

Tracy Zams

To: FDA / Glaxo Panel

HISTORY:

I have had chronic, diarrhea predominant IBS for 15 years now. On April 23, 2002 I will be 30 years old. My doctor has put me on many IBS medications in the past: Librax, Levbid, Bentyl, & the like. All were about 50 to 60 % effective. I couldn't keep any food in my body for long before passing it out. I was 5'5 & 100 lbs. for years. I use to even pass my Levbid pills out whole. I was terrified to leave the house without a purse full of Immodiums. Before taking any medications I was in the bathroom at least 10 times a day. On Levbid, I was in the bathroom about 2 -3 times a day.

LOTRONEX:

My doctor and I believe that Lotronex is very safe if taken properly. I was given Lotronex the day of its release. Lotronex gave me my life back. I took the drug for over a year & a half. I only had one diarrhea episode during the whole year & a half! I was normal again. I forgot I even had IBS. I was able to keep my food in & remained at a healthy 115 lbs.

The recommended dosage was 2 mgs. This made me constipated. So, I immediately called my doctor as instructed on the label. My doctor then told me to stop taking the Lotronex until I had a bowel movement & then started me on .05 mgs. (half a pill). This dosage worked wonderfully for me. I only took 1 mg. of Lotronex on days that I was having additional discomfort.

I cannot stress how important this drug is for IBS sufferers. I think if the recommended dosage was lower at the time of its release - it would still be on the market. I firmly believe there is no other drug on the market that compares to Lotronex. If you can imagine a day in your past when you have had the flu or a stomach virus, or in other words, uncontrollable diahreah...this is how the typical IBS sufferer feels 365 days a year. We desperately need this drug back and soon.

Thank You,.



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