

# Judy Graves

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2785 Surfider Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93001  
805-642-1015  
gravesjj@ucss.k12.ca.us

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Tom Perez  
FDA/CDER HFD 21  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Mr. Perez:

I am a 60-year-old female who has had Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS) for 10 years. Five years ago I took an early retirement from a 30-year successful and rewarding public high school teaching career because I could no longer control my severe IBS symptoms.

Before I developed IBS, I was a gregarious, confident person. Then my world turned upside down. I had embarrassing bowel movement accidents on the way to toilets at home and in public; I used the side of the road or the curb as my toilet; and I sheltered myself from family and friends, social occasions, recreational activities, vacations, walks in the park or around the block with my grandchildren, and many normal and spontaneous activities that people enjoy every day. Being stuck in traffic or traveling over long bridges were frightening experiences for me.

I had all of the GI tests. I took the myriad drugs that my gastroenterologist suggested. I went on a lactose-free diet for many months. I tried health-food diets and supplements. I had several rounds of allergy tests. I went on a lengthy food elimination diet, and I took stress-reduction training and acupuncture. I even took a one-year leave of absence from my job. Nothing stopped this dreadful disease.

After much research, I discovered that Lotronex was going to be introduced to the market. It would regulate the serotonin receptors in my gut and control my diarrhea, and that is exactly what it did for the 8 months that it was on the market. Lotronex was the miracle that gave me a normal life again. When Lotronex was taken off the market, I was devastated.

During the first few weeks of taking Lotronex, I developed constipation. I used good judgment and reduced the dosage to one pill per day, and that solved the constipation problem.

One size does not fit all with Lotronex. Each person with IBS must take Lotronex judiciously, regulating the dosage as needed.

Hundreds of thousands of IBS sufferers are living proof that Lotronex does restore normal bowel function, and it is safe. I am not afraid to take Lotronex; I am afraid NOT to take it because without it, my life is hell.

Please help to restore this miracle drug to those of us who suffer so much with this dreadful disease.

Sincerely,

Judy Graves