

Author Full Name : Tina Sheppard**Received Date :** 01/18/2025 01:36 PM**Comments Received :**

Ratcheting down on rx pain medication has done nothing but force vulnerable people to suffer - and die. I lost a friend to suicide because she was in agony - and no one would treat her pain. People who suffer from chronic pain should not be forced to suffer to the point of needing to kill themselves to find relief because of the actions of others. Opioid pain medication is the gold standard for pain care. It has been for thousands of years. There are risks everywhere. I could go buy enough alcohol to kill myself today, if I wanted to. But no one is crying out to ban alcohol. It would be idiotic. Just like the ratcheting down on rx opioids. The patients and doctors are not criminals. We are people who need help with QOL and function. We aren't trying to "get high" - we're trying to "get to the grocery store", "get some laundry done", "get into the shower", etc. By denying that you are destroying lives. ENOUGH!