

Mental Health Institute Tells of LSD Studies

Washington

The National Institute of Mental Health said yesterday it no longer provides funds for LSD human experiments, although it conducted or financed LSD studies with volunteers for two decades.

In its first official accounting of human research with the powerful hallucinogenic drug, the institute said it carried out 27 LSD projects involving "about 3000

volunteers" between 1953 and 1968.

Many of the volunteers were patients at the Lexington, Ky. Addiction Research Center, the agency said.

The institute also said it financed 20 outside studies with humans between 1953 and 1974, at a cost of more than \$2 million.

"These studies generally explored LSD as a therapeutic drug with alcoholics and psychiatric patients, and its effects on normal volunteers," an institute statement said. "Many of the studies have long since been terminated."

"Available information shows that participants were briefed on the drug and possible effects, and participated on a voluntary basis," it added.

Associated Press