Is it "LSD without fireworks" or a dangerous addiction?

Federal ban spurs a debate

By David R. Stalley, USA Today

A though it's been around since 1966, most medical experts know little about the drug called "acid," or "lysergic acid diethylamide," or LSD.

But there is a growing concern in the public about the drug's potential for harm.

LSD can cause severe psychological and physiological effects, such as hallucinations, delusions, and paranoia.

Many medical experts believe that LSD is a powerful tool for therapy and education, but it is also a dangerous drug with the potential to cause long-term harm.

"The drug is capable of causing severe psychological damage," said Dr. Edward T. Seiden, a psychiatrist at the University of California, San Francisco.

"It can cause permanent changes in the brain, and there is evidence that LSD can affect the structure of the brain as well as its function.

"It's a powerful drug that can produce both positive and negative effects," said Seiden.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, LSD was widely used as a recreational drug, and its effects were well documented.

But in recent years, the drug has fallen out of favor, and its use has declined.

"LSD has been largely replaced by other drugs, such as Ecstasy and PCP, which are more readily available and more popular among the young," said Seiden.

"The government has placed LSD in Schedule I, the most restrictive category of controlled substances, to prevent its use as a recreational drug.

"But the drug's potential for harm remains, and we need to continue to educate the public about its risks," said Seiden.

The federal government has been silent on the issue of LSD for many years, and there is no indication that it plans to change its stance.

"The government has a responsibility to protect the public from harmful drugs," said Seiden.

"It's time for the government to act, and to ensure that LSD is not available as a recreational drug.

"LSD is a dangerous drug, and we need to do everything we can to prevent its use," said Seiden.