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May 11, 2001

Dear Clinician:

The attached *Federal Register* notice announces an Advisory Panel Meeting of the FDA to discuss the use of opioid analgesics for the treatment of chronic non-cancer pain and pain in the pediatric population. During the meeting, the panel will discuss the risk versus benefits of using opioid analgesics for the treatment of pain. The meeting will be held in Gaithersburg, Maryland on ~~June 14 and 15, 2001~~, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

changed to Sept.

Since you have expressed an interest in supporting appropriate and effective pain management, you may be interested in either attending or providing comments for this meeting. You may also want to purchase a video tape of the meeting, or listen to the meeting on a live television feed or telephone line. Details are included in the attachment. If you're interested in one of these options, please contact Kimberly Topper at the FDA no later than June 7. Please feel free to share this information with any of your colleagues who may be interested.

Sept 13-14

The debate on the use of opioids for nonmalignant pain could have a profound impact on the future of pain management in the U.S. By working together, we can ensure that the voices of millions of pain patients are heard in this debate.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Reeder, MD
Vice President, Medical Affairs and Worldwide Drug Safety

attachment

Dedicated to Physician and Patient