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Arizona Launches Nation's First Whole-Mushroom Psilocybin Clinical Trial to Treat PTSD

State-Funded Study Led by Scottsdale Research Institute

Phoenix Arizona -- The State of Arizona has authorized and funded the nation's first clinical trial using whole psilocybin mushrooms to deliver psilocybin to patients with PTSD, marking a historic step in the advancement of psychedelic therapies. The study is being pioneered by nonprofit foundation Scottsdale Research Institute (SRI) with regulatory and operational support from global healthcare and clinical research firm Alira Health. The trial is the first IND-enabled study of its kind in the United States.

Backed by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and championed by Governor Katie Hobbs, the initiative reinforces Arizona's leadership in mental health innovation and evidence-based exploration of natural psychedelic treatment options like intact mushrooms instead of isolated synthetic molecules.

"Scientific progress is essential to ensuring that our healthcare decisions are informed by rigorous research and sound data," said Nicole Nichols, Executive Director at SRI.

Arizona Senator and bill sponsor Kevin Payne said, "Arizona is proud to lead the way with this pioneering study, which reflects our commitment to evidence-based, responsible exploration of new treatment options for patients in need."

Under the direction of Dr. Sue Sisley, MD President/Principal Investigator of Scottsdale Research Institute and a nationally recognized leader in psychedelic research, the study is structured to evaluate the therapeutic potential of whole-mushroom psilocybin in a clinical environment.

"This landmark study—made possible by the leadership at AZ Legislature, Governor Hobbs and the State of Arizona Health Dept—reflects our mission to deliver real-world data that can guide policy and expand access to promising treatments for patients with PTSD," said Dr. Sisley.



“We are honored to support this groundbreaking study, which represents a major advancement in the science of psychedelic medicine,” said Dr Natalie Strand MD, MAYO Clinic. “It’s a privilege to partner with Scottsdale Research Institute and the State of Arizona to rigorously evaluate whole psilocybin mushroom’s potential for first time ever in FDA controlled trial.”

As scientific and public interest in psychedelic therapies grows, this state-supported effort stands as a global model for advancing research through public-private collaboration.

About Scottsdale Research Institute

Scottsdale Research Institute (SRI) is an Arizona-based clinical trials site that is dedicated to advancing safe, legal access to vital Schedule 1 medicines through the federal Right to Try law by conducting rigorous botanical research. SRI strives to conduct FDA-authorized controlled human studies to ascertain the medical safety and efficacy of inhaled cannabis flower and oral psilocybin mushrooms and other psychedelics for treating pain, PTSD and opioid reduction and substitution. Learn more at ScottsdaleResearchInstitute.org.