

Docket Management

Docket: 01N-0450 - Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA); Public Meeting

Comment Number: EC -7

Accepted - Volume 2

Comment Record			
Commentor	Mr. Carl Jokela	Date/Time	2002-01-18 13:11:56
Organization	University of Texas at Austin		
Category	Individual		
Comments for FDA General			
Questions			
1. General Comments	<p>Despite media-hype and the failure of the War on Drugs, especially this exaggeration of the wave of Oxycontin abuse (and I do not deny there is such abuse) opioid pain relief is quite frequently the only truly effective treatment modality. I know this from unwanted personal experience. WITH SEVERE CHRONIC PAIN OTHER PAIN MEDICATIONS DO NOT SUFFICE leaving the patient to undergo NEEDLESS SUFFERING. There is simply no adequate rationale for this. Some people wil abuse almost anything, and as we all know drugs are right -up there with the worst. Still, let's not throw out the baby with the bathwater, however dirty the water. Nonetheless, prior to the media-fueled Oxycontin fiasco, the medical profession was making tremendous progress in erasing the mighty stigma attached to the legitimate and humane use of opiates to relieve pain. It has taken a long time, but the use of opioids (medications derived from opiates) to alleviate pain is now, or was, generally sanctioned in most cases. I am one such case where such treatment allowed me to return to a normal, productive life. Opiate derived medication administered by my physician changed my prognosis from bleak to very positive. Please most carefully consider making such treatment no harder than it is to find and obtain than it already is. sincerely, Carl Jokela</p>		

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