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The current practice by most physicians regarding how and why they prescribe opioid pain medications is absolutely barbaric and near medical malpractice. Whatever changes are made the guidelines need to go back before the whole OxyContin epidemic, OxyContin created the problem, it is now gone yet every patient everywhere is still being punished.

Whatever guidelines are in put in place also need to be more black and white and leave little to no room for hospital/health systems to overrule them. Many hospitals/health systems currently will not allow fully licensed and trained physicians to prescribe based simply off a policy when the prescription is not only legally allowed but clinically necessary.