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ICR Ref #202412-0920-006

The chronic pain community has lost at least 200 people to suicides directly related to the loss of their legal opioid pain medications. Who really knows how many have chosen this? We estimate the number to be in the thousands, but at least 200 left letters. The CDC "guidelines" (2016), stated as "only suggestions" became laws. The CDC also stated these "guidelines" were not intended to affect treatment of chronic pain. In most states, doctors treating pain are/were targeted for persecution. They and their patients are being unfairly victimized. Patients being force tapered have lost their quality of life, productivity, medical stability, and mobility as well as their independence in many cases. Doctors' lives and the practice of pain management have been ruined, for no good reasons. Addiction and dependence are two very different issues, yet false narratives cause ignorance and much harm. Doctors are a resource in any country, as are opioids legally prescribed and dispensed. Why is the government allowing this ignorance to proliferate? It is murder, and many of us who had been taking legal opioids at high doses for years with good results are being force tapered until we cannot live anymore. We need protections written into law that protect pain patients, especially "legacy" patients, and the doctors who treat us. CDC should revoke these nonsensical guidelines without replacement and tell the states they are not to be used. They are outside their wheelhouse and the MME is junk science. These are facts. Chronic pain patients have always had low rates of addiction, and the "crisis" was due to illicit fentanyl sold on the streets, which has been allowed to flow freely by our own DEA. These agencies need to do the jobs they were intended to do and allow doctors and patients to make decisions regarding legal prescribing of opioids. There is no such thing as a standard, one-dose-fits-all treatment for pain. Pain harms the body in many ways, and patients lose medical stability if force tapered and left with little to no pain control. This country no longer feels like a democracy. Though medical knowledge has always indicated that forced tapers from medications are not supposed to happen if the patient is stable and meeting treatment goals, it is happening everywhere. This has to stop. It forces our doctors to behave in unethical and cruel ways, out of fear. It has ruined the doctor/patient relationships we had. The damage has gone too far. Doctors will one day begin to be sued by patients for these unethical forced tapers and the ruining of lives. It will create huge problems in medical care; it is already happening where I live. We cannot allow concern/confusion over the brain disease of addiction to ruin the lives of people in pain. It is discriminatory. Addicts can easily find the help they need online now, yet pain patients are being sacrificed. The guidelines and the resultant poorly conceived laws must all be revoked, or an entire generation of pain patients will be effectively wiped out. There is corruption in the conception of the whole mess, yet the CDC took part in this attempt to prohibit legal opioids. Prohibition never works. There is not a "crisis" involving legal pain medications. End this insanity. People who once had a reasonable expectation of decent medical care while aging are needlessly suffering and dying. Blood is on the hands of the CDC, DEA, PROP, et al. I am not ready to die. I am only 65.