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Your "guidelines" are leaving people with legitimate chronic pain without pain relief that works for them. It is also encouraging doctors that have no first hand experience with pain to make ridiculous statements and treat these patients like pariahs. Denying a person pain relief that works, even if it is an opioid, is akin to torture. These patients did not ask for a painful condition. Their conditions are not associated with "being female" or "having trauma as a child." You are leaving them no recourse but to turn to street drugs. This is NOT right! Taking an opioid is not a choice that most would make, but if there is no other choice than to live a life in such pain that you cannot be productive or have a life, then it is the lesser of two evils. Chronic pain patients are not addicts or substance abusers. They are patients that have a condition that cannot be cured, that can only be lived with. Opioids are a vital drug to many, just as insulin is vital to a diabetic or antihypertensives are vital to someone with high blood pressure. Refusing to treat legitimate pain is uncaring and down right evil. As medical professionals, we are to ease suffering and your guidelines have severely damaged that goal. Chronic pain, left untreated, leads to death, plain and simple. It increases strokes, heart issues and many other illnesses beyond the pain and suffering from the condition they already have. It is wrong to torture people by refusing them vital pain meds that have real anagesic properties, do not have unacceptable side effects and WORK! Stop your insanity NOW!!