Author Full Name: David Smith Received Date: 01/14/2025 09:32 PM

Comments Received:

The 2016 CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Pain, and the avalanche of federal and state laws, federal agency rules and regulations, state medical board rules, and federal and state "settlement clauses" that ensued, which restricted access to opioid medications and other controlled substances, have caused a Public Health Emergency that continues to be unrecognized by any federal or state agency. Thousands of patients have died since the publication of the 2016 CDC Guidelines, either by medical complications or by suicide. Patient outcomes were NOT tracked after the agenda to restrict access to controlled substances was rolled out.

I am writing to ask that a website be created, modeled after the VAERS system, so that all harmed patients, all families of patients who did not survive a forced-taper or loss of access to controlled substances, all doctors who have been wrongfully prosecuted by the DEA (without having met the required evidentiary standard required for prosecution as set forth by SCOTUS in Ruan vs United States in 2022) can report their harms, disabilities, deaths, and wrongful prosecutions that have occurred since the publication of the 2016 CDC Guidelines.

We need to collect the data about how many patients who were previously prescribed controlled substances such as opioid pain medications, benzodiazepines, or stimulants, who then perished after a forced-taper or after losing access to their medications.

We need to collect the data about how many patients who were force-tapered or who lost access to their controlled substance medications who were then unable to continue working a full-time or part-time job, and who then had to begin collecting disability benefits, or who had to file bankruptcy, or, who lost their housing as a result.

We need to collect the data about what medical harms have been caused to the very sick, injured, disabled, cancer, and end-of-life patients, including surgical patients who have now been subjected to "opioid-free surgery," or, who have been denied proper, appropriate post-operative opioid pain relief, including hypertension stage 1, 2, or 3, heart attack, stroke, gastrointestinal dysfunction, delayed healing, uncontrolled pain, new pain that they never experienced while taking their former doses of medication, insomnia, anxiety, loss of concentration/ability to focus, tremors, uncontrolled vomiting, inability to perform the basic activities of daily living, torture and other known side effects of being force-tapered or after losing access to controlled substance prescriptions.

We need to collect the data about how many medical professionals have been wrongfully prosecuted for the "crime" of treating pain, how many have had to surrender their DEA registration number and stop prescribing controlled substances, how many have had their medical license suspended, how many have had assets seized without charges being filed against them, how many have been prosecuted by the DEA or by state law enforcement officials, for their usual and customary medical practice and prescribing for patients.

A data collection system modeled after the VAERS system is needed in order to collect this data, since patient outcomes were NOT tracked, after the publication of the 2016 CDC Guidelines and the avalanche of events that followed which created the agenda to restrict access to controlled substances, regardless of the outcome, so that the Public Health Emergency can be quantized and known.