

This is from page 47 of the ALSDAC Transcript 1/30/02

I'm here today to present this committee with hundreds of personal communications from our members and others in the chronic pain community who are incredibly fearful that the FDA will restrict the availability of opioids or withdraw or restrict Oxycontin in the market. It's not a farfetched notion.

Thank you.

And I'm going to present this to the committee, and I hope you'll have time.

ACTING CHAIRMAN KATZ: Thank you, sir.

C-0000323

**Subj: Oxycontin**  
**Date: 11/24/01 6:33:04 PM Eastern Standard Time**  
**From: HStiefer@swbell.net (HStiefer)**  
**To: jwbroatch@aol.com**

This letter is in response to the possible limitation of Oxycontin as prescribed for pain relief. I developed Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy in May of 2000 after breaking my wrist while teaching kindergarten. I suffered unbearable pain and endured a lifetime of horror until Oxycontin was prescribed for me earlier this year. I am so thankful for the doctor and for the medicine. I can now sleep, enjoy my family again and since I will probably have to return to work soon, I may be able to work. If my access to Oxycontin were limited, my treatment options would not allow me to support myself. As it is, I may not be able to do so for very long since the Texas Worker's Comp Commission is denying me the right to full benefits until my doctor and I can achieve a better measure of pain and illness control. Please, please do all you can to prevent the people who misuse this drug from taking it away from those of us who need it simply to survive, to breathe, to live and work.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Holly Trantham

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <HStiefer@swbell.net>  
 Received: from rly-zd04.mx.aol.com (rly-zd04.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.228]) by air-zd03.mail.aol.com (v82.22) with ESMTTP id MAILINZD38-1124183304; Sat, 24 Nov 2001 18:33:04 -0500  
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 Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2001 17:27:59 -0600  
 From: HStiefer <HStiefer@swbell.net>  
 Subject: Oxycontin  
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
 Message-id: <3C002CFE.C3B21CF6@swbell.net>  
 MIME-version: 1.0  
 X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.72 [en]C-SBI-NC472 (Win95; U)  
 Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
 Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit  
 X-Accept-Language: en

Subj: <b>RSD letter of concern</b>
Date: 11/16/01 10:20:07 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: Poolshark8u
To: Jwbroatch

Subj: **RSD**  
Date: 11/15/01 2:48:23 PM Eastern Standard Time  
From: choirjanis@webtv.net (Janis)  
To: poolshark8u@aol.com

To Whom it may concern in all Congress,

Our Son is in so much pain with R.S.D. & I beg of you all to try & put yourself in his place with all his pain & constant pain that is crippling all over his body & he is only 29 years old. You have to help him & many other patients suffering everyday & also all the people suffering from Cancer! These wonderful people need Oxycontin to live with all their suffering. The bad people ruin it for these poor suffering people. For once; think of the medical end of it. Support the scientists & Doctors that are helping these innocent patients. The Labs need your support to help come up with medicine to cure these people. Their lives are in your hands. Please help our Son Don. Don't take this from him & all the other patients, if you have a conscience; you will pray to God for guidance & you will have saved their lives. Please don't take Oxycontin medicine that they take to help under their Doctor's care & professional guidance. I pray with all my heart that you will help our son & family's of RSD & Cancer. Please take this seriously. I'm thanking you for this! We love & care with all our hearts. Please help them!

Sincerely;

Don's Mother, Dad & Family

Janis

Subj: **Oxycontin**  
Date: 11/11/01 3:08:00 PM Eastern Standard Time  
From: andreaiae@yahoo.com  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
*Sent from the Internet (Details)*

In reference to Oxycontin being made unavailable... Please use this e-mail if possible to let our government officials know that I am against taking this drug off the market. I have had a hard time tolerating this drug so far, but it has had great benefit in the area of pain relief.

Recently, I had surgery on my fifth two of my right foot, and now over a month prior the toe still feels like "Franken-toe". Truly, it feels like someone else's toe has been put on my foot, and their toe was cold, painful, and fat. For a long time now autoimmunity has been questioned in my case, and just now I am coming into diagnoses that will give me the benefit of such drugs. The dosage is hard to get right for me because I am a very petite woman, but the relief from the pain has been the best I have ever experienced in so many areas of my body. I don't think Oxycontin is the answer to my complications, but it certainly can help me to have comfort at least intermittently while research progresses and better treatments are developed.

Currently, CRPS is highly suspected, and Scleroderma may be involved. I have been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia, IBS, and Vulvodynia. I have a consistently elevated Rh Factor, and display symptoms of SLE. So for me the science is very complicated, and sincerely with all my heart I am trying to be patient and understand that wisdom will prevail, but that can take time. Oxycontin may end up being one of the only drugs available that will make my wait bearable.

Sincerely,

Andrea Taylor  
458 Market St., #42  
Beaver, PA 15009

andreaiae@yahoo.com



**Subj:** oxycotin  
**Date:** 11/9/01 3:11:40 AM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Wrguitare  
**To:** Jwbroatch

They better not take this away....If one of the FDA people had RSD/CRPS they would understand why.

Wendy

<b>Subj: Oxycontin</b> <b>Date: 11/3/01 3:04:02 AM Eastern Standard Time</b> <b>From: goose02908@earthlink.net (Beverly Swain)</b> <b>Reply-to: goose02908@earthlink.net (Beverly Swain)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
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I am an RSD patient who was on Oxycontin for four years. When all the talk came out about what Oxycontin could do I was afraid. I tapered off Oxycontin. I told my physician when I was through. He thought that was a good idea since the drug is addictive and it would be one less drug I would be taken (Neurontin, Nortrptyline, Paxil). It wasn't long before the pain started up again. I spoke to the doctor about this and he said it was better to have a few days of pain than be taking another drug. Well, the "few days" turned into a daily thing and on my next visit I said I wanted them back. He has prescribed 1/2 of what I was taking. I am now on 10 mg twice a day. I still have pain, but it seems to be manageable for me.

**My believe is if you have pain Oxycontin is wonderful. I was trying other pain relievers, but never one with such relief. I believe that if you take it for a "high", then it is an addictive drug. Certainly after four years of being on the drug it would take more than a month to wean me off and there should have been some side effects. I had no side effects coming off the drug. It is wonderful to take something that actually stops the pain with no noticeable side effects! thanx!.....bev**

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <goose02908@earthlink.net>  
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 Message-ID: <000801c1643d\$c813ad80\$c481f4d1@j2u8c3>  
 Reply-To: "Beverly Swain" <goose02908@earthlink.net>  
 From: "Beverly Swain" <goose02908@earthlink.net>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: Oxycontin  
 Date: Sat, 3 Nov 2001 03:01:41 -0500  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
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 X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2600.0000  
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000

<b>Subj:</b> pain relief <b>Date:</b> 11/6/01 2:20:02 AM Eastern Standard Time <b>From:</b> reddraghian@msn.com (red draghain) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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PLEASE do not limit the accessibility this medication! I recieved SOOOO much relief from the medication during a very painful reconstructive surgery and subsequently RSD. I took myself off the medication because of the publicity and scare, yet have not recieved such pain relief since. I truly wish I could return to that pain relief, as I don't think I can survive for any great deal of time more if I can not find pain relief. Life is non-existant in such pain.yet how can I complian when there is so much suffering in the world.....again the oxycontin was a GREAT tool in elivating my pain, DON'T LIMIT THE ACCESS TO PAIN RELIEF FOR THOSE WHO ARE SUFFERING.

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Return-Path: <reddraghian@msn.com>  
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 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;  
 Mon, 5 Nov 2001 23:19:36 -0800  
 X-Originating-IP: [65.5.243.145]  
 From: "red draghain" <reddraghian@msn.com>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: pain relief  
 Date: Mon, 5 Nov 2001 23:16:27 -0700  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
 X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 7.00.0021.1700  
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Subj:	<b>Oxycontin</b>
Date:	11/6/01 2:57:14 AM Eastern Standard Time
From:	Osdelight
To:	Jwbroatch

Hi, my name is Sharon Nall. I just wanted to say that I used Oxycontin for over a year for pain resulting from many leg surgaries. I know doctors don't like prescribing Oxycontin because of the chance of abuse and addiction. I never abused it, and it saved my life as I felt many times if I didn't get relief from the constant pain I would have commited suicide. I have RSD now from the many surgaries I underwent. It is in the early stages, but it gets bad enough sometimes even now that medications like Lortab just don't provide enough relief. I would hate to see doctors or others restrict the use of Oxycontin. Paranoia on the part of the medical profession is NOT enough of an excuse to deny pain patients the use of good drugs like Oxycontin. Thanks. Sharon Nall

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 10/26/01 12:17:35 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: LadiR31455@wmconnect.com  
To: Jwbroatch

In 1997 I was diagnosed with rds in my right arm. I don't know where I would be today if my wonderful doctor, Dr. Edward Hargus did not take over my case. He immediately started treatment and put me on a regiment of pain killers. Oxycontin was one of these medicines. Dr. Hargus keeps a tight control over my monthly prescription. Oxycontin has controlled some of the pain to the point that I can at least cope with some of the pain. What will happen to me if Oxycontin is taken off the market? I cannot bear to think about it. Please let my Dr. continue to treat me. Thank you

Subj: (no subject)  
Date: 10/24/01 11:31:20 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: LAZYBFARMwilkes  
To: Jwbroatch

Please tell these people if it were not for opiod drugs like oxycotin that I have absolutely NO DOUBT that I would be dead right now! I would have shot myself if I had not had these drugs to help with my RSD. I have had this disease now 14 years and can cope ONLY with the help of these drugs. By the way, I have had 2 children and I do know what real pain is, but this RSD is the worse pain I have known. I wonder how the people making these decisions would like to have pain worse than childbirth EVERY DAY? I just pray they will have empathy.

Sincerely,  
G. Billings

<b>Subj:</b> RE: Oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 10/16/01 10:10:15 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> dnell16@millry.net (kitty home) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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Hello,

My name is Katherine Lathan, I am from Chatom AL. I suffer from RSD/CRPSII. I was given other drugs to try to kill the pain but ,nothing worked. Finally I was given Oxycontin 20mg. twice a day along with other drugs to help with the nerve pain. The dosage was up'd to 40mg three times but I still suffered ,a little less but I was in pain. I now have a morphine pump implant as well as other meds. Never once did I have that high that the news paper is talking about. Many sleepless nights came with that. I was on the oxycontin for about a year and a half . I was taken off cold Turkey to use the pump ,and I did not have the first minute of trouble. I don't believe you get hooked on pain meds like morphine, Demerol, oxycontin, Dilaudid ,etc. if you are in as much pain as we ,as well as many other chronic pain patients like cancer pts. There will always be a few that will abuse drugs. People abuse Valium every day. The statement of a drug addict even though clean is not a reliable source, if they were clean they wouldn't be taking pain killers. OXYCONTIN is what helped me the most . I know what would have become of me if it had not been for it. I would have committed suicide . To put restrictions on the way and the amount of opiates a Dr. can prescribe would mean certain suicide for many people. The ones who really need the drugs.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <dnell16@millry.net>  
Received: from rly-st01.mail.aol.com (rly-st01.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.134]) by air-yg02.mail.aol.com (v81.9) with ESMTP id MAILINYG21-1016221015; Tue, 16 Oct 2001 22:10:15 -0400  
Received: from rly-zd05.mx.aol.com (rly-zd05.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.229]) by rly-st01.mail.aol.com (8.8.8/8.8.8/AOL-5.0.0) with ESMTP id WAA12683 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Tue, 16 Oct 2001 22:04:22 -0400 (EDT)  
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Message-ID: <004701c156b8\$144f5840\$87f6a841@Millry.Net>  
From: "kitty home" <dnell16@millry.net>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: RE: Oxycontin  
Date: Tue, 16 Oct 2001 21:00:05 -0500  
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Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="-----=\_NextPart\_000\_003F\_01C15685.88198EE0"  
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<b>Subj: RSD Person</b> <b>Date: 10/12/01 9:29:04 PM Eastern Daylight Time</b> <b>From: vivian@cybertrails.com (Vivian )</b> <b>Reply-to: vivian@cybertrails.com (Vivian )</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
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Hello,

I'm 51 y/o woman who has had RSD for the past 13 years. Recent exacerbation very severe. Has lasted for the past 2 years. Disabled since Jan. 2001. Was taking Oxycontin for most of the year. Suddenly last month I became very ill.

Dr thought I was reacting to Oxycontin. Now on Duragesic Patch (Fentanyl). Also receive regular sympathetic blocks for pain. Oxyfast for breakthru pain. I am a Master's Level, Arizona Certified Professional Counselor. Learned all I could about RSD and Chronic Pain. It became my speciality for the past 12 years.

I have helped many hundreds of adults with chronic pain.

Recently have had many problems with physical therapy.

Think it has made me worse. Dr. no longer wants me to attend.

I would go totally insane without pain medication. Nerve pain is unbelievably intense. I would not want to live if I had to live with the level of pain I have without pain relieving medication. Friend has RSD throughout her body. Mine is in left leg/knee especially. She is on Methodone every 4 hours.

She too would not be able to manage without pain medication. Thank you for your help. Vivian

vivian@cybertrails.com 928-474-4764 903 Lovesprings Way  
 Payson, AZ. 85541

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <vivian@cybertrails.com>

Received: from rly-zd05.mx.aol.com (rly-zd05.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.229]) by air-zd04.mail.aol.com (v81.9) with ESMTP id MAILINZD43-1012212904; Fri, 12 Oct 2001 21:29:04 -0400

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Received: (qmail 6908 invoked from network); 13 Oct 2001 01:28:21 -0000

Received: from pay-r4-162-42-193-170.cybertrails.com (HELO oemcomputer) ([162.42.193.170]) (envelope-sender <vivian@cybertrails.com>)

by server1.front (qmail-ldap-1.03) with SMTP

for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; 13 Oct 2001 01:28:21 -0000

Message-ID: <000a01c15386\$3f746400\$aac12aa2@oemcomputer>

Reply-To: "Vivian " <vivian@cybertrails.com>

From: "Vivian " <vivian@cybertrails.com>

To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>

Subject: RSD Person

Date: Fri, 12 Oct 2001 18:27:33 -0700

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
 boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0007\_01C1534B.8F52B7A0"

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X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400

X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400



Subj:	<b>rsd &amp; Oxycofntin</b>
Date:	10/22/01 11:49:41 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	Poolshark8u
To:	Jwbroatch

I have been dealing with Rsd since 1997 after about a year and a half of try all sorts of meds. which did not work I tried oxycontin which became my miracale drug it was the first med. to even phase my pain and help controll my pain seizures. Although it is addictive it was the only med. to ever work. It did not stop the pain completely but gave me enough relief to at least get out of bed and move around. Before starting Oxycontin just the littlest movement would send me into extreme pain and severe muscle spazams which I call pain seizures. I could not even be on the computer for ten min. or I would be bed ridden in extreme pain for at least 8 hrs. With Oxycontin I am able to use a computer for 3-5 hrs. before it becomes to painful, somtimes even less depending on the day and what I did that day. Rsd started in my left hand & wrist and progress to infect both arms, head, back, chest and my right leg. Now there is signs that it is moving into my left leg. After just standing for a hour my feet start burning real bad and I have to sit down but not for to long cause I lose circulation in different paarts of my body depending what position I am in. If the goverment restricts use of Oxycontin they are signing a suicide letter for many of rsd suffers. With out oxycontin or other meds more powerful than morphine I would have commited suicide the the pain levels. Cause of RSD I have signed a DNR order which will not change until my pain is reduced to a level that I can bare. I am currently taking 320mgs. every 12hrs of Oxycontin plus 2 OxyIR every 6-12 hrs for breakthrough pain, 1 (2mg.) clonazapam every 12hrs., 1 (350) soma every 6 hrs., procardia mainly in the winter time for loss of circulation, & Imtrex for my cluster headaches due to the rsd in my head. This is a regiment of meds that no one should have to take but with out I am a prisoner in my own body & would be better of dead without these meds. If the goverment ristricts the use of Oxycontin and other meds similiar I hope they are infected with rsd cause they would quickly change there minds!!!!!!!!!!!! Ther is NO WORDS to describe the level of PAIN that RSD suffers go through. I was asked to describe the paibn for SSI and to this day I still can not figure out a way to desdcibe it the only way is to be stricтен with rsd to know how painful it is. The only words I can use is I rather be DEAD than suffer the pain of RSD without the use of powerful narcotics such as Oxycontin. The risks out way the the drawbacks of Oxycontin by far!!!!!!!!!!!! If they restrict the use of oxycontin or other painkillers they just signed my DEATH CERTIFICATE

Sincerely,

<b>Subj:</b> Oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 10/21/01 2:42:35 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> heatherj@ecenet.com (Heather) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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My name is Heather Johnson and am a current user of oxycontin. I am disabled due to a motorcycle accident causing sever left leg damage, and then the on going undiagnosed pain I have in my right arm that starts from the lower right neck going into a shooting, shocking uncontrollable pain. It stems all the way down into my hand which turns purplish blue and feel tingly... But so terribly awful pain, it knocks you to your knees in screaming pain. Now stemming of into my left hand and upwards to my elbow, and very little in my shoulder. The only thing I can say is I was on vicodin for the severity of my leg pain and damage, and then my arm they switched my to the oxycontin....which gives me a 1/4 chance to have a somewhat near normal day. Without the oxycontin to help the pain...but never does it even come close to relieving it even 1/2 way now....I know for a fact I would rather die at my young age, 28! I have a very sound mind, wonderful son, and great fiance. I live honestly day to day...hour by hour....knowing every second counts that the pain is relieved a hair...but for how long? I know it is getting worse, and I know they want me off this narcotic that only helps me survive every day! And if and when they do, I can only say no matter what, I cannot deal with THAT much pain!!!!!! Its too awful.

Please leave what little help the oxycontin gives the chance to let people like me live as close to a normal life as possible, dont take it away, UNTIL you find a cure, or pain help other than this drug. I am sure anyone feeling this type of pain would give anything in the world to live a 1/2 pain free day without any narcotic assistance!!

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <heatherj@ecenet.com>  
Received: from rly-ye01.mail.aol.com (rly-ye01.mail.aol.com [172.18.151.198]) by air-ye02.mail.aol.com (v81.9) with ESMTP id MAILINYE29-1021144235; Sun, 21 Oct 2001 14:42:35 -0400  
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by seagull.cpinternet.com (8.9.2/8.9.2) with ESMTP id NAA14159  
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sun, 21 Oct 2001 13:42:15 -0500 (CDT)  
Message-ID: <3B687D41.5D11E5A8@ecenet.com>  
Date: Wed, 01 Aug 2001 17:05:55 -0500  
From: Heather <heatherj@ecenet.com>  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.04 [en] (Win95; U)  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
Subject: Oxycontin  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<b>Subj: Oxycontin Controversy</b> <b>Date: 10/18/01 5:57:14 PM Eastern Daylight Time</b> <b>From: camaple@msn.com (CHERYL MAPLE)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
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Hi my name is Cheryl A. Maple.

I have the unfortunate luck to have developed RSD in my right shoulder/arm in December 30, 1996 (that has spread to my left shoulder/arm to my hands. I also am having a lot of the similar pain symptoms in both my legs now after a simple injury of dragging 2 boxes down to get a file for my boss-who laid me off less than a year later after I was injured). I use oxycontin 40 mg. 4x/d(long term pain relief for chronic pain). It is one of the few drugs, that if I take it exactly every 6 hours with Darvocet 100mg. (to help me with the immediate pain stabbing cycles), it allows me to get enough relief to be able to get up out of bed and function at all. I do not have much of a life at this point, because of the pain cycles and the inactivity, which has made me extremely weak. Without oxycontin, I would be in constant pain and would have 6-8 pain cycles of pain vs. the 3-4 pain cycles I have a day. It is an important drug for us patients who have developed the condition known as Reflex Sympathetic Nerve Dystrophy (RSD). Thank you.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <camaple@msn.com>  
 Received: from rly-za01.mail.aol.com (rly-za01.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.97]) by air-za01.mail.aol.com (v81.9) with ESMTTP id MAILINZA110-1018175714; Thu, 18 Oct 2001 17:57:14 -0400  
 Received: from hotmail.com (oe134.pav0.hotmail.com [64.4.33.127]) by rly-za01.mx.aol.com (v80.21) with ESMTTP id MAILRELAYINZA13-1018175704; Thu, 18 Oct 2001 17:57:04 -0400  
 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;  
 Thu, 18 Oct 2001 14:56:47 -0700  
 X-Originating-IP: [63.44.132.85]  
 From: "CHERYL MAPLE" <camaple@msn.com>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: Oxycontin Controversy  
 Date: Thu, 18 Oct 2001 16:58:56 -0500  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
 X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 7.00.0021.1700  
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Subj: **OXYCONTIN**  
Date: 10/16/01 6:41:53 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: Sajone819  
To: Jwbroatch  
CC: Sajone819

TO WHOMEVER,

RE: OXYCONTIN FOR R.S.D.S OR C.R.P.S.

MY ANSWER: SEND THIS TO THE COMMITTEE, MY NAME IS SALLY ANN JONES HUNTER. I LIVE IN MCKINNEY, NOW. I AM AN R.S.D.S. SUFFERER. MY HOME IS 972-562-8832, HOME NUMBER, 972-614-8040 AND CELLULAR, 972-365-4071.

IF IT WERE NOT FOR OXYCONTIN IN THOSE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF BEING DIAGNOSED, I WOULD NOT BE HERE TODAY.

IT HELPED.

LIMIT IT, AND THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE IT OR GET IT, WILL BE DOING AN INJUSTICE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT, DESPARATELY NEED IT.

I AM AN R.N. WITH BACKGROUND IN MEDICATION. (OVER 10 YEARS)

IF THIS COMMITTEE THINKS, "THEY (THE PAIN SUFFERER) WILL GET HOOKED ON IT", "IT COSTS TOO MUCH", "THE PERSON IS MEDICATION SEEKING", AND LIMITS THOSE WONDERFUL DOCS WHO UNDERSTAND THIS TYPE OF CHRONIC PAIN AND DISORDER OF R.S.D.S. OR C.R.P.S, NEED TO GET THIS SYNDROME FOR ONE HOUR AND SEE THE RELIEF OF PAIN THIS WONDER OF MODERN MEDICINE CAN DO.

I, MYSELF, DO NOT LIKE CONTROLLED INSURANCE, CONTROLLED MEDS, IN OTHER WORDS, HEALTHY PEOPLE TRYING TO SAVE A BUCK HERE AND THERE FOR THE SAKE OF \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ AND THE INSURANCE BUSINESS. I AM STRUGGLING WITH \$\$\$\$\$\$ MYSELF. I AM DISABLED. SEEING EACH YEAR THE CHANGES MY INSURANCE IS DOING IN THE COST, TELLING ME, BECAUSE THIS "MED" IS CHEAPER, THIS IS THE ONE YOU CAN HAVE AT YOUR CO-PAY, THE OTHER(MED), YOU WILL HAVE TO PAY AT REGULAR PRICE, IT COSTS MUCH MORE. (EVEN THOUGH THAT IS WHAT THE DOC SAYS TAKE AND ITS THE ONLY ONE THAT DOES NOT GIVE YOU SIDE AFFECTS AND RELIEVES THE PAIN.

MR. BROATCH, MY SUPPORT IS FOR OXYCONTIN. %100%

SALLY A.J. HUNTER

Subj:	<b>Oxycontin Controversy</b>
Date:	10/13/01 10:51:32 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	JDnDJ1
To:	Jwbroatch

Hello,

My name is Danielle Hiltner and I have been fighting RSD for 3 years. Mine is in my Rt. upper extremity as a result of being kicked in the neck injuring the brachial plexus while caring for a psychotic client as a RN. I have take Oxycontin before and for me it did not work. The side effects were too much as I have low tolerance to most narcotics. However, I have many friends battling RSD that rely on Oxycontin for pain relief. They take it as prescribed both in dosage and in route.

While I understand some people have abused this medication and there have even been some fatalities from it is unjust to take it away from those who use it properly. I do not believe taking off the market will keep those who abuse it from continuing to do so. There are numerous drugs that are illegal and still those who want to abuse them do.

I for one do not care for narcotics for myself. As I stated previously I worked in the Psychiatric setting before my career was destroyed by RSD. However, RSD is so painful at times I must take something. I have a SCS and this has allowed me to take less medication. I take Methadone 10mgs qid. However, I try not to take it any more than I absolutely have to, to be able to function and care for my husband and children. If they take Oxycontin off the market because some people abuse it then one day they may come to take my Methadone. It is the only narcotic that helps me. Even with it my pain level is an average of a 6 on a 1-10 scale.

Taking this medication or any other away because of a few person's poor judgment is not only wrong it is unethical. No person should have to live in more pain if there is a way to help them. I have had 2 children, various surgeries, over 50 stitches to my scalp when I was 4 years old after an attack from a German shepherd, and I have broken 2 bones. None of these cause as much pain as what I feel on a regular basis from the RSD. I am not asking for sympathy for RSDer's I am asking for empathy. RSD does not discriminate and one day it could be someone that those of you making this decision love or it could be one of you. If it was your child, mother, spouse, or best friend you would want them allowed as much pain relief as possible. Please listen to your hearts and let God guide you to the right decision.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Hiltner

**Subj:**  
**Date:** 10/9/01 9:01:28 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** akchevy@msn.com (akchevy)  
**To:** jwbroatch@aol.com  
**CC:** AKChevy@msn.com

i have been suffering from rsd for 4 years now and i have taken a number of pain medications and oxycontin is the one drug that has helped with my pain. it not only helps with the pain but i don't have as many side effects from this drug. i just don't understand why this drug is so much more expensive than the other pain medications i have been on. my last prescription was over \$400.00 for one month. i have heard so much about this drug on the news lately, they are saying so many people are dying from it but these are people who are abusing the drug, i am praying they do not take this medication off the market because it helps me so much.

----- Headers -----

**Return-Path:** <akchevy@msn.com>  
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 Tue, 9 Oct 2001 05:59:51 -0700  
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**From:** "akchevy" <akchevy@msn.com>  
**To:** <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
**Cc:** <AKChevy@msn.com>  
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Subj: **Oxycontin**  
Date: 10/9/01 6:41:12 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: Lapretomba  
To: Jwbroatch

Please do not change criteria for this drug, it is the only medication we have left for our daughter.

Estelle Palmisano

**Subj:** chronic pain sufferer  
**Date:** 10/8/01 4:41:26 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** hikemeidi@hotmail.com (hikemeidi schroeder)  
**To:** jwbroatch@aol.com  
**CC:** hikemeidi@Hotmail.com

Whom this may concern. I am new to the web and I am not certain what my goal is to e-mail this site, but I too suffer from F.M. I have been discriminated against, stereotyped and shunned, by many of doctors, family and friends. After suffering for four years and going from one doctor to another with many afflictions that ranged from severe pain in my back, hips and neck to having hypersensitivity to any touch of certain parts of my skin, such as trochanter bursitis that felt like fire traveling on the distal part of my thigh, Tired oh so tired. Run up a flight of stairs just like I've always been able to do, getting to the top of the staircase and feeling like I just hauled 500 pound weights on my shoulders and legs. Talk about burning muscles. I felt like I was constantly "working out" in a gym, just trying to get out of bed in the mornings. And sleep what's that. ? Toss, turn, toss, turn, kick those legs and slap those feet on the mattress. Fall asleep about 4a.m sleep until noon, wake up totally exhausted. I've heard every excuse from every doctor ranging from it's all in your head to you'll need a shot of cortisone in your labia of your genitals!!! Four years of anti inflammatories that ripped holes in my stomach and caused anemia.

taking massive loads of benadryl just to get some rest., only to find myself in the twilight zone, dried up and exhausted the next afternoon, not morning because I still didn't fall asleep until four a.m. How about, "Heres some vicodin for your chronic pain" ten, yes ten. Hey these work, I can get up in the morning I can feed my son breakfast, give him a bath and then passout from severe pain 4 hours later., oh I. better take some more of that vicodin. Back to see the doctor three days later, please will you order me some more vicodin, it really helps? " I think this is all in your head, I think you just want narcotics, maybe you need treatment." YES I DO, !! I NEED TREATMENT FOR MY CHRONIC PAIN, I NEED SOMEONE TO FIGURE OUT WHATS GOING ON WITH ME. I AM IN PAIN!!! I am seen in the clinic for 5 minutes by a physician, who makes me fill out an extensive history and information and never takes one look at it, but can make sure my insurance card is copied and my I.D is also, so I can be billed, only to be told I have a drug problem! Well needless to say four years of this misery passes and I finally find a Doctor who listens to me for even more than five minutes, works with me and finally diagnosis me with fibromyalsia. She[my savior next to Christ, and M.D.] sends me to a rheumatologist for confirmation of the diagnosis. Finally, I get help. I did become addicted to drugs like vicodin, because my pain wasn't being managed. I was to the brink of suicide. The pain and the mismanagement of it had become so bad that suicide was looking very good to me.. My wonderful doctor put me on oxycontin and it has saved my life. along with therapy, counseling, and water exercise I can now at least perform the activities it takes for daily living. I can get up and down those stairs, I can unload the dishwasher [usually have to rest afterwards] I can't manage a steady job right now, but my husband takes good care of me. Oxycontin helps to manage my pain. I am so sorry that people out there are abusing it and doing illegal things that they do, but my Good Lord it has restored my life. I could just cry to even think that my life may have to return to living and trying to cope with chronic pain on a daily basis. The selfishness of the disease of addiction and the greed of those who practice illicit conduct in the long run will be taking away something that has helped me from committing suicide. This is just my story, probably like many of the stories of people like myself. I hope if there is anyway or any thing I can do to help, someone out there will let me know. My name is Heidi. I am 37 years old, I am a practical nurse, but not practicing. Please let me know what I can do to help. Thank you

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----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <hikemeidi@hotmail.com>  
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 Mon, 8 Oct 2001 01:41:16 -0700



<b>Subj:</b> The blessing of oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 10/3/01 3:16:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> hoog@foxinternet.net (Hoog Family) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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I take 20mg of Oxycontin a day for Fibromyalgia Pain and Myofacial Pain. I also take Ultram, Roxicet and Vioxx, which did not work well without the Oxycontin.

I was living in such severe pain that it was unbearable. The oxycontin has enabled me to have a life of "gentle mobility" in that I can now walk a block and can cut my rose blossoms.

It has been a blessing to me and reduced my pain level from 9/10 to 4 (except for periods of breakthrough pain which nothing touches).

Diane Harman-Hoog  
Mukilteo WA

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <hoog@foxinternet.net>  
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Message-ID: <005301c14c3e\$ba9206a0\$3ece3ad8@hoog>  
From: "Hoog Family" <hoog@foxinternet.net>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: The blessing of oxycontin  
Date: Wed, 3 Oct 2001 12:08:03 -0700  
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boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0050\_01C14C04.0D9C1EC0"  
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X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4807.1700

<b>Subj:</b> RSD & Oxy-contin <b>Date:</b> 10/2/01 4:24:11 AM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> THANNERS@neo.rr.com (TRUDY HANNERS) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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I was diagnosed with RSD in December of 1999 and have went through all the spinal blocks and treatments offered and have been prescribed Oxy-Contin. I started out taking the 40 mg. and after 3 months my RSD started advancing into worse stages and my doctor them had to put me on the 80 mg tablet. I now do feel ALOT more relief then before. I am not an abuser of any kind, but very grateful that there is a drug on the market today that will provide some kind of pain relief from this crippling disorder that I call " Hell in my left leg".

Thank You,  
Sincerely,  
James.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <THANNERS@neo.rr.com>  
Received: from rly-xc01.mx.aol.com (rly-xc01.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.134]) by air-xc02.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINXC28-1002042411; Tue, 02 Oct 2001 04:24:11 2000  
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From: "TRUDY HANNERS" <THANNERS@neo.rr.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: RSD & Oxy-contin  
Date: Tue, 2 Oct 2001 04:22:46 -0700  
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X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4522.1200  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

Subj: oxtcontion  
Date: 9/29/01 11:28:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: camerotown@lvcta.com (spoiled brats)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Hi my name is tami johnson i am on oxycon. please do not take this off i know it is too late but if my letter will help please still submit. i have been on it for a year now for rsd, i have 70% disability from this awful disease. i hope they don't take it away i will die i know i went one time without it one night well i lasted 3 hrs that night and wound up in er until they gave me some and then sent me home in stabile condition. so please help us and please keep me updated on this oh my god i will die if they take it off, i hope the good lord hears this call and lets these people see we need all the help we can get. i know i do memory loss and other things is a pain. god bless you for your help and keep me posted thanks tami johnson camerotown@lvcta.com

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <camerotown@lvcta.com>  
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From: "spoiled brats" <camerotown@lvcta.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
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X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

<b>Subj:</b> Oploid usage <b>Date:</b> 9/28/01 2:14:48 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> betty.griffin@emich.edu (Betty Griffin) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Hello,

I have RSD and it boards between stage I and II, leaning more towards stage II. I am also hypersensitive to all medications, in fact I do not like to take them because of the side effects. In fact I am a challenge to the Doctors because of my uniqueness. Regardless in order to control the pain I have no other choice, but to take medications which make the pain tolerable. In fact this is the only way that I am able to have a life (if you want to call it that). I think that sometimes people need to take a step back and imagine what it would be like if you were in the other persons shoes. Unable to control the pain and how the pain can come and go. Never knowing when the pain will intensify to an unbearable condition and the only thing that helps is the Doctor prescribed oploid medication. People really need to look at the overall picture before they make split second decisions, which will affect several people as to the quality of their life. I am sure that none of us asked to get this syndrome it just happened. Now we have to deal with this the rest of our life, as well as we can. Hopefully the decisions will not be based on drug addicts and thief's. I hope that the decision is based on the good that the drug can do to help the people in need of it.

Betty Griffin

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <betty.griffin@emich.edu>  
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 Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2001 14:10:26 -0400  
 From: Betty Griffin <betty.griffin@emich.edu>  
 Subject: Oploid usage  
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
 Message-id: <3BB4BD12.173AA2AC@emich.edu>  
 MIME-version: 1.0  
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 X-Accept-Language: en

<b>Subj:</b> oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 9/28/01 10:59:01 AM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> dee@hotmail.com (dee) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com <b>CC:</b> udderhalf@hotmail.com
--

If it were not for oxycontin, I would find it hard to get through my day. I do not over use the drug. You cannot get addicted if you are in real pain. I know this to be true. I see my doctor every month and only get whats needed. We have tried other things, like 9 week of therapy, 18 blocks just to find out none of it works. I made the mistake of hiring a lawyer who knew nothing about rsd i got 8,000 he got 4,000 and I was told in a sence I was crazy. Well going through 18 blocks is crazy if you do not have rsd! I had surgery at a hospital were I worked, I had an IV put in my wrist and it hurt I screamed pull it out! The rest is history. I do need this med or you then can call me crazy. For I will have no pain control. Please do not let this happen. If you do not have rsd you cannot know what this pain is, so why would you try and stop it. I could not even write this letter without my pain control. P.S. I just found out 2 weeks ago I have now got bone loss. To me rsd stands for Really Sad Disability cause not many people understand. I could go on about the skin break outs but I will end it here....Denise McGowan

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <udderhalf@hotmail.com>  
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 Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;  
 Fri, 28 Sep 2001 07:58:48 -0700  
 X-Originating-IP: [24.167.243.145]  
 From: "dee" <dee@hotmail.com>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Cc: <udderhalf@hotmail.com>  
 Subject: oxycontin  
 Date: Fri, 28 Sep 2001 09:46:38 -0500  
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Subj: <b>RSDS-oxycontin</b>
Date: 9/6/01 6:27:22 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From:
To:

Hi - My name is Candi Smith. I have had RSD for 12 yrs and have it in 3 extremities, all as a result from trauma injury initially. Anyway, I also have a history of abdominal adhesions thanks to a old surgeon in 1967, who did an "exploratory appendectomy" on me in Sioux City, Iowa and as he told my father "I touched everything in there & looked it over good". So, as I have been told over the years, where-ever he touched, pushed & pulled on intestines, etc. he started the abdominal adhesion scar tissues to form. Initially, in 1981, 1982 the adhesions were released by laproscopy. In 1988 & 1995, abdominal surgery was done due to the severity of the pain. In 1996, I was again passing out from the pain severity, just like in 1995. However, I had gotten RSD in 1/1989 MVA. All tests were coming back normal, so the surgeon in 1996 (ours was out of town) would not listen to my husband when he told him my history of abdominal adhesions & it was Labor Day wkend, made me lay there 3 days in total pain, STOPPED MY RSD MEDS, wrote "POSSIBLE OXYCODONE HABIT" !Finally, agreed to do a cat scan which my husband told him he would have to do as it was the only test that would show & historically always only showed a blocked intestine. I had over two (2) feet of gangrenous small intestine blocked by a abdominal adhesion that disintegrated during surgery in his hands. This doctor NEVER restarted my RSD meds. Approx. 3 days or so after surgery, I was so cold over all body temp. wise, that I was asking for hot water bottles, I was freezing slowly & finally I was alert enough to call my RSD doctor, she made an emergency visit and within 24 hrs, my RSD was beginning to come under control after she reamed a surgeon out a gave him a lesson on RSD. So needless to say, "this doctor thought I was overdosed on oxycodone where if he had just talked to my RSD doctor - she wished I would have taken more for the pain, because I never liked taking drugs! I use biofeedback & other methods, still do & but have had to definitely increase my medication usage these past years with the last RSD trauma injury to the right leg. So, with instances like this and this was in 1995, and with the leftist media wanting to take over our wonderful healthcare system in this country, they will do everything they can to blow stories like mine out of proportion and take it out of context, just to meet their end - to do away with a narcotic that helps people like me. I not only use oxycontin now, I also use oxycodone IR, as well. So they would hurt me two-fold. - long slow release and immediate release for pain control.

Sincerely,

Candi Smith C-R SHAFTS@aol.com

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 9/27/01 10:17:56 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: Magner675  
To: Jwbroatch

I have been on this medication now for about 1 and half years. I have progressed up to 80mg -- 2 tabs every 8 hours. Occasionally I will miss a dose and believe me I can tell. I become unable to walk anywhere without extreme difficulty and pain. I have to totally revert back to using a cane for even minimal walking around the house. My RSD is so bad that I am now considered permanently disabled. Please impress upon these people that **THEY CAN NOT TAKE AWAY** a drug that is so useful just because there are some people out there that abuse it.

People for centuries have abused drugs. This is not a new concept and understanding people, it probably will never change. The people that are responsible such as myself **SHOULD NOT BE PENALIZED**.

Thank you for you help in this matter.  
Best of Luck in communicating with this Bureau

Sue Magner

<b>Subj:</b> RE: OXYCOTIN <b>Date:</b> 9/26/01 12:55:09 AM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> LCTC444@ADELPHIA.NET (LISA CLARK) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
---

I'M SENDING YOU THIS E-MAIL BECAUSE OF THE OXYCOTIN SCARE.  
I HAVE HAD RSD FOR TWO YEARS NOW AND HAVE HAD PROCEDURE AFTER PROCEDURE.  
THE ONLY THING THAT HAS BEEN HELPING ME WITH MY PAIN IS MY OXYCOTIN IT REALLY DOES  
EASE THE TERRIBLE PAIN I'M IN !!!  
PLEASE GOD DON'T TAKE AWAY THE ONLY THING THAT HELPS ME GET THROUGH THE DAY/  
I HAVE BEEN HAVING A LOT OF PROBLEMS MY HUSBAND LEFT ME AND OUR 3 KIDS BECAUSE I'M  
SICK  
I HOPE THE OTHER PEOPLE CAN STILL GET THE MEDICINE THAT REALLY WORKS.  
DON'T TAKE AWAY THE OXYCOTIN!!!!!!  
THANKS  
MRS. LISA CLARK

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <LCTC444@ADELPHIA.NET>  
Received: from rly-yc02.mx.aol.com (rly-yc02.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.34]) by air-yc01.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILNYC12-0926005509; Wed, 26 Sep 2001 00:55:09 -0400  
Received: from smtprelay2.adelphia.net (smtprelay2.adelphia.net [64.8.25.7]) by rly-yc02.mx.aol.com (v80.21) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINYC29-0926005505; Wed, 26 Sep 2001 00:55:05 -0400  
Received: from lisa ([24.50.16.173]) by smtprelay2.adelphia.net (Netscape Messaging Server 4.15) with SMTP id GK971300.QOO for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Wed, 26 Sep 2001 00:55:51 -0400  
Message-ID: <000801c14660\$c79f5fc0\$ad103218@pbc.adelphia.net>  
From: "LISA CLARK" <LCTC444@ADELPHIA.NET>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: RE: OXYCOTIN  
Date: Wed, 26 Sep 2001 00:56:36 -0700  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0005\_01C14626.17AE8760"  
X-Priority: 3  
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X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2600.0000  
Disposition-Notification-To: "LISA CLARK" <LCTC444@ADELPHIA.NET>  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000



Subj:	<b>opiate analgesics</b>
Date:	9/25/01 11:34:43 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	Janetstanford
To:	Jwbroatch

I use to take oxycontin until it was not strong enough or the dose was too much for my system. This should not be recalled just because some people are potential for drug abuse. My attorney was mentioning someone she was representing, but that person would probably abused what ever was given to her as a pain killer, not just oxycontin. I mentioned I had taken this and wat a to do was made over this. I just looked at her and said, without this drug i could have been facing a lot worse. I now take kadian which is much stronger. Perople that are in constant and chronic pain need understanding not some on the bandwagon just to make a few dollars because some people cannot tolerate certain drugs. The doctor has to know his or her patient when prescribing these drugs. Also, the patient should tell the doctor any history with problems with rugs and addition. People with RSDSA have mile to sever chronic pain, and need the opiate analgesics available for treatment.....

Subj:	<b>Oxycontin</b>
Date:	9/25/01 12:57:59 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	Marjann26
To:	Jwbroatch

I am a 52 year old woman who has been suffering with RA and Fibromyalgia since a child. I have been in NONSTOP CONSTANT PAIN since my early 20's causing me to have to stop working and receive Social Security Disability since then.

OXYCONTIN has been the ONLY drug that takes the edge off my pain. Without it, I would not be able to have any quality of life. Without OXYCONTIN, I wouldn't be able to get out of bed.

PLEASE don't let me fall victim to the few people who have illegally and improperly taken this drug for recreational use!!!!!!!!!!!!

OXYCONTIN is my Miracle Drug.

18894021

<b>Subj:</b> oxycontin
<b>Date:</b> 9/22/01 11:18:05 PM Eastern Daylight Time
<b>From:</b> sevans412
<b>To:</b> Jwbroatch

I just have found this website AND I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT OXYCONTIN IS THE ONLY THING THAT HAS HELPED ME.I HAVE FM.AND DEGEN DISC.MY JOINTS HURT SO BAD BEFORE I THOUGH MY LIFE WAS OVER.I AM 42 YEARS OLD.BUT SOMETIMES THE PAIN MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE JUST REALLY GOING TO DIED.SINCE I HAVE BEEN TAKEING THE OXYCONTIN IT HAS HELPED MY PAIN MORE THAN THE SHOTS THAT I GOT IN MY BACK OR ANY OF THE OTHER PAIN MEDS I WAS ON WITH OXYCONTIN I DON T HAVE ANY OF THE SIDE EFFECTS I HAD WITH THE OTHER PAIN MEDS I WAS FALLING ASLEEP WHILE I WAS TALKING TO SOMEONE ARE I WOULD FOR GET THAT I PUT WATER ON TO BOIL AND BURN THE POT UP.I AM ASKING YOU TO PLEASE SEND THIS TO F.D.A.OR WHO EVER IT SHOULD GO TO.BECAUSE I JUST CAN.T MAKE IT WITHOUT THE OXYCONTIN ITS THE ONLY THING THAT STOPS MY BONE PAIN AND BELIEVE ME I HAVE TOOK ALL KINDS OF OTHER MEDS. I HAVE TRIED EVER THING SORRY THIS WAS SO LONG I JUST WANT TO MAKE THE FDA UNDERSTAND STOP THE NUT DRS.THAT ARE ONLY GIVING IT OUT JUST FOR THE MONEY.

Subj:	<b>RSD and Oxycontin</b>
Date:	9/19/01 3:48:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	Baldwinko
To:	Jwbroatch

Hello, my name is Katherine and I would like to tell you about how Oxycontin has helped me. When I first went to see my doctor about the symptoms I was having (*especially the burning pain*), I had never heard of RSD. I got it as a result of a car accident. I was an active adult, full of life, goals and very good health. I would only visit my doctor for routine checkups and acne problems. Today I am on Neurontin 3600 Mg per day. I also take Naproxen 500 Mg at least 3 times per day as needed, Amitriptyline between 75 to 150 MG when needed for sleep. This helps the pain somewhat. I have trouble sleeping. I also had the *BLOCKS* that were of no help to my agonies. I have been on Oxycontin 20MG per day and I am finding that this helps the pain more than any other drug has helped me. I avoided this drug for a long time because of the horror stories. I had trouble functioning, getting out of bed and doing daily routine activities. Today, because of Oxycontin I can do some of the activities I did when I was in good health. I feel a bit normal health wise and have continued my education. I do not want to be this way for the rest of my life and I wish there was a cure for RSD. I would like to go back to work someday. I am not happy to be on ANY KIND of medication, and sometimes I fear what all this medication will do to my organs.

I did not have trouble getting Social Security Disability. I had more trouble with my own LTD (CIGNA), than with anyone else. Until they did their own independent evaluation, did they, (CIGNA), believe me that I had RSD.

Thank you for reading my letter  
Katherine Baldwin

<b>Subj:</b> RSD <b>Date:</b> 9/18/01 7:09:42 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> mpdow@juno.com (michele A Downey) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
---

To whom it may concern,

I was in a car accident in June of 2000, I damaged disks in my neck, pinched my ulnar nerve in my elbow and smashed my carpal tunnel. I most recently had the pinched Ulnar nerve and carpal tunnel surgery performed in August. Three weeks after my surgery I developed RSD in the right arm that was operated on. The pain was unlike anything I had ever experienced. I have never taken Oxycontin before my Pacific Pain Medicine Doctor prescribed it to me. It has been the only relief I have had in days. I am scheduled for 5 block injections followed by physical therapy. I can't even imagine how I would cope if I did not have Oxycontin!  
Michele Downey

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <mpdow@juno.com>  
Received: from rly-yb01.mx.aol.com (rly-yb01.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.1]) by air-yb05.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYB51-0918190942; Tue, 18 Sep 2001 19:09:42 -0400  
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Received: from cookie.juno.com by cookie.juno.com for <"bNGu77pHYEEspZ7nSw4asSfdmxKbtIXYm7PcZ9qqf6EmTbX7YmY0dA==">  
Received: (from mpdow@juno.com) by m7.jersey.juno.com (queuemail) id GFNGCDYD; Tue, 18 Sep 2001 19:09:13 EDT  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
Date: Tue, 18 Sep 2001 16:05:10 -0700  
Subject: RSD  
Message-ID: <20010918.160510.-3703117.0.mpdow@juno.com>  
X-Mailer: Juno 5.0.33  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
X-Juno-Line-Breaks: 0,10  
From: michele A Downey <mpdow@juno.com>

Subj: **RSD and Oxycontin**  
Date: 9/17/01 1:23:48 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: Dlex22  
To: Jwbroatch

I was diagnosed with RSD in the later stages and there is not much the doctors can do to help. I have had all the blocks, anticonvulsives, tens, etc., nothing really helped. I was started on Oxycontin slowly, it did give some relief. My dose has been increased as well as having lorcet for break through. This medication has helped me function a bit more, without it I would be curled up, in bed and unable to do anything. Also to be noted, when you are in such severe pain, you completely shut down. You don't want anyone around you, don't want to be touched. Depression sets in and the cycle only worsens.

Without Oxycontin I would not leave my house, or complete even minor tasks. My believe is that used properly, regulated by your physician and ongoing care, this is a safe drug to use for treatment. Too many people are afraid this is an addicting drug. Actually, taking too much of this medicine makes you sick and feel terrible. No one will do that if they truly need it for pain relief, as they have other issues to deal with than just getting more drugs.

Help people with pain control. Unless you have been here and understand the intensity of RSD we need to allow the physicians to make the decisions for their patients, not some advisory committee! Compassion and understanding is what people with RSD need along with pain control.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Debbie Doe

Subj:	<b>RSD Sufferer</b>
Date:	9/16/01 7:42:28 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	HeatherCO2000
To:	Jwbroatch

My name is Kim and I have RSD also. The only medicine for the pain that I have found that works well is Oxycontin. I think that all the negative publicity about oxycontin has caused the people that really needs it to be forced to suffer if you put a limit on who get it. I know myself that without oxycontin I would most likely kill myself due to the unbearable pain. I don't get the "high" effect that people that abuse the drug get. Without this drug I would not even be able to make love with my husband. This medicine has made a difference in my day-to-day lifestyle. Before I was on Oxycontin I was on Porcocetts and the amount taken per day was enough to cause Liver damage. Now with the Oxycontin I take 3, 40 mg pills a day and NO Tylenol added in the pill or taken by mouth. Also by taking 3 per day it cuts down on the amount of med. I take. Before I was taking 4 different pain meds I now take Oxycontin for my pain. I still take other meds for the RSD but not as many in the past 3 years that I have been on Oxycontin.

Thank You for reading this. I hope you think of the people that really need this medicine and that suffer all day every day with this awful Disease

Kim Lemings  
5321 Ruth DR  
Charlotte, NC 28215  
704-605-2608

Footnote:

I am on my daughters computer. You can e-mail me back at this address  
heatherjolley@hotmail.com

Heather

Subj: (no subject)  
Date: 9/12/01 10:56:19 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

My name is Jennifer Zayonce and I am 28 years old. I am married and have a 2 year old son. I was diagnosed with RSD in March of this year after spraining my ankle. My doctor prescribed Oxycontin for me and it had great pain relieving strenght but unfortunatley had side effects and can no longer take it. I became very dizzy and short of breath. I am now taking Methadone and it "takes the edge off" but does not take the pain away! Hope this helps!! If you have any advise to offer me please feel free! I am so confused and scared about this disorder!

Jenny



<b>Subj:</b> Oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 9/12/01 12:30:52 AM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> sshannon@ala.net (Sam Shannon) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
---

I was diagnosed with CRPS in 1983 after I fractured my left hand in a MVA. Over the past 18 years I have taken every NSAID in the formulary until my kidneys finally gave out. After that I was placed on a Chronic Pain Protocol because the disease had spread throughout my body. I have been on Oxycontin for about 12 months and my life is bearable but I still am in pain. Without the drug.....

Sam Shannon  
 402 Riveredge Parkway  
 Dothan, AL 36303

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <sshannon@ala.net>  
 Received: from rly-yb04.mx.aol.com (rly-yb04.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.4]) by air-yb01.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYB17-0912003052; Wed, 12 Sep 2001 00:30:52 -0400  
 Received: from mail.ala.net (mail.ala.net [204.251.239.243]) by rly-yb04.mx.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINYB410-0912003040; Wed, 12 Sep 2001 00:30:40 -0400  
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 Message-ID: <000801c13b43\$82b2d450\$ca186bce@rufus>  
 From: "Sam Shannon" <sshannon@ala.net>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: Oxycontin  
 Date: Tue, 11 Sep 2001 23:29:26 -0500  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
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 boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0005\_01C13B19.98FC3050"  
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 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 6.00.2600.0000  
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V6.00.2600.0000

Subj: **OXYCONTIN!!**  
Date: 9/8/01 2:22:03 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: barbie171@hotmail.com (barbara mcmurray)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

THESE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO TAKE THE PAIN MEDS AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE REAL DEBILITATING PAIN SUCH AS RSD HAVE NEVER HAD THE PAIN OF RSD, I DO HAVE IT AND THEY SHOULD LIVE WITH ME FOR A FEW DAYS, THEY WOULD BE HEARTLESS TO WATCH ME SUFFER. THERE ARE MANY OF US THAT WOULD NOT WANT TO LIVE WITHOUT PAIN MEDICATION AND WHO ARE THEY TO MAKE US WANT TO TAKE THAT WAY OUT! I AM NOT READY TO GIVE UP MY RIGHTS TO BE PAIN FREE AND WILL FIGHT FOR MY RIGHTS. BARBARA

'WHEN IN YOUR HEART YOU FEEL A TUG- JUST KNOW IT'S AN ANGEL HUG"

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Return-Path: <barbie171@hotmail.com>  
Received: from rly-yc05.mx.aol.com (rly-yc05.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.37]) by air-yc01.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYC11-0908142203; Sat, 08 Sep 2001 14:22:03 -0400  
Received: from hotmail.com (oe52.pav1.hotmail.com [64.4.30.41]) by rly-yc05.mx.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINYC59-0908142138; Sat, 08 Sep 2001 14:21:38 -0400  
Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;  
Sat, 8 Sep 2001 11:21:37 -0700  
X-Originating-IP: [199.174.249.132]  
From: "barbara mcmurray" <barbie171@hotmail.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: OXYCONTIN!!  
Date: Sat, 8 Sep 2001 14:16:23 -0700  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: MSN Explorer 6.10.0016.1624  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative; boundary="-----\_NextPart\_001\_0002\_01C13870.D6A9EDE0"  
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X-OriginalArrivalTime: 08 Sep 2001 18:21:37.0419 (UTC) FILETIME=[1904FDB0:01C13893]

**Jennifer Abrams  
146 East 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 3C  
New York, NY 10016  
(212) 683-1242**

September 11, 2001

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jennifer Abrams. I am 31 years old. Approximately seven years ago I was diagnosed with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD), also commonly known as Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. RSD is a pain condition that causes unrelenting pain and if left untreated can lead to loss of use of the affected limb. This pain is generated as a result of dysfunctional nerves. As a condition of RSD, I suffer from extreme pain in my legs, more specifically my knees, and at times cannot walk at all. Over this past number of years, I have had four different knee operations and have been on and off crutches to assist me in walking and to help alleviate the pain. My most recent operation was in January of this year. After my operation, I was in horrible pain and could not walk at all without using crutches. Although there were days I could barely get out of bed, I nevertheless continued working and attempted to keep my every day schedule as "normal" as possible.

In May of 2001, I was prescribed Oxycontin to help lessen and/or alleviate my pain. Finally, after 5 miserable months, I was able to walk on my own, without crutches and with minimal pain. Since May, I have consistently taken Oxycontin two times daily; in the morning before I leave for work and in the evening before I go to bed. The results of taking Oxycontin have been extraordinary and have made a huge difference in the quality of my daily life.

It has been brought to my attention that the FDA is trying to have Oxycontin "eliminated" as prescribed medicine. This would be detrimental to my quality of life, as well as the quality of life of many others who suffer from RSD and other painful conditions.

I am employed by the New York City Law Department as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Sex Crimes Unit. I prosecute juvenile sex offenders. On a daily basis I interview young victims of sexual abuse and then go to trial against the perpetrators of these crimes. I perform all of my job responsibilities while taking Oxycontin. In no way does this medication interfere with my abilities as a prosecutor. Attached to this letter are letters from my supervisors indicating that since May of 2001 I

have never looked or acted like I was under the influence of narcotic drugs and that the quality of my work has not declined.

The obvious effect that Oxycontin has had on my life, as well as many others, is that I can walk without the assistance of crutches and it has tremendously decreased the level of pain I experience every day of my life.

I strongly urge you to please NOT prevent those patients who benefit from Oxycontin to be put back to a life of horrible pain that we felt and lived with prior to taking this medication.

Thank you,

Jennifer Abrams

Subj: **RSD / Oxycontin**  
Date: 9/10/01 6:11:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *CindyKayJohnson@home.com (Cindy Johnson)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

Good Afternoon,

I was going through the web trying to find out some more detailed information for R.S.D. as I am attending a Social Security Disability hearing in the morning. I came across this site and the concern over Oxycontin.

I suffered a fracture in my right foot in November of 1993. It progressed into R.S.D. for which I was treated by a couple different Doctors including an Anesthesiologist who performed several "nerve blocks" and then I underwent a "sympathectomy" in November of 1995. The symptoms returned in early 1996. In 1999, my Doctor finally prescribed Oxycontin and Oxy IR for my pain control as NOTHING else was working. FINALLY, I was able to obtain some relief from this horrible pain.

I cannot imagine being without this drug. It is the only thing that has allowed me to have some sort of normality in my life. Without it, I would be "bedridden". I understand the concerns of this drug "getting into the wrong hands" as it is a very potent drug. But let's face it, if it's not this drug, it will be something else. There will ALWAYS be a drug out there that is being abused and misused. Are we going to continue eliminating these drugs one by one? I for one will do whatever I can to keep this drug from being taken off the market. There are several people out there who are in my situation. Are we going to make all of these people pay this kind of price?

Please let me know what I can do. My e-mail is

Thank you for your efforts!

Cindy Johnson

----- Headers -----  
Return-Path: <CindyKayJohnson@home.com>  
Received: from rly-yc05.mx.aol.com (rly-yc05.mail.aol.com [172.18.149.37]) by air-yc03.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYC34-0910181146; Mon, 10 Sep 2001 18:11:46 -0400  
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Message-ID: <000a01c13a45\$8ccbb780\$0c1a0741@parker1.co.home.com>  
From: "Cindy Johnson" <CindyKayJohnson@home.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: RSD / Oxycontin  
Date: Mon, 10 Sep 2001 16:11:31 -0600  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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boundary="-----=\_NextPart\_000\_0007\_01C13A13.41370900"  
X-Priority: 1  
X-MSMail-Priority: High  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Tuesday, September 11, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

<b>Subj: Narcotic Medications</b> <b>Date: 9/8/01 1:09:10 AM Eastern Daylight Time</b> <b>From: anniebear@worldnet.att.net (Annie)</b> <b>Reply-to: (Annie)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
--

I am a chronic pain patient that has been on the same dose of dilaudid for about three years now....without this medication my life was spent in severe pain that controlled my life. I had no social life or a life of quality. Since starting the pain medication (after much discussion and trial and error for many years trying other treatments for pain relief), my pain specialist convinced me that this was something to try. I was afraid of addiction and of the stigma that comes with using this type of medication. I was also still in denial that I wasn't as sick as I am....thank God (and my doctor) and the legislation in my home state (Missouri) for making these kind of pain medications available to me! I am no more an addict now, after many years of treatment, than I was before I started this medication!

Although my many illnesses keep me from working and I have limited energy, I would be willing to do what I can, within my means, to make sure that these medications stay available to those of us who need them.

Please let me know what I can do...and/or feel free to forward my letter to whoever might benefit from reading it!

Sincerely!

Gale A. Day  
 St. Louis, Missouri

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <anniebear@worldnet.att.net>  
 Received: from rly-yg04.mx.aol.com (rly-yg04.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.4]) by air-yg01.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYG19-0908010910; Sat, 08 Sep 2001 01:09:10 -0400  
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 Reply-To: "Annie" <anniebear@worldnet.att.net>  
 From: "Annie" <anniebear@worldnet.att.net>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: Narcotic Medications  
 Date: Fri, 7 Sep 2001 22:56:46 -0500  
 MIME-Version: 1.0  
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   charset="Windows-1252"  
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 X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400  
 X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Monday, September 10, 2001    America Online: Jwbroatch

1480 1 01 2

Subj: <b>Oxycontin</b>
Date: 9/8/01 9:53:40 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: peach@mtco.com (Bostic)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

September 8, 2001

RE: Oxycontin

In regards to the FDA and their meeting about Oxycontin. I would not be typing this letter without the pain relief Oxycontin gives me. I severely fractured both wrists, my spine and my tailbone and had beginning signs of RSD in my left hand. I was so scared and was in so much pain with Vicodyn, and it made me dizzy. It didn't relieve my pain and allow me to function near as well as Oxycontin. My doctor switched me to Oxycontin with Oxycodone for breakthrough pain, or I would not be able to function or have any joy in my life for all these nine months or so.

My left hand and spine still hurt, but I have tapered from 60 mg. Oxycontin twice a day to 10 mg. twice a day, as my doctor fears the FDA will not allow me to use it and will left in a horrible withdrawal. I've dropped 10 mg. at time and had no problem, as my bones heal. Due to the threat of removal from people like me, I still suffer with my hand, but my back pain is limiting my life, since I dropped from 20 mg. to 10 mg.

Oxycontin is a miracle drug for me, and hope it will not be taken from chronic pain patients, or those with Fibromyalgia or Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction. I know the unrelenting muscle and joint pain of the latter diseases, too, from years past. I was forced to take Ultram which wasn't very effective and caused many bruises for me.

Please don't take it away from people in pain. You can only understand pain, if you have had a major accident or painful disease. I seldom leave the house now, because my T-12 vertebrae needs more time to heal, but am forced to cut dose of Oxycontin for threat of not being able to obtain it. My sitting time is limited, too, cutting out much computer usage or sewing as I would like to.

A few will abuse any drug. Please don't make the rest of the world suffer. Oxycontin gave me my life again while healing many bones.

Respectfully yours,  
Nancy Bostic  
Farmington, IL

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <peach@mtco.com>  
Received: from rly-yg04.mx.aol.com (rly-yg04.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.4]) by air-yg04.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYG48-0908095340; Sat, 08 Sep 2001 09:53:40 -0400  
Received: from leviathan-tu1.mtco.com (www.mtco.com [207.179.200.202]) by rly-yg04.mx.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINYG46-0908095328; Sat, 08 Sep 2001 09:53:28 -0400  
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Received: from tnt1-1-212.mtco.com (HELO c6n6e0) (207.179.197.212) by www.mtco.com with SMTP; 8 Sep 2001 13:53:09 -0000  
Message-ID: <001301c1387f\$3b23f9a0\$d4c5b3cf@c6n6e0>  
From: "Bostic" <peach@mtco.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: Oxycontin  
Date: Sat, 8 Sep 2001 08:59:23 -0700  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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boundary="-----=\_NextPart\_000\_0010\_01C13844.8DF41600"

Monday, September 10, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

**Subj:** oxycontin controversy  
**Date:** 6/24/01 9:07:43 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** moliveros@cfl.rr.com (Marivi Oliveros)  
**To:** jwbroatch@aol.com

I am a physician treating many patients with chronic pain. I tried initially other medications and explore other options including NSAID's, SSRI's, TCA's, topicals, physical therapy, body work, psychology consults, etc. but there will be subset of patients who have severe pain that only narcotics can control. I rather use a long-acting narcotic in this population. Many of my patients have been to many MD's searching for relief. It is incredible I will see a patient with Fibromyalgia who gets relief with a less potent Darvocet and her physician will not prescribe this medication because of concern that she may be addicted. These are common stories. Many of my patients eventually stop the oxycontin once they condition improved. It is unfortunate that oxycontin is being abused by addicts giving it a bad name. In the right patient it is an effective medication. Addicts can abuse anything including household products such as "glue". There will be 1-5% of my patients who may abuse it but if I will withhold this medication potentially 90% of my patients will continue to suffer. I want to be a compassionate physician. I am not perfect and at times some patients will abuse my trust in them, but if I become "gun-shy" in using this medication many patients will suffer. Patients have to voice their concerns or else we regress to the time, when physicians will be hesitant to prescribe the appropriate pain medications.

Pedro Oliveros, Jr., MD, PT  
Board Certified in Physical Medicine and Rehab  
Orlando Pain and Rehab Center in Altamonte and Winter Springs

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <moliveros@cfl.rr.com>  
Received: from rly-za01.mx.aol.com (rly-za01.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.97]) by air-za02.mail.aol.com (v78\_r3.8) with ESMTP; Mon, 25 Jun 2001 00:07:42 -0400  
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by smtp-server1.tampabay.rr.com (8.11.2/8.11.2) with SMTP id f5P47Lt24871  
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Mon, 25 Jun 2001 00:07:21 -0400 (EDT)  
Message-ID: <000a01c0fd2c\$48a5fd00\$27692141@cfl.rr.com>  
From: "Marivi Oliveros" <moliveros@cfl.rr.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: oxycontin controversy  
Date: Mon, 25 Jun 2001 00:07:00 -0400  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="====\_NextPart\_000\_0007\_01C0FD0A.C1499860"  
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X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Tuesday, June 26, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch



Subj:	<b>Oxycontin</b>
Date:	8/27/01 10:25:29 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	
To:	

To whom it may concern,

I have been a Registered Nurse for 29 years and have worked in both acute care and nursing home settings my entire career. I have watched many poor souls suffer horribly because medications for the control of pain were not available or not used because of the stigma of possibly becoming "addicted".

It does not matter whether it is the pain of chronic disease such as rheumatoid arthritis or an acute illness such as cancer, the development of the time release drug oxycontin has revolutionized pain control. We as human beings have the right to utilize this technology to maintain the quality of life of each and every one of us. To restrict its use or to punish physicians who legitimately prescribe this medication is an unreasonable and stupid trend. The stigma of disease, chronic pain and the inability to function or to earn a living because of these things is enough to deal with. Patient education about the medication's uses, dangers and benefits along with the freedom of choice to use these medications are fundamental patients rights. Oxycontin allows people to have well controlled evenly distributed pain management over 24 hours which virtually eliminates the wild swings of inadequate pain control and playing catch up with pain that is out of control which was the way pain management has generally been done for all the years I have been in nursing.

There will always be people who abuse the system no matter what is involved. You can become "addicted" to anything in my opinion. People who abuse oxycontin are the minority and need to be dealt with on an individual basis by enforcing our current laws. Physicians need to be able to prescribe oxycontin for any patient they feel has inadequate pain control without worrying if they will be held accountable for some person's misuse of the medication for personal pleasure or personal gain.

Do not punish those who are dying with comfort and dignity nor those who are learning to live again.

Susan Clarke RN  
1900 Shell Court  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29575

Subj: **RSD and medications**  
Date: 9/3/01 12:13:53 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *LDSutherland@webtv.net (Linda and Dick Sutherland)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

I have been using Oxycontin for over four years now and have tried every other medication known to man to try and relieve the pain from RSD. It just doesn't seem fair that my doctor now has to be so worried about prescribing it to her chronic pain patients. Please don't punish the innocent people because of what others who are not using it for pain.

Sincerely,  
Linda Sutherland  
Indiana

----- Headers -----  
Return-Path: <LDSutherland@webtv.net>  
Received: from rly-yd01.mx.aol.com (rly-yd01.mail.aol.com [172.18.150.1]) by air-yd03.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYD31-0903121353; Mon, 03 Sep 2001 12:13:53 -0400  
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Received: (from production@localhost) by storefull-246.iap.bryant.webtv.net (8.8.8-wtv-f/mt.gso.26Feb98) id JAA03700; Mon, 3 Sep 2001 09:13:38 -0700 (PDT)  
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ETAtAhUAzBq6SJ+zOWj0l1aJ/ESasBgzOJ0CFFvxFbbAJMoQK+uG9/B+0cveJmDc  
From: LDSutherland@webtv.net (Linda and Dick Sutherland)  
Date: Mon, 3 Sep 2001 11:13:38 -0500 (EST)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
Subject: RSD and medications  
Message-ID: <8168-3B93AC32-725@storefull-246.iap.bryant.webtv.net>  
Content-Disposition: Inline  
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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7Bit  
MIME-Version: 1.0 (WebTV)

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 8/31/01 11:52:23 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

I have been suffering from chronic pelvic pain, endometriosis, interstitial cystitis and herinated discs with nerve root compression for over 5 years. I began on darvocet and have worked the NSAID and opiod trail to Oyxcontin. Oxycontin is the ONLY drug that has given me a "reasonable" quality of life. I do not get "high" from this drug, I just get moving. I take 2 -3 doses per day compared to, for example, Vicodin of which I took 240 per month - with no relief. There are many substances out there being abused by the general public, one of which is alcohol. Because a few have decided to misuse the "wonder drug" oxycontin, I hate to think that I am going to lose my only means of pain relief. Abuse of drugs is a worldwide problem, Oxycontin is not the first, and probably not the last, that someone is going to find a way to abuse it. Consequently, I feel it would be a disservice to the millions of us who suffer from chronic pain to lose a drug that helps to give us quality of life and freedom from the pain we suffer.

Subj: (no subject)  
Date: 8/31/01 10:41:16 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

I HAVE HAD 2 SURGERIES FOR A DISC, THAT FINALLY COLLAPSED, THE DOCTOR SAID HE COULD TAKE THE PRESSURE OFF THE NERVE, BUT COULD NOT REPAIR THE DAMAGE, SO NOW I TAKE OXY AND IT IS THE ONLY PAIN PILL THAT HELPS MY NERVE PAIN IN MY LEG THAT I HAVE HAD FOR 2 YEARS, I HAVE HAD BLOCKS AND TRIED MANY MEDS, VICADENT, LORITAB, ANTIINFLAMMORTIES, THE ONLY ONE THAT WORKS IS OXYCONTIN, I AM ON A NEW MED FOR SEIZURES THAT IS SUPPOSE TO HELP, I AM TO TRY THEM FOR A WEEK. I HAVE TAKEN FOR 3 DAYS NOW AND ONE DAY I TOOK THE OXY CAUSE I WAS IN SO MUCH PAIN, I CANT FUNCTION WELL WITH THAT LEG NERVE PAIN, IT CONTROLS YOUR DAY, SO I TAKE ONE OXY A DAY... IT GETS ME THRU IT, I CANT SLEEP ON THEM SO I CANT TAKE AT NITE SO I DONT SLEEP VERY WELL. I CANT LAY ON THE LEFT SIDE AT ALL FROM THE PAIN... SO PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT I CAN DO FOR THIS CAUSE.  
DENISE KAVLICH

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 8/31/01 6:26:31 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

I have just been on oxycontin for six weeks, up until one week ago. My husband heard all the horrible things that were being said about this medication and was upset, so I switched meds. I am now on morphine sulfate. It is not working at all. I have had RSD for 10 years, and up until I started the oxycontin I had NO relief at all, usually taking 100 mg. or more of hydrocodone a day, to no avail.

Please help us keep this med on the market for those of us who suffer so needlessly.

Thank you,

Vickie Thoma

Subj: **Re; Oxycontin**  
Date: 9/3/01 2:55:25 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *kdasoke@home.com (donald Jeffrey)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

To whom it may concern, Over the past several months I have watched the news reports with horror about the way Oxycontin is being miss used and the results of this miss use.

I can understand why some people who only see or read the negative side of this drug, this demon in disguise and want the drug compant to halt production of it as soon as possible.

One must remember that before one opinionates themselves on a particular topic, one usually steps back and takes a look at all vatage points.

Lets take a look at the addict: If an addict wants to continue his plight downward into a spiral towards hell, he will do it with or without Oxycontin. In New Jersey, illeagle use of Oxycontin is not as bad as in most other states because in New Jersey heroin seems to be more accessable to illeagally obtain and use then oxycontin.

In other words, the addicts are going to use whatever they can get, regardless if its Oxycontin or one of many other drugs that can become illeagally available.

As a human being who has gone through hell with three spine operations and has cotracted RSD, Oxycontin along with other medications are the only thing that keeps me at my job instead of curled up in a fetal position in pain.

It is really very simple if you look at this issue of outlawing the manufacture of Oxycontin. If it is done, we will be helppng people who dont want help, they just want to get high. If the attempt is made by making Oxycontin illeagle, they will use something else and now I will have to quit work and go on welfare myself.

I AM ALREADY A PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF SOCIETY, THE ADDICTS ARE NOT AND MOST WILL NEVER BE.IETS NOT MAKE MORE TAX CONSUMERS OUT OF TAX CONTRIBUTORS BY OUTLAWING OXYCONTIN.

Don Jeffrey

----- Headers -----  
Return-Path: <kdasoke@home.com>  
Received: from rly-za04.mx.aol.com (rly-za04.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.100]) by air-za05.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTTP id MAILINZA57-0903025525; Mon, 03 Sep 2001 02:55:25 -0400  
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Message-ID: <3B932711.C13E929@home.com>

Tuesday, September 04, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: **Oxycontin**  
Date: 8/29/01 8:30:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *bobbisue36@webtv.net (B. Weber)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

I have and have had in my lifetime, Fibromyalgia, Muskeoskeletal pain, TMJ pain, excruciating headaches, Hashimoto's disease, osteoarthritis, peripheral neuropathy, carpal tunnel and pain they haven't named or accounted for. I can only speak for myself, based on my experience with pain and finding relief.

I can recall praying that I not awaken the next morning upon going to sleep at night. That's how bad it was. And my pain was at its worst at night, when my body was relaxed.

My pain is not as bad as it used to be, or perhaps I have grown accustomed and wouldn't know the difference at this point. I've tried so many medications—NSAIDS are not good for me. I have had trigger point shots; I have had epidurals. I thought Ultram was good until it affected me adversely. I cannot tolerate Percodan. I can take Darvocette, and I am now taking Neurontin which seems to take the edge off, together with Celebrex.

As for Oxycontin—From what I see and hear from people in my Fibromyalgia Support Group and people I have met along the way, and from my own experience with pain, I think that Oxycontin should not be banned from use. I understand that the manufacturer/s are working on lowering the dosage amounts, so that large dosage amounts wouldn't end up in the wrong hands. I also think they are working on a time-released type of delivery. I hope they are successful and can continue to provide relief for so many people who so desperately need it.

My thoughts are that Oxycontin has done so much good for people living with so much pain—one has to have been there to be able to spout these thoughts. There will always be abuse in the pharmaceutical arena. Who would ever think that someone would unnecessarily use and abuse antidepressants, but there are nuts out there; they don't realize what the repercussions will be, and they make these bad choices.

Good Luck in your endeavor to keep Oxycontin on the market

Barbara Weber

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <bobbisue36@webtv.net>

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Received: from storefull-622.iap.bryant.webtv.net (storefull-622.iap.bryant.webtv.net [209.240.198.145]) by mailsorter-105-2.iap.bryant.webtv.net (WebTV\_Postfix) with ESMTP id 988051B4D for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Wed, 29 Aug 2001 17:30:02 -0700 (PDT)

Received: (from production@localhost) by storefull-622.iap.bryant.webtv.net (8.8.8-wtv-f/mt.gso.26Feb98) id RAA14191; Wed, 29 Aug 2001 17:30:00 -0700 (PDT)

Thursday, August 30, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: **Oxycontin for chronic pain patients**  
Date: 8/29/01 7:50:12 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

Have you ever been in terrible, horrible pain? Did you think if this pain dosent stop, how will I go on? Were you lucky enough that your pain only lasted a day, a week, ??? what if your pain will be with you until the day you die....

Without adequate pain control and adequate pain medication, people with chronic, never, ever ending pain cannot go on. If that medication is taken away, what do you expect those people to do?

Drugs are everywhere. My kids can probably get drugs a heck of a lot easier than a chronic pain patient. I had to sign contracts, take only what is prescribed, go to only one pharmacy. I don't mind. I would do anything asked of me by my pain management doctor to know that he will support me and that I don't have to worry about controlling my pain.

Your problems are not with chronic pain patients, if people want to abuse drugs, they always have, they always will. Taking away a medication that is beneficial to so many pain patients is like taking away insulin from a diabetic.

Think about it, the next time you are in pain, think about the fact that for you that pain will probably go away.....think about the people whose pain will never ever go away and without medication that helps them, what do you want them to do????

Sincerely,

Jacalyn Cutler  
Patient of Complex Regional Pain Syndrom  
Failed Spine Surgeries  
Failed Anterior Spine Fusion



Subj: **Oxycontin and other opiates.**  
Date: 8/29/01 4:22:31 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: Phylbert@gate.net (Herb and Phyllis Zions)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

To whom it may concern,

I have suffered with fibromyalgia for the past 20 years, although I was not diagnosed until 1993. I took early retirement at 50 years old, from an executive broadcasting position, where I earned in excess of \$150,000. I fought for over two years, until I was awarded Social Security Disability, which now amounts to approx. \$15,000. 10% of what I was earning. As least it covers my drugs.

As the years have passed, since 1993, my symptoms have become more problematic, the pain more excruciating. Last year, when I was really bad, my Rheumatologist wrote me a prescription for Oxycontin 10 Mgs and 20 Mgs. I take 30 mgs in the morning, and 20 mgs at night. I am never pain free, but the edge is off, and I have gotten back my life. Please do not curtail use of this drug, because teenagers are looking for the best high. Don't get me wrong. I don't want anyone to misuse this drug, to their detriment. I can tell you though, before Oxycontin, I considered a way out. Now I choose life.

Please do not limit the availability of opiates or analgesics for people who need it. We are not abusing these drugs, we are taking them responsibly. I hope new drugs, that are not addictive, are added to our pain fighting arsenal.

But, I don't think addiction is really the problem, children who experiment with drugs for the best high, are.

Thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely yours, Phyllis Stetson

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <Phylbert@gate.net>

Received: from rly-zc04.mx.aol.com (rly-zc04.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.4]) by air-zc03.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTMP id MAILINZC310-0829162231; Wed, 29 Aug 2001 16:22:31 -0400

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Received: from gate.net ([206.74.182.48])

by SMTP00.InfoAve.Net (PMDF V6.0-24 #38776)

with ESMTMP id <01K7PNRWSB5W98E6XU@SMTP00.InfoAve.Net> for jwbroatch@aol.com;

Wed, 29 Aug 2001 16:22:03 -0400 (EDT)

Date: Wed, 29 Aug 2001 16:20:33 -0400

From: Herb and Phyllis Zions <Phylbert@gate.net>

Subject: Oxycontin and other opiates.

To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Message-id: <3B8D4E91.EE94D537@gate.net>

MIME-version: 1.0

X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.78 [en] (Win98; U)

Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

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Subj:  
Date: 8/28/01 7:19:16 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: firstfam@theriver.com (Teresa First)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <firstfam@theriver.com>  
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by serverB.sea.theriver.dmz (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id XAA32409  
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 23:13:41 -0700  
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by pantano.theriver.com (Postfix) with SMTP id A4B0855B  
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 16:17:56 -0700 (MST)  
Message-ID: <001b01c13017\$8b219720\$5864a4d0@FIRSTFAM>  
From: "Teresa First" <firstfam@theriver.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject:  
Date: Tue, 28 Aug 2001 16:16:57 -0700  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4133.2400  
Disposition-Notification-To: "Teresa First" <firstfam@theriver.com>  
X-MIMEOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Subj: **Oxy**  
Date: 8/29/01 9:41:48 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

<b>Subj: RE: opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain</b> <b>Date: 8/28/01 4:28:15 PM Eastern Daylight Time</b> <b>From: BARBARA.WILKES@dfas.mil (WILKES, BARBARA)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
--

To Whom It May Concern:

I have RSD in both arms and both legs. It was established on my left side originally due to an automobile accident and has since migrated to the right side as well. This fact was diagnosed by Dr. Stanton-Hicks at Cleveland Clinic using thermal photography to map the hot and cold spots on my limbs.

I suffered with the disease for almost 3 years before a neurologist recognized my "odd" symptoms and was able to make an accurate diagnosis. By that time the disease had permanently established itself.

I will gladly add my voice and testimony any time, any where concerning the FDA trying to limit the availability of opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain. Without them I can assure you I would be dead. Plain and simple. I would have no quality of life, I wouldn't be able to function in any sort of constructive capacity and I definitely would not be able to live with the pain I experience.

I currently have an internal Spinal Cord and Peripheral Nerve Stimulation System implant, I also use Duragesic Patches, Neurotenin, Baclofen and Hydrocodone on a daily basis to assist in pain control.

I know that sounds like a lot to a healthy person, but, with those aids, I am able to work, (I am a webmaster for the Department of Defense), I can do volunteer work on a limited basis and am able to be active in my church and children's lives. YES, the activities I participate in are on a limited basis, but at least I CAN participate.

NO, my life is not what it was before RSD. My husband left me for a "healthy" woman. I tire easily. I experience pain and burning in my limbs and hands 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, I have lost a significant amount of strength in my left arm and leg, I NEVER know where the pain is going to turn up next and some mornings I would rather have a tooth pulled without novocaine than have to put on clothing and go to work.

If anyone is listening out there (FDA), PLEASE, PLEASE!!!! Don't put any more limits on my caregivers. My neurologist is competent and cautious. He monitors my drug levels with regular blood tests. I am required to see him on a regular basis or my prescriptions are not re-filled. He co-ordinates with my family doctor before he ever prescribes anything for me and vice versa. He insists that I sign a contract with him and my other care givers that makes me VERY aware of the fact that I am dependent on narcotics and agree not to abuse the drugs I have available. I am limited to 4, 5 mg. hydrocodone per day for break through pain. (Let me tell you - anyone who suffers with RSD or the other chronic illnesses that create pain like this, 4 hydrocodone in a 24 hour period only lessens the pain to the extent that IF I stay VERY busy, I can live with it. It is not enough to even take away the pain, let alone make me "high" or use them to escape reality.) He is VERY STRICT a!

nd will NOT refill a prescription for me for any of my maintenance drugs until the current prescription has run out. If a prescription is lost, etc. you have to live with the pain and discomfort until whatever time is left until time for the next prescription.

I don't use these drugs for fun. In the first place, they are extremely EXPENSIVE even after my insurance pays their portion. Not to mention that I am scared to death of what they might eventually do to my kidneys, liver or other internal systems. I don't have a choice. I have to work. I have no spouse and if I don't show up at work every day, my children don't eat and my utilities don't get paid. I would have no health insurance and without the medical support I receive, I would NOT be able to live for any period of time with the pain and burning I experience all day every day. I look at "normal" people and wonder what life is like without pain.

Don't get me wrong, I am NOT looking for sympathy. I am grateful for every minute of every day that I am even able to walk. Before my internal stimulator was implanted, I was in a wheelchair, the pain running down my legs and into my feet was so great I couldn't stand up alone, let alone walk. I was ready to commit suicide because I had no hope. I AM begging, pleading, whatever I need to do . . . on behalf of myself and others like me. Our lives are difficult enough. We don't need the extra pressure of having to beg our physicians for medication for minimal pain relief and them being afraid of prescribing it because the FDA says we don't need it. If there were any way possible, I would gladly let anyone from the FDA live in my skin for a couple of days. I guarantee you there would not even be a question of further limitations on the availability of any type

Tuesday, August 28, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

of drug for those of us who suffer with chronic pain. I doubt that most of them could deal with what we live ! with 24/7, for more than a few hours before they were begging for any type of relief - opiate or not.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Wilkes  
DFAS-IN/AJDF/IS  
CDE Web Team  
(317) 510-3556  
Fax: (317) 510-6677  
Email: Barbara.Wilkes@dfas.mil

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <BARBARA.WILKES@dfas.mil>  
Received: from rly-yb03.mx.aol.com (rly-yb03.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.3]) by air-yb04.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINYB47-0828162815; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 16:28:15 -0400  
Received: from dns24.dfas.mil (dns24.dfas.mil [207.133.66.245]) by rly-yb03.mx.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILRELAYINYB32-0828162759; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 16:27:59 -0400  
Received: from dns24.dfas.mil (root@localhost) by dns24.dfas.mil with ESMTP id PAA02673 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 15:27:56 -0500 (EST)  
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Received: by cin-ex-w-2.dfas.mil with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19) id <3NY94GTD>; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 15:27:00 -0500  
Message-ID: <CB01213D86F3D211BA8C0008C7A4A3BC08036BF3@cin-ex-w-2.dfas.mil>  
From: "WILKES, BARBARA" <BARBARA.WILKES@dfas.mil>  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
Subject: RE: opiate analgesics for patients with chronic pain  
Date: Tue, 28 Aug 2001 15:26:50 -0500  
Importance: high  
X-Priority: 1  
Return-Receipt-To: "WILKES, BARBARA" <BARBARA.WILKES@dfas.mil>  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)  
Content-Type: text/plain;  
charset="iso-8859-1"

Subj: **Drug availability**  
Date: 8/28/01 8:28:08 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: MGL@griptrucks.com (Marty Segal)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

It is so easy to site the black market or sub rosa aspects of pain relievers. Yes, available to the darker side of our society, it is a menace. This is now the 21st century and why should people suffering from pain be dis-franchised and their plight be discounted. The outlawing of a medicine only reflects the governments inability to police and regulate, in other words the thinking that no availability is better than judicious availability, Please add my voice for the compassionate and and humane administration of these vital medicines...Marty Segal

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Return-Path: <MGL@griptrucks.com>  
Received: from rly-zd01.mx.aol.com (rly-zd01.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.225]) by air-zd03.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINZD38-0828082808; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 08:28:08 -0400  
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Received: from griptrucks.com ([208.46.248.126]) by smtp.olsusa.com (Post.Office MTA v3.5.3 release 223 ID# 0-52269U2500L250S0V35) with ESMTP id com for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Tue, 28 Aug 2001 08:20:05 -0400  
Message-ID: <3B8B9FE4.1B3932E@griptrucks.com>  
Date: Tue, 28 Aug 2001 09:43:04 -0400  
From: Marty Segal <MGL@griptrucks.com>  
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7C-NSCPCD (Macintosh; U; PPC)  
X-Accept-Language: en  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
Subject: Drug availability  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Subj: **Opoird Medications**  
Date: 8/27/01 8:02:38 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

I personally do not use this type of medication but I know alot of people who benefit from this and I myself have chronic pain daily. For some it is the only things that helps with their chronic pain. Not having it available for those who need it is an act of cruelty.

**Subj: oxycontin usage with rsd**  
**Date:** 8/26/01 9:47:32 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** DianneBlackburn@Houston.RR.Com (Dianne Blackburn)  
**To:** jwbroatch@aol.com

hi, i am a registered nurse who currently is dealing with rsd to my left foot and now also my left thigh anteriorly. I do take oxycontin-20mg q12-as well as darvocet prn. i also am taking neurontin 600mg q 8 in an attempt to achieve relief from the incredible pain. i have just had my son make my computer and began to check out info on rsd. then i ran into your page re fda and your meeting and am interested in the outcome. i have obvious reasons for wanting the fda to not reduce availability of opiates—not only for my patients, but for myself!! pls let me know the outcome and if there is any way i could be of use. thanks

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <DianneBlackburn@Houston.RR.Com>  
Received: from rly-zd03.mx.aol.com (rly-zd03.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.227]) by air-zd05.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINZD52-0826214732; Sun, 26 Aug 2001 21:47:32 -0400  
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by sm13.texas.rr.com (8.12.0.Beta16/8.12.0.Beta16) with SMTP id f7R1tuKK015811  
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sun, 26 Aug 2001 20:55:56 -0500  
Message-ID: <000801c12e9a\$2eebef60\$87ab4542@mreuser>  
From: "Dianne Blackburn" <DianneBlackburn@Houston.RR.Com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: oxycontin usage with rsd  
Date: Sun, 26 Aug 2001 20:47:05 -0500  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="====\_NextPart\_000\_0005\_01C12E70.43CCBAB0"  
X-Priority: 3  
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X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2919.6700  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2919.6700



Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 8/26/01 4:27:52 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: pepper4@asde.net (pepper4)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

I am a member of RSDSA, and have been for several years. I sincerely hope the FDA uses some good sense and does thorough research before they consider the media hype as anything but pure stupidity. Obviously they (the media) have no idea what chronic pain is. and how it ruins your life. They are so far behind in their medical knowledge that it is laughable and only shows their ignorance. If they want to write or broadcast a real story they should interview some true pain sufferers. If people died while taking oxycontin, they probably would have died anyway. There are always going to be some misfits and abusers of all kinds who will find a way to make others have to pay. It happens in almost every aspect of daily living. You can find criminals in all walks of life who have no concern for the outcome. In general, most people have no idea of the impact of chronic pain. They can sit on their judgmental perch with a big income and better than average way of life, while the chronic pain sufferer is living like a hermit because due to some misfortune life passes them by. I read stories about persons who say they can't work or function without certain medications and I envy them. There are many chronic pain sufferers like myself who barely function with their prescribed medications. Doctors have had considerable more knowledge on the subject of prescribing medications and their patient's needs, and this point should be stressed to pharmacists ALSO ! PLEASE ENCOURAGE THE MEDIA TO REPORT THE NEWS AND QUIT ADVERTISING PRODUCTS FOR OFFENDERS. Most of the public had never heard of oxycontin except those who needed to know about it, until some wannabe reporter thought he/she had found a big story.

Thanks for allowing me to express my views. KB

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Return-Path: <pepper4@asde.net>  
Received: from rly-xa02.mx.aol.com (rly-xa02.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.71]) by air-xa03.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINXA36-0826162752; Sun, 26 Aug 2001 16:27:52 -0400  
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Received: from pepper4 ([209.179.121.69])  
by mallory.asde.net (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id OAA25940  
for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sun, 26 Aug 2001 14:23:03 -0500  
Message-ID: <000a01c12b51\$d6f350a0\$4579b3d1@pepper4>  
From: "pepper4" <pepper4@asde.net>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: oxycontin  
Date: Wed, 22 Aug 2001 14:31:39 -0700  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="====\_NextPart\_000\_0007\_01C12B17.27D50A80"  
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X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4522.1200  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

<b>Subj:</b> Oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 8/24/01 2:56:40 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> d.meyer2@home.com (Dave Meyer) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
--

Good Day:

I am a person who lives with later stage RSD/CRPS. I do hope that before the congress takes a kneejerk reaction to the Oxycontin issue, they will take the time to hear from those of us who live with Chronic Pain. I do not use Oxycontin, but take another Opoid, Percocet. These drugs are a necessary part of our daily lives. Should these drugs be eliminated, or restricted more than they already are, you may be doing far more damage than you think.

The problem with the Oxycontin misuse is in the hands of those doctors who over prescribe or prescribe for profit, and the pharmacies that do not question the prescriptions. It is not the fault of the manufacturer, for they are not the ones putting this drug into the peoples hands. Yes, there are those who misuse the drug, but then all drugs are put to this test. If you prosecute the manufacturer, then those of us who need this relief will no longer have it. When Oxycontin is gone, or reduced, the what's next?, Percocet?, Morphine?.

I have had to take narcotics for the past 7 years to help reduce the pain I have to live with on a twentyfour hour, seven days a week, basis. Please do not punish those who do not misuse it, but prosecute those who sell the prescriptions for profit, they won't be hard to find! Just check the records of the drug stores where there is a high movement of this drug. It isn't like it's made in a back yard or kitchen, it has to come from a pharmacy, and the records of narcotics are quite easy to find through government channels.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely  
David Meyer  
Stafford Springs, Ct.

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <d.meyer2@home.com>

Received: from rly-za02.mx.aol.com (rly-za02.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.98]) by air-za04.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINZA48-0824145640; Fri, 24 Aug 2001 14:56:40 -0400

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Message-ID: <000801c12cce\$1567e4e0\$ba130841@stffrd1.ct.home.com>

From: "Dave Meyer" <d.meyer2@home.com>

To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>

Subject: Oxycontin

Date: Fri, 24 Aug 2001 14:53:36 -0400

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: multipart/alternative;  
boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0005\_01C12CAC.8D853940"

X-Priority: 3

X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2919.6600

X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2919.6600

Subj: **oxycontin and chronic pain**  
Date: 8/25/01 2:48:14 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

To whom it may concern,

I am a chronic pain patient who has suffered for over 3 years now because of severe Pancreatitis. The pain that comes with this illness is horrible. I had tried several drugs and as my condition progresses the pain gets worse also. I see a pain specialist 1 time a month and he prescribed oxycontin about 2 years ago. This drug makes my pain tolerable. With out it I am literally rolling in the bed and crying with pain. My docter has had to increase the dose of oxycontin many times and I am on a very large dose because of my pancreatitis. I do not feel a high when I take this drug only releif. It helps to control my pain where I am now able to sit at my computer and write this letter. There is no other pain medicine that controls my pain like oxycontin.

I am made to feel like a drug adict myself at times because every month I have a hard time getting my prescription filled. I go to the docter like I am supposed to and get my prescription and my husband takes it to the drug store to get it filled and they only have so many. First of all I was on the 160 mg and that was taken away, now I have to swallow 5 pills instead of 2 and worry every month about getting it filled. The drug store says they order the amount I tell them I need for the next month and they don,t receive it. Then my husband has to go all around town trying to find someone who can fill it. I am in pain 24 7. This drug allows me to be able to function without the doped up feeling. I suffer all the time with this illness .Chronic pain is horrible and the only way left for me is to take this medication for the releif of pain that I do get. I am one of the lucky ones that do have insurance and I am able to afford this medication, unlike others that I know of. I respect this drug and only take it as presribed.

<b>Subj:</b> Oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 8/24/01 9:41:05 AM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> unicorn10@qwest.net (Michelle) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
--

I have been on oxycontin for almost two years now and it has made a significant difference to me. I have Fibromyalgia Syndrome and without the combination of oxycontin and soma I was almost unable to walk. I continue to work full time BECAUSE I have the medications to keep me moving and I do NOT want to end up on SSDI. Oxycontin allows me at least some freedom of movement and some quality of life that I would not have without it. I hope this helps. Michelle Phillips

It's easier to fight for one's principles than to live up to them - Alfred Adler

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <unicorn10@qwest.net>  
Received: from rly-za05.mx.aol.com (rly-za05.mail.aol.com [172.31.36.101]) by air-za05.mail.aol.com (v80.17) with ESMTP id MAILINZA52-0824094105; Fri, 24 Aug 2001 09:41:05 -0400  
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Received: (qmail 74743 invoked by alias); 24 Aug 2001 13:40:14 -0000  
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Message-ID: <001b01c12ca2\$71c451a0\$e48140a4@state.nm.us>  
From: "Michelle" <unicorn10@qwest.net>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: Oxycontin  
Date: Fri, 24 Aug 2001 07:41:13 -0600  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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boundary="-----\_NextPart\_000\_0018\_01C12C70.268B30A0"  
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X-MSMail-Priority: Normal  
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.50.4522.1200  
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4522.1200

<b>Subj:</b> Oxyconton <b>Date:</b> 8/23/01 4:00:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> CLazauskas@ArsenalCapital.Mi8.com (Carolyn Lazauskas) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com ('jwbroatch@aol.com') <b>CC:</b> LMakinWaves@aol.com ('LMakinWaves@aol.com')
---

Hi,

My name is Carolyn and I was diagnosed with RSD over a year ago. The disease really took over my life for quite some time. When i read the quote on the screen about rsd being a living hell , boy is that statement right on the money. I am 30 years old and feel as if i am 90. Sometimes i get so down because the pain is so bad that i just wish God would take me or the world would come to an end. I have had so many flair ups and so many different medications steroids, sympathetic blocks, morphene, vycodin etc. My doctor thank god is so caring and goes out of his way to find a comfortable state for me. He put me on oxyconton last year. I am still on it and now my pain is under control (pretty much). But if i did not have the oxyconton to take the painful edge off, i think i really would pull all of my hair out. I have had so many sleepless nights and months of neverending pain. Sure it is easy for people that do not have the disease to say what we should and should not be taking but, i think that is very unfair. I hope these people never have to experience what it is like living with RSD!!! The burning, stinging, heavy pain, swelling and pins and needles. My hands get swollen and the pins and needles are so bad that i can't even hold up a telephone after saying hello. I used to be a stomach sleeper but i can't anymore because my hand have to be down at my sides at all times. People are so lucky that could hold up a book or do there hair just everyday functioning.

When this discussion comes up in Sept. with the FDA, I really hope that they hear the cries of people with RSD and the agony that we have to live with. Nobody likes taking pills but if it means helping our pain how could anyone take that away from us. Would anyone take medication away from a cancer patient? No! I know this is nothing like cancer but this is also a serious disease and should not be underrated.

Thank You  
 Carolyn Lazauskas

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Carolyn Lazauskas  
 Arsenal Capital Partners  
 1350 Avenue of the Americas  
 27th Floor  
 New York, NY 10019  
 Phone: (212) 771-1717 ext 300  
 www.arsenalcapital.com

----- Headers -----  
 Return-Path: <CLazauskas@arsenalcapital.mi8.com>  
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 Message-ID: <9B515520AA3CD411B36900508B6636B509D776FF@mi8nycmail02.mi8.com>  
 From: Carolyn Lazauskas <CLazauskas@ArsenalCapital.Mi8.com>  
 To: "jwbroatch@aol.com" <jwbroatch@aol.com>

Friday, August 24, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: **Oxycontin**  
Date: 8/21/01 10:59:35 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *sherman910@msn.com (Debora Lewis)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

I supplement my previous letter in order to address the specific use of Oxycontin in treatment of RSD.

Oxycontin is the only oral pain reliever that I have tried that reduces the level of my RSD pain.

I suspect have tried every "pain relieving" medication on market. Quite frankly, these medications are useless.

Once you have RSD over a prolonged period of time, your pain threshold increases to a very high level. My personal example is I had to undergo a D&C followed by a total hysterectomy. I underwent the D&C in the physician's office and did not require any analgesic. I left the office 15 minutes after the procedure was done. My OB/GYN patted my hand and said "you have a very high pain threshold." A month later, I underwent a total laproscopic total hysterectomy. I did not require any pain medication whatsoever in connection with that surgery. I was up walking around within two hours after surgery, and went home five hours later. When I returned to my OB/GYN's office for the post-operative check-up, the nurses stated "You amazed the nurses at the hospital. They could not believe that you were up and seemingly never underwent the surgery." Perhaps one or two members of the female community on this particular panel can appreciate this scenario.

The pain medication I continue to require is Oxycontin for my RSD. I use it as sparingly as possible and only take it when I can no longer tolerate the unrelenting pain.

I think every individual with RSD is not only very tired of having to take various and multiple medications, such as anti-inflammatories, muscle spasm relaxors, neurontin and/or nerve beta blockers, etc., as I know I personally am weary of the continual pharmaceutical regimen, but without the availability Oxycontin I am certain that I would have made numerous trips to the ER for pain relief, and/or begging to have my limb amputated.

Oxycontin is an effective pain reliever. I do not believe individuals with RSD abuse the medication. It is a crucial component to the overall treatment of RSD. Limitation of this drug would undoubtedly contribute to every victim of RSD resorting to other methods for pain control, and even suicide.

If I can contribute in any additional information, do not hesitate to contact me. I personally thank you for your efforts in fighting for the RSD community.

Debora Lewis.

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----- Headers -----  
Return-Path: <sherman910@msn.com>

Tuesday, August 21, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

1 4 8 0 1 0 1 2

Subj: <b>Oxy-contin comment</b>
Date: 8/17/01 10:10:12 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: jkmulder@iserv.net (Jean kMulder)
Reply-to: (Jean kMulder)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

It has been most interesting to catch up on the various web sites for RSD.

I have been afflicted with RSD (both legs and pelvis) since 1983.

**In addition to three implanted programmable generators, I take 100mg of Oxycontin per day. For me, this has been a godsend.**

The IPG's take care of approx. 75% of the intense pain and the Oxycontin takes the edge off. Prior to the marketing of Oxycontin, I had taken Vicodin 8tabs/day for several years. I suffered Pancreatitis, intense stomach pain after taking two Vicodin, and almost constant diarrhea for two years. We were concerned about the long term effect of so much Tylenol on the liver. When the Vicodin was stopped, the stomach pain stopped and so did the diarrhea.

**For me, I cannot go 12 hours between doses. There is no 'high', just an easement of the intense burning pain.**

**I take 20mg q 6 hours and 40mg at bedtime.**

The highest dose level I've been on is 120mg/day and the lowest has been 80mg. To me, Oxycontin has been a Godsend because I've experienced no side effects. I feel fortunate to have this RSD monster under what I determine to be moderate control. It allows me to function and participate in some of the activities that our family enjoys.

**It would a travesty if Oxycontin was not available for those who truly need it because of abuse by some.** It is unfortunate that there are people who will abuse anything for a cheap thrill. It doesn't matter if its sniffing propane, lighter fluids, or snorting drugs. **Don't let those people have an influence on those of us who endure incredible pain day in day out. We deserve to be able to experience less pain if a method is there to allow us to experience some relief**

**It would be a travesty if those of us who live with this day to day painful state are punished because of it. It would rob us of what little enjoyment in life we can experience ...if we must endure more of this hellish pain.**

I frequently say that "I would give anything to be pain free for 5min" I no longer know what "levels of pain are " When I go to the hospital, they ask me.."What level would you call your pain on a scale of 1 - 10 with 10 being the worst you've ever experienced "

To be honest, these levels have no meaning because one is never pain free. What is a 4 or 5 or 7 ? Wouldn't you love to know what a 1 or 2 was ???

I feel very fortunate. I was a Respiratory Therapist who contracted RSD from a leg fx in 1983, was treated with blocks, Sympathectomy of L2-5, Studied intensely at Mayo Clinic, Cleveland Clinic, and evaluated at the Sports Medicine Hospital in GA.

At Cleveland Clinic, I was fortunate to be under the care of RSD Guru Michael Stanton Hicks and had the 3 IPG's implanted...One for left leg, one for right, and one Dorsal Column to catch what the others missed. When I filed for SS Disability, my paper trail was very clear and we had sought out all the medical help that we could to try to overcome this miserable condition. I continued to work until I could no longer tolerate the pain , nor the swelling. My papertrail must have been very clear as I was processed in three months. It has been a long painful journey and I would not wish this condition on my worst enemy.

**When Oxycontin came on the market, my physician put me on it. A positive pain relief state was immediate. It does not remove the pain, but it makes it even more tolerable. I would simply ask Please Don't Take Oxycontin Off The Market.**

I have read that the company is considering the addition of beads to the product. If taken as intended, the beads would do nothing. If chewed or crushed, the beads would release a substance which would negate the opoid effect. It would be a smart drug. this would be the best approach.

Sorry that this is so long...Feel free to press 'delete'

It was just two days ago that I underwent 4.5 hours of surgery to replace two of the IPG's with associated

Saturday, August 18, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

wiring as well as the wiring in the spinal cord. The electrode was found to be broken, they could not get the wire back out and had to thread another one in along side it. They cannot turn the IPG's on for two weeks and the pain is out of this world. The Oxy-contin alone cannot begin to cover the pain by itself.

Hope that this is the info you were looking for.  
Jean

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Subj: **PAIN MEDS**  
Date: 8/18/01 9:38:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

I am an extreme case of R.S.D I have had fitted also a spinal cord stimulator and tried everything none to man. I get very emotional when I HEAR ALL THIS CONTROVERSY ABOUT MY MED. they are the only way I CAN GET AROUND. I AM ON OXYICONTIN it has saved my life. Please let me know where to write or go to help in saving our right to life or should I say the best we have at present to look forward to. I HAVE COMPLETELY LOST THE USE IN MY RIGHT HAND THE R.S.D HAS NOW GONE TO MY RIGHT FOOT THE LEFT IS GIVING ME A LITTLE TROUBLE. I LIVE IN HAWAII. I have traveled to Cleveland clinic for help I HAVE BEEN EVERYWHERE TRYING TO GET HELP I HAVE BATTLED DOCTORS EVEN WITH A LAWYER. my email address is robyngai@aol .com THANK YOU robyngai

Subj:  
Date: 8/17/01 8:01:27 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: ernie13@gte.net (ERNEST HOARD)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

oxycotin is a medication that help take away some of the pain . I have pain day in and day out. I've tried many medications and oxycotin is the only one that give me a little relive, so I can walk from one room to another. With it 75% of the day I can walk with my cane, instead of my walker. I can sleep all night without waking up in pain. I'am on 40mg. 3x daily, its still very painfully when I walk sometime, but it's alot painfully then it was. Oxycotin is very, fully for me and my life. Without it what would I do. Thank you very much  
Suezet 215 NE Palmblad Dr Gresham, Oregon 97030

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by smtp002.mailsvcs.net with SMTP  
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Fri, 17 Aug 2001 19:00:08 -0500 (CDT)  
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From: "ERNEST HOARD" <ernie13@gte.net>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
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Date: Sat, 18 Aug 2001 05:34:59 -0700  
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X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V4.72.3110.3

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 8/16/01 11:43:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From:  
To:

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 8/15/01 6:36:17 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: ZWild666  
To: Jwbroatch

I have severe chronic pain in my low back and have tried all kinds of pain medication and nothing helped. My doctor prescribed oxycontin for me and it helps ease the pain. It helps me get through the day. I do not think this drug is addictive at all.

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 8/13/01 11:19:37 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: lb3suda  
To: Jwbroatch

i recent very much that oxycontin may be restricted or removed from use as a chronic pain remover  
i take 20mg twice a day for fibromalgia and severe back pain although the amount i am taking does not  
remove the pain it does allow me to function enough to do the most necessary things such as cooking, light  
cleaning and very short drives

<b>Subj:</b> oxycontin <b>Date:</b> 8/11/01 6:26:54 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> baker-foundation1@juno.com (Terri Baker) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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Where you have good there is always someone out there to find bad. I too never heard of it being missed used until recently. I am not nor ever have been a junkie. But if I want to live some sort of life I need this type of medication to live it. The pain I live with RSD Left leg & FOOT, is enough at times to think about ending my life. Never heard of RSD then had minor foot surgery, that was it my life was over as I knew it. So now take away the one thing that helps me live. GREAT!!!

Terri K. Baker

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 Received: (from baker-foundation1@juno.com) by m25.boston.juno.com (queuemail) id GCLJS6FL; Sat, 11 Aug 2001 18:26:39 EDT  
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
 Date: Sat, 11 Aug 2001 17:25:03 -0500  
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 From: Terri Baker <baker-foundation1@juno.com>

<b>Subj:</b> <b>Date:</b> 8/11/01 7:11:38 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> stancorbin@qwest.net (stancorbin) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
---

My name is Donna Yarbrough, I was diagnosed with R.S.D. in 1992 in Bangor Maine, it was not until Nov. of 1999 that I had found a Doctor who treated me with oxycotin, that doctor unfortunately dismissed me in Feb. 2000, his reason was that I was to difficult a pain patient for him to feel comfortable to continue treating. Of course there is a whole long story that goes with all of this, but so as not to bore you I am giving you the short version. Since this time I have had a very hard time finding any doctor to treat me for this illness. My husband and I have relocated to Phoenix Arizona 3 weeks ago and I am still looking for someone who can treat me effectivly. I fear that if the F.D.A. puts limitations on this drug that myself and others like me who have chronic pain ( including my husband Whom has 3 different types of arthritis in all weight bearing parts of his body) will never again find any relief for our pain. I have had everything from nerve blocks to pain catheters and everything in between. I have hopes that I will find someone soon that will not be afraid of my condition. Thank \_ you for reading my letter. If you would like to contact me you may do so at donnasam70@hotmail.com. Thank-You

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Subj: **OXYCONTIN**  
Date: 8/8/01 10:04:49 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: VBIGHAM6  
To: Jwbroatch

I WAS DOING GOOD WITH OXYCONTIN IT DID HELP WITH SOME OF THE PAIN. THEY NEED TO KEEP IT OUT THERE FOR PATIENTS. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT DRUG IT IS IF PEOPLE ARE GOING TO STEAL AND USE THE DRUG IN THE WRONG WAY. THE WAY THE WORLD IS TODAY PEOPLE DON'T CARE THAT THEY MESS THINGS UP FOR PEOPLE WHO REALLY NEED THE DRUGS. AND THE GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO STOP THOSE WHO ABUSE NOT THE PEOPLE WHO REALLY NEED IT. IF THEY WANT TO STOP THINGS WHY DON'T THEY STOP THE DRUG LORDS. THEY KNOW WHO THEY ARE, BUT THEY ARE TOO CHICKEN TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT BECAUSE I WOULD GUESS TO SAY THAT 40% OF THE GOVERNMENT IS IN THE MAFFIA RING IF THE TRUTH BE KNOWN. KEEP THIS DRUG FOR PEOPLE WHO NEED IT

DIANA BIGHAM  
VBIGHAM6@AOL.COM



1881012

<b>Subj: FDA HEARING MESSAGE</b> Date: 8/8/01 10:00:01 AM Eastern Daylight Time From: ritaammons@hotmail.com (Rita Ammons) To: JWBROATCH@AOL.COM
---

FOR THE FDA HEARING ON OPIOID ANALGESICS:

I WAS A PASSENGER WHEN INVOLVED IN A CAR ACCIDENT IN 1987.  
AS A RESULT, I BECAME INFLICTED WITH REFLEX SYMPATHETIC DYSTROPHY  
IN FACE AND UPPER BODY.

THE NEXT 10 YEARS WERE A NIGHTMARE OF SURGERIES; AND BED-RIDDEN  
WITH TERRIBLE PAIN.

DURING THIS TIME, I WAS HOSPITALIZED TWICE FOR DETOX—IN ORDER TO  
EVALUATE MY MEDICATIONS. IN BOTH HOSPITALS, THE PAIN WAS SO SEVERE  
THAT THE DOCTORS AGREED THE NARCOTICS WERE NECESSARY FOR MY LIFE.

THE LAST TIME I WAS HOSPITALIZED WAS IN 1996—ONCE THE MEDICATIONS  
WERE FORMULATED TO MY NEEDS, I HAVE NOT REQUIRED ANY CHANGES OR  
INCREASES SINCE 1996!

I AM NOW IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF MY LIFE, AND FEELING MUCH BETTER.  
WITHOUT THESE NARCOTICS, I AM SO AFRAID OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME.

WE HAVE THE MEANS TO CONTROL PATIENTS' PAIN—WHY DO WE HAVE  
TO SUFFER???

ANOTHER CHRONIC PAIN SUFFERER

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Wed, 8 Aug 2001 06:59:50 -0700  
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X-Originating-IP: [12.90.166.194]  
From: "Rita Ammons" <ritaammons@hotmail.com>  
To: JWBROATCH@AOL.COM  
Subject: FDA HEARING MESSAGE  
Date: Wed, 08 Aug 2001 13:59:50 +0000  
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Wednesday, August 08, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: **Opiods and chronic pain**  
Date: 8/7/01 11:00:58 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *tlhaupt@mediaone.net (Tim)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

I suffer from chronic pain. A lot of my symptoms sound like RSDS.

However, I have not been formally diagnosed. I really don't want such a disease, but the burning and pain are quite real.

Opiods are the only pain relief I get. I daresay that I should go insane should I not have an option for pain relief. It is quite burdensome to deal with most days. I don't think it fair of any review committee to take the silly behaviors of a few drug abusers and penalize the rest of us.

I do not, and have never inhaled any sort of opiate that I ground into powder. I much prefer the pill form as my nose hurts enough as it is. My concern is for those who have pain worse than me who may not have access to the only relief they have.

Does anyone seriously think that such a bureaucratic move would be of maximum benefit to those in need? It is obvious to me that those making the decisions have no experience with chronic pain. Of course, it also seems obvious that they have not asked any of us who suffer. Such an action of banning opioid access to those of us in chronic pain makes the accusation that we are drug addicts with prescription access. It is far from the truth. I take the very LEAST amount of medication to achieve the proper therapeutic effect. I have a spinal injury, bruised brachial nerves in my left arm, fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue. The pain is very exquisite some days - especially when the weather changes. When I am sick with the flu, or like today with food poisoning, the pain is even more protracted. What would the bureaucrats want me to do? Cut my arm off? cut off my vertebra that neurologists are too chicken to operate on? When my pain relief is gone, I will go quite mad.

Let me tell you about my life. I have graduated with a Master's Degree in organization development and am currently studying for my doctorate. If I don't at least alleviate the pain to some extent, I will not be able to go on with a productive life and pay your salaries through my exorbitant taxation. Those of us with injuries want to GO ON with our lives. the opioids, when taken properly as I do, assist me in going on with my life.

Would you condemn those of us who want to make something of our lives to a wheelchair or - worse - a bed? that is the option for those of us in pain. To sit upright is something that those on committee take for granted. Those of us in constant pain exercise extreme effort to sit up - let alone walk or brush our teeth. Nothing can be taken for granted when you deal with pain. everything you can do is a gift. Would you rob us of what little we can do?

Timothy Haupt  
MA OB  
Clovis, CA

----- Headers -----

Tuesday, August 07, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Subj: **Oxycontin**  
Date: 8/7/01 11:24:49 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: *fraserrealty@prairienet.com (Fraser Realty)*  
To: *jwbroatch@aol.com*

I was a police officer injured in the line of duty. I have had 16 surgeries and the removal of the left knee cap. After the left knee removal I had RSD develop in that area. I also face two hip replacement because of the use of Prednisone and Indocin, Disalcid, Naprosyn which all have ate away at my bones. The original doctors never told me this could happen in the 1980s or 90s. After years of suffering with RSD and pain from the other surgeries that never really worked the doctors at my pain clinic have me on Norco[*vicodin*] and oxycontin. With out this medication I would not be able to sleep, get out of bed, be a functional human being, much less work. Believe me I fought with myself for years on taking this kind of medication, especially with working undercover, but without it at this point in my life I would never be able to function as a somewhat normal human being. I was in serious pain constantly and my life was being ruined. Thanks to the opiods I can now at least work again. Sincerely, David Fraser Fraser Realty 1200 East Church ST, Sandwich, Illinois 60548 Telephone 815 786 3081 Fax 815 786 2679 I am also a Army Vet having spent several years on a Anti Terrorist Team in Germany.

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From: "Fraser Realty" <fraserrealty@prairienet.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
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**Subj: Oxycontin**  
**Date: 8/4/01 8:05:56 AM Eastern Daylight Time**  
**From: KTK6568**  
**To: Jwbroatch**

To whom it May Concern,

I AM A REGISTERED NURSE—IN SEVERE AGONY FROM RSD... Before any beurocratic individual makes such a statement of controlling necessary medication like oxycontin for the condition of RSD (reflex sympathetic dyatrophy) or cancer pain I suggest you try living with this horror for one week, and see how well you do...

Oxycontin is a GOD SEND— I am a very educated individual with six years of University education, and 17 years of nursing behind me... I COULD NOT FUNCTION AT ALL WITH MY RSD WITHOUT OXYCONTIN— So Sir, walk a mile in my shoes before such ridiculous statements are made for trying to take a little bit of my agony away with the medication of oxycontin... I am in Statge III, do you you know the outcome for RSD Sir, SUICIDE FROM AGONY... LIVING AGONY 24 HOURS A DAY..Do some research on my disease before you try to take away a medication that gives 7 million Americans relief from "agony" of RSD alone in the USA... Kathleen T. Kissen, RN,C—It would be better served if you educate the public, physicians to RSD before it comes to late as it has for me, two years Sir, had this been diagnosed within three months I COULD HAVE BEEN NORMAL WITHOUT RSD—NOW I FACE A LIFE OF AGONY... This is one RN who will speak out wherever and whenever I can...

Subj: **Oxycontin Controversy**  
Date: 8/2/01 11:23:47 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: RSmith3024  
To: Jwbroatch

I am one of these 50 million Americans who suffers with chronic pain as a result of total body RSD.

For me Oxycontin is the only opioid Analgesic that is effective in helping to control my RSD/CRPS pain.

I was diagnosed with RSD/CRPS in 1996. I have gone through all the known treatments including a spinal cord stimulator implant which resulted in my lower extremity RSD going into total body RSD.

I have been through so many medications & creams that I have lost count, including lidocaine infusions for four to five months until I got an abdominal infection and had to discontinue.

If the FDA does take away Oxycontin from those of us who need it just to get through the day, I really don't know how we will make it.

I pray that we will be allowed to continue with the only relief we have right now, if not God will be the only one who can help us.

Diane Smith-N.C.

Subj: **opiad analgesics/oxycotin for treatment of chronic pain**  
Date: 8/1/01 4:40:27 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: Mbp543  
To: Jwbroatch

Dear JWBroatch,

Please use my testimonial in your presentation to the FDA committee. My life was turned upside-down (actually ripped from me!) in June 1999. I have been living in hell for over 2 years! My genitofemoral nerve was damaged in a botched abdominal surgery (with serious complications) Also involved, are my ilioinguinal & sciatic nerves. The indescribable, constant pain starts in my rt. abdomen and goes down the right leg (and sometimes upward into my rt. shoulder & arm)! There is nothing they can do surgically, at this point, that won't cause further damage (but I try to remain hopeful)! Dr.s also believe that RSD/CRPS may be involved in this chronic, debilitating nightmare! My pain management involves several therapies including on-going LS nerve blocks, counseling, relaxation techniques, physical therapy, and a variety of medications (Oxycontin, Neurontin, Elavil, Flexaril, Ambein, etc.). Having used many of these treatments prior to adding Oxycontin (using Percocet every couple of hours, instead), I can tell you that Oxycontin saved my life! The combination of all the other therapies still provided no adequate relief! I honestly know that I would no longer still be here if I had to endure that level of pain much longer! After adding Oxycontin 1 1/2 yrs. ago, I gained some of my life back! I am still disabled - pain still prevents so many activities, but I am able to be a mother again - fixing family meals, light chores and simply spending time with my family without constant pain! In that 1 1/2 we have increased my dosage only once (though it's probably time to do so again due to much increased breakthrough pain). I get no 'euphoria' as uninformed skeptics may think! I simply get pain relief!! And with this nerve damage, that means - a life! It would be an absolute crime for the FDA to take away a medication that has returned a quality of life to me that I thought impossible! And I'm sure this is the case for countless others with horrible chronic pain conditions! Those who misuse or abuse Oxycontin obviously need help, but why should those who legitimately benefit from this medicine be persecuted? My prescription comes from my anesthesiologist/pain management doctor who prescribes it responsibly. Doctors should, perhaps be better educated, obviously not simply prescribing it for ordinary pain that could easily be treated otherwise. And people who get it illegally should obviously be prosecuted and get proper drug treatment. But banning it is definitely not the answer! Where would the FDA stop? Should they ban every narcotic medication because of the actions of some people? I'm sure research can prove that these meds prove far more beneficial to more people than the number of those who abuse them! Doesn't more deaths occur each year from complications of acetaminophen?! I think so. Should that be banned? Should Alcohol be completely banned? It is certainly abused and causes deaths. The whole media frenzy surrounding Oxycontin has been awful to those of us who legitimately need it - we have to be secretive about taking it, now (the stigma attached is terrible & unfair)! And now we have to worry if the FDA will take it away?! I honestly pray, they consider the quality of life (and even the very existence of life) of those of us in chronic pain! If you need to contact me or, are able to keep me informed, my e-mail is MBP543@aol.com.

Suffering & Scared,

Melissa Pellerin

Subj: **oxycontin**  
Date: 7/31/01 11:47:12 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
From: ryoung@allstate.ca (Young, Rose)  
To: jwbroatch@aol.com ("jwbroatch@aol.com")

thank you for taking up this cause. I take oxycontin for fibromyalgia, myofacial pain and arthritis. I take 50 mg twice a day. It allows me to work full time at a job I have been at for 25 years. I would not have been able to continue working without. I am fortunate to have a supportive and trusting doctor who respects my pain. Please do not let them take this away. It is the most relief I have had in 3 years. Any thing I can do to help , please let me know. I live in Ontario and understand this is a big problem in the states and I am sure it will filter up here. It would be a crime to let people suffer

thanks, Rose

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <ryoung@allstate.ca>  
Received: from rly-yg03.mx.aol.com (rly-yg03.mail.aol.com [172.18.147.3]) by air-yg03.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTP id MAILINYG35-0731114712; Tue, 31 Jul 2001 11:47:12 -0400  
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id <P9M4R02C>; Tue, 31 Jul 2001 11:51:02 -0400  
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From: "Young, Rose" <ryoung@allstate.ca>  
To: "jwbroatch@aol.com" <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: oxycontin  
Date: Tue, 31 Jul 2001 11:50:48 -0400  
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1 4 8 0 1 0 1 1

Subj: <b>rsd and oxycontin</b>
Date: 7/31/01 2:34:24 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: longpepper@msn.com (??a ???)
To: jwbroatch@aol.com

my name is donna isaacs and i have been dealing with rsd for almost 6 years. i take oxcontin everyday for my pain . i am finding it more and more difficult to get my medicine because of all the media coverage. in the newspapers and on t.v. you read and hear that there are people buying the medication on the street to get high. i take my medication to feel a little better every day. it is not fair for people like myself and others with chronic pain to have to suffer trying to get the medication they need to take in order to get through one day. i don't want a high, i want relief from pain. i do not think people are much educated on rsd and the medications, and the pain we go through. something should be done to stop these people from getting the medication on the street. mabey if every person with rsd had some kind of note, or bractlet, or a pin, something when their diganosed with it that the drug stores would know just who should be taking the medication and who should not. i myself know of at least three people who have been in rehab. to get off oxycontin and they say they can't, but they take them to get high. what a waste of money and time in their life, that i would love to have, as long as it pain free. i don't understand why take the medication if not needed. they are the ones that aare making it so hard for people like me, who lives each day in chronic pain,to get the right medication.i have been to at least four drug stores that do not carry my medication, because of the media coverage, and i panic each time i go to get my medicine,praying that i will be able on that day to get it filled.this is just how i feel about what is going on with the situation concerning oxycontin. I NEED MY MEDICATION, EVERY DAY JUST TO GET OUT OF BED.

E-MAIL LONGPEPPER@MSN.COM  
CONCERNED

SINCERELY

DONNA ISAACS

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <longpepper@msn.com>  
Received: from rly-xb01.mx.aol.com (rly-xb01.mail.aol.com [172.20.105.102]) by air-xb02.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTP id MAILINXB24-0731023423; Tue, 31 Jul 2001 02:34:23 -0400  
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Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;  
Mon, 30 Jul 2001 23:22:07 -0700  
X-Originating-IP: [63.48.102.195]  
From: "??a ???> <longpepper@msn.com>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: rsd and oxycontin  
Date: Tue, 31 Jul 2001 02:22:56 -0400  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
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Message-ID: <OE10TuG5wQ0I8HvNuSN0001038e@hotmail.com>  
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 31 Jul 2001 06:22:07.0254 (UTC) FILETIME=[1F7C5360:01C11989]



<b>Subj: Oxycontin</b> <b>Date: 8/1/01 8:02:46 AM Eastern Daylight Time</b> <b>From: GraceCroft@FBCOrlando.org (Grace Croft)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com ('jwbroatch@aol.com')</b>
--

Gentlemen,

I am extremely concerned about all the bad press that OxyContin is receiving. I am extremely concerned that this drug will end up being taken off the market

After taking so many other pain medications, that only serve to make me feel terrible, I am grateful for this medication. I had an injury in 1994 that left me with RSD.

I found a doctor who could effectively treat it with OxyContin, Oxycodone for breakthrough pain, and they do not leave me dizzy, sick to my stomach, or high. The other drugs I have tried all made me sick and did NOT even phase the pain.

I beg everyone to leave the drug on the market. If you had RSD pain you would know what I am talking about. This is the ONLY ONE that gives me nearly total relief from this never ending ordeal.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Grace Croft  
 2720 Kenora Court  
 Orlando, FL 32837  
 407-240-2957

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <GraceCroft@FBCOrlando.org>  
 Received: from rly-zc04.mx.aol.com (rly-zc04.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.4]) by air-zc03.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTMP id MAILINZC31-0801080246; Wed, 01 Aug 2001 08:02:46 -0400  
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 Message-ID: <90A8288C1863D311B8A70060088FCE3C95BE81@luke.fbcorlando.org>  
 From: Grace Croft <GraceCroft@FBCOrlando.org>  
 To: "jwbroatch@aol.com" <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: Oxycontin  
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## Oxycotin- A Miracle Drug??

That depends on what you call a miracle- Let's see what you think of this-

Alice (fictional person but real situation) has suffered from Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (RSD) for 15 years. What is RSD? If you ask Alice or anyone else who suffers from RSD, you may get a one word answer, PAIN! RSD is a debilitating disease which involves the skin, nerves, blood vessels, muscles and bones It may cause severe physical disabilities such as contractions of the leg, arm or neck muscles, but the most common symptom is pain. A severe and constant burning pain, that feels

- as if gasoline had been poured over large parts of the body and then lit,
- as if hot poker were being pushed into their skin,
- as if second degree burns are constantly being inflicted and will never heal

This burning pain is neuropathic (caused by damaged nerves). Besides the burning pain most victims of RSD also suffer from inflammation which causes muscle & joint pain.

OK- back to Alice

Alice had an accident at work, a minor accident but it resulted in RSD. When she was injured, Alice worked with physically, emotionally and developmentally disabled persons in a Sheltered Workshop and she was a partner in a stained glass business designing & making windows & lamps. She was married and the proud mother of a 16 year old daughter. Alice was very busy and very fulfilled. Life was good!

Then....RSD started in her arm and spread throughout her body. For the past 15 years Alice hasn't been able to:

hug her husband, her daughter or even her grandchildren

- Sleep more than a few hours a night
- touch the stained glass
- wear any clothes that aren't made out of soft cotton or rayon
- drive
- maintain a job
- dress herself or care for her family.

She lost all of the above and more, so much more because of the pain that RSD has made her deal with 24 hours a day, seven days a week for the past 15 years.

Alice has been lucky because she has had wonderful doctors who have tried to control the pain. She has taken, Muscle Relaxants, Calcium Channel Blocker, Anti-convulsants, Clonidine Patch, Baclofin, NASIDS, Antidepressants and even some opioids. She has had a TENS unit and a spinal cord stimulation trial but none of them have made a measurable difference. The pain is still preventing her from living a normal life.

Alice has been depressed and has considered suicide multiple times. There were days when she didn't think that she could stand any more pain but her doctors kept reminding her that new drugs were being developed. Drugs that could help her pain. There was neurotin, duragesic patches, lidocaine patches, Clonidine, etc. None of them helped and after each trial she was more depressed. She decided that it was hopeless and she wouldn't try any more medications. When

Oxycotin was approved by the FDA, Alice's doctor talked her into giving it a try. After all it had no serious side effects, it lasted 12 hours and the results from the clinical trials were promising.

Alice has been on Oxycotin for 1 year. It hasn't stopped all of her pain but she can sleep 5 hours a night, she can hug her grandchildren and she concentrate better. After 14 years of no help, oxycotin has allowed Alice to not only have a more normal life but it has given her the hope that there will be other medicines developed that will control even more of her pain.

Is this a miracle? I think so!!

Now I'd like to ask you how you can take oxycotin away from people who need it because for some people in severe chronic pain, this is the only pain killer that helps?

Severely limiting the use of oxycotin, will not help the problem of illegal drug use that plagues our country because other drugs would take it's place. Street drugs are available, and there are so many prescriptions drugs that can be used to get high- valium, vicadin, ketamine ..... to name a just a few. A severe reaction to this issue will only

- Support the physician's fear of perscripting opiod medications for those in severe pain
- Increase the pain, suffering and inability to live a normal life in those who have found oxucotin to be the only medication that has lessened their painneed to survive- hope for access to medications that will lessen their pain

It is imperative that physicians respect all opoid, opiod angn & . These medications are to be used for severe pain and they should all be considered as **Clonidine Patch**

<b>Subj: Anesthetic &amp; Life Support Drugs Advisory Committee</b> <b>Date: 6/25/01 10:56:40 AM Pacific Daylight Time</b> <b>From: ddorman@rarediseases.org (Diane Dorman)</b> <b>Reply-to: ddorman@rarediseases.org (Diane Dorman)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com (Broatch, Jim)</b>
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Jim, below is a roster of the Advisory Committee. Procedures have not yet been set up for organizations to address the Committee. When I talked with Jayne Peters at the FDA a few moments ago, she suggested that you call her in mid-July at 301.827.7001. By then they should be able to provide you with definitive answers. Jayne expects the public portion of the meeting will be well attended.

I hope this information is helpful. Let me know if you need anything else.

Best regards,

Diane E. Dorman

## Anesthetic and Life Support Drugs Advisory Committee

(As of 1/29/01)

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### CHAIR

Terese T. Horlocker, M.D. 3/31/01  
 Associate Professor of Anesthesiology  
 Department of Anesthesiology  
 Mayo Clinic  
 200 First Street Street, S.W.  
 Rochester, Minnesota 55905

### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Kimberly Topper  
 Advisors and Consultants Staff (HFD-21)  
 Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
 Food and Drug Administration  
 5600 Fishers Lane  
 Rockville, Maryland 20857  
 (301) 827-7001 Fax: (301) 827-6776  
 mailto:%20topperk@cder.fda.gov

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### MEMBERS

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( NINT American Reflex Syndrome )  
 Subj: **Testimony on Opiate Analgesics**  
 Date: 5/22/01 7:43:46 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
 From: Starbird42393  
 To: Jwbroatch

Jim -

I believe it is appropriate and necessary for a person with RSD to present their own life experiences dealing with chronic whole body pain and to attempt to remain gainfully employed and a meaningful lifestyle. Taking opiate analgesics is not a luxury, it is a "need to function" each day allowing me to have some relief.

I am a member of the Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association of America Board.

Presently, I am on the Executive Staff of the Office of Disability Employment Policy, within DOL. This new office was formally the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities.

As a RSD Board member, I work daily with young people and adults who have acquired RSD and are fighting for their civil and disability rights in the classroom, and in the work place in their community. While we have had our ADA in force for ten plus years now, we, as a nation have a long way to go before the rights of citizens with disabilities become full partners in this country. RSD is a hidden disability that may start with an insufficient injury. RSD can develop with a simple type of acquiring a small cut in the kitchen. No one is free from acquiring RSD. No one is free from acquiring a pain level that causes many Americans with disabilities to commit suicide. (My experience with the Johns Hopkins Medical Center - Pain Center),

Oxycontin and its' sister RX MS Contin have been on the market for five or six years. Just about every new prescription drug has a period of illegal marketing.

Without these medications, I would not be able to work or have a reasonable and meaningful life. I would not have the strength to appear here today. I am here today with the help of my assistance dog, Star. While my pain level at this time is in the 5 range, without the opiate analgesics, my pain levels would be a 10. (Example of McGill University Pain Center rating RSD at a 42 compared to a 36 for cancer.)

Intense pain is part of my life, without these opiate analgesics, without the availability of these rx'd medicines, my life would be meaningless. And, yes, before there was Oxycontin and MS Contin, my thoughts had been directed to taking my life.

Those of us with RSV and other devastating pain-ridden disabilities deserve to have these medicines available through our medical doctors, and the already in place monitoring practices between the doctor, the patient and our pharmacy.

I plead with this Committee not to deprive those of us with devastating pain to remove our rights to have these opiate analgesics available to us. This is a life and or death issue!

Thank you

Respectfully submitted,

Wilson H. Hulley  
 3704 Woodbine Street  
 Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Jim - here is my testimony. Hearings usually have a high percentage of Association executives. Rarely, are people with a mayor and direct interest in the issue before the Committee are heard. Those of us with death defying pain level, need to be heard!

7/27/01

Dear Mr. Jim Broatch,

I am writing to you once again, the last time was 1999, when I joined the RSDSA. I was eager to help in any way I could, get the "word" out about RSD. Since then, I have been in so much pain and am suffering from side effects of all the meds I've been taking. In the past year, I lost a lot of my hair overdosed on meds twice and had a neuroleptic reactions to anti-emetics (Compaz Tigan) and Neurontin. (deadly combination!) To make a long story short I am outraged that the media's coverage re: Oxycontin is linked to "abuse". For once let the media interview those of us with whom this medicine makes life "tolerable" not "enjoyable". I along with a superb doctor, use this medicine carefully and with a verbal agreement to not ever abuse this drug. I have been explained not to chew, crush or increase the dose on my own. There is at least one wonderful + competent doctor in Penna. Dr. Carla Rodgers MD, pain management psychiatrist. She has

been with me all the way, since my diagnosis in 1999. If there is ever an award for a great doctor who understands RSD, please inform me. There should be more "Dr. Rodger's" in the medical profession as she has truly helped me and I see her help others as well. Just wish I could publicly acknowledge her. Please urge the FDA to keep oxycontin available to those of us with severe intractable pain. "drugs" issuing "guidelines" could be a compromise.

Sincerely,  
Colleen Visco



Ms. Colleen Visco  
3400 Red Lion Rd. Apt. 40C  
Philadelphia, PA 19114

<b>Subj:</b> OxyContin <b>Date:</b> 7/29/01 10:07:32 PM Eastern Daylight Time <b>From:</b> linda.avila@NetTest.com (Linda Avila) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com
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Hello,

My name is Linda Avila. I was diagnosed with RSDS about a year ago, but suffered for several years not knowing what it is. With pain medicine, sympathetic blocks and physical therapy I am able to keep this condition stable enough that I have been able to resume a normal level of activity for myself. Which includes being a single mother of 4, full time job, weight lifting, running for just a start. The thought of having something that could potentially help me or others in chronic pain be limited or taken away makes me angry and feel that I would be discriminated against. Any person who thinks oxycontin should be taken away or severely limited should have to live one day with an iron hot nail shove through the bottom of their foot. After a week of that, twist the nail and shove it in another direction. During this entire period their family members will be required to roll their eyes and say they are exaggerating and they must continue to go to work and take care of any other responsibilities they may have. They mustn't cry or scream. After one month of this, they are allowed to take pain medication and remove the nail, following treatment with a doctor. Then because someone doesn't believe they really hurt, the nail is put back in, only this time it is bigger and there are more of them. This should be repeated over and over again.

Maybe at that point I would listen to their reasons as to why this helpful medication should be limited or removed from the market.

Regards,

Linda

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <linda.avila@NetTest.com>  
Received: from rly-yb03.mx.aol.com (rly-yb03.mail.aol.com [172.18.146.3]) by air-yb02.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTTP id MAILINYB27-0729220732; Sun, 29 Jul 2001 22:07:32 -0400  
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Subject: OxyContin  
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X-Ms-Tnef-Correlator:  
Thread-Topic: OxyContin



Subj:	<b>Re: OxyContin</b>
Date:	7/28/01 6:02:52 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	MIMIBYRD
To:	Jwbroatch

My injury was September 1990, rsd diagnosed in March 1996.

Many medications had been tried by pain physicians since then but none, bar NONE, helped the pain like OxyContin.

The difference in lifestyle is phenomenal since I've been on it (January 2001).

I have returned to school in hopes of having a medical transcription business in 2-3 years. I can concentrate while learning the difficult terminology, I can stand up a little longer, and I just simply *feel* like getting out more often. Friends have told me I'm not so edgy and impatient as I was. When the pain lessens, irritability lessens too.

Until this past January, the strongest pain medication prescribed was Tylenol 3 for four years. I had been taking, and continue to take, Baclofen, Neurontin, Mexiletine, Vioxx and Zanaflex. Even though all those medications do help, it is the OxyContin that has made the biggest difference in pain levels.

It is difficult to explain the wide variances of types of pain that rsd encompasses. It is not a one-plane pain; it's the multitude of differing pains that I believe people find hard to grasp.

I pray all the negative press on OxyContin will be countered with the gratitude of many people with rsd that have found some relief with this medication.

Recently I had an article published on Living with RSD. It was in a small publication entitled Chronic Pain Report, originating from an off-shoot of the American Chronic Pain Association group. Several physicians from the Texas Medical Center contribute articles to this publication. We sent out roughly 500 copies to physicians here in Houston. My pain physician told me she had received many positive comments from other patients who had read it.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts. Thank you too for all your hard work for the RSDSA.

Joyce Byrd

Subj:  
 Date: 7/27/01 9:33:11 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
 From: jbb472@hotmail.com (Jeffrey Brooks)  
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com

Hello, I have suffered with RSD which developed a couple of months after an injury. The original injury was diagnosed as Brachial Plexopathy. I am still holding on due to good Doctors, a wife who has stood by me.

I am on a mild pain medication for now, but what happens when it gets worse, which it most likely will. Will there be medications easily available that will help, or will the punk criminals who have started this controversy block my right to be treated in a humane way.

JBB

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

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <jbb472@hotmail.com>  
 Received: from rly-zc02.mx.aol.com (rly-zc02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.2]) by air-zc04.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTTP id MAILINZC48-0727213310; Fri, 27 Jul 2001 21:33:10 -0400  
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 X-Originating-IP: [63.214.113.52]  
 From: "Jeffrey Brooks" <jbb472@hotmail.com>  
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
 Date: Fri, 27 Jul 2001 21:33:03 -0400  
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 X-OriginalArrivalTime: 28 Jul 2001 01:33:03.0669 (UTC) FILETIME=[3EAA0650:01C11705]

<b>Subj: OxyContin Controversy</b> <b>Date: 7/14/01 1:07:51 PM Pacific Daylight Time</b> <b>From: joanrad@rcsis.com (Joan Radford)</b> <b>To: jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
--

I was in a automobile accident in 1994, I just turned 46 in June 2001. I have been in severe pain every day since that accident. My right ankle was completely crushed and I was diagnosed with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy. At that time I didn't even really understand what it was (RSD) all I new was that the pain was unbearable. I have been prescribed and used every type of pain medication available Vicodin, Norco, Methadone, & Lortab. I have also had several Epidural Sympathetic Blocks and none of these medications or procedures have been as effective as Oxycontin. I wish I didn't need to take Oxycontin or any other prescribed medications but even with Oxycontin my quality of life has never been the same.

What is wrong with these people who do not suffer from **chronic pain**? Why should they be the ones to decide who gets Oxycontin and who shouldn't? And why should they care if your body does become dependent on these prescribed drugs isn't that better than suffering in pain every moment of every day? People in **chronic pain** don't care if there body becomes dependent on a certain drug, all they care about is getting rid of the pain.

The drug abusers out there will abuse any drug they can get their hands on Legal or Illegal. They look to drugs for the high or to profit from them.

If on Sept. 13-14, 2001 the FDA decides to limit the availability of Oxycontin I think they will be doing a great injustice to people in chronic pain. I hope by sending this e-mail it will help you defend the need for chronic pain patients to continue to be able to receive Oxycontin if it is prescribed to them without interference from the FDA.

Tran Moore  
RSDSA Member

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <joanrad@rcsis.com>  
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 by smtp.rcsis.com (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id MAA10170  
 for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Sat, 14 Jul 2001 12:56:50 -0700  
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 From: "Joan Radford" <joanrad@rcsis.com>  
 To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
 Subject: OxyContin Controversy  
 Date: Sat, 14 Jul 2001 13:17:48 -0700  
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<b>Subj:</b> RE: Oxycontin Controversary <b>Date:</b> 7/10/01 8:16:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time <b>From:</b> RSDNME11@worldnet.att.net (Eduardo Pace) <b>To:</b> jwbroatch@aol.com <b>File:</b> AssistanceLetter.wps (14336 bytes) DL Time (28800 bps): < 1 minute
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**Dear Mr., Broatch :**  
I have RSD (or CRPS as it is commonly referred to now) and have been dealing with this condition since a work related injury that occurred in June of 1990. I know that I have consistently struggled with the severity of pain only because I have had opioids to help get me over that very steep hill one must climb when battling with severe constant pain. Although the opioids, including an Infusion Pump distributing morphine at the rate of 110mg per day, Duragesic Patches, Methadone and Keppra, to name a few of the medications I currently take don't rid my body of the severe pain, the medications due help me make it through each day. I recall days prior to taking any medications (for I thought I could develop an additional problem, addiction) and know suicide was not only tempting but a near reality. Therefore I have become a very strong advocate on the subject of opioids and the right of patients who are suffering to get the appropriate medication/treatment necessary. Isn't it a sad notion to imagine a person suffering needlessly when there is medication of various types and dosages that could relieve such pain and allow an individual to focus on the healing process and get past this hurdle!  
I thank you for allowing my voice to be heard.

**Mr. Broatch,** currently I face a dilemma and have tried writing congressman and senators alike however to no avail. I have included with this message an attachment, that being the letter I sent to the various elected officials and is self explanatory. If you think you could provide any help or information, it would be most appreciated. I feel I have come to a dead end and now have nowhere to turn. I have been fighting this fight for a very long time and frankly have very little strength to do much more. Again, any help or suggestions would be most appreciated.

Thank you for your attention.

**Best Wishes,**  
**Eduardo Pace**

----- Headers -----  
Return-Path: <RSDNME11@worldnet.att.net>  
Received: from rly-zc03.mx.aol.com (rly-zc03.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.3]) by air-zc05.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTMP id MAILINZC54-0710231618; Tue, 10 Jul 2001 23:16:18 -0400  
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Received: from vogmudet ([12.78.183.9]) by mtiwmhc26.worldnet.att.net (InterMail vM.4.01.03.16 201-229-121-116-20010115) with SMTP id <20010711031540.DKGK2154.mtiwmhc26.worldnet.att.net@vogmudet> for <jwbroatch@aol.com>; Wed, 11 Jul 2001 03:15:40 +0000  
Message-ID: <000b01c109b7\$51d40880\$09b74e0c@vogmudet>  
From: "Eduardo Pace" <RSDNME11@worldnet.att.net>  
To: <jwbroatch@aol.com>  
Subject: RE: Oxycontin Controversary  
Date: Tue, 10 Jul 2001 23:12:27 -0400  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;  
boundary="====\_NextPart\_000\_0007\_01C10995.C9205140"  
X-Priority: 3  
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal

**Subj: RSD/oxycotin debate**  
**Date: 7/10/01 3:35:43 AM Pacific Daylight Time**  
**From: davmoinfl@webtv.net (Lonnie Albino)**  
**To: jwbroatch@aol.com**

My name is Holly Albino. I was finally officially dx. with CRPS in 10/99. I was left to suffer unmercifully with no pain management for over six months. I was bed-ridden in extreme pain seeing no reason for going on with life. My husband so desperate..standing by helpless and my very young son crying to see his Mom suffer decided to move to another state where I could get proper pain management. We left our home and family and I got proper treatment with oxycotin. I could get out of bed and the crying stopped until I missed my parents so. We returned to Florida with the name of an excellent Dr some distance from us but am under pain management. The oxycotin makes waking up bearable. I can't play with my child but can have some semblance of life which before I HAD NONE. Oxycotin helps RSD patients so much why would the government take it off the market because of drug addicts who will find another drug of choice and leave a population of chronic pain sufferers to suffer once again. I would not wish this disease on my worst enemy. So please help us live a life that has as much pain free days as possible!!! Think about us not the addicts !

Sincerely,  
 Holly O. Albino

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <davmoinfl@webtv.net>  
 Received: from rly-zc02.mx.aol.com (rly-zc02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.2]) by air-zc01.mail.aol.com (v79.27) with ESMTP id MAILINZC11-0710063543; Tue, 10 Jul 2001 06:35:43 -0400  
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 From: davmoinfl@webtv.net (Lonnie Albino)  
 Date: Tue, 10 Jul 2001 06:35:22 -0400 (EDT)  
 To: jwbroatch@aol.com  
 Subject: RSD/oxycotin debate  
 Message-ID: <20155-3B4ADA6A-2747@storefull-144.iap.bryant.webtv.net>  
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 MIME-Version: 1.0 (WebTV)

Tuesday, July 10, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

96

Juli Spicer  
132 Fisk Terrace  
Fremont, CA 94538

27 June, 2001

RSDSA  
P.O. Box 502  
Milford, CT 06460

*To whom it may concern:*

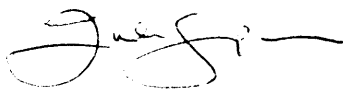
Subject: Potential FDA limitation of opioid analgesics for CPRS (chronic pain) patients

I am a chronic pain patient, the diagnosis due to a failed spine surgery of ten years ago. The intractable pain began only nine months ago, but has progressed rapidly and all over my body. OxyContin is the narcotic pain reliever my pain management doctor has prescribed for me, and without it I would not even be able to type this letter because of the terrible pain in my hands. I am a member of the NCPF (National Chronic Pain Foundation), having just joined as of three weeks ago. We have a website located at: [www.intractablepain.com](http://www.intractablepain.com). I encourage you to explore the site at your convenience.

I have been to two neurosurgeons and two orthopedic surgeons, along with an array of naturopathic doctors (chiropractors, acupuncturists, homeopathic specialists, etc.) in an effort to find relief from this debilitating pain. I was referred to a pain management specialist (he is a doctor of anesthesiology), and he has prescribed me OxyContin for my pain after trying Morphine, Methadone, Duragesic, Vicodin, and many other drugs. OxyContin is the only one that relieves some of the pain without terrible side effects. A federal limitation on my doctor and his ability to dispense the prescriptions would severely affect my future, in that I would not be able to live with the intense pain all over my body.

If there is anything you can do to prevent this from happening, I, and the members of the National Chronic Pain Foundation would greatly appreciate it. Limiting the availability of this drug is not fair to those chronic pain patients who often are financially devastated due to their dealing with chronic pain and those who can't find a doctor who specifically deals with chronic pain. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,



Juli Spicer

<b>Subj: Fw: Protocol--Request</b> <b>Date: 6/4/01 9:20:48 PM Pacific Daylight Time</b> <b>From: ru42354@prodigy.net (ROBERT M ROOTS)</b> <b>To: Jwbroatch@aol.com</b>
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Are we talking about the FDA advisory panel hearing? If so, -- J.B.

Forgive me for not being more specific James.

My name is Robert Root, I live in Washington State and have decided to finish a PhD in Public Health Administration and am in the last 2 years of a program at the U. of Wash. I have worked in the chronic pain community since 1997. I am a member of Washington Intractable Pain Association , the author's of the boilerplate legislation that offers MD's more legal protection to practice Pain Management than any other state.

I have worked with persons like Lois Randall (Randall Pain Scale) Dr. Mike Whitworth who started Harvard's Chronic Pain Board, which handles over 150K hits a year pro-bono.

I don't wish to go on a long oration of my work, except to say I started by helping write King County's methadone maintained grant in 1972 , (Seattle) then Spokane's in 1975. I have been active in pain groups for many years.

If possible could we chat via the telephone ? I only wish to understand the timing and as much about the possible ramifications of such a 'review' James.

We are in direct contact with pro-active, and indirect, "come as you may" chronic persons all over the US and if need be we can have thousands of letters on your door step by the end of August. I just need to know more about how this meeting appears to be so crucial without the FDA's notification to many of the real professional in this community. Dr. Whitworth , Dr. S Smith, Dr. Gelders , Garth Nickleson PhD. , as these MD's and one PhD have made it their lives to keep the federal legal system from swallowing up so many innocent pain patients .

Perhaps you can give me a few moments of your time. I would appreciate it very much , and if we could chat, I would like to have some answers for my colleagues. My phone # is 509-326-3570 I live in P.S.Time. (West Coast)

If you have a phone # where I could call and chat, I would be very appreciative, as would many folks from the Arthritis, Fibro, immune deficient,

CFD, ect. , communities who I work with daily and who after reading your request for written communication, wish to help in the most productive way possible.

Reply requested

Thank You so much ,

Robert M Root MA

Pain Management Co-op Admin.

ru42354@prodigy.net

— Original Message —

**From:** Jwbroatch@aol.com

**To:** ru42354@prodigy.net

**Sent:** Monday, June 04, 2001 9:39 AM

**Subject:** Re: Protocol

In a message dated 6/1/01 5:30:19 AM Eastern Daylight Time, ru42354@prodigy.net writes:

How is the collating and proliferation of information being accomplished, and who are the central reps. from the pain community ?

Tuesday, June 05, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

Please advise ..thank you  
 Robert Root MA Public Health Administration  
 Admin. Pain Management Co-op

Are we talking about the FDA advisory panel hearing? If so, I've have asked to speak and will present the panel members with the stories of individuals with chronic pain, especially RSD and the benefits of opiate analgesics for such pain. I've collected over 200 so far and about 10 come in daily. I would be willing to discuss this opportunity with you.

Sincerely yours,  
 James W. Broatch, MSW  
 Executive Director

----- Headers -----

Return-Path: <ru42354@prodigy.net>  
 Received: from rly-zc02.mx.aol.com (rly-zc02.mail.aol.com [172.31.33.2]) by air-zc02.mail.aol.com (v78\_r3.8) with ESMTP; Tue, 05 Jun 2001 00:20:48 -0400  
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 Message-ID: <006701c0ed76\$bbc752e0\$0f0dc540@computer>  
 From: "ROBERT M ROOTS" <ru42354@prodigy.net>  
 To: <Jwbroatch@aol.com>  
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 X-Mimeole: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Tuesday, June 05, 2001 America Online: Jwbroatch

100