

Owensboro Pediatrics, Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine

**HealthPark Medical Office Building
2211 Mayfair Avenue, Suite #106
Owensboro, KY 42301**

**Michael F. Yeiser, M.D., F.A.A.P.
David E. Danhauer, M.D., F.A.A.P.
John D. Lauzon, M.D., F.A.A.P.
Lynette K. Martin, M.D., F.A.A.P.**

**Phone: (270) 683-3232
Fax: (270) 688-5492**

August 9, 2001

Kimberly Topper
Food & Drug Administration, CDER,
Advisors and Consultants Staff, HFD-21
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms. Topper:

I am writing to you concerning the upcoming meeting of the FDA Anesthetics and Life Support Drugs Advisory Committee which will be discussing the medical use of opiate analgesics in various patient populations. It is my understanding that there is quite a large concern of the misuse, abuse and addiction of the long-acting opiate analgesics and that there is discussion on increasing the limitations put on physicians in their capability of writing for these much needed medications. My background consists of a practicing pediatrician for the last 16 years in a small rural community in Kentucky. I am an active board member of our local regional hospital and I have been instrumental in establishing a pain management task force for our community through our local health system. I have become quite aware of the need for aggressive and appropriate pain management in our patients and have worked many hours to meet that goal. It is my belief that the attending physician should continue to have the capability of meeting their patient's needs including pain relief and not have to rely on a few rare specialists for that capability. I strongly urge the committee to continue its work for patient safety, but not at the risk of patient care.

I do wish to thank you for this opportunity to express my views. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



David E. Danhauer, M.D.
DED/cch