit with a person undergoing the experience.”

Dr Adam Nuttall, General Practitioner,, WA

“The collective international faculty was an incredible collection of the greatest minds behind PAT both current and over the last 50+ years. It was such a privilege to be involved with this team of presenters, effortlessly facilitated by Dr Gita Vaid. The course material was relevant, especially with the TGA rescheduling this year, and the residential provided the opportunity to meet face-to-face with classmates, facilitators, and members of the MMA team.”

Anne-Marie Dean, Psychotherapist/Counsellor, TAS

“The CPAT course covers everything you need to know about psychedelic treatment from the history and pharmacology to medical dosing, therapeutic treatment, and recovery. MMA has attracted international experts from psychiatry, psychology, and medicine to provide university standard training in all relevant aspects. Weekly seminars included speakers from the UK and USA, many of whom have spent their lifetime studying and teaching about psychedelic medicine. An absolute wealth of knowledge in a live forum allowing questions to be answered. The course is rigorous, and a high standard is expected from students. It is definitely the best course I've attended in many years, and I feel able to embark on the work on completing the certificate.”

Lorna Burns, Psychologist, New Zealand

“Brilliant mix of practitioners with diverse experiences of life. Mixing information requiring brain power with heart-based connection for holding the compassionate space, which is required for this therapy. Each member of the group shared in this melting pot of personal growth and professional network connections. Vibrant conversation and private contemplation and reflection all had their place in the 6-day intensive retreat. The online modules gave flexible learning potential in bite sized modules with a wide range of expert contributors.”

Dr Jo Battye, General Practitioner, New Zealand

“Pete Levine teaches us that the reason zebras don't have PTSD is because if they escape being taken by a lion or tiger they run back to their herd and shake under a tree until the trauma passes through their body. We don't do this well enough. During the breathwork I had lots of somatic symptoms - shakes, tremors, full body seizure-like experiences. I realised partway through my journey that I was being a zebra. I was held, I was safe in the container created by my sitters. I was able to release and shake the trauma trapped in my body out into the room, into the Universe, permanently. It was an incredibly profound experience which will stay with me forever. My body knew what I needed and the breathwork – the set and setting – the sitters, ensured that it was possible.

Jay Ellul, Counsellor, QLD

“CPAT provided an intersection of evidence-based information and experiential learning. I was invited to explore the edges of my personal growth in terms of openness to interdisciplinary practice and openness to other perspectives both medical and spiritual. I have made friends and formed professional connections. I'm looking forward to CPAT 2.0.”

Megan Smoak, Psychologist, TAS



"Mind Medicine has beautifully integrated the scientific and the heart of this innovative new frontier. The network, connections, knowledge and wisdom is shared with such passion. A new era is arising and we (and you, if you choose to be a part of it) get to help those suffering and give hope for healing the mind, body, and spirit."

Dr Amy Carmichael, General Practitioner, QLD

"I was initially sceptical about the course/workshop, but I was excited to learn more. What I learnt was something completely unexpected. I learnt a lot about me, my feelings. ... my connection with nature and lots of things. I cannot express my gratitude in words. I am so thankful for this unforgettable experience. Thank you very much MMA."

Dr Anand Choudhary, Psychiatrist, QLD

"The CPAT course was an extensive program with specialist lectures from all the worlds' authorities on these safe medicines that have such capacity to provide significant reduction in mental health, improved quality of life, and reduce economic load on health services. Practical training was relevant and has trained a significant cohort of health care workers who can provide safe, directed psychotherapy pre and post dosing for the highest outcomes and efficacy."

Joanne Bullock-Saxton, Physiotherapist, QLD

"A thorough provision of contemporary research and perspective on the value of psychedelics in healing human trauma, disease, and suffering. An essential arm in treatment that must be cultivated for those in need. Mind and spirit presented, explored, and validated in the curriculum – empowering practitioners into the near future of the area of growth."

Donna Wheatley, Psychotherapist, VIC

"MMA has advocated for and played a crucial role in opening up the era of psychedelics for authorised prescribers. MMA's course is extremely thorough, inspiring and enjoyable. It is flexible in that the first 3 months are delivered by zoom on a Sunday and can be viewed at other times to suit individual schedules, though being present in person on zoom gives a great sense of connectedness and there is time for group participation in the Q+A at the end.

The 6-day residential at the end is a delightful time to learn from the energetic and entertaining speakers in person. It is a great experience meeting other professionals who are like-minded being integrated in therapy and realising the great potential of psychedelics to significantly improve the burden of mental illness. It is a lot of fun and a great sense of community develops. There is opportunity to connect and make meaningful connections for the future. I highly recommend the MMA CPAT course."

Dr Lana Lubimoff, Psychiatrist, QLD

"It's amazing when so many parts of your life align. I found this through the CPAT course. It's like waking up and becoming something you have been waiting for. You begin to see how real change for people in this world who are hurting, can be possible. It's infectious and you can't help but just want to be part of this - it will be amazing - so much more to come - get excited!"

Trudi Hayes, Social Worker, NSW

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the Mind Medicine CPAT training. From the quality of the content to the incredible lecturers and the cohort of colleagues, every week has been so informative and inspiring. I'm thrilled to be part of the PAT movement in Australia, and forever grateful to Mind Medicine for all the work they have done to get us here! I highly recommend the course to other therapists, this work

is so important, not just for improving mental health - but for healing communities and humanity."
Emma Park, Nutritionist, VIC

"The CPAT course surpassed my expectations. Not only that it was well organised and covered a wide variety of topics presented by exceptional, inspirational speakers from different professional backgrounds, but most importantly it culminated in the residential week including an incredible breath-work experience which embodied a heart felt invitation for connection and growth with others. Such embodiment is indicative of the deep changes needed in mental health of which I hope PAT is a part."

Dr Elena Krylova Psychiatrist, WA

"Absolutely one of the stand-out courses of my entire 30-year career.! Professionally organised and ethically driven. This is a course that successfully maintains a solid scientific research base, whilst creating enough space to explore the more esoteric nuances of psychedelic-assisted therapy."

Paul North, Psychologist, NSW

"Good course with relevant content from psychiatry/ therapy/ psychopharmacology/ ethics to name a few.. The lectures has been interesting, great speakers that are inspiring. Quizzes/assessments are very manageable next to full time work/ family. The residential was quite the experience! Would definitely recommend."

Dr Veronika Saba, General Practitioner, WA

"At the risk of seeming like hyperbole, this course was exceptional and by far the best post-doctoral training I have done. Delivered by world leaders in the field, skilfully intertwining cutting edge neuroscience and therapeutic principles with passion and compassion, the learning which results would enhance any mental health clinician's practice. I cannot recommend highly enough."

Dr Francis Goodstadt, Psychiatrist, NZ

"What a treat of a course!

Great content, well rounded facilitators/ teachers and a loving cohort.

One of the best PD courses I have participated in and an important way of integrating ancient wisdom and cultural backgrounds into practice. Exciting times to grow together and collaborate! A big thank you to all of the MMA team for your constant work and contributions! Great work!"

Gino Ascenzo Bahamonde, Psychologist, NSW

"I recently completed the Certificate in Psychedelic Assisted Therapy (CPAT) at Mind Medicine Australia and was thoroughly impressed by the experience. The course was exceptionally well-organized, with outstanding administrative support that made the entire journey smooth and engaging. The content covered was highly relevant, offering deep insights into the latest developments in the field. What stood out to me was the caliber of the presenters. They were renowned scientists and practitioners possessing a wealth of practical knowledge, making each session not only informative but also inspiring. The course brilliantly blended theoretical learning with practical, clinical considerations, ensuring we were well-equipped to apply our learning in real-world scenarios. The residential component of the course was a highlight. It was impeccably organized in a serene and conducive setting, coupled with excellent food. This residential experience provided a unique opportunity to network with peers and experts, which is invaluable in the growing field of Psychedelic-Assisted Therapies. Overall, the CPAT course offered by Mind Medicine Australia



is an outstanding program for anyone looking to delve into or advance their career in this exciting and evolving field."

Rita Csako, Registered Psychologist, NZ

"One of the great things about learning online is that our learning is not constrained by geographical barriers. During this course we received lectures from world leaders in the field. It was a wonderful and inspirational learning experience."

Dr Michelle Wellington, General Practitioner, VIC

"Comprehensive, insightful, professional, well-rounded course with a stellar line-up of internationally acclaimed speakers, renowned as experts. An excellent underpinning and thorough preparation for commencing therapy in this area. Delivered with heart and vulnerability in a practical residential intensive at the end of the course. You will not find a better course in this subject anywhere else."

Dr Ken Lee, Psychiatrist, WA

"The Psychedelic Assisted Therapy program offered by Mind Medicine Australia was extremely informative and personally enriching. I looked forward to the stimulating Zoom meeting sessions each week. The instructors created an enjoyable learning experience for the participants. The instructors came from diverse backgrounds which reflected the diversity of the students. I felt the different opinions and thoughts on the use of psychedelic substances in medicine was helpful in creating a healthy learning environment for everyone. There was a sense of group unity in air of uncertainty as it stands with Psychedelic Assisted Therapy at this time. The residential training gave me the confidence I needed to move forward, as this emerging medical specialty develops into whatever it will finally become in Australia. I am truly grateful to Mind Medicine Australia for the considerable time and effort expended in making Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy a possibility in Australia."

David Mandrake, Chaplain and Counsellor, QLD

"Undertaking the CPAT course proved to be an intellectually and professionally enriching endeavour that shaped my academic and experiential framework. The teaching environment was characterised by an exceptional confluence of erudition and empathetic guidance, emanating from a cadre of world- renowned instructors and facilitators whose knowledge and commitment to the subject matter were of an extraordinary calibre. The didactic modules, which were well curated, enclosed a combination of empirical research and theoretical frameworks representing a pinnacle of the psychedelic-assisted therapeutic interventions. The quality of the course did not merely lie in its exploration of psychotropic agents but rather in its multidisciplinary approach, where historical backgrounds, contemporary scientific paradigms, and pragmatic applications are explored. There was also an intellectual commitment to methodology and ethical rigour with the highest educational standards within this emerging field. Highly recommended!"

Marjane Beaugeois, Psychotherapist/ Counsellor, VIC

Previous Intake Testimonials

"Mind Medicine Australia continues to impress. I have completed various higher education qualifications, as well as the less formal experiential retreats and personal development courses, from the quirky, to the evidence based. The CPAT provides a holistic framework that encapsulates a strong academic approach and faculty with a truly authentic therapeutic model. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the CPAT is life changing."

Kelly Rae, Psychotherapist, NSW

"The CPAT has exceeded all expectations I had when I applied. I highly recommend this course to anyone in the field. The expertise and networking are second to none. I feel part of something that will change the future of mental health in Australia."

Vasileios Tsaikalis, Psychotherapist, NSW

"I just completed the CPAT course in Melbourne and it was one of the finest, well thought through, academically informative and robust programs I have had the pleasure of being a part of anywhere."

Dr Mary Lanier

"This weekend was the most rounded professional development I can remember doing – I felt nourished in mind, soul and body. Not usually a networker, I surprised myself by connecting with many people that I am sincerely looking forward to meeting again and hopefully working with in the future. Even though the programme was intense, I feel inspired not exhausted; I think this is because there was such a supportive and empathic group of facilitators and participants. My gratitude to Mind Medicine Australia – I'm wearing our T-shirt as I sit at the airport & type, just hoping for when someone asks me what this is all about!"

Dr Ria Leonard, Psychiatrist, NSW

"The most engaging, interesting and enjoyable course I have attended."

Dr Eoin Wilson, Psychiatrist, NSW

"I had the most wonderful and profound weekend. Thank you for allowing us to experience Holotropic Breathwork. Please know by doing so you are allowing us to better support our clients by supporting ourselves."

Chloe Panayiotou, Psychologist, VIC

"The course to date has been priceless and an invaluable opportunity to be a part of the medicine work moving into the future. I cannot recommend it highly enough!"

Jon Hart, Psychologist, QLD

"The holotropic breathwork weekend intensive was beautiful. It just feels like I belong here, in this group, in this work. Overall, I find this group and the breadth of content covered in this course immensely gratifying and reassuring."

Vincent Clementine, Counsellor, VIC

"What a pleasure to be a part of the first cohort of MMA's Certificate in Psychedelic Assisted Therapies. The quality and breadth of the material presented at our first weekend of in-house teaching was remarkable; as was the experience and diversity of the participants. I have increasing



hope and optimism that as the rescheduling of psychedelics is considered and more practitioners seek training in this field, people living with treatment resistant mental illnesses in Australia may soon have safe access to these potentially transformative medicines. I'm excited to have met so many people passionately working to facilitate this."

Dr Jo Howe, GP, TAS

"What an incredible course! I met so many incredible colleagues who are now friends and learnt so much- my brain is bursting! Amazing value- we were absolutely spoilt. What a wonderful thing to be part of."

Ella Morter, Counsellor, QLD

"This course is clearly run by passionate and dedicated people. The MMA teaching team seem to have taken every step to make this course a truly top tier program. I can't wait for the next weekend intensive: holotropic breathwork."

James Steevenson, Mental Health Nurse, VIC

"In my 30 years of work as a psychologist, I have never attended such an engaging and informative course of this calibre. The lecturers are world class experts in the field providing not just theories but also practical teachings along with experiential training. This course broadens my mind and also my heart."

Maurizio Romano, Psychotherapist

"I was amazed by Wade Davis's talk Sunday. It was more of a work of art than a lecture. In 55 years of education I have rarely heard such mastery of a topic expressed so poetically."

Dr Jack Springer, Emergency Physician

"The CPAT course is amazing. Never ever ever have I been so engrossed and hungry for knowledge. The calibre of the educators is exceptional. If you are thinking about doing this course do it without hesitation. It is the bomb."

Gareth Wild, Coaching/Counselling Psychologist

"The highlight of 2022 has been learning about Psychedelic Assisted Therapy (PAT) from outstanding teachers, from William James (1890s) through to today's leading PAT practitioners and professors, each with decades of relevant experience, in a brilliantly arranged curriculum put together by Mind Medicine Institute (MMI) for their Certificate in Psychedelic Assisted Therapy. I found the course practicums (workshops) as enjoyable as the weekly webinars. The MMI faculty is led by PA therapists Nigel Denning and Traill Dowie, PhD (dual: Philosophy, Psychiatry), both with extensive experience with psychedelic work internationally. Any University wanting to incorporate PAT into a Masters programme will be very hard pressed to do any better than MMI, the training arm of Mind Medicine Australia. Without doubt PAT will become a major contributor to the Australian mental health profession this decade. Today's MMI PAT students will be the pioneers and leaders in clinics, hospitals and growth centres of tomorrow, a tomorrow that is rapidly heading our way."

Denis McCarthy, Clinical Psychologist, Fremantle, WA, AU



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A U S T R A L I A

“As a psychotherapist I have undertaken many varied courses and trainings and am happy to say that the CPAT training has for me, been absolutely up there with the best. Nigel and Trill’s experience, presence, skill, and teachings stretched me both professionally and personally, and I am already seeing the results in my ‘everyday’ clinical practice and life. I am so grateful for this amazing training. Thank you.”

Pamela Pannifex, Psychotherapist, Couples Therapist, Naturopath M (Couns & App. Psychoth), N.D.

“The MMI CPAT course was the best researched and structured course I have ever enrolled in. Nigel, Trill and Dave were outstanding. Their wealth of knowledge was equalled and probably exceeded by their passion and belief in the whole CPAT process. They made the course feel like a really good TV series that just got better and better and pity it had to come to an end. Again, huge thanks to everyone involved.”

John Lee, QLD

“I have thoroughly enjoyed the course. Very worthwhile. The instructors are highly experienced, have deep knowledge and amazing teaching skills. The venues are great, food amazing. I had some great breakthroughs during the breathwork sessions. I have also made some great friends, there is a great spirit amongst us and I really appreciate this. I highly recommend the CPAT.”

Dr Matt Worthington, Clinical Psychologist, QLD

“The CPAT course totally surpassed all my expectations. The lecturers and guest speakers were outstanding and world class. I went into this course with a bit of hesitance due to the fact that this therapy isn’t legal yet outside of clinical trials. I am so glad that I followed my intuition and went ahead regardless. I have made lifelong connections and friendships with extraordinary like-minded people. This course has not only changed the way I currently work with my psychotherapy clients but I would go as far as to say that it has changed the trajectory of my career and life. I am forever grateful.”

Nikki Lucas, Psychotherapist, SA