

Perez, Thomas

From: Tim Kluessendorf
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2002 6:38 PM
To: Tom Perez, M.P.H.
Subject: Lotronex

Tom,
I just got done reading your request for any additional information concerning IBS, before your April 23, 2002 meeting. I will be glad to add my experience, if it will help to make your point.
I have IBS, spastic colon, and lactose intolerance. My main problem (IBS) started shortly after I had my gall bladder removed 27 years ago. I suffered terribly at first, not understanding this terrible problem. I ended up using a prescription drug to try and help (it really didn't do much). A pharmacist told me about Immodium, which I still use today. I have had some terrible bouts, where I bled, and absolutely couldn't stop from going. I have worked throughout this whole nightmare, although sometimes, I had trouble making it to the bathroom. When Lotronex came out - it worked like a miracle! I couldn't believe it - I almost felt normal. When they took it away, I wasn't sure if I wanted to go on - go back to how I was. I now take Hyoscyamine, but it's nowhere as good as Lotronex. I still have pain, bloating & diarrhea, and I still use Immodium. Without anything, my IBS would be unbearable.
I just wanted to thank you (and your friends) for attempting to get Lotronex back. Anyone that hasn't had this problem, has no idea of the magnitude of the condition. It is the first & foremost concern on your mind every day. It controls what you do, where you go and how you live your life. Lotronex gave me my life back (even if only for a short time). I will check your information area, and hope & pray for your success.
Thank-you again -

4/18/02