MENTAL HEALTH STUDIES

ALBANY, N.Y. (UPI) — Four task forces have been established to study critical problems in mental health, according to Lawrence C. Kolb, State Mental Hygiene Commissioner.

Kolb said Sunday night reassessment of his department's policies was needed because of changes in the mental health services, recent public criticism and an increased awareness of patients' rights.

The four areas to be studied are the control of violence in the department's facilities, admission and readmission of patients, alternate methods of care for the elderly and chronically ill and the development of a mental disability information system.