

## **Abstract**

Hallucinogenic drug LSD was synthesized for the first time in the research institute of the Sandoz company in Basilei in 1938. Its discoverer, Albert Hofmann was interested in ergot alkaloids and modification of their basic structural component - lysergic acid. With the aim of obtaining a chemical compound of therapeutic quality, he prepared his twenty-fifth derivative of lysergic acid named LSD-25. Psychological effects of this drug were discovered five years later, in 1943. From this moment on, LSD was the subject of investigation in many pharmacological and clinical studies. A very strong effect on the human psyche based on the damage of perception and mind as well as alienation from the real world was observed. Although the effect of LSD on the human organism, including its effective doses, ability to induce addiction and other pharmacological parameters have been assessed in a number of studies, the exact mechanism of this effect remains unexplained. It was demonstrated that LSD is capable of affecting the deepest centres of human emotions, and look inside the human soul with their help. This effect was later used in clinical psychotherapy for the treatment of some psychological disorders with very good results. However, the cases of LSD abuse and acts of violence or crime due to this drug were gradually on the rise. This situation culminated in the middle of the 1960s, and Sandoz had to terminate the production and distribution of LSD in the whole world. Following the renewal of production, the scientific community showed just little interest in LSD, and the substance was doomed to remain a more illegal recreational drug with a hallucinogenic effect instead of being a useful psychiatric medication.