

FAMILY PRACTICE  
Larry W. Fish, D.O.  
Brian J. Lair, D.O.  
Scott Malan, M.D.  
Dan E. McDaniel, M.D.  
Eugene Plett, M.D.  
Lee E. Shoop, M.D., M.P.H.  
Andrew Wiley, M.D.  
Harve W. Jourdan, M.D.  
Emeritus  
William H. Martin, M.D.  
Emeritus

INTERNAL MEDICINE  
Lisa A. Cheung, M.D.  
David G. Dahnke, M.D.  
Richard A. Wickenheiser, M.D.



**Lassen Medical Group, Inc.**

PEDIATRICS  
Marita Q. Barlahan-Biag, M.D.  
Kimberli R. Frantz, M.D.  
Patrick L. Quintal, M.D.

DERMATOLOGY  
Nancy J. Anderson, M.D.

MID LEVEL PROVIDERS  
Nicole Hicks, P.A.-C  
Diane Kinney, P.A.-C

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
William A. Clybourn

August 13, 2001

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

Subject: Medical use of opiate analgesics (specifically  
OxyContin)

Dear Sir or Ma'am:

This letter is being written in support of the use of OxyContin for my patients with chronic pain of a non-malignant etiology. I have no pediatric patients on OxyContin or chronic pain medications, however, I do have 15-20 patients on chronic opioid analgesics, and probably half of them are now taking OxyContin. I had noticed that these patients, that I switched to OxyContin, were having significant peaks and troughs in their pain, and/or taking quite a bit of pain medication with Tylenol. I was worried about the Tylenol usage causing liver damage, which thankfully never occurred. Since switching these patients to OxyContin, they feel dramatically better, as they do not have the ups and downs of the pain, they have less pills to take, less upset stomach, and they are not taking pills all day long, just one in the morning and one at night. One of my patients recently advised me that she has tried all other types of pain medication, and since she has been on the OxyContin for the past two weeks, this is the best she has felt in three to four years. She has chronic tendonitis and pain in her shoulders and neck from athletic injuries. The OxyContin also dramatically decreased her frequency of migraine headaches. I have seen no abuse of this drug as of yet, and I am better able to keep tabs on the number of pills my patients take, rather than 180 to over 200 pills a month previously taken with Percodan, Percocet, Vicodin, Lorcet, Tylenol #3, etc.

August 13, 2001  
Page 2

As a family physician in a small town with many patients having chronic pain in the neck and back from injuries, surgeries, etc., I think the OxyContin has been of great benefit to my medical regimen and the relief of my patients' pain, whether it be completely or almost completely gone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brian J. Lair".

Brian J. Lair, D.O. Family Medicine  
bl/mk