

Subj: RSDS and oxycontin Date: 6/1/01 5:05:36 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: horsewomanlec@hotmail.com (Kari Simon) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
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Dear Sirs,

My name is Kari simon, I will be tuning twenty years old in one month. I have been suffering from RSD since I was 16. In that period of time I kept trying many different medications to alleviate my pain. I was finally put on oxycontin when I was 18. The use of oxycontin has provided pain relief unlike any other medication I've tried. I take up to 60mgs per day and that is just enough to keep me sane and able to have a somewhat normal life, one that I would never have been able to have without the use of oxycontin. Before I was put on oxycontin my pain was so intolerable that I just wanted to die, my mind was overflowing with thoughts of death, pain and suicide. Oxycontin helped save me from myself. Without it I may not have been able to finish high school, go to college, or stand the summer breezes that I so enjoy now. I fear if you take my oxycontin away I will once again be in intolerable pain. Please consider not just my predicament, but all of the chronic pain sufferers that need oxycontin just to get through the day!

Thank you,
Kari Simon

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 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Fri, 1 Jun 2001 17:05:10 -0700
 Received: from 24.93.244.125 by lw2fd.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Sat, 02 Jun 2001 00:05:10 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [24.93.244.125]
 From: "Kari Simon" <horsewomanlec@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: RSDS and oxycontin
 Date: Fri, 01 Jun 2001 20:05:10 -0400
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
 Message-ID: <LAW2-F85A1XvpFVjCRG000075e8@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 02 Jun 2001 00:05:10.0404 (UTC) FILETIME=[B06BA440:01C0EAF7]

Subj: Oxycontin for chronic pain Date: 6/2/01 12:36:18 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: gopaldas2@home.com (bonbay.wa) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

To whom it may concern,

I have had CRPS for about one year, of course it has taken time to get a dx. Because of this syndrome my body has gone through much pain and agony. The only medicine that helps is the oxycontin, it enables me to be able to function as a wife and a Mother of a very active 4 year old as much as I physically possible. My pain is all of the time some days more and a lot of days I have attacks that effect my muscles and bones, I have RSD in both feet, legs, arms, neck and back I think pretty much my whole body, it's like pain on top of pain, electric shocks that would make a person scream. The oxycontin works on the sharpest pain that none other that I have tried.

I hope that this drug will not be kept from the people who use this medication for extreme pain, it's sad when people can't live there lives without pain, but until options, or treatment works for chronic pain the oxycontin should be available.

Sincerely,

Jean

----- Headers -----

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 Message-ID: <000801c0eb44\$1f5a77e0\$d5ea1018@fmdl1.wa.home.com>
 From: "bonbay.wa" <gopaldas2@home.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: Oxycontin for chronic pain
 Date: Sat, 2 Jun 2001 02:12:13 -0700
 MIME-Version: 1.0
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Subj: RE RSDSA Electronic Alert #6 Date: 6/1/01 12:15:22 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: dayandknight@pccnm.com (William D. Knight) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I HAVE HAD RSD IN MY LEFT ARM FOR NINE YEARS FOLLOWING HAND SURGERY. OVER THIS PERIOD OF TIME I HAVE TRIED ALL MEDICATION AVAILABLE TO ME FROM DOCTOR'S AND PAIN CLINIC'S AND NOTHING GAVE ME RELIEF THAT MSCONTIN HAS. I HAVE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED IT AS AN ANSWER TO MY PRAYER'S. PLEASE DON'T TAKE IT AWAY.

SINCERELY, Winona Murphy Knight.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <dayandknight@pccnm.com>
 Received: from rly-zc05.mx.aol.com (rly-zc05.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.5]) by air-zc01.mail.aol.com (v78_r3.6) with ESMTP; Fri, 01 Jun 2001 15:15:22 -0400
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 Received: from COMPUTER ([4.22.50.97]) by ms1.pccnm.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service Version 5.5.2653.13) id LBWTFKM7; Fri, 1 Jun 2001 13:12:09 -0600
 Message-ID: <003001c0eacf\$1f5703a0\$61321604@computer>
 From: "William D. Knight" <dayandknight@pccnm.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: RE RSDSA Electronic Alert #6
 Date: Fri, 1 Jun 2001 13:14:43 -0600
 MIME-Version: 1.0
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 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
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 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2919.6600

Subj: FDA MEETING JUNE 14-15 2001
Date: 6/1/01 10:12:04 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Blkshep101
To: Jwbroatch

TO: FDA BOARD OF
APPROVAL

This letter is in regard to the statement I received advising me of the FDA meeting to discuss the risk verses benefits of opioid analgesics for pain treatment. I cannot speak for everyone, but for myself I can say that without these opioid analgesics I could not walk. I spent two years in a wheelchair before I found a doctor who would prescribe these medicines. I was in so much pain that I found it unbearable to face the day or night. This doctor prescribed me some opioids and after taking them for a short time I found the strength to get up from the wheelchair. I can now walk a short distance, (because of these medicines), and although it is only a short distance, it is something I could not do at all without these medicines. I do not have the right words to make you understand how walking just a short distance gave me back my life. These medicines help the pain enough for me to want to face the next day and night. Without them I was so lost in my pain that I could not think of anything else. Now it is still hard, because all of my pain is not gone, but enough of it is, just enough to let me try to walk, swim, and get out of the house once in a while to try my hand at gardening. And I owe it all to opioid analgesics. Please do not misunderstand me. I am not a junky, I am not flying high, and I do not abuse my medications. If I had it my way I would be healthy and would not even need an aspirin. But life for me is not that way. I am in unbearable pain day and night, even with the medications. But I can now walk, and that opens up the world to me. A world that was taken away when I first was sick and had no help. So to the FDA I say, please do not take away my only hope for a halfway normal life. I depend on these medicines to allow me to walk to the store, to get food, to pay bills, to shop. Without them I couldn't do any of these things, and I would be back in so much pain that I would only be able to lay in bed or sit in a wheelchair. You can't garden in a wheelchair. You can't do anything. You can't even reach the top shelf. I can now, and only because of the opioid medications. Please don't make me go back to the way it was before. This decision before you is not a light decision. For me it represents how I will live the rest of my life. Please try to think of that when you make your decision. My life is in your hands.

Respectfully,
Gail Black

Subj: **RSD**
Date: 5/30/01 8:24:34 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: BLUEEYESLMV
To: Jwbroatch

HI MY NAME IS LISA VANCE AND I SUFFER FROM RSD AMOUNG OTHER THINGS. WITHOUT MY OXYCONTIN AND LORTAB WHICH WAS JUST CUT IN HALF WITHOUT EVEN BEING DISCUSSED WITH ME. I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BE A 33 YEAR OLD MOM AND HOUSEWIFE AND WORKER. I COULDNT DO ANYTHING I WOULDNT BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF BED. HOW WOULD I SURVIVE? I HATE HAVING TO TAKE MEDICINE TO SURVIVE BUT IVE BEEN GIVIN NO CHOICE PLEASE DONT TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME AND MY FAMILY BECUASE THERES ALOT OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO WOULD SUFFER BESIDES ME IF OPIODS WERENT AVAILABLE TO ME.

LISA VANCE

James & Sheila Davidson
8 Lantana
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

May 27, 2001

R.E. Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration June 14-15

I would like to take this opportunity to advocate on behalf of children who suffer from chronic Pain Disorders such as FMS & CRPS.

I am a parent of a child with a chronic medical illness that includes Chronic Pain Disorder. This illness has all but brought my daughter's normal development to a halt. She has received too little understanding of this problem resulting in little assistance and a great deal of discrimination. This along with the current contentious climate between health care providers and insurance companies has caused my daughter needless pain and suffering. Over the past four years, I have contacted the FDA with respect to her medical condition in the vain hope that it would insure better treatment for other children. (i.e. improved guidelines for pharmaceutical labeling and use of antibiotics in pediatrics).

Thus far, the only treatment for her chronic pain symptoms that has allowed her to experience some of the normal teenage activities has been perocet as administered by a physician under parental supervision. Because she is under 18, as it stands now, there have been only two pain management doctors willing to manage her pain with perocet, thereby alleviating some of her suffering.

Given the lack of understanding, pediatric treatment options and assistance that already exists, why would you make it even more difficult to receive a medication that allows my daughter some of the normal, teenage experiences that the rest of us take for granted?

I strongly urge you to not place further restrictions on this class of drugs.

Sincerely,


Sheila Davidson

Cc: Jim Broatch, President of RSDSA
Councilwoman Helen Thomson
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Diane Feinstein

Subj:	RE: Oxycontin Controversy
Date:	6/11/01 3:31:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	Dburns4155
To:	Jwbroatch

I do not think that the FDA should restrict Oxycontin any more than it has been in the past. If Oxycontin works for some or many pain patients, then it should remain available.

I read the Freetimes articles available at this same web site and have to agree that sometimes the media can cause more trouble than they are worth. Certainly Oxycontin is not an easily abused drug compared to many others.

Bad political solutions are many times related to bad media reporting!

Another thing that bothers me is the frequent adding of aspirin or Tylenol to many similar drugs. Too much aspirin can be bad for many people and too much Tylenol can cause liver damage. There must be some reason for this.

Incidentally, I think I have RSDS involving only my chest and I cannot find another actual case involving only the chest, although involvement of the chest is alluded to in some of the literature. I wish I could verify another case involving only the chest. (I have unusual increased sweating, an unusual distribution of burning pain, and trouble sleeping.) I took some Oxycontin for several weeks. It did not help my pain. It also did not give me any thrill or good feeling. When I quit taking it, I just quit and that was that. Generally I do not like narcotics and I DO NOT do any recreational drugs.

Dorr H. Burns

Subj: RSD Date: 6/11/01 8:59:48 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: rconde@att.net (Richard Conde) Reply-to: rconde@att.net (Richard Conde) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

As a retired physician who has suffered with RSD for the past 15 years, I am totally in accord with preserving any form of legitimate medication which relieves pain. This Oxycontin thing is ridiculous. If Oxycontin relieves pain for a significant number of chronic pain sufferers it must be made available to patients regardless of what the lawless might do. Morphine, Demerol, Methadone, hydrocodone, and numerous other opioid drugs have been abused, but certainly no one would seriously think of removing them from the market. The long-acting oral opiates have been a tremendous help in the control of chronic pain--they should not be abandoned because some may have been abused. RLC

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Received: from mtiwmhc27.worldnet.att.net (mtiwmhc27.worldnet.att.net [204.127.131.52]) by rly-zd04.mx.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Mon, 11 Jun 2001 11:59:28 -0400
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Message-ID: <002c01c0f291\$bf462980\$8723560c@conde>
Reply-To: "Richard Conde" <rconde@att.net>
From: "Richard Conde" <rconde@att.net>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: RSD
Date: Mon, 11 Jun 2001 10:15:34 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
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X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

Subj: Fwd: RSDS TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESS Date: 6/10/01 3:43:10 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: Funjackie To: mc5@stargate.net, ellgy@peoplepc.com, Jwbroatch, Marejohn, Mtjkcanf, MKSNanny, PIP57_RSD@dotplanet.net
--

hello everyone. I am not happy with all the news going around about this drug. I am taking it and I have been better then I have ever been. Before I couldn't hold a job because of the pain being so bad and this drug helps me. I am able to hold a job and function a lot better. It makes me angry that there is finally something here to help us and they are trying to take it away from us. I hope that they don't take it off the market. I don't know what I would do. I already talked to my pharmacist and my doctor about it and they told me not to worry about it and I hope they are right. I just wanted to pass this email on to you guys and if it is helping you please tell us.
 Thanks, Jackie

Forwarded Message:

Subj: RSDS TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESS Date: 5/21/01 11:24:30 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: Marejohn To: slweiner@hotmail.com

Hey everyone, Keith here. We need your help.

On June 14-15, 2001, an advisory committee of the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) will meet to discuss the risk versus benefits of using opiod analgesics for the treatment of pain.

The RSDSA will be testifying What he needs from us is written testimony from the RSD community, the medical community, other individuals struggling with other types of chronic pain and their families who share our concern that the FDA will limit the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain.

RSDSA intends to offer both oral and written testimony advocating that the FDA not restrict the availability of these medications in response to the recent media coverage of the oxycontin controversy. For some, oxycontin is the only opioid analgesic that has had an efficacious effect on their RSD/CRPS pain.

Jim Broatch will also present the committee with written testimony from the RSD community, the medical community, other individuals struggling with other types of chronic pain and their families who share our concern that the FDA will limit the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain.

This is a very important opportunity for us to let Congress know our views

Sunday, June 10, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

on chronic pain and the medications we need to improve the quality of our lives and to show the difference between us and the people out there who use them to get high.

**Please e-mail your comments to jwbroatch@aol.com
or mail them to
RSDSA, PO Box 502,
Milford, Connecticut 06460.**

**Thanks everyone,
Keith
www.rsdhope.org**

PS Feel free to pass this email around to any lists or groups that might help. Let's inundate them with emails and letters.

Subj:	Re: RSDS TESTIMONY BEFORE CONGRESS
Date:	6/10/01 7:43:51 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	MKSNanny
To:	Jwbroatch

SIRS,

WE ARE AN EVER GROWING AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WITH CHRONIC PAIN.WHEN WE FIND A DRUG THAT HAS HELPED US THE FDA OR GOVERNMENT TRIES TO TAKE IT AWAY.PEOPLE WITH PAIN AS SEVERE AS CANCER , RSD ,FIBERMYALGIA AND JUST PEOPLE WITH SEVERE PAIN FROM ARTHRITIS ,AND ALL THE OTHER FORM THAT PAIN IS FROM. WE NEED TO B HELPED .MEDICATION IS OUR LIFE LINE. NEW TECHNOLOGY IS ALL WE HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO GET RID OF OUR PAIN. PLEASE HELP US IN OUR LIFETIME BATTLES.WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN FIND.

MY NAME IS MARY STEPHENSON .I AM 39 YEARS OLD AND I HAVE A LIFETIME OF PAIN TO ENDURE FROM RSD. PLEASE DONT TAKE OUR PRESCRIPTIONS OFF OF US .A LITTLE LESS PAIN IS BETTER THAN FULL BLOWN PAIN AND THATS WHAT OUR SCRIPTS DO 4 US.

THANK U 4 YOUR TIME

MARY STEPHENSON

RD#1 NEW FLORENCE PA 15944

7242352695

Subj:	oxycotin
Date:	6/10/01 7:53:18 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	CSte818313
To:	Jwbroatch

My Aunt was just diagnosed with RSDS. My research indicates that OC is an important pain management medicine for her and others like her. While I am a Chemical Dependency Case Manager and see clients daily who have learned to abuse this medication, I do not think this medication should have limited distribution regarding those with a legitimate need. Certainly exploring ways to make it unattractive for abuse would be good and I would support that kind of exploration. People with chronic pain due to illness should not be made to suffer because a segment of our society has learned ways to abuse it. These are my thoughts for what they are worth. Carolyn Stewart

Subj:	Comments Re: opiate analgesics for treatment of pain
Date:	6/10/01 10:22:51 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	Marejohn
To:	Jwbroatch

FDA Advisory Committee:

There are many of us who live in unbearable pain 24/7. Unless you experience it yourself, or have a loved one who is going through it, I guess it is difficult to understand. I imagine I would not have been able to understand if not for going through it personally. I have been through many things in life, including childbirth, numerous times. Nothing compares to the level of the pain of RSD/CRPS (nerve pain).

You have no idea what it feels like when you cannot even stand to have clothing touch your body. If not for oxycontin, and drugs of that type many of us would be bedridden and or just want to die. We didn't ask for or want this problem. All of us would much prefer to live a normal functioning life.

Please understand the difference between someone who is DOING DRUGS (TO ESCAPE AND GET HIGH) , and those of us who NEED THESE DRUGS TO SURVIVE. When you are in so much pain, these drugs are used up to treat the pain, there is no kick or high involved. Believe me, even these drugs only scratch the surface of the pain, we are still not pain free, but they help to keep the pain level at an almost bearable level. At least we can get up, get dressed and be somewhat human.

I agree blood tests should be done regularly to be sure the drugs are not damaging organs, which in most cases that I am aware of are being done. Please don't make the doctor who tries to make his patient a bit more comfortable out to be a criminal. It is tough enough now to get the medications we need.

If you must find a cause, find the real criminals who are doing street drugs, or doctors who prescribe RX drugs to those that don't need them. Attack it at that level. PLEASE DO NOT PROHIBIT, OR LIMIT THE USE OF DRUGS THAT ARE A LIFELINE TO THOSE IN CHRONIC PAIN.

Are you aware of the fact that the suicide rate among chronic pain patients is very high now, without the use of these drugs, who knows how many more will die.

PLEASE HEAR OUR OUTCRY. WE HAVE MORE PROBLEMS THAN WE CAN HANDLE NOW. DON'T MAKE IT HARDER.

Thank you for taking the time to hear us out.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Sisco

Mary Ann Sisco
196 DeMott Lane
Somerset, NJ 08873

Vice President
Living With RSDS, Inc.
421 Courtyard Drive
Hillsborough, NJ 08844

Subj:	Re: Narcotics to relieve pain please let our voices be Heard
Date:	6/11/01 12:45:37 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	JKathawk
To:	Jwbroatch

Dear Jim,

I am writing as a true person who has to take narcotic pain killers a minimum of 7 times a day or more. See I have RSD which started in my left hand, and now has spread to my whole upper trunk. It is unbearable painful. It has taken away my whole life and special times with my 5 year old daughter. To add to it I have also been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia, which is pain on top of pain, and none of these are going away. I have had them way to long. But, with the help of several Doctors they have found a Narcotic system for the time being that works, Morophine Sulf, Percocet 10mg, Valium to deal with the stress and I am so much in pain without them that I could not even touch my little girl, but with there help and getting me on a regime of those drugs and a few none narcotic, I can live with the pain to a level I can give my little girl a hug again and a kiss and if I have to hold her hand I can with my right one because my left is partially clawed. I am Hoping that I get this to you before you go to congress because we all should have a voice not just the lawmakers put those of us who suffer continuously on a daily basis.

God Bless You Jim,
I Hope my voice is heard,
Kathleen Johnson-Dinsmore
jkathawk@aol.com

Subj: Oxycontin
Date: 6/10/01 11:06:12 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: jan@transtate.com (Jan's Mail)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
CC: anthmanandthewom@aol.com (leann & tony)

Hello, my name is Anthony Ulmer. I have had RSDS for two years. I am sure that I do not have to tell you how painful this disease is. But, how could any one possibly leave this detail out when discussing this disease.

I have been a patient at the VA in Palm Beach Gardens for the last year and one half. I have had the best Chronic Pain Management Doctor. (He has been more help than any doctor that I have seen in or out of the VA system.) Last Friday, June 8, 2001, my prescription for oxycontin was canceled. The VA is now only prescribing oxycontin to the terminally ill. (While my disease is not terminal, it is a life sentence.) This is in precaution to the great number of deaths which have occurred due to misuse of this medication.

It took a long time to get the right combinations of medicine. And even with that combination, it is still very difficult to get through most days. I am again having an extremely difficult time adjusting to the new medicines. I am once again in more pain than when I was taking oxycontin.

I sincerely hope that some type of compromise can be made. The quality of my life would be greatly enhanced. Thank you for your time in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anthony Ulmer
(anthmanandthewom@aol.com)

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Return-Path: <jan@transtate.com>
Received: from rly-yd01.mx.aol.com (rly-yd01.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.1]) by air-yd02.mail.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Sun, 10 Jun 2001 14:06:12 2000
Received: from mail.transtate.com (mail.transtate.net [216.88.112.15]) by rly-yd01.mx.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Sun, 10 Jun 2001 14:05:50 -0400
Received: from parents (fl-pbg1c3-137.pbc.adelphia.net [24.50.12.137]) by mail.transtate.com (8.11.1/8.11.1) with SMTP id f5AIDLA15116; Sun, 10 Jun 2001 13:13:21 -0500
Message-ID: <001801c0f1e0\$e71ed620\$890c3218@pbc.adelphia.net>
From: "Jan's Mail" <jan@transtate.com>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Cc: "leann & tony" <anthmanandthewom@aol.com>
Subject: Oxycontin
Date: Sun, 10 Jun 2001 14:09:38 -0500
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Subj:	Oxcontin
Date:	6/8/01 3:03:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	JMcmmk
To:	Jwbroatch

Oxycontin is the only pain med that really helps. I try just taking it once a day. But sometimes the pain is so bad that I have to take it twice a day. The prescription calls for it twice a day. So for drug that is supposed to be so bad and indicative I don't have a problem. If I can do anything else please let me know.

John McGarvey

Subj: Oxycontin controversy Date: 6/8/01 2:50:10 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: duffys@juno.com (Idamarie Duffy) To: jwbroatch@aol.com (Jim Broatch)

Without Oxycontin my life would be very difficult, with unbearable pain and difficulty with movement. It helps me in the AM. Without it movement is extremely difficult and unbearably painful. In the PM it calms down the pain enough so that I can get some degree of quality sleep.

Without the ability to move my limbs I would wind up back in a wheelchair, that I have recently come out of after eight (8) years of confinement.

Taken as prescribed, Oxycontin does not cause addiction nor make an individual appear drugged. If you were to see me, and hear me speak, you would never suspect I am on Oxycontin and have been on it for a number of years.

My mind functions well, as a matter of fact, if it were not for the Oxycontin I would not be able to mentally, nor physically,

Idamarie Duffy
duffys@juno.com

Idamarie Duffy

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Return-Path: <duffys@juno.com>
Received: from rly-yd04.mx.aol.com (rly-yd04.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.4]) by air-yd03.mail.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Fri, 08 Jun 2001 17:50:10 -0400
Received: from rmx194-mta.mail.com (rmx194-mta.mail.com [165.251.48.41]) by rly-yd04.mx.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Fri, 08 Jun 2001 17:49:59 -0400
Received: from web395-wra.mail.com (web395-wra.mail.com [165.251.33.74])
by rmx194-mta.mail.com (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id RAA21488
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Fri, 8 Jun 2001 17:49:57 -0400 (EDT)
Message-ID: <388428141.992036997449.JavaMail.root@web395-wra.mail.com>
Date: Fri, 8 Jun 2001 17:49:57 -0400 (EDT)
From: Idamarie Duffy <duffys@juno.com>
To: Jim Broatch <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: Oxycontin controversy
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-WM-FaxTo:
X-Mailer: mail.com
X-Originating-IP: 207.156.1.4

Subj: **FDA Advisory Committee**
Date: 6/8/01 6:10:20 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: spiscopo@gateway.net (spiscopo)
Reply-to: spiscopo@gateway.net (spiscopo)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

June 8, 2001

Dear Mr. Broatch,

I am a member of the RSDSA and of the group RSDHope. It is my understanding that you will be going before an FDA Advisory Committee to testify about the importance of opiate analgesics in the management of chronic pain. As a scientist as well as a person with RSD, I would like to add my voice to yours in this important testimony. I hope you will pass this letter on to the committee.

Sincerely,

Sue Piscopo, DVM, PhD

To the members of the FDA Advisory Committee,

I am writing to you as a person who lives with a chronic, progressive neurological disease and who has been prescribed opiate analgesics to control the severe pain it causes. I have reflex sympathetic dystrophy, or RSD, which developed following a neck injury. While I do not take OxyContin, I take a related drug called MS Contin, which is also a potent, time-released pain medication. I have read the recent press reports concerning the growing abuse of OxyContin in our communities, and it both saddens and angers me. I am sad because OxyContin is now one more name on a long list of drugs that people recklessly abuse. I am angry because their recklessness may result in further restrictions to access of a tremendously useful prescription medication.

Three years ago, six months after my second child was born, I began a journey into the dark and frustrating world of physical disability. It started when I herniated three intervertebral disks in my neck. My doctor discovered that I had developed significant arthritic changes in the bones in my neck, which is unusual for someone my age. Eighteen months later, after two grueling courses of physical therapy with little improvement in condition, I was diagnosed with RSD. RSD can strike at any age and often follows a simple injury like a broken bone, or in my case, nerve damage. The disease is characterized by the severe and unrelenting pain it causes each and every day, as well as bizarre temperature and color changes in the affected limbs, and varying degrees of swelling and muscle cramping. Eventually, there is muscle wasting and loss of function. There is no cure for RSD, and treatments are aimed primarily at alleviating pain.

I am a veterinarian and I have a PhD, yet when I was diagnosed with RSD I had never heard of it. Unlike some of the other progressive neurological diseases such as Parkinson's Disease or multiple sclerosis, most people do not recognize the name RSD. It can be baffling to physicians as well, and often goes undiagnosed for years. You would not know I have RSD by looking at me. Unlike some RSD patients, whose affected limbs turn bluish-purple in color and become extremely cold to the touch, my arms look outwardly normal. When my hands and arms burn with pain, however, I often have the sensation of extreme cold. I have what is called

Friday, June 08, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

hyperesthesia, and when I am bumped or scratched or grabbed, the pain worsens considerably. I am unable to tolerate extremes of temperature and something as simple as a light breeze can feel painful to me. I am constantly painful to some degree, and I am always tired and weak. I am unable to stand or sit comfortably for more than a few minutes at a time, and I am forced to lay down several times each day. It is difficult to drive, difficult to sleep, difficult to lift things, difficult to bend over. I am 36 years old, a wife and a mother, and I am no longer able to live anything even resembling the life I led three years ago.

It has taken me the better part of the last 3 years to accept the fact that my life has changed forever. Before I became ill, I was a very active person. I worked, I went to school, I exercised, I traveled, and I never considered these things to be extraordinary. Going to the grocery store or cleaning the house was something I did as an afterthought. Now, I have to plan my day around the simplest of activities. I go to the grocery store several times each week, picking up only a few items each time. The groceries then wait in the trunk of the car for my husband to come home and carry them inside. When I have the strength to clean the floor, I have to lie down afterwards to recover my energy. Working at the computer has to be done in 10-minute intervals, and I can't always control the movement of my fingers. Cooking has become limited to dishes that don't require stirring or constant watching. If it weren't for the medications that I take each and every day, even these simple activities would not get done.

I take two different medications for pain, Darvocet and MS Contin, as well as a muscle relaxant and several other drugs to combat my condition. Both Darvocet and MS Contin are controlled under the law because of their high potential for addiction. However, the scientific literature suggests that when these medications are taken as directed for a legitimate reason, the incidence of addiction is very low, estimated at *less than one percent*. I take Darvocet and a muscle relaxant first thing each morning so I can get myself out of bed and get my children dressed and fed and off to school. I take MS Contin on days when the pain cannot be controlled by the Darvocet. And yes, there are days when even the MS Contin doesn't relieve the pain, and I am left with my faith in God and the ever-present hope that eventually the pain will lessen once again. Taking these powerful medicines does not give me any kind of "high," rather it lessens the intensity of the burning pain in my body to a level I am more able to tolerate. If I didn't have these medications available to me, I would have to spend the better part of each day in bed, and I would not be able to care for my family and take part in our daily activities. Without these medications, the quality of my life and the lives of my family would be drastically lessened. For all of my limitations as a person with RSD, I have managed to retain the dignity that comes with the simple activities of self-sufficiency, in large part because of prescription pain medication.

The abuse of drugs like OxyContin and other prescription and illegal drugs is a long-standing problem in our country, and one that deserves our attention. Too often, people experiment with powerful medications in an effort to escape the conditions of their lives. There is no doubt that drug addiction is devastating and can ruin lives. However, the answer to prescription drug abuse is not to withhold these medications from the people they were intended to help. It is estimated that there are 5-7 million people with RSD in our country, and RSD is only one of the many chronic, painful conditions that threaten the independence of our citizens. To punish all of these people for the actions of drug abusers is more than unfair. Limiting access to pain relief for these patients would mean limiting access to self-sufficiency and quality of life.

As you consider all of the testimony before you, please remember that there is no easy answer to the problem of drug abuse. Limiting access of a drug to the addict may also mean limiting access to the doctor and the patient. Please keep my family and me and the millions of other families who live with chronic pain in your minds as you make your decision.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sue Piscopo, DVM, PhD

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <spiscopo@gateway.net>

Received: from rly-yd03.mx.aol.com (rly-yd03.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.3]) by air-yd04.mail.aol.com

Friday, June 08, 2001 America Online: Jwbroadcast

Subj: Oxycontin Date: 6/6/01 11:19:50 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: sshannon@snowhill.com (Sam Shannon) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I don't know what I would do without oxycontin. I was on NSAIDS for more than 14 years and they damaged my kidneys to the degree that I cannot take them for fear of being on dialysis for the rest of my life. I can only sleep 2-3 hours before I awaken in pain.

Perhaps someone on the other side should live for years in pain. I don't take the medication for a high but to live.

Samuel G. Shannon
402 Riveredge Parkway
Dothan, AL

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <sshannon@snowhill.com>
Received: from rly-yc02.mx.aol.com (rly-yc02.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.34]) by air-yc04.mail.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Thu, 07 Jun 2001 02:19:49 -0400
Received: from frost.snowhill.com (mail.snowhill.com [216.47.193.102]) by rly-yc02.mx.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Thu, 07 Jun 2001 02:19:43 -0400
Received: from sam5kthw2px0kb (p146.dothan.graceba.net [216.47.213.146])
by frost.snowhill.com (8.11.2/8.11.2) with SMTP id f576Jf912091
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Thu, 7 Jun 2001 01:19:42 -0500 (CDT)
Message-ID: <003401c0ef2a\$e830efc0\$92d52fd8@sam5kthw2px0kb>
From: "Sam Shannon" <sshannon@snowhill.com>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: Oxycontin
Date: Thu, 7 Jun 2001 01:21:51 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="====_NextPart_000_0031_01C0EEF0.3B1F4280"
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4522.1200
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

Subj: FDA Meeting Date: 6/5/01 12:14:22 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: elo@swbell.net (Oleson) Reply-to: elo@swbell.net To: jwbroatch@aol.com (Jim Broatch)
--

Dear Mr. Broatch,

Please count me among your supporters. I have been suffering from RSD for years and firmly believe that the benefits of using opioid analgesics for the treatment of pain far outweigh the risks. For some, including myself, this is their only treatment. I have also suffered from migraines since the age of four. I am now 49. I was originally diagnosed with tendonitis approximately 7 years ago when my leg was immobilized and I was prescribed Vicodin. It wasn't until 4 years ago that the original diagnosis was finally changed by a neurologist to RSD. My right leg is affected, but it often spreads to my left one. I have adjusted my lifestyle and accepted this condition. We had our first grandchild 18 months ago and I was his primary care giver until the RSD would no longer let me enjoy this wonderful profession. It was then that I did what I had been resisting-go to a pain clinic and try the spinal blocks, etc. My mother became very ill with hypercalcemia prior to my initial appointment, so my husband, Eddie, and I have been living at my her home to aid in her recuperation. I am waiting until she is better to go to the pain clinic since I realize that I will need to concentrate fully once I start the regimen that they will set for me. I just hope that it works and gives me some relief. Eddie, along with my family are very understanding and are godsend for me. Forgive me for not responding to this sooner, but today is the first time that I have checked my e-mail in over a month. You will be in our prayers. Please let us know if we can do anything else, and let us know the outcome of the meeting.

Sincerely,
Linda Oleson

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Return-Path: <elo@swbell.net>
 Received: from rly-xa04.mx.aol.com (rly-xa04.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.73]) by air-xa04.mail.aol.com (v78_r3.8) with ESMTP; Tue, 05 Jun 2001 15:14:21 -0400
 Received: from mta5.rcsntx.swbell.net (mta5.rcsntx.swbell.net [151.164.30.29]) by rly-xa04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Tue, 05 Jun 2001 15:14:04 -0400
 Received: from default ([208.188.18.139]) by mta5.rcsntx.swbell.net (Sun Internet Mail Server sims.3.5.2000.03.23.18.03.p10) with SMTP id <0GEG00HPYUBZPG@mta5.rcsntx.swbell.net> for jwbroatch@aol.com; Tue, 5 Jun 2001 11:40:48 -0500 (CDT)
 Date: Tue, 05 Jun 2001 23:46:26 -0500
 From: Oleson <elo@swbell.net>
 Subject: FDA Meeting
 To: Jim Broatch <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Reply-to: elo@swbell.net
 Message-id: <3B1DB5A2.715D@swbell.net>
 MIME-version: 1.0
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 Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
 Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Subj: Re: Oxycontin Date: 6/5/01 9:29:32 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: goose02908@earthlink.net (Beverly Swain) Reply-to: goose02908@earthlink.net (Beverly Swain) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

I have had RSD for nearly 4 1/2 years. The doctors treating me kept trying a variety of drugs that would give me relief from the pain. I was on quite a "cocktail" of medications for a long time and felt I needed to be managed with less drugs in my life. I was getting Stellate Ganglion Blocks with good results until the insurance company said that this treatment was never supposed to be a long term treatment and stopped paying for them. I then went to Roxicodone. After being on it for over a year I learned from my physician (who had just gone on a seminar for chronic pain) that Oxycontin was working well with patients. He asked if I would try that treatment. It has been wonderful for pain management.

Maybe out on the street people are getting high off this medication. I don't feel any high. I just have some relief from a near debilitating pain.

To say the medication is bad just because some wayward souls have tarnished it's name is like saying radiation shouldn't be used on cancer patients because they get sick!

My only hope is that the government won't take it off the market.

thank you.....bev

God Bless ((H)) , -)

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Return-Path: <goose02908@earthlink.net>

Received: from rly-yg03.mx.aol.com (rly-yg03.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.3]) by air-yg05.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 06 Jun 2001 00:29:32 -0400

Received: from swan.mail.pas.earthlink.net (swan.mail.pas.earthlink.net [207.217.120.123]) by rly-yg03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 06 Jun 2001 00:29:18 -0400

Received: from s4g4n7 (dialup-209.244.130.149.Dial1.Providence1.Level3.net [209.244.130.149]) by swan.mail.pas.earthlink.net (EL-8_9_3_3/8.9.3) with SMTP id VAA18841 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Tue, 5 Jun 2001 21:29:14 -0700 (PDT)

Message-ID: <000a01c0ee40\$cbd93020\$9582f4d1@s4g4n7>

Reply-To: "Beverly Swain" <goose02908@earthlink.net>

From: "Beverly Swain" <goose02908@earthlink.net>

To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Oxycontin

Date: Wed, 6 Jun 2001 00:25:49 -0400

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0007_01C0EE1F.3D7BE320"

X-Priority: 3

X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400

Disposition-Notification-To: "Beverly Swain" <goose02908@earthlink.net>

X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Subj: Opiates and RSD Date: 5/29/01 11:24:16 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: carpediem@accessatc.net (Deanna Smith) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Dear Sirs:

I am a 41-year-old female with RSD (or CRPS), secondary to a birth injury known as Erb's Palsy, or permanent injury at birth to cervical nerves. In my case, as with many other Erb's patients, the injury is at levels C5, C6 and partial C7; thus, the muscles innervated by these spinal nerves do not develop. In my case, I have no functioning deltoids, no rotator cuff muscles, and non-functioning biceps and triceps. The shoulder joint was also destroyed, resulting in years with no cartilage, destruction of two-thirds of the humeral head, and ultimate necrotic tissue from a compression fracture.

I have undergone eight surgeries because of my birth injury, including two shoulder fusions with grafts, muscle repairs, thoracic outlet surgery (or removal of first cervical rib to decompress the brachial plexus), ACDF to repair bulging disks at C5 and C6 levels, removal of diseased ACL joint, and shoulder arthroplasty, or total shoulder replacement. This stem-type prosthetic has now failed and is hyper-mobile, causing the prosthetic to move and grind bone around it at collar bone area and at elbow. I have use of three fingers on my right arm, and I consider myself lucky to have that, as I basically have a non-functioning right upper extremity. The skin at underarm area on rt. side is also broken down, because the scapula is out of place, the arm cannot lift, and the skin is rubbing against skin, the beginning process of necrotic skin tissue. I have a tremendously complicated case; in fact, I have been all over the country to various orthopedists, neurologists, neurosurgeons, physical therapists, and pain specialists.

As a result of all these surgeries, though done by extremely competent and caring surgeons, I have been in serious, severe, unremitting pain for the better part of eleven years, employing every method and modality for pain management there is, such as Tens (wore out two of them), intensive physical therapy more times than can be counted, bone and muscle stimulators, massage, iontophoresis, pain counseling, psychiatric counseling, wearing braces of every type for the upper extremity. I have also tried every type of medication there is. These include: anti-inflammatories of every kind; beta blockers; anti-parkinsonians; muscle relaxers, anti-depressants; and opioids. It took nearly a year to find the right kind of combination of medications to treat my pain while still allowing me to have some quality of life, as opposed to sleeping all day long. I am all too well-acquainted with the disease process known as RSD, or Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, and have been for nearly all of the time since my first operation, when the axillary nerve was found crushed due to years of living with Erb's Palsy. The peripheral neuropathy I have experienced is mind-numbingly and agonizingly painful. For a time, I thought I would never find relief from this horrendous and life-changing disease.

My doctors tried every approach to pain management that exists. First, the surgeons suggested narcotics along with the anti-depressant Elavil. The opioids that I have tried in pain management include Lortab, Tylox, MsContin, Fentanyl patches, Dilaudid, and Oxycontin. It is the latter medication that finally brought me relief, taken along with Neurontin or Elavil and various muscle relaxers. I first went to a pain clinic in Utah when the implanted prosthetic and two neurosurgeries failed to bring me relief. Then, because we moved back east to GA, I was referred to Emory Pain Clinic, which is 200 miles from where I live. For the second time, I was prescribed Oxycontin, along with several other medications. I then found a closer pain clinic; as a result, I have been going to my present clinic for almost three years. Thus, for over four years, I have been on Oxycontin for the many components of pain I suffer, not the least of these the RSD: vascular insufficiency (or too much flooding in vascular areas), pain that makes showering hurt when the water hits my arm, changes in climate, simple touch, types of clothing, being in a pressurized airplane cabin, storms and drops in barometric pressure, and purplish coloration, dryness and coldness of affected hand and arm.

Oxycontin has been the only long-acting narcotic medication that has not caused me too many side effects,

Subj: Pain Management
Date: 5/29/01 8:52:49 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: jroldenbrook@hotmail.com (John Oldenbrook)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Thanks for the message, wish I could do more for this cause. As one who's been in nursing for nearly 25 years it is astonishing to me that, we in the US, still continue with the knee jerk reactions when it comes to Pain Management. We've driven the 'abuse' train so far into the minds of lay people that everyone is afraid of becoming 'addicted' even after one dose. I've had patients that won't use a PCA pump post-op because they're afraid of addiction. I hope that for the people with RSD that someone puts some controls on the 'jerk of the knee'. Now that my friend is so crippled by this disease it's hard to understand those that sit in their offices and want to control other's lives. Good luck with this battle.

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com/>

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Return-Path: <jroldenbrook@hotmail.com>
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Received: from hotmail.com (f63.law9.hotmail.com [64.4.9.63]) by rly-xa03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Tue, 29 May 2001 23:52:29 -0400
Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
Tue, 29 May 2001 20:52:29 -0700
Received: from 4.41.97.32 by lw9fd.law9.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 03:52:28 GMT
X-Originating-IP: [4.41.97.32]
From: "John Oldenbrook" <jroldenbrook@hotmail.com>
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
Subject: Pain Management
Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 20:52:28 -0700
Mime-Version: 1.0
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X-OriginalArrivalTime: 30 May 2001 03:52:29.0068 (UTC) FILETIME=[F2755CC0:01C0E8BB]

i.e. vomiting, severe photosensitivity, sweating, sleepiness. I have never abused this medication or had the dose changed since my pain physicians prescribed it at my present pain clinic. My RX has always been kept in a safe place, even though my children are teenagers. We talked at length, when they were younger, about the purpose of this medication and why they had to stay away from it. Oxycontin is a medication for severe pain, and it should be given its due in terms of how serious it could be in the wrong hands.

I certainly understand the complexity of the issues surrounding Oxycontin in the news lately. As with anything else, it is a double-edged sword—it is a wonderful medication for severe pain, yet it can be a lethal substance if placed in the wrong hands for recreational purposes or if a normal dosage is raised without consulting with a physician. It is, indeed, tragic that young lives have been taken and families forever altered because of the actions of a few who were looking for some type of "quick fix" or "high" and who did not understand how serious a drug it is. Further, being a mother, I can understand the anguish of parents whose loved ones are gone and, as a result of their grief, their fingers are pointed squarely at the makers of this medication. This type of finger-pointing has gone on before—Eli Lilly, the maker of Prozac, quickly comes to mind. In addition, having lost my younger brother to a drunk driver years ago, I understand the grief and anguish families feel, particularly watching what my mother went through following the loss of her youngest, a 17-year-old child.

Acknowledging all of these factors and the very real pain of loss due to drug abuse, I still feel strongly that the pain relief offered by Oxycontin outweighs the truly unfortunate actions of a few.

I do understand the forthright and honest feelings of parents who have lost loved ones due to abuse of this medication; however, I cannot discount its benefits in my life. In a sense, Oxycontin has given me back what I thought life had taken away a few years ago. My pain has several components, and RSD (or CRPS) is one of the more severe components to that pain. Oxycontin relieves this pain to the point that I actually have quality of life again. I don't know if I will ever be able to return to my chosen profession, that of a high school teacher; however, I am now able to go out and face the world, knowing that my pain can be relieved to a level that is livable. My heart goes out to those people who cannot afford this type of medication, but even in these circumstances, there are programs set aside for indigent and low-income patients. The cost of the drug itself, as a result,

is yet another deterrent to "getting [one's] hands on it" easily by those who don't need it for severe pain, but, rather, for recreational use and abuse.

Having been married to a man in the Agricultural Chemicals field, I know why the cost of this medication is high: years of research, FDA-approval, testing, marketing, etc. I am, indeed, grateful for the years of research that go into a new medication such as Oxycontin. I know of many others like me, who have tried other opioids and have found the side effects too intrusive to warrant taking the medication. Yet Oxycontin, for many of us, is a medication that offers significant pain relief with relatively few side effects. Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, as a disease process, has the potential to wipe out each and every good thing a pain patient has in his or her arsenal if Oxycontin, or another opiate, is not a part of that arsenal to fight pain.

I respectfully ask that Oxycontin continue to be offered to all pain patients, with or without RSD. My pain physicians are vigilant and dedicated, reminding me monthly how serious these medications are. With such scrutiny, I see no problem with taking Oxycontin as a part of a pain management PLAN. I hope that this plan will be available to all pain patients, now and in the future. Our quality of life may well depend on it.

Thank you for your attention in this most important matter.

Respectfully,
D. Smith

carpediem@accessatc.net

----- Headers -----

Wednesday, May 30, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Potential Action of the DEA to limit Oxycodone supply Date: 5/25/01 1:51:26 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: Pamela.Bennett@pharma.com (Bennett, Pamela)

- > Dear Pain Management Advocate:
- >
- > Please note the testimony of Mr. D. Marshall, Administrator of the Drug
- > Enforcement Administration, that is reproduced below. This testimony by
- > the Administrator of the DEA suggests that the DEA is "seriously
- > considering rolling back the quotas that DEA sets and rolling back those
- > [oxycodone] quotas to the 1996 levels."
- > To put this in perspective:
- > 1. In 1996 the amount of oxycodone allocated to Purdue allowed us to
- > supply enough Oxycontin for approximately 290,000 prescription, for the
- > year.
- > 2. In 2000 the amount of oxycodone allocated to Purdue allowed us to
- > supply enough Oxycontin for approximately 5.4 million prescriptions.
- > 3. If the quota was reduced, as suggested in the testimony below, we
- > would not be able to supply even 5% of the demand for the product.
- > 4. In human terms, it is likely that 2 million patients who would be
- > expected to receive OxyContin would not be able to get the product that
- > they required in the coming year.
- >
- > Essentially, such a quota reduction will make OxyContin virtually
- > unavailable to all of the patients that will need the product in the
- > coming year.
- >
- > Patients and physicians may want to write to their elected representatives
- > and the DEA to voice their views on this subject.
- >
- > To write to the DEA address your correspondence to:
- >
- > Donnie R. Marshall
- > Administrator
- > Drug Enforcement Administration
- > Room 12060 LP-2
- > Department of Justice
- > 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
- > Washington D.C. 20530
- >
- > Please send a copy of your letter to:
- > Purdue Pharma L.P.
- > One Stamford Forum
- > Stamford, CT 06901-3431
- > <mailto:patientadvocacy@pharma.com>
- >
- >
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- > Federal News Service
- > May 17, 2001, Thursday
- > SECTION: CAPITOL HILL HEARING
- >
- > HEADLINE: HEARING OF THE COMMERCE, JUSTICE AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY AND
- > RELATED AGENCIES SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
- >
- > SUBJECT: DRUG ENFORCEMENT
- >

> CHAIRED BY: REPRESENTATIVE FRANK R. WOLF (R-VA)
 >
 > WITNESS:
 >
 > DONNIE R. MARSHALL, ADMINISTRATOR, DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION;
 >
 > REP. ROGERS: Oxycontin has hit my area extremely hard, as it has many
 > areas,
 > particularly in the eastern U.S. rural communities. Overdoses last year in
 > Kentucky killed 60 Kentuckians. The hospital in the town of Hazard, which
 > is
 > in the mountains, small town, reports treating at least 10 Oxycontin
 > overdoses a week. The police chief there estimates that between 65 and 85
 > percent of the high school students have tried Oxycontin at least once.
 > They
 > had a four month sting there and they arrested over 200 dealers in this
 > small town.
 >
 > It's led to a rise in general lawlessness, seeking the money to purchase
 > the
 > drug. And tragically, it is the teenagers that it's affecting. It's a full
 > blown epidemic. Oxycontin, of course, is a legal drug, and is a very good
 > painkilling drug, a synthetic form of morphine. But it is absolutely
 > (ransacking ?) our small communities in the rural parts of the eastern
 > U.S.,
 > especially.
 >
 > Where are you? What are you doing?
 >
 > MR. MARSHALL: We're doing a lot, Congressman Rogers, and if I may give you
 > a
 > little bit of history of this and kind of lead up. I apologize, it may be
 > a
 > bit lengthy, but I think it's necessary that we understand how we got
 > here.
 > There's a single manufacturer of Oxycontin. That manufacturer is Perdue
 > Pharma (ph), I believe is the name of the company.
 >
 > Oxycontin is a time released version of a drug called Oxycodol. Oxycodol
 > is
 > better known by some of the brand names, Percoset, Percodan, Vicodan, I
 > believe is one of them. It is a very effective painkiller. I unfortunately
 > had a bout with kidney stones here not too long ago, and that was the drug
 > that was prescribed for me, not Oxycontin, but the other forms of
 > Oxycodol.
 > And it is an effective painkiller.
 >
 > We began to see this problem, I think, as a result of some developments
 > that
 > began about four or five years ago. And what we saw about four or five
 > years
 > ago, in 1996, thereabouts, was the AMA and a number of pain management
 > groups that made the case and contended that we were under-treating pain
 > in
 > this country, or that we were not effectively treating pain in this
 > country.
 >
 > It was about that time, same time, that the manufacturer of Oxycontin
 > introduced their product, and it's a time released product that comes in,
 > rather than the regular 5 milligram doses of the Oxycodol, which is what I

- > took during my illness, they come in 10 and 20 and 40 and 80 and 160
- > milligram time release capsules.
- >
- > What is happening here is that in an effort to increase the effectiveness
- > of
- > pain management in this country, and a legitimate need, by the way, from
- > all
- > accounts, this product was introduced. What then began happening was that
- > people began diverting this, they began going to pharmacies and doctors
- > and
- > what not and getting bogus prescriptions and then basically selling that
- > on
- > the black market, where it was crushed up and either injected or taken
- > orally in the crushed up form, giving them basically all of that dosage at
- > one time, resulting in what I'm told is a very pleasurable high from those
- > drug abusers.
- >
- > Now, we've been working with that manufacturer for some time now. We've
- > established a plan to try to prevent the diversion and abuse of this drug.
- > It's a four pronged plan. It involves some intelligence and enforcement.
- > We're trying to identify doctors that are writing bogus scrips, we're
- > trying
- > to identify pharmacies that are maybe not controlling things as much as
- > they
- > should, we're trying to identify criminals who go in and obtain this and
- > then sell it on the black market. That's element one.
- >
- > The second thing that we're trying to do is in the regulatory and
- > administrative area. We're reviewing our quotas. It's interesting to note
- > that the requests for quotas for this particular drug in that same 4 or 5
- > year time period has increased 1,800 percent. A good part of that is no
- > doubt a legitimate increase as a result of the pain management issue that
- > we
- > have in the country, but it's very, very obvious to me that a good part of
- > that increase is stuff that's going then into the black market.
- >
- > The third area that we're focusing on is industry cooperation. And this is
- > very, very important. It's very, very important that the manufacturer of
- > this drug, the single manufacturer of this drug cooperate with us in
- > trying
- > to fix this problem. We're asking industry to do several things.
- >
- > Number one, we're asking that company to do a more balanced approach in
- > their marketing of this drug. We're asking them to educate doctors and
- > patients about the dangers of this drug. We're asking them to not
- > advertise
- > in such a way that gives a physician, for instance, that's not well
- > trained
- > in pain management, that gives that physician the impression that this
- > might
- > be the painkiller of first resort rather than the painkiller of last
- > resort.
- >
- > We're asking them and others, perhaps, to come up with what we refer to as
- > restricted distribution. In other words, recommend that doctors only
- > prescribe and pharmacists only distribute this for certain types of pain,
- > so
- > that the kidney stone patient may get a different version of it, but the
- > terminal cancer patient may very well get the 160 milligram Oxycodol.
- >

- > We're asking that we consider accreditation of doctors in pain management
- > that may prescribe this. We're asking the industry to look at the
- > reformulation of this to take measures that makes it more difficult to
- > crush
- > this up and get all of the dosage at once. Frankly, the manufacturer of
- > this, they have met us on some of these issues. On others, they have not
- > met
- > us.
- >
- > And I have to tell you, sir, that we need more cooperation from that
- > company. If we can't find some more middle ground in this area, I am
- > seriously considering rolling back the quotas that DEA sets and rolling
- > back
- > those quotas to the 1996 level until we do find ways to control this.
- > That's
- > a drastic step and it would be a very controversial step, because there is
- > the need for this drug out there. But I am seriously considering that.
- >
- > REP. ROGERS: Well, it's a drastic step, but this is a drastic problem. And
- > there are teenagers dying, even as we speak, in many hundreds of towns and
- > communities throughout the eastern half of the U.S. at this moment in
- > time,
- > and I'm sure it will spread in due course of time.
- >
- > The local police tell me that the DEA's response on the ground out there
- > is
- > limited in this respect. The drug bust that I mentioned was strictly a
- > local
- > police bust, DEA had nothing to do with it. The HIDTA in London in my
- > district has had little to do with these matters, it's my information.
- >
- > This problem doesn't fit neatly into the core drug eradication missions of
- > DEA, I understand that, no large gangs, no international conglomerates, no
- > cross border organizations that we know of facilitating the distribution
- > of
- > the drug to the streets. It's a prescribed drug, as you say, and the
- > source
- > usually is, I guess, somebody who has illegally obtained a prescription of
- > a
- > large dose then peddles it out. It has to be fought locally.
- >
- > But it seems to me that we could be a lot more helpful from DEA on the
- > ground in those local communities to help them with some resources, the
- > local police, especially, in ferreting this stuff out. What do you think?
- >
- > MR. MARSHALL: I agree, sir, we do need to do as much as we possibly can in
- > that regard. I have to add, though, that as much as we may want to do,
- > we're
- > like everybody else, we're like the local police departments and the local
- > pharmacy boards and the local board of medical examiners. Our resources
- > are
- > limited.
- >
- > REP. ROGERS: Well, you level fund. Your request, you don't ask any special
- > money. Both the state and local task force program, you level fund, and
- > the
- > drug and chemical diversion control account is level funded from last
- > year.
- >
- > MR. MARSHALL: We will take a look at, over the next few months, how our

> plan
 > to attack this develops, sir. If it is appropriate, then perhaps we could
 > come with a request for supplemental or put this in the next budget cycle.
 > But I assure you, this has got my attention, sir.
 >
 > REP. ROGERS: Well, I'm glad.
 >
 >
 >

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <Pamela.Bennett@pharma.com>
 Received: from rly-yg01.mx.aol.com (rly-yg01.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.1]) by air-yg02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 16:51:26 -0400
 Received: from [63.103.93.50] (fw-t.pharma.com [63.103.93.50]) by rly-yg01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 16:50:46 -0400
 Received: from a1mta05.pharma.com by [63.103.93.50]
 via smtpd (for yg.mx.aol.com [205.188.156.249]) with SMTP; 25 May 2001 20:50:44 UT
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 From: "Bennett, Pamela" <Pamela.Bennett@pharma.com>
 To:
 Subject: Potential Action of the DEA to limit Oxycondone supply
 Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 16:51:07 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2652.35)
 Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Subj: oxycontin Date: 5/24/01 12:02:42 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: drrickwaters@mindspring.com (Dr. Rick Waters) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

I am in favor of restricting access to oxycontin. As a healthcare professional, I have seen many cases of inadvertent addiction, secondarily to physician/dentist prescriptions for Schedule II and III narcotics. I believe that oxycontin should be a Schedule II, if allowed to remain on the market. Please feel free to share my opinion should some form of negotiation come about.
 Dr. Rick Waters

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <drrickwaters@mindspring.com>
 Received: from rly-yc03.mx.aol.com (rly-yc03.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.35]) by air-yc05.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:02:42 2000
 Received: from smtp6.mindspring.com (smtp6.mindspring.com [207.69.200.110]) by rly-yc03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:02:24 -0400
 Received: from riknmari (pool-63.52.3.36.atln.grid.net [63.52.3.36]) by smtp6.mindspring.com (8.9.3/8.8.5) with SMTP id PAA03158 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:02:23 -0400 (EDT)
 Message-ID: <000a01c0e483\$c5e5e300\$2403343f@riknmari>
 From: "Dr. Rick Waters" <drrickwaters@mindspring.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: oxycontin
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 15:00:16 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
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 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

Subj: RESTRICTION QUESTIONS CONCERNING OXYCONTIN
Date: 5/30/01 6:05:30 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: lsp01149806244@gateway.net
To: Jwbroatch

I CANT IMAGINE LIFE FOR THOSE OF US WITH CHRONIC PAIN AND NO OXYCO.I CANT BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE THERE IS A HIGH RATE OF ABUSE WITH THIS DRUG THAT THE FDA WOULD PUT BANDS ON IT.THERE IS A HIGHER RATE OF ABUSE ON ALCOHOL BUT DO THEY EVEN CONSIDER BANNING IT. ALOT OF THE TURMOIL COMES IN PEOPLE, DOCTORS AS WELL THAT DONT UNDERSTAND WHAT " CHRONIC PAIN " IS LIKE. DID THEY EVER STOP TO WONDER WHY DR KEVORKIAN WAS SO POPULAR. I HOPE THAT THEY GIVE THIS ISSUE GREAT THOUGHT AND I CERTAINLY PRAY THAT THE PEOPLE MAKING THIS DECISION NEVER HAVE TO KNOW THE PAIN THAT SOME OF US LIVE EVERYDAY WITHOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF OXY

Subj: Opioids for nonmalignant chronic pain
Date: 5/30/01 2:46:26 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Awpcwp@cs.com
To: Jwbroatch

Dear sirs: I can at least speak for myself in saying that the narcotic pain killer I take(Vicodin) makes life bearable and assists me in functioning. I have severe facial pain that has not responded to any treatment, though I have been referred to some capable physicians. My facial muscles are in spasms and the pain spreads throughout my jaw, side of my head, sinus areas and top of my skull and it's a screamer. Ultram and Vicodin have been a real help: I'm don't take them for some high(what high?); just a measure of relief. Thanx for hearing me out, Sincerely, Al Parmenter awpcwp@cs.com

Subj: RSDA Electronic Alert #6 Date: 5/30/01 3:33:15 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: auntdebbie@mail.com (Debbie Goodman) To: jwbroatch@aol.com CC: paulbarb@ptd.net
--

Dear Mr. Broach,

Please be assured that I will write my Senator and Congressman regarding the benefits of oxycontin, etc.

My niece is ravaged by RSD in all of her extremities. Her prognosis for remission is only 5%. Rose Ann has been diagnosed as an advanced Stage Four. She is only 26 years old.

Also, my mother has survived cancer three times. The last surgery has left her in constant pain and she takes oxycontin. The dosage was inadequate but she was too intimidated by her Doctor to ask that it be increased. Subsequently, her blood pressure shot sky high and she suffered a mild stroke. The frequency she takes oxycontin has been increased and she was prescribed blood pressure medicine. Now that her pain is manageable, she does not need the blood pressure medicine. Mother has always had a tendency to have low blood pressure. The only times her blood pressure has been high is when she was in severe pain.

Sincerely,

Debbie Goodman

P.S. Thank you Barbara and Paul for the Alert.

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 Received: from rmx470-mta.mail.com (rmx470-mta.mail.com [165.251.48.48]) by rly-xb04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 18:33:04 2000
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 by rmx470-mta.mail.com (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id SAA09597;
 Wed, 30 May 2001 18:33:04 -0400 (EDT)
 Message-ID: <383906266.991261984256.JavaMail.root@web584-mc>
 Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 18:33:04 -0400 (EDT)
 From: Debbie Goodman <auntdebbie@mail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: RSDA Electronic Alert #6
 Cc: paulbarb@ptd.net
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain
 Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wednesday, May 30, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: response to Alert#6 Date: 5/30/01 5:46:32 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: jarsimon@hotmail.com (Jean Simon) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Dear Sir, My 19 year old daughter has RSD from the pelvic area down both legs. She was first diagnosed in the spring of 1998, but was not treated properly. I am a pediatric R.N., but had never heard of RSD. I would do things much differently now, if I could. She was in remission her senior year in high school (by the power of prayer, not proper treatment), and she made plans for her future that did not include RSD. She made plans for a life filled with horses!! She enrolled at Lake Erie College as an Equestrian major. Her life was to be filled with raising, training, and showing horses. She especially loved eventing which includes cross-country and stadium jumping! Unfortunately, the RSD came back within several weeks of starting college. She dropped her jumping class and spent the semester commuting home to have painful blocks between classes. The doctor tried Advil, Darvocet, and Zydone, but her pain continued to increase. Then she started taking Oxycontin. She dropped out of college and since that time has never been in remission. She has been hospitalized twice for continuous epidural infusions, which helped after 7 days. She now takes Oxycontin, Elavil, Paxil, and Neurontin. The Neurontin was recently re-introduced after her liver enzymes became elevated from Tegretol. She has been able to stay out of the hospital for the last year. Recently her pain has begun to get worse, but she is trying to make plans for a life without horses. She hopes to attend Columbus State Community College this fall and study Sign Language Interpreting. This is a career she can do even if she can't walk someday. My point is, she was a normal teen with big plans for the future. Now she (and her family) have to keep RSD in mind at all times. She can't drive, most of her friends have left her behind, we have to rent wheelchairs or scooter wherever we go, she can't go out dancing, etc. Not the carefree normal life of a teenager!! Please don't restrict the use of Oxycontin for those patients who have a legitimate need. This drug allows her to control the pain at least enough to try to go on with her life. Please don't take this away from her! She does not want to take all these drugs and lives for the day that she doesn't need them anymore!

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Return-Path: <jarsimon@hotmail.com>
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 Received: from hotmail.com (f85.law4.hotmail.com [216.33.149.85]) by rly-yc01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 20:45:45 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Wed, 30 May 2001 17:41:04 -0700
 Received: from 24.93.244.125 by lw4fd.law4.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Thu, 31 May 2001 00:41:04 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [24.93.244.125]
 From: "Jean Simon" <jarsimon@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: response to Alert#6
 Date: Thu, 31 May 2001 00:41:04 -0000
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Thursday, May 31, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Removing OxyContin Chronic pain and the FDA Date: 5/30/01 10:08:07 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: hooty@rtccom.net (Ned Harmon) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

— Original Message —

From: Smith1022sp@aol.com
To: Jwbroatch@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2001 5:56 PM
Subject: Oxycontin use

To whom it may concern,
I currently take 80 mg. of Oxycontin 3 times per day to try to help control my pain. I have an incurable spinal disease called Arachnoiditis and currently also have a Herniated disc that cannot be operated on because of this disease. Oxycontin is the first medication that I have ever taken in 20 years of pain that has eased my pain to a level that I feel almost human again! Walk a mile in my shoes (if you can, as I am losing the feeling in both of my legs from this disease. It is just a shame that the pain is in my spine!) and you would immediately reconsider pulling Oxycontin from the market or restricting its sale to the point that only terminal cancer patients are allowed to take it. One thing about cancer, at least those patients get to die. Those of us with Chronic Intractable Pain don't get that blessing, we have to stay here and live. Please reconsider you actions and leave the medication Oxycontin alone.

As far as people dying from abusing Oxycontin...it could be Darwin's Theory of Evolution. Sometimes stupid people forfeit their lives for consciously making stupid decisions. It is the way of life...and death. I did not choose this disease or injury. As a matter of fact it is currently thought that it was caused by a doctor doing a Myelogram on me using Pantopaque Dye as a contrasting agent! A victimless disease, I don't think so. I don't believe in suing people. This is a far too litigious society that we live in today.

Thank you for your time to read this.
Sincerely,
Randy Smith

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Return-Path: <hooty@rtccom.net>
Received: from rly-xb03.mx.aol.com (rly-xb03.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.104]) by air-xb04.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTTP; Thu, 31 May 2001 01:08:07 -0400
Received: from dmrtc.net (dmrtc.net [206.160.240.34]) by rly-xb03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTTP; Thu, 31 May 2001 01:07:39 -0400
Received: from NedHarmon (dial-260.dmrtc.net [208.10.217.62])
by dmrtc.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id AAA01054
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Thu, 31 May 2001 00:07:32 -0500
Message-ID: <000501c0e98f\$4ea1de00\$3ed90ad0@NedHarmon>
From: "Ned Harmon" <hooty@rtccom.net>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: Removing OxyContin Chronic pain and the FDA
Date: Thu, 31 May 2001 00:05:24 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0

Thursday, May 31, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Oxycontin and other Opiates Date: 5/30/01 8:45:37 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: celectronics@email.msn.com (celectronics) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

To Whom It may Concern - I want to go on record as opposing any new regulation of opoid drugs. My fiancee' is disabled, as am I, and we would have NO quality of life without proper pain relief, We do not suffer from cancer, but from automobile accidents, nerve damage and other assorted ill's. As it stands now, my fiancee' can only stay home, if she wants to go out she has to have a wheelchair, and I work when I am able. In short, even though we are not cancer patients, we need long acting opoid drugs to have a life - the other choice is for me not to work and for me to have her hospitalized for pain control permanently if these were not available from her board certified pain management doctor. We believe that the manufacturer can come up with a way so that these pill's cannot be crushed,snorted or any of the other forms of abuse. Plese do not condemn us to a living hell.

Thank You
 Alex Fuller
 zlondon@excite.com

----- Headers -----

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 Received: from rly-zc02.mx.aol.com (rly-zc02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.2]) by air-zc04.mail.aol.com (v78.52) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 23:45:36 -0400
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 Wed, 30 May 2001 20:44:16 -0700
 Message-ID: <000001c0e984\$4d0b1260\$c8c0173f@oemcomputer>
 From: "celectronics" <celectronics@email.msn.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: Oxycontin and other Opiates
 Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 23:41:51 -0400
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Subj: Oxycontin Date: 5/30/01 8:34:41 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: ju.everett@mindspring.com (judy everett) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Dear Sirs,

I am a 46 year old man with a lovely wife and two beautiful girls. I'm buying my home and I work as a Fitness and Nutrition Counselor at our local YMCA. I also suffer from Chronic Pain. I have had both knees operated on, both elbows, have Degenerative Disc disease, three bulging discs, have had a cracked vertebrae, cracked tailbone, broken hip, and numerous other sprains and strains over a fifteen year period. A lot of these injuries were the result of auto accidents of which were none of my fault. As a result of all this, I am left with terrible daily (365) a year pain of which I have gone to Specialists, Pain Clinics, Chiropractors, you name it and have had just about every procedure and given medications by the ton and never really got much relief. Finally, in late 1998, Dr. Stuart Melloy prescribed me a rather new drug at the time called Oxycontin. Within a few days, it was like my life had been given back to me. I was eventually promoted at work, finished several night school classes, obtained Red Cross certifications in CPR and FirstAid, got my fitness trainer certification, got a second job, coached a winning softball team and got several awards at the end of 1999 and 2000. Before this wonderful medication, I was just about a Zero. Now a few idiots are abusing it and using it for recreation and to make a few bucks, like they have other drugs for the last 20-30 years and I see and hear folks talk about taking it off the market. I am positive that my story is only one of thousands and thousands of others. To remove this medicine made from God's own healing flowers would be a tragedy. The idiots would only find another substance to play with. Please take heed to the testimonies and hear the cries of the afflicted and do not let the wrong of a few ruin the new-found lives of so many!!

Thank-You, Jack Everett

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <ju.everett@mindspring.com>
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 Message-ID: <000801c0e99a\$4108b920\$cc37323f@oemcomputer>
 From: "judy everett" <ju.everett@mindspring.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: Oxycontin
 Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 23:23:42 -0700
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
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 X-Priority: 3
 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2314.1300
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

Subj: Opiod Medications for Chronic Pain Date: 5/30/01 1:20:18 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: lauranhite@hotmail.com (laura hite) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Dear Mr. Broatch,

I was diagnosed with RSD in 1990 at the age of 20. My life was completely and irrevocably disrupted. I could no longer attend college (A student) and gradually worked fewer and fewer hours. While I no longer suffer from active RSD, I have had chronic pain ever since the RSD first began. My quality of life has greatly suffered and has impacted not only myself but also everyone around me. My husband, mother, friends, family, employer, co-workers, everyone has to make concessions for my being unable to perform certain tasks, for not being able to concentrate, for my irritable moods (due to pain), etc. In the interest of keeping this brief, I will cease with my story here, but would ask, no beg, that serious consideration be given to this issue as undue suffering is occurring because of mistaken impressions of how opiod medications work for pain without resulting addiction problems.

Thank you,
 Laura N. Hite

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----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <lauranhite@hotmail.com>
 Received: from rly-xb02.mx.aol.com (rly-xb02.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.103]) by air-xb04.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 16:20:18 -0400
 Received: from hotmail.com (f169.pav1.hotmail.com [64.4.31.169]) by rly-xb02.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 16:20:10 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Wed, 30 May 2001 13:20:09 -0700
 Received: from 63.228.115.62 by pv1fd.pav1.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 20:20:08 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [63.228.115.62]
 From: "laura hite" <lauranhite@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: Opiod Medications for Chronic Pain
 Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 20:20:08
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
 Message-ID: <F169LXbV5jiHx zr901u0000933d@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 30 May 2001 20:20:09.0127 (UTC) FILETIME=[EC34C370:01C0E945]

Subj:	Oxy
Date:	5/30/01 12:16:17 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	A2J 219
To:	Jwbroatch

Hi there –

My husband has chronic back pain from a failed fusion. Until he started on oxycontin his life consisted of moving around from the chair to the couch and walking like an 80 year old man (he's 43). Since starting on oxycontin – it has given him his life back – and our family life back. He couldn't even hold our infant son without pain and now he can play with his kids, has a job again, can do a little gardening and some of the things he used to enjoy before his fusion. Without the oxy his life was very limited because of extreme pain. His doctor's have tried all kinds of blocks and different procedures to try and minimize or eliminate his pain – nothing has worked and they told him he was just one of those people who will be in pain for the rest of his life. What quality of life will he have without this wonderful medicine? He was on the shorter acting narcotics – but they did almost nothing for his pain. Plus, taking them long term has terrible side-effects on vital organs. As I understand it, the oxy has none of these side-effects. To us it is truly a miracle drug! Why would you want to keep this away from people who are finally able to function again and get some type of normalcy out of life?

The media hype about this drug is just that – they have taken a few cases and blown them way, way out of proportion. To take this drug and others like it away from thousands and thousands of people because of a few who have abused it – is totally unfair and impractical. People who abuse drugs like this will just find something else to use if this is taken off the market – and the people who will suffer will be the one's who can't have this wonderful medicine for their pain.

I cringe at the thought of all those people who have some semblance of life back and what would happen if it were taken away from them. I know my husband would probably not be able to work and support his family if he were not treated with this medication. He would be back to his life in the chair and being totally miserable and depressed because of his pain. Please consider all the wonderful ways this medication has helped so many people. Please don't take their lives away and reduce them to people who can't function because of their pain.

Thank you,
Evelyne Griffin
Ogden, Utah

Subj:	Re: OXYCONTIN USER
Date:	5/30/01 12:14:33 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	SHALOMK816
To:	Jwbroatch

I am a 56 y\o female and was working as an LPN, in May of '99. A patient attacked me and the injuries have been diagnosed, ad Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome. The pain and burning sensation is not imaginable for someone that has not has unbearable pain. My dr. tried several drugs such as, Darvocet-N-100, Ultrium, with no success. Finally a specialist started me on Oxycontin and Oxy IR. these were the only meds that helped me face the day. Even with these at time I have break through pain and that is why I take the Oxy IR. Drugs are and will always be abused but to single out Opiates that are helpful to those in such pain only hurts us.

Janet Kennerly

Subj: pain medication Date: 5/30/01 10:46:06 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: catlady@gallatinriver.net (Brenda) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

please here our cry for help ive had rsds for almost 8 years my whole left side head to toe i cant work i have no income and sdd will not help me yhe pain meds are very imporetant to us i would give a year of my life to be pain free for one day!were human and our problums with cronic pain are very real all we seek is peace
brenda dowell

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <catlady@gallatinriver.net>
Received: from rly-xd03.mx.aol.com (rly-xd03.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.168]) by air-xd03.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 13:46:05 -0400
Received: from mail.gallatinriver.net (mail.pk.server.grics.net [64.40.75.26]) by rly-xd03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 13:45:50 -0400
Received: from default (216-166-193-162.gb.dialup.grics.net [216.166.193.162])
by mail.gallatinriver.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id NAA07725
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Wed, 30 May 2001 13:45:46 -0400
Message-ID: <001601c0e92e\$fec71040\$a2c1a6d8@default>
From: "Brenda" <catlady@gallatinriver.net>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: pain medication
Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 12:35:58 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0013_01C0E905.13D04B20"
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Subj: OxyContin Date: 5/30/01 9:38:19 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: hooty@rtccom.net (Ned Harmon) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Someone wanting to do away with opiates for severe chroni pain.

I almost cut my leg off because of the pain, I have gone for well over 3 years in terrible pain with NOTHING and a freight train running over me is what spelled relief to me my God don't even think about that life in that kind of pain is not worth it.

If people are worried about 120 plus kids that go out trying to buy KILLERS don't penalize us because they are stupid, I take MSContin at 180Mg. a day and I have not had to have help getting out of bed for the first time in years and I have never been in the ER with any kind of problem with this these dead kids would not live long anyway they are stupid and stupid kids don't last long.

If they took a bottle of 16 Perocet it would be called suicide can you regulate suicide?

Ned Harmon

Washington, Indiana

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Return-Path: <hooty@rtccom.net>
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Received: from dmrtc.net (dmrtc.net [206.160.240.34]) by rly-ye01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 12:26:46 -0400
Received: from NedHarmon (dial-995.dmrtc.net [63.238.237.65])
by dmrtc.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id LAA04178
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Wed, 30 May 2001 11:26:44 -0500
Message-ID: <000701c0e925\$05a90a80\$41edee3f@NedHarmon>
From: "Ned Harmon" <hooty@rtccom.net>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: OxyContin
Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 11:24:37 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2314.1300
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

Subj: Oxycotin gives me my life back,to an extent Date: 5/30/01 8:34:49 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: davidjohn@peoplepc.com (John Andrews) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I have a cervical injury at the fourth vertebrae,with a Browns Sequard Syndrome.I also have an artifical hip on my left side.I need another now,as it has been twenty years since it was last replaced.My Dr.,Rx me Oxycotin,and I am not lying in my bed in debilitating pain anymore.I still am forced to still lie here,as I write this,but I am not holding my breath due to my pain.I am able to cook my meals,and go to the grocery store when needed.I wish every day that I did not need these meds.I do not understand,why someone would want to take Oxy,just for the feeling.I do not like the way it makes me feel.I do not like the way it can sometimes make me feel confused.I would give everything I own not to need these meds,but that is not an option.I awake every morning feeling as though I have the Flu.With the timed release Oxy.,I can cope,and the mornings are tolerable.Please do not take this away from me.Please do not punish me for the human nature that forces others to seek a uphoric feeling from these meds.

John D Andrews
5-30-01

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Return-Path: <davidjohn@peoplepc.com>
Received: from rly-zc04.mx.aol.com (rly-zc04.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.4]) by air-zc02.mail.aol.com (v78.52) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 11:34:49 -0400
Received: from c002.snv.cp.net (c002-h008.c002.snv.cp.net [209.228.32.172]) by rly-zc04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 30 May 2001 11:34:10 -0400
Received: (cpmta 6802 invoked from network); 30 May 2001 08:34:03 -0700
Received: from 1Cust85.tnt7.birmingham.al.da.uu.net (HELO Default) (63.11.28.85) by smtp.peoplepc.com (209.228.32.172) with SMTP; 30 May 2001 08:34:03 -0700
X-Sent: 30 May 2001 15:34:03 GMT
Message-ID: <000a01c0e91d\$7f9d1be0\$551c0b3f@Default>
From: "John Andrews" <davidjohn@peoplepc.com>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: Oxycotin gives me my life back,to an extent
Date: Wed, 30 May 2001 10:30:43 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0007_01C0E8F3.94E7F3A0"
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X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

Subj:	Pain Meds for Chronic Pain Patients
Date:	5/27/01 12:31:14 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	LViergutz
To:	Jwbroatch

I have RSD and us pain medications that save my life. If I was not able to get medications to help my pain I don't know how I would survive. I also have a morphine pump in. I thank God for giving us these medications. Without them people with pain like RSD could not live.

Sincerely,
Jeanine
lviergutz@aol.com

Subj: Comment for FDA regarding oxycontin Date: 5/27/01 12:04:50 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: ortondiane@hotmail.com (Diane Orton) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I have had reflex sympathetic dystrophy and fibromyalgia for 7 1/2 years with a medical history reading like an unimaginable nightmare due to the pain & suffering I've endured. A summary of it all is: oxycontin is the only pain MEDICINE that has truly been a help & comfort for me. It is an effective MEDICINE to help treat my severe pain. Before it was prescribed to me (before the last 2 years), I laid in bed writhing in agony unable to care for myself or family at all. I now have better ability to function; I've been given a portion of my life back. Other medicines have been very useless in relief, only leaving me very drugged feeling and still in severe pain with bad side effects. Pain patients **ARE NOT** drug abusers. They are what pain MEDICINES are made for; to relieve intense pain. Also, doctors who are brave enough to treat patients in severe pain **ARE NOT** criminals; rather, they are doing their job-to relieve suffering and giving patients hope and help. Punish the abusers that get it illegally and use it wrong by crushing & snorting/shooting it; not the patients it was made for.
Diane Orton

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 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Sun, 27 May 2001 12:04:25 -0700
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 X-Originating-IP: [63.27.176.140]
 From: "Diane Orton" <ortondiane@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: Comment for FDA regarding oxycontin
 Date: Sun, 27 May 2001 12:04:25 -0700
 Mime-Version: 1.0
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 Message-ID: <F253R77bieLYCT4aJ6p00010092@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 27 May 2001 19:04:25.0996 (UTC) FILETIME=[D90CBCC0:01C0E6DF]

James P. Royce

2182 East Avenue · Hayward, CA 94541-5450 · Phone/Fax: 510-538-8630/1600
E-Mail: jproyce@pacbell.net

August 17, 2001

topperk@cder.fda.gov

Kimberly Topper
Food and Drug Administration, CDER
Advisors and Consultants Staff, HFD-21
5600 Fishers Lane,
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Your Reference: Docket Number 01N-0256

Dear Ms. Topper:

By way of background, I was originally injured on May 17, 1973. This was a catastrophic spinal cord injury involving levels from T6 to S1, and initially I required surgeries and fusions from L1 to S1. The nature of the injury is that it causes severe pain. Bony spurs, fragments, and dislocated vertebrae are continually interfering with the spinal roots. I experience chronic recurrent intractable pain in nearly all areas below the waist.

During the days and years following my initial injury in 1973 chronic pain suffers such as myself were treated by the medical profession as if we were drug seeking addicts whose main goal in life was to obtain opiate narcotics. It was explained to me by various medical professionals at "Pain Clinics" that any pain that lasted more than a few months was considered to be Chronic Pain and that it was not really "legitimate" pain. Therefore, because of these attitudes by the medical profession, we were not treated like patients who needed pain medication.

The laws were written in such a way that if any one physician, even one as famous and accomplished as Dr. James Morris, who was a full professor of orthopedic surgery at University of California San Francisco Medical Center, were to prescribe narcotics for pain, he would risk immediate disbarment from the California State Board of Medical Quality Assurance and/or the FDA. On several occasions he apologetically advised me of this, explaining that this was the reason he had to stop giving me prescriptions.

I remember sitting in Dr. Morris's waiting room at University of California in San Francisco and talking with other patients such as myself. To a person, all of us were seeking pain relief, and each one of us was frustrated by the ways the laws were written. This was during the years from 1973 to approximately 1992 and 1993. It was truly a tragic situation.

This is in stark contrast to the way patients are treated today. Now, when I enter my physician's office, I am asked if I am in pain. There is a separate specialty called "Pain treatment specialist." There are doctors such as Dr. Elliot Krames and Dr. Marilee Schuchard who are pain treatment specialists and whose education and background enable them to adequately prescribe pain medication that is both appropriate and necessary for the treatment of pain.

In 1999 I was injured again in an automobile accident, a rear-ender. This unfortunately led to the development of a disease called CRPS or Chronic Regional Pain Syndrome. This was previously referred to as RSD. The effect of this disease is to cause the sympathetic nervous system to fire pain signals to extremities for no reason. It causes extreme amounts of pain in both of my hands and both feet, making it unbearable to even walk.

I am in a unique position to have been initially injured during the early 1970's and to have experienced the way it was then. The changes that have been made since then have been better for patients in severe pain. We are finally treated with humane concern rather than as subject for the "war on drugs." Now, even though I still suffer from pain on a daily basis, I can count on going to a competent physician for care and treatment.

Now, I am more concerned with other more constructive interests, such as my volunteer activities with the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter, and with helping other patients who suffer from chronic pain.

I appeal to the members of the FDA to please not return us to the days of the 1970's and 1980's when the War on Drugs was fought on the backs of patients who suffered from catastrophic intractable pain causing injuries or diseases. It will always be true that there are people who abuse pain medication. This will be true no matter how laws are written.

In January of 2001, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations issued new humane pain treatment standards. These require hospitals, healthcare facilities, nursing homes, and the like to treat patients' pain and to inform patients that they have a right to effective treatment of their pain. This is the way pain should be dealt with by medical professionals.

The recent shift in media coverage regarding pain, the emphasis on deaths caused by OxyContin, the appearance in national publications like the New York Times, Newsweek, and the U.S. News & World Report have portrayed opiate pain medications as if they are responsible for deaths and suffering instead of required as a tool for the treatment of chronic pain.

Kindly read Sandeep Kaushik's "*Oxycon Job-The Media-Made OxyContin Drug Scare*" at <http://www.freetimes.com/issues/933/features-coverstory.php3>. A copy of that article is attached for your reference and information. This article is typical of the scare tactics that are wreaking havoc in the chronic pain community. Patients who suffer from chronic pain are again being forced to defend their legitimate need for medication.

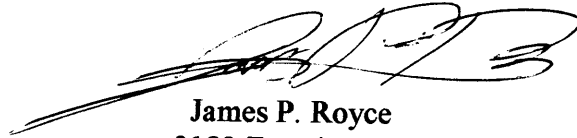
Please listen to our pleas for common sense. We are suffering right now from chronic pain. We do not want to spend the rest of our lives struggling with the FDA or our local Medical Boards over pain control issues. We want to spend our time with our families and pursuing life goals.

I strongly urge the FDA to stand with people such as myself who suffer from chronic pain. Please consider the needs of those of us who are suffering from catastrophic spinal cord injuries, and from diseases that cause severe chronic pain such as CRPS and cancer.

Every day when I awaken, I am immediately hit with pain from CRPS. Walking is so difficult that simply going to a grocery store is a chore that causes excruciating pain. When I wear shorts, the wind blowing against the skin on my legs is utterly excruciating. When I wear knit sweat pants, the fabric rubbing against my skin is excruciating. There are countless thousands of patients just like myself, and worse. We plead with you for sanity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James P. Royce
2182 East Avenue
Hayward, CA 94541-5450
Email: jproyce@pacbell.net

Cc: RSDSA, PO Box 502, Milford, CT 06460

Cc: Dr. Elliot Krames, M.D.

Cc: Dr. Marilee Schuchard, M.D.

jwbroatch@aol.com

aardrup@aol.com

skaushik@freetimes.com

Subj: On the controversy over Oxycontin Date: 12/1/01 4:02:22 PM Eastern Standard Time From: jhines@jam.rr.com (Jim Hines) Reply-to: jhines@jam.rr.com To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I have a very dear friend who is afflicted with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RDS). This disease causes unbelievable burning pain, and severe discomfort that never ceases. I am told that Oxycontin is the only medication that is effective in managing their intense pain, and allowing them to have any kind of life at all. This drug, when used correctly, fulfills its criteria of managing chronic pain. Those who abuse prescription medications should not prevent the needy from receiving those medications. I am asking the FDS to regulate Oxycontin only in such a way as to insure that those who need the drug, and for whom all other medications have failed to ameliorate the pain, are able to receive it.

Jimmy M. Hines
P. O. Drawer 1597 Daytime Phone
West Monroe, La 71294 (318)327-1385

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Received: from rly-ye05.mail.aol.com (rly-ye05.mail.aol.com [172.18.151.202])
by rly-st12.mail.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.8/AOL-5.0.0)
with ESMTTP id QAA25257 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>;
Sat, 1 Dec 2001 16:00:21 -0500 (EST)
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by sm10.texas.rr.com (8.12.0.Beta16/8.12.0.Beta16) with SMTP id fB1Kxq53032220
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sat, 1 Dec 2001 14:59:59 -0600
Reply-To: <jhines@jam.rr.com>
From: "Jim Hines" <jhines@jam.rr.com>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: On the controversy over Oxycontin
Date: Sat, 1 Dec 2001 14:59:59 -0600
Message-ID: <NFBLOGHCLBMJOCDAFFIKEKCCMAA.jhines@jam.rr.com>
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Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

Monday, December 03, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Oxycontin Date: 11/24/01 12:21:03 AM Eastern Standard Time From: FRUNDERWOOD@webtv.net (frund) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Gentlemen -

I have been on oxycontin for about 5 years and I am taking about the same dosage as I started with ! I don't believe it is as addictive as they say it is. If it is so addictive, then why am I able to take about the same dosage as 5 year ago? I have Guillian Barre' syndrome and have terrible pain. I hope you can use this. My brother has RSD. My sister has had 5 back surgeries and also takes Oxy.

Fred Underwood
P.O. Box 315
So. Ports. KY. 41174
(606) 932-9854

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <FRUNDERWOOD@webtv.net>
Received: from rly-xa04.mx.aol.com (rly-xa04.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.73]) by air-xa02.mail.aol.com (v82.22) with ESMTP id MAILINXA29-1124002103; Sat, 24 Nov 2001 00:21:03 -0500
Received: from mailsorter-105-2.iap.bryant.webtv.net (mailsorter-105-2.iap.bryant.webtv.net [209.240.198.118]) by rly-xa04.mx.aol.com (v82.22) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINXA47-1124002055; Sat, 24 Nov 2001 00:20:55 -0500
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Received: (from production@localhost) by storefull-252.iap.bryant.webtv.net (8.8.8-wtv-f/mt.gso.26Feb98) id VAA02712; Fri, 23 Nov 2001 21:20:51 -0800 (PST)
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From: FRUNDERWOOD@webtv.net (frund)
Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2001 00:20:51 -0500 (EST)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
Subject: Oxycontin
Message-ID: <11629-3BFF2E33-4439@storefull-252.iap.bryant.webtv.net>
Content-Disposition: Inline
Content-Type: Text/Plain; Charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7Bit
MIME-Version: 1.0 (WebTV)

Subj: oxycontin Date: 11/27/01 5:55:30 PM Eastern Standard Time From: plawsoncst@mcleodusa.net (Pat Lawson) Reply-to: plawsoncst@mcleodusa.net To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Hello,

My name is Patricia (Pat) Lawson and I have RSD. I was diagnosed three years ago after many, many years of constant pain. My RSD is a result of bone surgery when I was 14 years old. The doctor removed diseased bone in my left shoulder and grafted a piece of bone from my left hip into the shoulder. Needless to say I have RSD on my whole left side. If this isn't bad enough I also have a syndrome called PMR-polymyalgia rheumatica. Life is hard some days.

Three years ago I was given oxycontin for the pain. It is the only thing that kept me pain free but I became addicted to it. I had to go to a pain clinic and go through detox for two weeks. It was not fun. But as I sit here in so much pain that nothing helps, I wonder if addiction is all that bad when you have a chronic pain syndrome.

I can barely walk, we are going to have to sell our home because it is too big and too many stairs, I live almost isolated because of the pain.

If other people are going through the same thing I am, I pity them. Right now I am contemplating calling my doctor and asking for a regional block. I have never had one but I need to get better and be pain free. If the doctors are more worried about the addiction/dependence on drugs, what do other people do?

I am sorry to dump on you but it has been a bad two weeks. We have tried almost everything we can to alleviate the pain to no avail.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.
Pat Lawson

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <plawsoncst@mcleodusa.net>
Received: from rly-xb05.mx.aol.com (rly-xb05.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.106]) by air-xb05.mail.aol.com (v82.22) with ESMTP id MAILINXB59-1127175530; Tue, 27 Nov 2001 17:55:30 -0500
Received: from gpvissmtpgw04.splitrock.net (gpvissmtpgw04.splitrock.net [63.254.138.39]) by rly-xb05.mx.aol.com (v82.22) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINXB57-1127175518; Tue, 27 Nov 2001 17:55:18 -0500
Received: (qmail 9001 invoked from network); 27 Nov 2001 22:55:16 -0000
Received: from a010-0917.omha.splitrock.net (HELO mcleodusa.net) (209.252.176.155) by gpvissmtpgw.splitrock.net with SMTP; 27 Nov 2001 22:55:16 -0000
Message-ID: <3C041A2D.AA26014A@mcleodusa.net>
Date: Tue, 27 Nov 2001 16:56:45 -0600
From: Pat Lawson <plawsoncst@mcleodusa.net>
Reply-To: plawsoncst@mcleodusa.net
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (Win95; I)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
Subject: oxycontin

Wednesday, November 28, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: opioid use in RSD Date: 5/26/01 7:29:31 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: jc4@epix.net (j bear) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

I am a RN, I . I am also the wife of a RSD victim. If the people complaining about the use of opioid would do the research ,they would learn that people with severe chronic pain do not become addicted to narcotics. As long as the medication is used for the treatment of pain the patients do not get the "high: normally obtained from narcotics. The medication allows them to control only the pain making them more able to live a close to normal life. The government has no right to deprive the RSD patients relief, however briefly,from the hell they live through each day. This is the same as denying cancer patients their chemo. This is playing god in the worst way. The problems with oxycontin can be the same problems with any medication. We cannot deprive the many of medication for the stupidity of a few. Please make it public so we can fight this stupidity. As a nurse who worked oncology for four years I saw patients suffer needlessly because many doctors do not understand narcotic use and undermedicate the patients.We must educate the medical community and the public so people do not suffer needlessly. please let me know how to help

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <jc4@epix.net>
Received: from rly-yg03.mx.aol.com (rly-yg03.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.3]) by air-yg05.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sat, 26 May 2001 22:29:30 -0400
Received: from bean.epix.net (bean.epix.net [199.224.64.57]) by rly-yg03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sat, 26 May 2001 22:29:12 -0400
Received: from computer (svcr-74ppp140.epix.net [199.224.74.140])
by bean.epix.net (8.10.1/8.10.1/2001032601/PL) with SMTP id f4R2TAr23617
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sat, 26 May 2001 22:29:10 -0400 (EDT)
Message-ID: <001c01c0e651\$e9edf740\$8c4ae0c7@computer>
From: "j bear" <jc4@epix.net>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: opioid use in RSD
Date: Sat, 26 May 2001 22:08:23 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0019_01C0E630.61D8F100"
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4522.1200
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

Subj: Opioids Date: 5/28/01 11:07:52 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: Patterson_4@webtv.net To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

I would like to tell you how the use of pain medications has changed my life.

I have been suffering with RSD since 1993. I have seen more doctors than I care to remember, I have done all they asked me to, including five surgeries, with the last one leaving me unable to walk for three years.

Before the RSD I was working at a job I loved for 15 yrs, I made good money and my family was able to enjoy having a mother who could go on walks with them, play basketball, etc. During the years from 1993 to 1998 I was in misery, I was unable to do all the things I had before, now I couldn't even cook a meal, take care of myself, let alone work.

Finally I went back to my family doctor who understood what I had been through and began me on pain meds strong enough so that I was able to function once again. It took a while to find the right combination since so many had already been tried. I have been using Durageisic patches and oxycodone and my life has been given back to me. I still have bad days when nothing helps, but for the most part I am doing so much better. I was able to go back to work this last Sept. and I finally feel like a human again.

I know that there are people out there who abuse these meds, but does that mean that the those who REALLY need them should be punished? I should hope not. I realize it is difficult for those who are not in chronic pain to understand just how terrible it can be to live this way. I NEVER dreamed my life would turn out like this. I was one who never even took a Tylenol for a headache.

If you are wondering if I am one of those who just can take pain, let me tell you that in 1985, I delivered a 10 pound baby with NO, I repeat, NO pain medication what's so ever, and yes, I had him naturally.

You never know that one day it may be you or a loved one in chronic pain for one reason or another. Would you want them so suffer? Of course not.

THank you very much for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Linda Sutherland

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Return-Path: <Patterson_4@webtv.net>
Received: from rly-yc03.mx.aol.com (rly-yc03.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.35]) by air-yc02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Mon, 28 May 2001 14:07:52 -0400
Received: from mailsorter-105-1.iap.bryant.webtv.net (mailsorter-105-1.iap.bryant.webtv.net [209.240.198.119]) by rly-yc03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Mon, 28 May 2001 14:07:39 -0400
Received: from storefull-151.iap.bryant.webtv.net (storefull-151.iap.bryant.webtv.net [209.240.198.217]) by mailsorter-105-1.iap.bryant.webtv.net (WebTV_Postfix) with ESMTP id 3511B597

Tuesday, May 29, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj:	OXYCONTIN USER
Date:	5/28/01 10:02:53 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	SHALOMK816
To:	Jwbroatch

Hi:

Just read the email from Keith at RSD.hope. I have had RSD for 2 years and am a nurse, so i know the effects of opiates and other medication. To bad the FDA doesn't realize that using illegal drugs will always be the story. What are ppl with chronic pain to do if they are removed or given to a lesser degree? The pain i have endured is unreal and if it hadn't been for Oxycontin, i don't really know what i would have done. Believe me i prayed for God to take the pain away because i didn't want to take the drugs, but in the end i had to.

Like i said at the beginning, drugs will always be an issue, as long as there are abuser and there will always be abusers.

*Sincerely,
Janet Kennerly*

Subj: limiting opioids Date: 5/28/01 9:40:29 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: nete@peoplepc.com (Michael Mixon) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

As a patients of RSD for 31/2 years now morphine and oxicontin have been life savers to me as well as million other such suffers in our country. We no cure for RSD we must resort to both the safest and most effective pain relievers available. Please do not leave us out of the loop of being able to use and obtain these much need medicines to make our lives as useful and pain free as we can be. Sincerely, Anita C Mixon Po Box 1064/ 8542 E. Franklin St. Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <nete@peoplepc.com>
 Received: from rly-xd05.mx.aol.com (rly-xd05.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.170]) by air-xd03.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Tue, 29 May 2001 00:40:29 -0400
 Received: from c002.snv.cp.net (c002-h001.c002.snv.cp.net [209.228.32.165]) by rly-xd05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Tue, 29 May 2001 00:40:01 2000
 Received: (cpmta 17683 invoked from network); 28 May 2001 21:39:59 -0700
 Received: from PPPa55-ResaleKannapolis1-2R7043.dialinx.net (HELO default) (4.4.86.180) by smtp.peoplepc.com (209.228.32.165) with SMTP; 28 May 2001 21:39:59 -0700
 X-Sent: 29 May 2001 04:39:59 GMT
 Message-ID: <000e01c0e7fa\$a6059d80\$b4560404@default>
 From: "Michael Mixon" <nete@peoplepc.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: limiting opioids
 Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 00:48:34 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
 boundary="-----_NextPart_000_000B_01C0E7D9.17220980"
 X-Priority: 3
 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

Subj: Limiting the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain Date: 5/27/01 3:26:37 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: ljmaquatics@hotmail.com (LINDA MAUCK) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Based upon the past 18 years of clinical experience with chronic pain sufferers I have frequently found that c/o pain have been ignored by medical professionals who feel that the patient is "exagerating or making up this level of pain for attention or other secondary gain process" There is no majic answer or pill that will relieve the pain permanently. Opiate analgesics in conjunction with a comprehensive pain management program of psychotherapy, physical and occupational therapy and vocational rehabilitation have proven to improve the quality of life and increase functional capacity. As with any other medication available, the potential for misuse is great. Please do not restrict the availability of these medications to those suffering from legitimate chronic pain diagnoses. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. Linda J. Mauck, LPTA, CATRI 5-27-2001 @ ljmaquatics@hotmail.com.

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Return-Path: <ljmaquatics@hotmail.com>
 Received: from rly-za03.mx.aol.com (rly-za03.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.99]) by air-za02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sun, 27 May 2001 18:26:37 2000
 Received: from hotmail.com (f181.law7.hotmail.com [216.33.237.181]) by rly-za03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sun, 27 May 2001 18:26:19 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Sun, 27 May 2001 15:26:19 -0700
 Received: from 63.23.113.244 by lw7fd.law7.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Sun, 27 May 2001 22:26:19 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [63.23.113.244]
 From: "LINDA MAUCK" <ljmaquatics@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: Limiting the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain
 Date: Sun, 27 May 2001 22:26:19
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
 Message-ID: <F1814fDGCI9FopYC98B000153fb@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 27 May 2001 22:26:19.0450 (UTC) FILETIME=[0D3B21A0:01C0E6FC]

Subj: Chronic pain
Date: 5/28/01 5:37:39 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: iris1@mosqitonet.com (Dee)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I have come to see our government as a heartless beast that would rather see us all commit suicide as a way to save money when we cannot fully function in the production of corporate profit. The fda folks should have to walk in the shoes of those whom they consider torturing by removing the pain relief we cannot live without. iris

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <iris1@mosqitonet.com>
Received: from rly-zd02.mx.aol.com (rly-zd02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.226]) by air-zd03.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Mon, 28 May 2001 08:37:39 2000
Received: from swarm.mosqitonet.com (swarm.mosqitonet.com [209.161.160.16]) by rly-zd02.mx.aol.com (v78.43) with ESMTP; Mon, 28 May 2001 08:37:37 -0400
Received: from mosqitonet.com (ppp5078.mosqitonet.com [209.161.165.78])
by swarm.mosqitonet.com (8.9.1/8.9.3) with ESMTP id EAA32761
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Mon, 28 May 2001 04:37:35 -0800
Message-ID: <3B124849.2CE9077C@mosqitonet.com>
Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 04:44:57 -0800
From: Dee <iris1@mosqitonet.com>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.75 [en] (Win98; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
Subject: Chronic pain
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Subj:	oxycontin
Date:	5/28/01 2:55:14 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	StormyNtx
To:	Jwbroatch

Dear Mr Broatch,

I am more than happy to add my voice to those for whom oxycontin and other opiate analgesics are necessary to control RSD/CPRS or any other type of chronic, debilitating pain. Thank heaven, I have never had to use them. I am one of the lucky ones who was misdiagnosed with RSD several months ago. I was fortunate enough to find a gifted physician who took the time to discover the true reason for my own pain, and I have since had a complete recovery. But I certainly understand untreated, unremitting pain, and it is unconscionable that a government entity would decide who has to live with that type of pain, and who is entitled to relief from it. That should be a decision best left to the physician and patient. I do not need to use these types of analgesics in order to speak out for those who do need them. Please feel free to use any part of this message, including my name, in your efforts.

Sincerely,

Janice McLain
Amarillo, Texas

Subj:	To Whom It My Concern At The Advisory Of The Federal Drug
Date:	5/25/01 7:35:35 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	Deedra2395
To:	Jwbroatch

To whom that it may concern, the reason that I'm writing this letter is because I want to write a written testimony on what I go through everyday with chronic pain syndrome associated with RSD (reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome).

I first got hurt at work about 2 years ago. My foot got caught on a rug that was tore apart and they taped the rug down instead of fixing the rug, and not only that a girl got hurt on it about a week before I did. My terrible nightmare started when all of this happened and I kept getting told that I only had a sprain ankle which it has turned out that I have rsd and also I have had 4 surgery's and I'm probably looking at about 2 or 3 more. And also on top of all of that they think that I have 3 ruptured disk in my back from the way I fell down so hard straight down on my butt.

All of this pain and nightmare has put in pain 24 hours 7 days a week that has not and will not go away. I have burning, throbbing, constant cramping all of the time, I can't stand anyone to touch my foot, leg, hip and back. Also my circulation cuts off and my muscle is wasting away in my leg. I have been on crutches for the whole time that I've been hurt. I can't move my foot or even my leg to much at all it kills me and also my foot stays cold because of the circulation cutting off. I'm on oxycontin and this medicine is the only med. that I'm on that even takes of the edge, nothing helps me to much at all anymore but that helps me more than anything that I have taken. I'm in so much pain that I'm going to be put on a morphine pump plus still a lot of this medicine plus on top of all of that I'm only 25 years old and this has taken my whole life way. I really need this medicine and I pray and beg you to please understand that there are people out there like me that need his also. And without this medicine I can't even get up in the mourning over even move. I don't think that the people that is in this pain shouldn't have to pay for what other people are doing that is abusing the drug oxycontin. I can't live without this medicine and if I don't have it my life will be taken away more than it is already and if that has to happen you should just come and kill all of the people that have to have it because if you don't all they are going to do is waste there life away by not being able to live a half way normal life. Please don't make all us people with this terrible disease and even the other with other disease pay for all of the people that misuse this drug. Please if you have any consideration toward people like me and the pain that we are going through please keep this on the market because without this medicine my life will just waste away and I'm only 25 years old and I have a 6 year old that needs me in her life. Sorry so long of letter but I

Dear Sir,

I have been on Opioid Therapy (Oxycontin) for 4 months. After Three years of surgery's for a broken back (13) I finally have a life again. I can appreciate my husband, family and friends. I don't lay in bed crying now, wondering if the after life wouldn't be better than with the pain I had to endure daily. I couldn't leave the house outside of Dr's appointments and hospitals. There was no life for me with the pain. Thank God, I went to a good Dr that believes in Opioids for pain, he showed me that it was better for me than the tylenol that I was being given before, how my organs were being destroyed by them. If Oxycontin is taken away from we patients that are now receiving a life because of it, you will take hope away from us for having a life. Please don't do this.

Thank You,

Diane Pearson

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Return-Path: <D4DPearson@aol.com>

Received: from rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (rly-yd05.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.5]) by air-yd04.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sat, 26 May 2001 03:20:49 -0400

Received: from ho.egroups.com (236.yahoo.240.211.64.in-addr.arpa [64.211.240.236]) by rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sat, 26 May 2001 03:20:29 -0400

X-eGroups-Return: D4DPearson@aol.com

Received: from [10.1.2.225] by ho.egroups.com with NNFMP; 26 May 2001 07:16:59 -0000

Date: Sat, 26 May 2001 07:16:58 -0000

From: D4DPearson@aol.com

To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Subject: Oxycontin Medication

Message-ID: <9enl9a+ka90@eGroups.com>

User-Agent: eGroups-EW/0.82

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1

X-Mailer: eGroups Message Poster

X-Originating-IP: 198.81.16.157

Saturday, May 26, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: FDA Date: 5/25/01 3:11:51 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: stewart626@hotmail.com (Tobi Stanton Stewart) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Mr. Broatch,

I am 28 years old and have suffered with RSD for a year and a half. It was finally diagnosed this week. The FDA needs to make any and all medications available to the public. Thank you for being an advocate for this disorder. My condition was ignored by doctors until recently. There is so much ignorance surrounding this illness. Please keep us informed. As registered voters, tax payers and human beings there must be more we can do. My heart breaks for people even younger than myself who suffer daily.

With Much Gratitude,

Tobi Stewart

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Return-Path: <stewart626@hotmail.com>
Received: from rly-ye03.mx.aol.com (rly-ye03.mail.aol.com [172.18.151.200]) by air-ye02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.37) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 18:11:51 -0400
Received: from hotmail.com (f202.law11.hotmail.com [64.4.17.202]) by rly-ye03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 18:11:39 -0400
Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
Fri, 25 May 2001 15:11:38 -0700
Received: from 63.49.171.144 by lw11fd.law11.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 22:11:38 GMT
X-Originating-IP: [63.49.171.144]
From: "Tobi Stanton Stewart" <stewart626@hotmail.com>
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
Subject: FDA
Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 18:11:38 -0400
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/html
Message-ID: <F2020QUUBPcZi71mrvo0001377f@hotmail.com>
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 25 May 2001 22:11:38.0485 (UTC) FILETIME=[AB4F0A50:01C0E567]

Subj: FDA committee meeting Date: 5/25/01 1:32:45 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: Jakki.Campbell@btinternet.com (Jakki Campbell) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

thank you for the message about the FDA meeting. unfortunately I am not in a position at present to comment on the pluses of using oxycontin as an analgesic because I am trying to avoid opiates at all cost, as I feel they could reduce my quality of life. I fear that the side effects of reduced mental agility and the risk of dependency is to great for me to use them. I have been in severe pain for the last three years and have only used opiates after surgery (before I was diagnosed as having RSDS they continued to operate on me in an attempt to get me walking again) and I came off them as soon as I could.

I do however, feel that the FDA should understand that for some people opiates may be the only way in which they can have some quality of life. Also that chronic pain is an awful condition to have and they (the FDA) should not be allowed to restrict any medication that can improve peoples lives.

I am sorry that I have nothing else to say about this but please keep me up to date with any further developments.

yours sincerely

Jakki Campbell

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Return-Path: <Jakki.Campbell@btinternet.com>
 Received: from rly-yc01.mx.aol.com (rly-yc01.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.33]) by air-yc01.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 16:32:45 -0400
 Received: from tungsten.btinternet.com (tungsten.btinternet.com [194.73.73.81]) by rly-yc01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 16:32:26 -0400
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 Message-ID: <006101c0e559\$e22e2960\$8ea77ad5@oemcomputer>
 From: "Jakki Campbell" <Jakki.Campbell@btinternet.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: FDA committee meeting
 Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 21:32:55 +0100
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
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 X-Priority: 3
 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4522.1200
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

Subj:	Re: Oxycontin Story....
Date:	5/25/01 6:56:54 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	BigGentleHug4U
To:	Jwbroatch

Your more then welcome...I'm a close friend of Bo...I forgot to add in my letter that depression also has been taken a toll on me due to lack of my Oxycontin..But with help from my Mother and family and friends...Like waking Bo up at 3:00 in the morning saying can take this any more!!! Crying my eyes out from the pain and withdrawal....Just injustice for us who are suffering due to lack of our Oxycontin!!!!

Jim, If you like you can add that to the letter....Change Bo name to a friend but I think it is important....Sorry if I bothered you. Take care and thank you.....

Sincerely,
Carol Schultz

Subj: **response to FDA**
Date: 5/26/01 9:54:04 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Luluuu2
To: Jwbroatch

I am currently taking MScontin for my rsd. Without this drug i would be in sad sad shape. I have RSD in my arm and leg. There isnt anything else out there that works as good. Thank you for your update.
Debbie

Subj: Opioid analgesics Date: 5/27/01 2:57:09 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: barmick.leeds@tinyonline.co.uk (barmick.leeds) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
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Dear Jim

On behalf of the RSDS - Leeds Support Group, representing adult and child RSDS sufferers, their families, and interested professionals in the UK, I am writing to support the RSDSA's testimony advocating that the FDA not restrict the availability of opioid analgesics for the treatment of chronic pain. Our support group is in contact with over 400 families in the UK, many of whom are reliant on these medications.

Kind regards Barbara Pickard (Chairman and RSDS sufferer)

Daleside

20 Tinsill Road

Cookridge

Leeds

LS16 7DU

Tel: +44 (0)113 261 3797

Email: barmick.leeds@tinyonline.co.uk

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <barmick.leeds@tinyonline.co.uk>

Received: from rly-zd04.mx.aol.com (rly-zd04.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.228]) by air-zd04.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sun, 27 May 2001 17:57:09 -0400

Received: from spielberg.vip.uk.com (spielberg.vip.uk.com [194.176.218.9]) by rly-zd04.mx.aol.com (v78.43) with ESMTP; Sun, 27 May 2001 17:56:44 -0400

Received: from modem-42-88-60-62.vip.uk.com ([62.60.88.42] helo=auqgl68045) by spielberg.vip.uk.com with smtp (Exim 3.22 #1) id 1548Wh-0007AK-00

for jwbroatch@aol.com; Sun, 27 May 2001 22:56:43 +0100

Message-ID: <000401c0e6f6\$75b03780\$2a583c3e@auqgl68045>

From: "barmick.leeds" <barmick.leeds@tinyonline.co.uk>

To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>

Subject: Opioid analgesics

Date: Sun, 27 May 2001 22:26:57 +0100

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary="-----=_NextPart_000_0011_01C0E6FC.24079E40"

X-Priority: 3

X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 4.72.3110.1

X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

Subj: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6 Date: 5/25/01 10:01:20 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: rshanno1@csc.com To: jwbroatch@aol.com

My wife uses Kadian to reduce her pain from RSD. If this was not available to her and other RSD patients, I'm sure the suicide rate will be even higher.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <rshanno1@csc.com>
 Received: from rly-xd01.mx.aol.com (rly-xd01.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.166]) by air-xd03.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 13:01:20 -0400
 Received: from ponyexpress1.csc.com (ponyexpress5.csc.com [208.219.64.204]) by rly-xd01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 13:01:15 -0400
 Received: from va-fch31.csc.com ([20.1.107.9] helo=csc.com) by ponyexpress1.csc.com with esmtp (Exim 2.12 #1) id 153Kxc-00017C-00 for jwbroatch@aol.com; Fri, 25 May 2001 13:01:13 -0400
 Subject: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 X-Mailer: Lotus Notes Release 5.0.5 September 22, 2000
 Message-ID: <OF61598A43.AECB394D-ON87256A57.005D6BA7@com>
 From: rshanno1@csc.com
 Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 11:03:10 -0600
 X-MIMETrack: Serialize by Router on VA-FCH31/SRV/CSC(Release 5.0.4a |July 24, 2000) at 05/25/2001 01:03:42 PM
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Subj:	Oxycontin Story....
Date:	5/25/01 9:38:00 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	BigGentleHug4U
To:	Jwbroatch

Hi Jim, My name is Carol Schultz I live in Mattydale, NY It's near Syracuse. I have been on Oxycontin for about 4 years now I think! It has given me more relief then any other drug out in the market...And due to a very weak stomach and allegist to must medication I find that Oxycontin does not give me any side effects what so never!!! Since April my life has been a living HELL!!! I went to a pain clinic here in Syracuse, NY, the end of Apr. and this doctor without even looking at my information or talking to me to see how the Oxycontin was working Came out and told me that I was a drug addict just because I was on 10-10mgs of oxycontin daily (I tried to take a larger mg pill but it messed with my stomach and absorb to fast and many mood changes developed also and that's why I want back to the individual pills. I took 5 @ morning and 5 @ night. Of course I was not too happy with this dr. at all. 1st of all he had no right to judge me! It was unethical and very un-professional...And then he wanted to put me on methadone. I don't think so, I am not going to put that stuff in my body..I'm not a drug addict. So, since he won't give me my Oxycontin I had to try my best to stretch my last bottle from April until my new appt with a neurologist in June. I had to on my own go from 100 mgs daily down to 40mgs and soon I will be down to 20 mgs daily. This is not fair when there is a well know company out there that is willing to help ALL OF US WITH RSD/CRSP and other chronic pain but due to jerks (I wish I could say something else) that abuse and the bad publicity it ruined it for us all that depend on it for PAIN relief!!!! People sniff glue and spray paint vapors do they take that off the market? It is sad that it has happened because it has cause millions more pain to deal with because dr's don't want to write scripts for it anymore. People are taking there lifes over this subject!! How wrong is this???? TOTAL WRONG!!! Am I upset. angry, hurting? Of course I am!!!! Because I know there is a medication out there that works for me and I can't get it!!! Plus being on Medicaid I don't have the luxury to go just anywhere like most people..I really thank you for letting me express how I feel and I hope this letter help in any way Jim....Take care and have a great day!

If you need to get in touch we me feel free to e-mail me at above address or call me at (315)455-5112 or (315)455-7256 Thanks for your help to address this problem and hope we can get some answers... :-)

Sincerely,
Carol Schultz

Subj: oxycontin Date: 5/25/01 8:30:34 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: sayamin@mediaone.net (Sam Yamin) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Good morning Jim my name is Sam Yamin I have had RSD since June 97. I take Oxycontin 40 mg 3-4 times a day, with out this I could not take a shower or go out or even help myself. Dont let them take away our only HELP, if I can do anything let me know.

thank you
sam yamin
sayamin@mediaone.net

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <sayamin@mediaone.net>
Received: from rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (rly-yd05.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.5]) by air-yd05.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 11:30:34 -0400
Received: from demai05.mw.mediaone.net (demai05.mw.mediaone.net [24.131.1.56]) by rly-yd05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 11:30:19 -0400
Received: from hppav (nic-163-c212-054.mw.mediaone.net [24.163.212.54]) by demai05.mw.mediaone.net (8.11.1/8.11.1) with SMTP id f4PFUEM13659 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Fri, 25 May 2001 11:30:14 -0400 (EDT)
Message-ID: <002101c0e52f\$b4c4e4c0\$36d4a318@mw.mediaone.net>
From: "Sam Yamin" <sayamin@mediaone.net>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: oxycontin
Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 11:31:02 -0400
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

to something sprayed on fruit at a vendor's on your way to or from work?

I would have called, but I'm on my way to Maureen's game, and I didn't want to miss you, if you tried to call back. There are a number of dead zones here for cell phones.

I spent several days last week in Phila. (along with another RSDSA friend) filling in for Jim Broatch at the Amer Academy of Neurology. I really enjoyed it, but it was tiring physically. I brought you back a present—a personally engraved neuro hammer from one of the vendors!

Take care!
MB

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <NgeowJ@HSS.EDU>

Received: from rly-yh02.mx.aol.com (rly-yh02.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.34]) by air-yh02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:13:12 -0400

Received: from patella.HSS.EDU (patella.hss.edu [204.168.247.100]) by rly-yh02.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:12:54 -0400

Received: by patella with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
id <K0MXN5XK>; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:12:56 -0400

Message-ID: <506F34FF0DB7D2119E7200805FFEF21251A19D@patella>

From: "Ngeow, Jeffery" <NgeowJ@HSS.EDU>

To: "'MBKLUD@aol.com'" <MBKLUD@aol.com>

Subject: RE: Annoying RSD patient

Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 20:12:55 -0400

MIME-Version: 1.0

X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Subj: FW: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6 Date: 5/25/01 5:13:13 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: webmaster@accoladeweb.com (Webmaster) Reply-to: webmaster@accoladeweb.com To: jwbroatch@aol.com (Jim Broatch)

-----Original Message-----

From: Wappo13@aol.com [mailto:Wappo13@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2001 4:43 PM

To: webmaster@accoladeweb.com

Subject: Re: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6

Dear Mr. Broatch,

I am an anesthesiologist/algologist working at a Veterans Administration hospital in Southern California. I am very interested in the this topic and appreciate this e-mail alert re: the use of opioids for rsd. Please keep me appraised of the progress.

Thank you,

Lou Fontana, M.D.

wappo13@aol.com

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <webmaster@accoladeweb.com>

Received: from rly-xb04.mx.aol.com (rly-xb04.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.105]) by air-xb05.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 08:13:13 -0400

Received: from smtp-server2.tampabay.rr.com (smtp-server2.tampabay.rr.com [65.32.1.39]) by rly-xb04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Fri, 25 May 2001 08:12:59 -0400

Received: from heather (dt1c1n52.tampabay.rr.com [24.92.216.82]) by smtp-server2.tampabay.rr.com (8.11.2/8.11.2) with SMTP id f4PCCwv01531 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Fri, 25 May 2001 08:12:58 -0400 (EDT)

Reply-To: <webmaster@accoladeweb.com>

From: "Webmaster" <webmaster@accoladeweb.com>

To: "Jim Broatch" <jwbroatch@aol.com>

Subject: FW: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6

Date: Fri, 25 May 2001 08:16:09 -0400

Message-ID: <BLEPIEJLIFGFAJKAJIGIOEKKDEAA.webmaster@accoladeweb.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;

boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0047_01C0E4F2.F44B0670"

X-Priority: 3 (Normal)

X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)

Importance: Normal

X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Subj:	RSDSA Electronic Alert # 6
Date:	5/24/01 7:58:45 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	HerMajestyCarol
To:	.Jwbroatch

Thank you for sending me the following info for those of us battling RSDSA. Where was this material published? My thoughts and feelings might be slightly disoriented, not because of any drugs I may or may not be taking. Here they are:

* Some HIV patients are in their position, because the disease was self inflicted, due to their choice of a particular life style. Billions are being spent for research and health benefits. They have lobbyist fighting for more benefits and for legal counsels and government officials, fighting their battles for a decease they chose.

I am sympathetic to HIV patients and anyone else who is in pain. Can you, brothers in pain, fight for me, an RSD pain sufferer?

* My RSD was caused, not by choice. No one is fighting a good fight for me and others trying to live, in spite of the continuous pain of RSD, that I didn't chose.

Where are advocates for those of us with RSD who are in constant pain? Where are the members of government, for whom I voted, pleading to their constituents, for help and relief for an RSD sufferer?

* Just for fun, will they, as our forefathers stated, "*walk in my shoes*"?

* "*The FDA claim, for some, oxycontin is the only opioid analgesic that is efficacious in treating their RSD/CPRS pain.*" I **demand**, that those in favor of further adding to my pain, the FDA and their proponents, to sit in the office of a physician administering to those with RSD, and listen to the afflicted RSD patients, their care givers, their families and sympathetic helpers, "*how much pain relief, they need, and how allergic some RSD patients become.*"

Please present to any and all who can hear, all information you have gathered with written testimony from both the medical and RSD communities, as well as that of individuals struggling with other types of chronic pain and their families.

Make this your battle cry:

"The FDA will not limit the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain. Instead, we of the FDA, will work for the relief of RSD sufferers."

* If I can help,

* I will do, what little I can

* I have been, diagnosed with RSD, in March of this year

* I could never imagine that three letters,

Friday, May 25, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

* RSD could make me suffer pain and live in fear.

Carol Rymek

Subj: Do not limit "Opiate Analgesics" for Chronic Pain Date: 5/24/01 5:19:18 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: Brendalhnen@msn.com (Brenda Ihnen) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

To Whom It May Concern:

I, personally, have been using Methadone for my chronic pain for three years now, and it works very well without making me sleep all the time and keeping me most like my normal, unmedicated self. No personality changes! My Rhuematologist now prescribes it for many of her patients and she has found it works wonderfully well for chronic pain and doesn't deserve the bad reputation some doctors give it because of its association with drug rehabilitation and "meth clinics". A little knowledge is bad sometimes and our media writes and prints newspapers for money and the "shock value" which sells those newspapers!

For some people, Oxycontin is the "only" opiod analgesic that works in treating their RSD/CRPS pain. PLEASE do not limit the availability of Oxycontin or any Opiate Analgesics. Our doctors can control it with their knowledge very well. Let them.

Thank You for listening,

Sincerely,
 Brenda J. Ihnen
 BrendaIhnen@msn.com

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----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <brendaihnen@msn.com>
 Received: from rly-xb01.mx.aol.com (rly-xb01.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.102]) by air-xb01.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:19:18 -0400
 Received: from hotmail.com (oe99.pav0.hotmail.com [64.4.33.241]) by rly-xb01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:18:47 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Thu, 24 May 2001 17:18:45 -0700
 X-Originating-IP: [63.22.138.106]
 From: "Brenda Ihnen" <Brendalhnen@msn.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: Do not limit "Opiate Analgesics" for Chronic Pain
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 20:19:34 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 6.00.0010.0912
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="====_NextPart_001_0000_01C0E48E.D9138D00"
 Message-ID: <OE99eo4IB4BwOZxYS0q00009c98@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 25 May 2001 00:18:45.0232 (UTC) FILETIME=[42CA8700:01C0E4B0]

Subj: oxycontin Date: 5/24/01 1:36:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: carolh@cheqnet.net (Carol Hannah) To: Jwbroatch@aol.com

I do not take this medication, but I know that the pain with RSD is extreme enough, if you find something that works, it certainly should not be taken away!

Carol Hannah
carolh@cheqnet.net

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <carolh@cheqnet.net>
Received: from rly-yh05.mx.aol.com (rly-yh05.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.37]) by air-yh01.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:36:00 -0400
Received: from forward.aistreamcomm.net (forward.aistreamcomm.net [64.33.128.12]) by rly-yh05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:35:44 -0400
Received: from t8i4d1 (cab-cvx-cs-113.dial.aistreamcomm.net [64.33.183.113])
by forward.aistreamcomm.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id PAA28211
for <Jwbroatch@aol.com>; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:35:39 -0500 (CDT)
Message-ID: <001f01c0e4a1\$de5d54e0\$71b72140@t8i4d1>
From: "Carol Hannah" <carolh@cheqnet.net>
To: <Jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: oxycontin
Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 15:35:42 -0700
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_001C_01C0E467.3145DB40"
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

Subj: Help for all that live in constant pain!
Date: 5/24/01 2:26:06 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: gwen_nunley@yahoo.com (Gwen Nunley)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Jim,

I am writing to you about the FDA wanting to pull the oxycontin from the shelves. There are so many people out here that suffer chronic pain everyday. There are some days that are not as bad, but there are more bad days than good day. Some days the medication seems to help more and most days it is not enough, but the medication is taken as prescribed no more, no less, and normally not abused. There will always be a few people that will take more than they should, but the pain is just so bad they want to feel no pain, but the one's that use as directed should not have to pay because there are a few that abuse its uses.

I have been suffering with RSD for a little over three years now. I have my good days, but mostly bad. I am swelled most of the time which makes it very hard just to walk. People that do not have any type of chronic pain do not have any ideal what we must go through everyday. We never feel like other people that have their health. It has taken such a toll on my whole family. They can only watch me slowly getting worse, and they can do nothing to help. This is a road that each person with RSD-CRPS or other forms of chronic pain must deal with each and everyday.

I must sleep in my recliner every night because it hurts to much to sleep in a flat bed. If I stay in my recliner only getting up when I have too, the swelling is not as bad, but it is always there. A person can not live like that, I have one of my children or my husband drive me to the dr. or Pharmacy, and then I really pay for it. The longer I stay up or just sit the swelling gets so bad that I can not even bend my feet to walk, I must walk stiff legged to get around. I can not wear shoes for the swelling and the pain that I live with. I can not even get SS for disability and I am totally disabled. I can only walk a few min. and then the pain become so bad that I have to get to my recliner or just lay down in the floor until the pain lets up enough for me to be able to make it to my recliner. The RSD which I have in all four extremities has now started to attack my immune system and our ins. will not pay for me to have this IV treatment to help build my immune system back up. I catch everything that comes around. I have ask my children not to bring any friend home with them if they are sick. That is just how bad it is. I am in the last stage of RSD. I take fluid pills, but it will not remove the fluid. My dr. said that the

fluid is seeping out of my cells into my body.

I know that some people have committed suicide because they felt they just couldn't deal with the pain any longer. I myself some times get so tired of the pain it has enter my mind, but I chose to live in hope that they will come up with a cure.

Please help those in need of this medication to get what they need. Most cancer patients are given strong medication because they are going to die, so they think it is ok to give this to them. What about the millions of people that have chronic pain that must live with this every day! They should be treated the same. I never abuse my medication, infact my husband has to remind me to take it because I am so forgetfull. This is another syptom of RSD you forget things and you have poor consentration.

I hope with all my heart you will take this letter and apply it to your heart and think of us that must live in constant pain.

Thank you for your time.

Gwen Nunley

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Return-Path: <gwen_nunley@yahoo.com>
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Received: from web13405.mail.yahoo.com (web13405.mail.yahoo.com [216.136.175.63]) by rly-yh04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 17:25:38 -0400
Message-ID: <20010524212537.50634.qmail@web13405.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [204.116.110.14] by web13405.mail.yahoo.com; Thu, 24 May 2001 14:25:37 PDT
Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 14:25:37 -0700 (PDT)
From: Gwen Nunley <gwen_nunley@yahoo.com>
Subject: Help for all that live in constant pain!
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Subj:	re: reply to e-mail alert
Date:	5/24/01 2:16:24 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	Lillhermit
To:	Jwbroatch

Hello,

I am a 35 year old total-body RSD patient. I have a particularly aggressive case of RSD, instigated by an initial injury of one broken bone in my foot, less than a year ago. I have sought all kinds of treatment, been to ten doctors from different facilities in the Midwest, been medicated with all kinds of anti-depressants, calcium channel blockers and pain meds. Nothing has helped me so far. I am now on 30 mg of methadone a day, and while I feel it does not do much, if anything, to resolve my RSD pain, which now invades both legs up to the knees, my right hand and arm, the back of my neck, shoulders, and brain - I feel that patients have to be able to have access to this drug for chronic pain - as well as the other possibilities out there. There is too little being done for chronic pain patients - I know well, I just spent three weeks in a chronic pain program at a large Minneapolis facility, and they had no clue as to what or how to help me - so they didn't even try. I have been turned down for treatment by the Mayo Clinic, which was my last hope of someone being able to help me - because I am a workman's comp case. So, not only do I deal with my RSD, I also deal with being denied due to the fact that I got hurt on the job- by the "mecca" of the medical world. Medications have been the only source of relief, even if only temporary or partial - at least it's something. If the opioids are taken away from patients, what little else is there for us? My RSD has surprised everyone - it has invaded my body like an army, and keeps marching on.. I am determined to fight this "thing"inside of me - with or without the help of any of the so-called professionals and specialists. Just PLEASE consider the human suffering that exists in so many people, and how any future actions would affect them and their families.

Sincerely,

Lisa Guliani

Subj: **RSD person who takes Oxycontin**
Date: 5/24/01 5:43:34 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: *thafox58@yahoo.com (Jeanette Horner)*
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

please try all you can do i can not live with out my oxycontin i have been on this medication for about 4 years now, and with out this medication i could not live. I am on 80mg and i take it 2 times a day 80mg in the morning and 80mg at night, of oxycontin and I can not live with out it please help. any thing i can do let me know. I would die with out it i need it.

=====

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<http://auctions.yahoo.com/>

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Return-Path: <thafox58@yahoo.com>
Received: from rly-yc03.mx.aol.com (rly-yc03.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.35]) by air-yc02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:43:34 2000
Received: from web9703.mail.yahoo.com (web9703.mail.yahoo.com [216.136.129.139]) by rly-yc03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 20:43:17 -0400
Message-ID: <20010525004316.48659.qmail@web9703.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [64.9.17.50] by web9703.mail.yahoo.com; Thu, 24 May 2001 17:43:16 PDT
Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 17:43:16 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jeanette Horner <thafox58@yahoo.com>
Subject: RSD person who takes Oxycontin
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Subj: fda and pain medications Date: 5/24/01 2:03:13 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: joyce_r_wright@hotmail.com (Joyce R. Wright) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

The FDA needs to realize that for many people with intense cronic pain, if there is no relief, they will commit suicide. The suicide rate of RSD people needs to be mentioned, so that the FDA knows that if they restrict some of these drugs, some people may feel they have no other choice, and no reason to live.

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----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <joyce_r_wright@hotmail.com>
 Received: from rly-xc04.mx.aol.com (rly-xc04.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.137]) by air-xc02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 17:03:13 -0400
 Received: from hotmail.com (f256.law9.hotmail.com [64.4.8.131]) by rly-xc04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 17:02:55 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Thu, 24 May 2001 14:02:52 -0700
 Received: from 63.226.115.57 by lw9fd.law9.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 21:02:52 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [63.226.115.57]
 From: "Joyce R. Wright" <joyce_r_wright@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: fda and pain medications
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 15:02:52 -0600
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
 Message-ID: <F256C18aii08N8yxdZj00008313@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 24 May 2001 21:02:52.0582 (UTC) FILETIME=[E5AA7460:01C0E494]

Subj: Re: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6
Date: 5/24/01 5:18:28 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: LIZZBEE
To: webmaster@accoladeweb.com, Jwbroatch

Hello,

My name is Elizabeth A. Brown and I have CRPS2. I have had to take opioid analgesics for excruciating pain. For me they are the only type of pain killer that works on such intense constant pain. I am writing in support of keeping these medications available for those afflicted with RSD/CRPS and other types of chronic pain.

Thank you.

If you need any more assistance please do not hesitate to email me again. Good Luck!

Regards,

Elizabeth Brown

Subj: RE: A RSDS patient being treated with oxycontin Date: 5/24/01 1:07:33 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: kkelleyborz@prodigy.net (Borzello) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Mr. Broatch,

I also was concerned when I saw the news special regarding the abuse of oxycontin, wondering whether it would affect me. I was originally diagnosed with RSDS about 5 years ago. Initially I was treated with periodic nerve blocks, wore a Catapres patch on the affected limb, and took nuerontin(not sure of the spelling),when I absolutely had to, I took vicodin or percocet for additional pain relief. I was cautious with the narcotic use because I was afraid of becoming dependant on them. I had tried taking different anti-inflamatories and the side affects far outweighed any small amount of relief that I got. As time went on and the pain got worse and began to affect my lifestyle I started on a regimen of Oxycontin. It changed my life. Before starting the oxycontin I had reached a point where I didn't know how I would continue to work and care for my family. The oxycontin may not make me entirely pain free but it does allow me to maintain my quality of life . I suffer no side affects from the narcotic and actually have never experienced any artificial sense of well being that is thought to accompany narcotic use. I started on a very small dose and increased gradually in order to not experience any of the side affects known to go along with narcotics. If oxycontin was no longer available to me, I'm sure that my doctor would slowly decrease the dosage and help me through any problems I might encounter. That isn't what bothers me. What bothers me is that I don't want to go back to experimenting with different meds that make me sick as a dog and unable to function. Unless there is something new out there, and I think I have tried anything that has come along that might be an improvement, I would go back to being in so much pain that, that..., you know it's hard to put it into words, but to go back to laying in bed every night hoping for the pain to diminish enough to get a few hours sleep, the waking up in the morning and laying in bed dreading having to stand up and not knowing how I was going to make it through another day but knowing there was no choice. Sure, I could get a handicapped sticker, go on disability and become a recluse that never left the house unless absolutely necessary, but I don't want to live my life like that. With my current treatment, I can forget that I suffer from a chronic pain disorder and just live my life, that's the way I like it. I think unless you have encountered this kind of severe, unrelenting pain it is hard to understand what we go through.

I thank you for advocating this cause and wish you luck. If there is anything that I could do to help, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Kim Kelley-Borzello

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <kkelleyborz@prodigy.net>

Received: from rly-ye05.mx.aol.com (rly-ye05.mail.aol.com [172.18.151.202]) by air-ye02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.37) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:07:33 -0400

Received: from pimout2-int.prodigy.net (pimout2-ext.prodigy.net [207.115.63.101]) by rly-ye05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:07:05 -0400

Received: from web641-wra.mail.com (web641-wra.mail.com [165.251.33.76]) by pimout2-int.prodigy.net (8.11.0/8.11.0) with SMTP id f4OK74H76066

for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:07:04 -0400

Message-ID: <387602476.990734824615.JavaMail.root@web641-wra.mail.com>

Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 16:07:03 -0400 (EDT)

From: Borzello <kkelleyborz@prodigy.net>

To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Subject: RE: A RSDS patient being treated with oxycontin

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

X-Mailer: mail.com

Thursday, May 24, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6 Date: 5/24/01 1:06:05 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: dyke@capital.net (BD) Reply-to: dyke@capital.net (BD) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Hello'

My name is Bonnie Dyke and in June of 1997 I was in an accident with a Resident at my place of work and since that time I have developed RSD of the Right side Upper to middle waste. In November of 2000' I became very sick and My RSD has spread to my Right Lower half also. Unusual, I know, but, then again I've never been the normal RSD text book case. At first I tried all kinds of medicine, some reacting quickly, some tacking a couple of weeks to show up a reaction, ending up with straight Norco every 2 (two) hours. This was not a way to live. The Norco only lowered my pain (whole right side) to a 7 out of a scale of 0-10. With every pill was a chance to kill my Liver/Kidneys and needing to stay in tune with life for my Three (3) children and my Husband THIS chance wasn't worth the little relief I felt. After talking with the Dr. About my concerns He started me on Oxycontin 20 mg twice a day. Allot had happened to me before I got to that point in my RSD case. The bottom line is that WITH OUT MY OXYCONTIN, SERZONE, AND FILL-ins of HYDROCOD I could NOT function as a MOTHER, WIFE or A FRIEND to anyone. Let me put it this way, life for Me consisted LIVING on my BED/COUCH crying with the burning, stabbing, slicing, ripping, flesh feelings I would get, along with the hot sharp pin pointed stabs under finger nails, toe nails, eye, ear, jaw and places that are unmentionable. All of this goes right along with the crashed elbow I have had repaired twice already. So for them to SAY they WISH TO DO AWAY WITH OXYCONTIN - **HOW DARE THEY**. Let them live like US and they wouldn't want to ban anything that helped a person live a quarter of their normal life. WOULD THEY- the FDA.

I don't think the FDA would. I agree that having people robbed for their Oxycontin is terrible but, to make it unavailable to every patient (that I don't agree with) . Straighten the security around the distribution of Oxycontin, sure. But, for us who's whole entire existence depends on pain relief - to be striped of their medicine - **NO thats bizarre**. To inform you people of what I've had done to me and gone through would take way to long. I've tried in the text above to let the FDA know just how important OXYCONTIN is to us living with PAIN. *Do on to OTHERS that you WANT DONE to YOU, Don't try to GUESS what we FEEL until You (FDA) walk a MILE IN OUR SHOES (if you can wear any)*. Good statements I always say. ALL I know is that without my medication MY FAMILY of 5 was almost MINUS ONE. Try to understand. Keep it around.

Thanks.

RSD in Need,
 Mrs. Bonnie Dyke
 Argyle, N.Y.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <dyke@capital.net>
 Received: from rly-xd04.mx.aol.com (rly-xd04.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.169]) by air-xd02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:06:05 -0400
 Received: from mail1.capital.net (mail1.capital.net [204.97.168.20]) by rly-xd04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:05:52 -0400
 Received: from oemcomputer (ip-209-23-4-130.modem.logical.net [209.23.4.130])
 by mail1.capital.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id QAA24993
 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Thu, 24 May 2001 16:05:20 -0400
 Message-ID: <000e01c0e48e\$050b75e0\$820417d1@oemcomputer>
 Reply-To: "BD" <dyke@capital.net>
 From: "BD" <dyke@capital.net>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 16:12:29 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
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 boundary="-----=_NextPart_000_000B_01C0E46C.54F4BCA0"

Thursday, May 24, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Re: RSDA Alert #6 Date: 5/24/01 12:13:40 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: jbhinkle@cybrtyme.com (JoAnn) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I commend you in what you are doing. We are having some kind of public outcry here in Alabama, about the damaging effects of Oxycontin... how people are addicted to it, etc. I have taken it for a year and a half, and I don't think I would be able to function without it. I have lupus, and have a scarred lung. My joints hurt so bad that I am on prednisone, methotrexate, and oxycontin. I hesitated to tell my rheumatologist about the Oxycontin, because it gets such a bad rap, and people are labelled as "drug addicts". My GP knows, and doesn't mind. I do go to a Pain Management Clinic, and was put on it after two other painkillers didn't work. I have had 6 surgeries because I have no connective tissue between my joints, so you can imagine how they feel.

More power to you.
JoAnn Hinkle

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <jbhinkle@cybrtyme.com>
Received: from rly-ye03.mx.aol.com (rly-ye03.mail.aol.com [172.18.151.200]) by air-ye01.mail.aol.com (vx) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:13:40 -0400
Received: from cyber2.cybrtyme.com (cyber2.cybrtyme.com [209.149.100.11]) by rly-ye03.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:13:10 -0400
Received: from [209.149.100.130] by cyber2.cybrtyme.com (NTMail 6.03.0009/NT3646.00.49fcdd60) with ESMTP id zuhqveaa for jwbroatch@aol.com; Thu, 24 May 2001 14:12:26 -0500
Message-ID: <005401c0e484\$bb2739e0\$826495d1@duron800>
From: "JoAnn" <jbhinkle@cybrtyme.com>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: Re: RSDA Alert #6
Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 14:07:05 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
 boundary="-----_NextPart_000_0051_01C0E45A.CFF67900"
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Subj: RSDS Date: 5/24/01 12:09:55 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: cbsmp@hotmail.com (Carmella Price) Reply-to: cbsmp@hotmail.com To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

To Whom It May Concern:

Speaking as someone fortunate enough not to need such powerful pain killers YET, I feel people should have the right to receive whatever medications to alleviate their pain to provide them with quality of life. I am in the early stage at present; I have some good and some bad days. The pain I am in, I am certain, cannot possibly compare to the pain of someone in advanced stages.

I find it ridiculous when people fear others developing a drug dependency. It is so cruel for anyone to suggest that someone should suffer severely every day of their lives.

If an animal is suffering it is considered inhumane to let them suffer. It's even OK to put them down to avoid further suffering, but our biggest concern for people is a dependency. Who are these people to tell me or anyone else that we need to be denied a drug that could help with our quality of life.

My god, the government controls tobacco, is it not an addicting drug! I believe it is! I should know, I have been smoking for 25 years. However, it is OK to sale tobacco to our citizens which has no medical benefits what-so-ever, quite the contrary, it causes slow and painful death. What about alcohol, another addicting drug. It kills also and provides no real benefit, but again, the government permits it's sale. So who are they to decide if strong pain meds are necessary!!!

Respectfully,

Carmella Price

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Return-Path: <cbsmp@hotmail.com>
 Received: from rly-xd05.mx.aol.com (rly-xd05.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.170]) by air-xd02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:09:55 -0400
 Received: from hotmail.com (f16.pav1.hotmail.com [64.4.31.16]) by rly-xd05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:09:37 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Thu, 24 May 2001 12:09:34 -0700
 Received: from 209.173.167.112 by pv1fd.pav1.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 19:09:34 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [209.173.167.112]
 Reply-To: cbsmp@hotmail.com
 From: "Carmella Price" <cbsmp@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: RSDS
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 15:09:34 -0400

Thursday, May 24, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: RE: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6 Date: 5/24/01 12:07:11 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: brian.hicks@gmcnetwork.com (Brian Hicks) To: jwbroatch@aol.com File: winmail.dat (3764 bytes) DL Time (28800 bps): < 1 minute
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Dear Jim,

I am a Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) patient here in Montgomery, Alabama. I am 29 years old and work as an engineer at a private consulting firm. About three years ago I was involved in an accident with a rifle that near severed my left foot. The doctors here in Montgomery and at UAB in Birmingham were able to restore the function of my foot to the point where I can walk with minimal discomfort. This was accomplished by breaking all of the toes on the foot, inserting pins to hold them in place, and by installing a titanium plate the fuse the first toe. Needless to say it was a painful five surgeries to get to where I am now. However, nothing can compare to the excruciating pain the has resulted from the RSD that I now deal with on a daily basis. I am taking Neurontin (an anti-seizure medicine), Serzone (an anti-depressant), and Darvocet (a pain killer) to deal with and control the pain I endure every day. If I miss a dose then my leg feels as if I have just been shot, turns purple, swells to a size that prevents me from wearing shoes, and is so sensitive to touch that even a small movement of the air around it will cause excruciating pain. Without these medications, I would most certainly not be able to function, and I would lose my job, my home, and my livelihood.

The latest uproar about drugs is not a new argument as would be suggested by the mainstream press to sensationalize whatever show happens to be running during sweeps week. Rather, the argument about how to best to treat pain has been raging for years in the medical community. However, now state medical boards such as Mississippi are taking steps to limit a doctors that specialize in pain treatment for prescribing too much pain medicine by taking their medical license away. I see a danger in this committee of the FDA as they could attempt to remove from doctor's the ability to choose what is appropriate treatment for a patient's ailment. In my case, RSD will be something that will follow me for the rest of my life, and without appropriate and timely treatment, the disease could easily destroy the professional and personal life that I now enjoy.

Thank you for addressing the committee with the concerns of the RSD community. If I can be of any assistance please let me know.

L. Brian Hicks, P.E.
 Civil Engineer
 brianhicks@knology.net
 (334)324-7752

—Original Message—

From: Webmaster [mailto:webmaster@accoladeweb.com]
 Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2001 1:14 PM
 To: brianhicks@knology.net
 Subject: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6

brianhicks@knology.net
 RSDSA Electronic Alert # 6

On June 14-15, 2001, an advisory committee of the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) will meet to discuss the risk versus benefits of using

Thursday, May 24, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

opioid analgesics for the treatment of pain. RSDSA intends to offer oral and written testimony advocating that the FDA not restrict the availability of these medications in response to the recent media coverage of the oxycontin controversy. For some, oxycontin is the only opioid analgesic that is efficacious in treating their RSD/CPRS pain. I will also present the committee with written testimony from both the medical and RSD communities, as well as that of individuals struggling with other types of chronic pain and their families. We share a concern that the FDA will limit the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain. Please e-mail your comments to jwbroatch@aol.com or mail them to RSDSA, PO Box 502, Milford, Connecticut 06460. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
Jim Broatch

----- Headers -----
 Return-Path: <brian.hicks@gmcnetwork.com>
 Received: from rly-yb04.mx.aol.com (rly-yb04.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.4]) by air-yb02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:07:11 2000
 Received: from server-2.gmcnetwork.com ([209.192.119.138]) by rly-yb04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 15:06:55 -0400
 Received: from Bhicks [192.168.20.141] by server-2.gmcnetwork.com (SMTPD32-4.06) id AC493B701F2; Thu, 24 May 2001 14:08:57 CST
 From: "Brian Hicks" <brian.hicks@gmcnetwork.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: RE: RSDSA Electronic Alert #6
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 14:04:40 -0500
 Message-ID: <AHEAIGNHCHGGALHPHIJKAEBLCAAA.brian.hicks@gmcnetwork.com>
 MIME-Version: 1.0
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 X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200
 Importance: Normal
 X-MS-TNEF-Correlator: <AHEAIGNHCHGGALHPHIJKAEBLCAAA.brian.hicks@gmcnetwork.com>

Subj: CHRONIC PAIN Date: 5/24/01 9:21:55 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: KARMARSDS@msn.com (ANN PALERMO) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 'FDA'

FOR THE PAST 31/2 YEARS MY LIFE HAS BEEN DESTROYED DUE TO THE DISEASE 'RSDS' AND ITS MULTI-SYMPOMATIC AFFECTS ON MY BODY. I LIVE IN EXCRUCIATING PAIN 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. THE TOLL THIS HAS ON ME AND MY FAMILY IS BEYOND COMPREHENSION UNLESS YOU ARE EXPERIENCING IT FOR YOURSELVES.

HOW THEN CAN AN 'ADVISORY COMMITTEE' MAKE DECISIONS THAT WILL CAUSE MORE DISTRESS FOR PEOPLE WHO ALREADY HAVE MORE STRESS THAN THEY CAN HANDLE? IT IS INHUMANE TO EVEN CONSIDER RESTRICTING THE TREATMENT OF PAIN BY DENYING SUFFERING PEOPLE THE OPIOID ANALGESICS, THE MAJOR ONE BEING OXYCONTIN. IT IS OUR ONLY HOPE OF RELIEVING INTRACTABLE, BURNING PAIN. EVEN WHILE TAKING OXYCONTIN AS PRESCRIBED, ONE IS NEVER TOTALLY PAIN-FREE, BUT WITHOUT OXYCONTIN, I, FOR ONE, COULD NOT GO ON LIVING.

CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERERS DO NOT ABUSE THESE OPIATE ANALGESICS, SO WHY SHOULD THEY BE PUNISHED FOR THE FOOLISH AND DANGEROUS ACTS OF OTHERS? IF PAIN RELIEF IS DENIED RSD/CRPS PATIENTS, YOU WILL SEE THE SUICIDE RATE ESCALATE RAPIDLY. IS IT ANY WONDER WHY SOME CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS JOIN THE 'HEMLOCK SOCIETY'? THE BURDEN IS NOW ON THE 'ADVISORY COMMITTEE WHILE WE RSD/CRPS PATIENTS PAINFULLY AWAIT YOUR DECISION!

SINCERELY,
ANN T. PALERMO

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----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <karmarsds@msn.com>
 Received: from rly-yb04.mx.aol.com (rly-yb04.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.4]) by air-yb03.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 12:21:55 2000
 Received: from hotmail.com (oe162.pav0.hotmail.com [64.4.33.155]) by rly-yb04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Thu, 24 May 2001 12:21:23 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Thu, 24 May 2001 09:21:22 -0700
 X-Originating-IP: [63.38.129.98]
 From: "ANN PALERMO" <KARMARSDS@msn.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: CHRONIC PAIN
 Date: Thu, 24 May 2001 12:23:32 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 6.00.0010.0912
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="-----_NextPart_001_0003_01C0E44C.58B861E0"
 Message-ID: <OE1628zzYcXZ538jrNg00011ac6@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 24 May 2001 16:21:22.0441 (UTC) FILETIME=[925B7790:01C0E46D]

Subj: RSD & MEDS
Date: 5/23/01 3:14:52 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: David_W_Hardy@email.msn.com (David_W_Hardy)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I am a 40 year old woman who has been living with RSD for 10 years now. I have been through almost every pain med out there & now am on Oxy-contin. I don't think I could get through a day without this pain med. I know people are abusing it but you can't take it away from us who need it to get through a day & function at least a little bit.

Alwats, Wanita Hardy

----- Headers -----
Return-Path: <David_W_Hardy@email.msn.com>
Received: from rly-ye05.mx.aol.com (rly-ye05.mail.aol.com [172.18.151.202]) by air-ye03.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.37) with ESMTP; Wed, 23 May 2001 18:14:52 -0400
Received: from cpimssmtpu06.email.msn.com (cpimssmtpu06.email.msn.com [207.46.181.82]) by rly-ye05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 23 May 2001 18:14:37 -0400
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Wed, 23 May 2001 15:14:07 -0700
Message-ID: <003201c0e3d4\$dfe6f140\$d089113f@default>
From: "David_W_Hardy" <David_W_Hardy@email.msn.com>
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
Subject: RSD & MEDS
Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 18:08:13 -0400
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Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----_NextPart_000_002F_01C0E3B3.55973D40"
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X-OriginalArrivalTime: 23 May 2001 22:14:08.0283 (UTC) FILETIME=[AFC4E6B0:01C0E3D5]

Subj: Pain Group or Lobby Date: 5/23/01 9:29:12 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: snakefoot24@hotmail.com (Tim Cunningham) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

My user name is Right Sprit my real name is Tim Cunningham.

I have been on Methadone and Morphine since May, 1998 without it I have to crawl on my hands and left knee, I had a Hi Tib to straighten my leg and they over straightened it and there isn't anything anyone can do to fix it, more than likely this is for life. I will be on Methadone, and Morphine for the rest of my life. Without pain meds. I might as well be dead because there is no quality of life for me, I'm a single Dad 49 raising two kids, our Mom my X left us, I have custody of two wonderful children, Candince 12, and James 10 this month.

I'm also a friend of Bill W's. and have 22 sober years in the program of AA, I've never had a slip, at 19 years I almost did because of no pain meds, that's when I went to the Pain Management Center in Salt Lake City, Utah, I got a new life because of them.

There is no option for me only death without these meds., is this government really that sick that they would kill us just like Hitler wanted to do to the cripples?

I've been asking about starting a Pain Lobby with the group and everyone thinks it's a good idea, I'll need help getting it started as I've never done this kind of thing before, I don't have a clue where to start, I'm not a quitter and will take all the help starting this I can get.

Please feel free to contact me, you can read what I written on the page as well, this way you can get a feel for what I've been through.

Thanks
 Right Sprit
 Tim Cunningham
 snakefoot24@hotmail.com

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com/>

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <snakefoot24@hotmail.com>
 Received: from rly-zc05.mx.aol.com (rly-zc05.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.5]) by air-zc03.mail.aol.com (v78.50) with ESMTP; Wed, 23 May 2001 12:29:12 -0400
 Received: from hotmail.com (f80.law8.hotmail.com [216.33.241.80]) by rly-zc05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Wed, 23 May 2001 12:28:47 2000
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Wed, 23 May 2001 09:28:44 -0700
 Received: from 64.94.130.116 by lw8fd.law8.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Wed, 23 May 2001 16:28:44 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [64.94.130.116]
 From: "Tim Cunningham" <snakefoot24@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: Pain Group or Lobby
 Date: Wed, 23 May 2001 09:28:44 -0700
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/html

Wednesday, May 23, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Oxycontin Date: 5/19/01 4:42:20 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: KBJUSTISON@prodigy.net (Kathleen B Justison) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Dear Jim,

First, let me thank you for all you have done for RSD and chronic pain sufferers. I know our battle is far from over and if there is anything I can do, personally, to help with our cause, please let me know.

I have been on Oxycontin for 2 years now. I was diagnosed with RSD in 1997 which resulted from a simple slip and fall at work that normally a person could have walked away from.

I was a single parent, raising two fine sons, for 25 years. My younger son had leukemia when he was just 11 years old. I've had to be strong and resilient my entire life. Thankfully my son is cured and 31 yrs. old, but you can see I come from a long line of survivors. I was a very athletic person, participating in competitive ballroom dancing and sports with my sons. Since 1997, I have had more surgeries than I care to count. I was put on Neurontin and am now taking 2700 mg./day. The ONLY drug that has enabled me to function without assistance is Oxycontin. I am 53 yrs. old and am able to live alone for now. I cannot imagine my live without this drug.

Jim, if you need more letters or a march on Washington, DC, please let us know. I belong to the RSD Rebels, and we will overcome!!

Thanks again,
 Kathleen Justison
 410-392-9237

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <KBJUSTISON@prodigy.net>
 Received: from rly-yb02.mx.aol.com (rly-yb02.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.2]) by air-yb02.mail.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sat, 19 May 2001 19:42:20 2000
 Received: from pimout2-int.prodigy.net (pimout2-ext.prodigy.net [207.115.63.101]) by rly-yb02.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sat, 19 May 2001 19:42:02 -0400
 Received: from 1lcb801 (nas-132-199.rochester.navipath.net [64.20.132.199]) by pimout2-int.prodigy.net (8.11.0/8.11.0) with SMTP id f4JNg0S192192 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sat, 19 May 2001 19:42:00 -0400
 From: "Kathleen B Justison" <KBJUSTISON@prodigy.net>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: Oxycontin
 Date: Sat, 19 May 2001 19:44:34 -0400
 Message-ID: <NFELJLJPPENJCKEIMMDKEFECDA.KBJUSTISON@prodigy.net>
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
 Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
 X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
 Importance: Normal
 X-Mimeole: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Sunday, May 20, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Oxycontin Date: 5/20/01 6:51:57 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: JJmalmg0408@msn.com (James Malmgren) To: jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Hello.

I am sending you a note to try and explain to you that the drug Oxycontin is a wonderful pain reliever, and I have never become addicted, or had bad side affects.

I suffer with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) which is a chronic pain condition as a result of an injury to my foot. There is no cure. Many times I need to turn to my Oxycontin (120 mg) or higher for relief. I have never become addicted.

I hope you will reconsider discontinuing this drug, or other narcotic medications. There are many of us out there who truly need it, to improve and keep what quality to life we have.

Regards,

Joyce Malmgren

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Return-Path: <jjmalmg0408@msn.com>
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 Received: from hotmail.com (oe62.pav0.hotmail.com [64.4.33.204]) by rly-xd04.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Sun, 20 May 2001 09:51:39 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Sun, 20 May 2001 06:51:38 -0700
 X-Originating-IP: [63.48.83.99]
 From: "James Malmgren" <JJmalmg0408@msn.com>
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>
 Subject: Oxycontin
 Date: Sun, 20 May 2001 09:50:07 -0400
 MIME-Version: 1.0
 X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 6.00.0010.0912
 Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="-----_NextPart_001_000D_01C0E112.40B5EFA0"
 Message-ID: <OE626hm8Ua8d9Ee4zad0000172c@hotmail.com>
 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 20 May 2001 13:51:38.0646 (UTC) FILETIME=[FDF22360:01C0E133]

Subj: **Oxycotin**
Date: 5/20/01 9:10:43 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: joyc2it@yahoo.com (j thornton)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com, joyc2it@yahoo.com

Dear Jim Broatch,

Hi, My name is Joy Thornton. I have suffered from chronic/severe pain for many years. First it was a back injury, i would fight that pain and continue to work full time. Then in 1997 I developed RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy) in my entire right leg which left me disabled. I lived in tears for 2 years every time my pain medicine would start wearing off. I also suffer from osteoarthritis in my right hip. I tried many pain medications and would only get minimal relief. Finally I tried oxycotin CR and for the first time in my life I was able to get the pain relief i NEEDED. Also since I started oxycotin I have been able to lead a more productive life. I've tried not taking pain medications because I hate having to take any pills but without the oxycotin the pain is so severe I'd honestly rather die. Please let congress or whomever know how important this medication is to those who truly suffer from real pain. Im willing to testify to what i have written. My phone number is (804) 271-8407 if it's needed. If not please keep my number confidential. Thanks for listening to me.

Pain Endurer,
Joy T. Thornton

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Return-Path: <joyc2it@yahoo.com>
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Received: from web4406.mail.yahoo.com (web4406.mail.yahoo.com [216.115.105.37]) by rly-yg01.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Mon, 21 May 2001 00:10:30 -0400
Message-ID: <20010521041030.26665.qmail@web4406.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [12.91.144.77] by web4406.mail.yahoo.com; Sun, 20 May 2001 21:10:30 PDT
Date: Sun, 20 May 2001 21:10:30 -0700 (PDT)
From: j thornton <joyc2it@yahoo.com>
Subject: Oxycotin
To: jwbroatch@aol.com, joyc2it@yahoo.com
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Monday, May 21, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Treatment with pain medications Date: 5/20/01 10:09:06 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: dave1238@mediaone.net (D Ward) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Hi My Name is Dave i like to tell u a little about myself i have RSD as well as Diabetic Neruopathy for they are both very painfull illness.

I have been going for treatment close to five years now, I not a bitter man nor a Angry one either.

I had had some surgey done to my left knee and after about three days to a week maybe for i had some great and most unbearable pain i had evr had in my life i had a kidney stone and i even had another one which i had laser blast it and was very sore but i was able to work after i had recovred from this.

I had called the Doctor that did my surgey and he had gone for vacation an had to go se the Dr covering a diffirent orthopedic clinic with about 6 diffirent Doctor's right after he told me and my wife i had gone to se my family Dr for he was called and since the other one was outof town he would treat me.

I am a very sentive to medications and have a lot of allergies i was given a med called vicodin at frist and i broke out in hive's so i was given a med called percacet for i took that for a few weeks and again i had a bad belly aches when i took this med, I was also being treated by a neruologist my family dr had called to se me right away for he did five MRI and a Ct scan and a EMG in the time i had the frist MRI my ortho had came back he was told and he had a few others that had RSD he said i want to try hard P T to u and i started the P T with in three weeks time i had to have more surgey to the knee and total i had five surgeys with the last one sending me right over the top plus three weeks prior to tha i had unlar nerve intrapment at the elbow and then at the wrist.

Well i had them also done for the Doctors said it was neccasary to help me get out of some of this pain well it didnt i layed in my room in a hosptial bed for i was hurting and couldnt sleep for days on end.

Well finaly i had ask to go to a well known hosptial in Boston and i didnt know to go to a pain clinic for my line of work wasnt something someone did all the time for i weight was 180 pounds when i was wieghted in Boston and i had got there after a year of no treatments.

Well i had brought to the neruologist office a David Dawson he examine me and said to my wife and myself i had rsd and u needed to be in a pain clinic he called to my luck i had travel far they seen me that day well they order a MRI as well and i was back in a few days and i was told they wanted to try a serious of blocks and if i didnt want to have them they would give me meds for the pain i didnt ant the meds i went thru this and i had very little releaf.

the doctor had said to me u know u got to us a year into this illness and i dont like to tell u that it might burns it self out or stay for years even life he said the blocks i can give u can or may break the cycle of pain to a lower deggree and may be treated with a pain med i was given a med called Oxy-contin with oxy-codone and i alo choose to not have surgey for a pain pump and went with Spinal cord stimulator's one on each side i was in surgey for 7 hours i had then use this units for 24 hrs a day and also was in P T i went thru hell to get these units only to have them taken out.

I was on 240 mg of oxy-contin and i took 10mg of oxycodone every three hours after when iwas sent home with one month i was on med for breaktrough pain only and was 15mg of MSIR and i hardly ever took them then the d-day in my life i need surgey again and the ortho pedic dr had cut the nerve in my leg when i went to turn the units on i was having unbeleavable pain again another year in P T and pain meds again for i was cryng for my kids i couldnt even go to my son bal games and i could see him playhis frist gamei couldnt go to church i layed in bed and wanted to be out of this misirable pain The Doctor wished me a happy birthday i had just turn 37 years old he ask me how for i just wantd to be left alone my kids came in my room to ish me a happy birthday and ask if they could spend time i ask them to leave the room for i was hurting and hid this from them as well.

Prior to this i had fallen in a local market for someone lef grapes on the floor with a pudle of water to boot.

Well i didnt cry easy but that day i seen my kids faces and the Dr sen my face he dicided to try do a trail pump on me for i said another med i was looking everytime i went there for to go home and return to my normal life i once had.

Well to tell u the trail was a great success is a lie for me to tell u it is a cure it is a lie for after the second day i walk the length with my I V in my back and my wife i walk to the sub shop i had been in before i walk back and i didnt sleep in the chair that night for the thing that happen i was given the med by pill form as well i was taken up to 36 pills per day over 24 hours when this trial worked for me i had ask for one in two days that med is still in me today it is called Diluldid the pill i tok 36 per 24 hours the strenght was 4 mg now i have been on this med for since that time now i am 40 years old with the same med.

Now i can tell u a few other things ok for if i didnt have this Pain center i dont now how i would have done for whati gonna to tell u next.

I had a great turn around i was on a pain med tylnol #4 i was given 240 of these pills my home nurse threw them out for they had expired.

Now please i not telling you this because i want to. After i had this surgey i was very weak i was tired one saturday i ws getting around better and moving bettr but i had a way to go yet i could see i had even got to ten minutes on a bike in the house that one saturday i had taken a np my daughter friend was over we was going to the movies my frist time going out in a long time except to a hosptial my son woke me up and to my surprise my wife was gone i didnt hear from her for a month she said she left me for she couldnt stand to se me suffer like i was for she need time to get some help she called me a few days later then nothing for another month may 27 1999 i wont forgt that date for that is the date i was placed n a diabetic medicine also till june i head nothing again til a knoock on the door my P T lady from the VNA was there and she said she come back after her next client for she new we need to talk.

I ask her if she wanted a Divorce she said no she loved me she need to get help and for me to be patient for she had ben going thru the change also from a surgey for i waited she came down on a weekend slept over well again she disappers for two months i change my number got indepence living they got me a list of handicapp apts i filled a ton out i got into one in hanson ma 100 miles from where i lived before. i heard a knock on my door it was my wife again she came down and to her eyes she seen everything packed or boxer dog gone my cat i love with all my heart gone no pets here and when she came i was having a yard sale and sold alot of things she started to cry she sai she seen a part of us being sold i had to survive well she turn around and ask if she could use the car for to get some soda for us and some super if she could stay for a while and she never came back. Well i have two kids a boy of 15 now and a girl of 13 which may 28 she be 14 this past xmass my ex got my number some how she ask to se me i she said she was calling of the divorce for i never had filed for i never did anything wrong but get this sickness but she came and went again and we are set on july 17th for a pretrail hearing for a divorce why i have no idea.

But now the reality of this i had been left with two kids who need a father i been there for them but i have gotten diabetic neruopathyi drive them to there friend house my son got a job for i rasie two kids on a little over a 1k per month.

You know if my wife didnt leave i think i be in better shape then i am now for kids demand a lot of attention and guidance from there parents for if i didnt recive this med from the pain clinic where would my kids be today& it is not the meds it is the Doctor to gudie me also he has given me wisdom and hope thru his frustration in seeing me in pain as ell and what happen to me for now i was a master Instructor of taekwondo i had taken 8 students to Florida to fight in the Jr Oylmpics which we are a full meal sprt in the olympics games now i haad four winner my son was a second degree jr black belt he has stop doing the arts for we had not had the moneys they gave up there friends where they grew up for 10 years and we had to move for me to be able to take care of them so i ask that with this in my heart if they took the meds from others or myself where would are kids be today my kids own mom dont even call them for the state that makes some great college prospects now huh for there father betaken away from hem for they had everything else strip as i did.

For my kids are very knowable of med from the clinic for i made them a part of my treatment i can say we have a little family life left and are rebuilding our lives today for they still now i go to a pain clinic they now i am on meds for they see other people like there grandmother get the same med i do and falls a sleep she acts and walk stupidly for she cant stay awake for myself i get the releaf i did to do a day of being a parent to my children and if that i sleeping lololol i think not so i hope this has elp some thnaks for asking us to share Dave

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Return-Path: <dave1238@mediaone.net>

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Monday, May 21, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Re:oxycontin
Date: 5/21/01 6:53:01 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: DANANDMONICA
To: Jwbroatch

Hi Jim, My name is Monica and I am on Oxycontin and I have heard about the this bid mess with the Oxycontin on the news and in the newspapers. I am on it and I am alos on the Deragesic patch. I don't know what you need from me but whatever it is just let me know and I will do it because these medications work for me and if they take them off of the shelves I don't what I would do for my chronic pain therapy! Monica
Danandmonica@aol.com

Subj: rsds Date: 5/21/01 10:45:34 AM Pacific Daylight Time From: lil_sis_n_tx@yahoo.com (T) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

hi! i am a 40 yr old woman with rsd. i've had it for 3 1/2 yrs now. i have a morphine pump implant and a dual stimulator for my arms....tho i have rsd full body now. i had to take the oxycontin the last year before they put the pump in. it was the only thing that touched the pain. as far as taking it to get high.... that's a joke. i hated taking it and the side effects it caused. but i had no choice at the time. there r so many out there that need this drug. i've been lucky so far with the pump and i don't need it at this time. but i would hate to think that it was not available if i should need it. there are alot of people that were not as lucky as me. the pump does not help. to deny these people the medication they need to try to lead a half way pain-free life is like taking their last hope away. you and others need to try and imagine a life with burning pain 24/7. not only do we suffer, but our families do also.

thanks for taking the time to read
teresa moncier

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Received: from web9904.mail.yahoo.com (web9904.mail.yahoo.com [216.136.129.247]) by rly-zc05.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTTP; Mon, 21 May 2001 13:45:12 -0400
Message-ID: <20010521174511.67064.qmail@web9904.mail.yahoo.com>
Received: from [64.12.105.137] by web9904.mail.yahoo.com; Mon, 21 May 2001 10:45:11 PDT
Date: Mon, 21 May 2001 10:45:11 -0700 (PDT)
From: T <lil_sis_n_tx@yahoo.com>
Subject: rsds
To: jwbroatch@aol.com
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Subj:	Oxycontin comments
Date:	5/21/01 1:16:43 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From:	Ebbarger
To:	Jwbroatch

Hello, my name is Elizabeth Barger. I am a 42 y/o woman with Fibromyalgia, and chronic back pain due to perinueral cysts (cysts arising from the spinal cord covering) and annular tears of two spinal discs.

Although I modify my activities as much as possible to deal with these ailments (I've had to retire from my much loved field of nursing) and had back surgery, I still experience pain on a daily basis.

It is ONLY with the use of a wonderful medication called Oxycontin that I am able to have what remotely resembles a normal life. Although I could retire from my occupation, I couldn't retire from motherhood.

Before I was given Oxycontin, my pain was so much more that it is now. Since I had more pain, I had more difficulty sleeping. Since I had more difficulty sleeping, I had more pain and more difficulties concentrating. Now that I have Oxycontin (I take a low dosage of 10 mg. three times daily), my enjoyment of life is so much higher, you wouldn't believe it. I'm a much more active and better mother than I was before Oxycontin. I can do so much more and I can actually be a participant in life, rather than a spectator. (There are still many things I can't do.....but I'm happy to have even SOME things back!)

I too, have seen the reports on newsmagazine shows about the incidences of oxycontin abuse. How sad for those people who have a drug problem. Treating the abusers of their particular disease and prosecuting those unethical physicians who provide this medication to the abusers is the approach to take-- NOT making the medication unavailable!! Please don't let the people who abuse this drug (and many others, I'm sure) ruin the lives of those of us who've gotten our lives back because of a sustained release codeine medication called Oxycontin.

Thank You.

Subj: RSD
Date: 5/21/01 2:53:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: AngelEyes2410@webtv.net (Angel Eyes)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I have had RSD since August 2000. It has spread very rapidly in me and I am almost to stage 3. I believe there should be some extra control on oxycontin and other stronger medicine like it, but, I do not feel that we should be forced to live our lives in pain because some people choose to abuse medicine that we rely on to live our lives somewhat normally. I don't think that we should have to suffer. From personal experience I have realized that some doctors are afraid of prescribing oxycontin now. It is the only thing that I have found that takes the edge off of the pain that lives inside of me. I dont abuse it or take it to get "high" I take it so I can enjoy my family, daughter and friends and to feel partially normal again. Thank you, Liz

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*"I'm sending you a guardian angel to watch over you.
 She will keep
 you safe from harm where ever you go.
 As long as you keep her in
 your mind, heart, and soul."*

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This candle burns for the fighters of RSD, Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy
 Syndrome, like myself. Prayers be with us for a cure.

[src="http://fewrules.com/RequestLine/midi/windwing.mid"](http://fewrules.com/RequestLine/midi/windwing.mid)loop=-5>
[href="http://community.webtv.net/AngelEyes2410/Pleasevisitmypoeetry"](http://community.webtv.net/AngelEyes2410/Pleasevisitmypoeetry)>Please
 visit my poetry website by clickng here!!!!

Tuesday, May 22, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: Medications for Chronic Pain Date: 5/21/01 2:54:26 PM Pacific Daylight Time From: david6356@hotmail.com (David Bradford) To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Being a person who is affected by chronic pain every day of my life, I am greatly concerned about the limitations or proposed limitations of the medications to help lessen the effects of this pain. I suffer from Rheumatoid Arthritis, Chronic Regional Pain syndrome and Osteoarthritis. Without the medications I am currently taking I don't know how I would be able to face everyday life. I have been through five surgeries on my left knee in the last two years including a partial replacement and finally a total replacement. My doctors and myself do our very best to limit the amount of opiate based medications that I take and that is how it should be. I don't believe the government should have any say in how a patient is treated other than to make sure they are getting the best treatment possible. Perhaps the government should have a role in on-going testing of physicians and how they treat chronic pain however the "GOOD" physician should have the final say in the treatment of the patient. My father has suffered from Rheumatoid Arthritis for 20 some odd years and has never been on any pain medications stronger than Tylenol 3. His physician is now 80 years old and it is my belief that he has cause my father to have such a poor quality of life it is beyond belief. His pain level is always very high and he is now confined to a nursing home. I think if anything doctors should be scrutinized on a regular basis to determine their ability to still practice medicine.

Thank You and Best Regards,

David G. Bradford
 45 Barberry Drive
 Battle Creek, MI 49015
 (616) 965-4479

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Return-Path: <david6356@hotmail.com>
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 Received: from hotmail.com (f181.law8.hotmail.com [216.33.241.181]) by rly-xc02.mx.aol.com (v77_r1.36) with ESMTP; Mon, 21 May 2001 17:54:04 -0400
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
 Mon, 21 May 2001 14:54:03 -0700
 Received: from 24.4.252.141 by lw8fd.law8.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Mon, 21 May 2001 21:54:03 GMT
 X-Originating-IP: [24.4.252.141]
 From: "David Bradford" <david6356@hotmail.com>
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com
 Subject: Medications for Chronic Pain
 Date: Mon, 21 May 2001 17:54:03 -0400
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
 Message-ID: <F181ssGzeKkWGP6YDPH00004e9c@hotmail.com>
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Tuesday, May 22, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch