

**Public Workshop**

**Morphine Milligram Equivalents: Current Applications and Knowledge Gaps, Research  
Opportunities, and Future Directions  
Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD**

**Incalculable Harms:  
The Impact of MME-Based Policies on Patients with  
Intractable Pain Syndrome**

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Families for Intractable Pain Relief**

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*Freedom from pain, to the extent achievable, is the most fundamental of all human rights.*

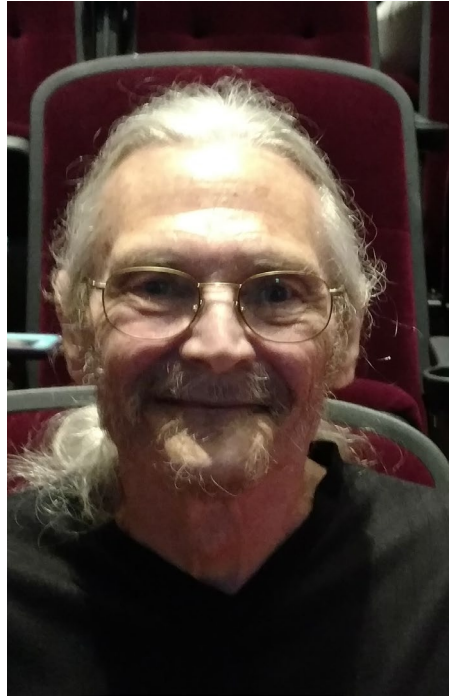
# Families for Intractable Pain Relief

## *Incalculable Harms*

- **MME Policies Don't Work**
  - Flawed concept, many variables, patient response varies widely
  - Lousy metric that fails to measure what matters
- **MME Policies Have Caused Incalculable Harm, 2016 - present**
  - To patients, families, physicians, pharmacists, all citizens
- **Why High Doses Are Needed by Some with Intractable Pain Syndrome**
  - Genetics, malabsorption, receptor defects
- **Measure What Does Matter to Patients and Families**
  - Pain control
  - Functional capability
  - Quality of life
- **Bottom Line:**
  - Eliminate MME use as a threshold for prescribing, dispensing, suspecting, investigating, accusing, charging, and disciplining doctors and pharmacists or in any way limiting patient access to necessary opioid pain medications.
  - **Restore physician discretion to diagnose and prescribe!**

**Failure to act = Deliberate continuation of preventable harm =  
Federal Government torture of U.S. Citizens!**

# Remember this face:



**This is my husband, Louis Ogden.**

**He had excellent pain relief from 2010 – 2018. Then his pain medication dose was reduced because his 2900 MME was “too high.” He no longer has excellent pain relief, improved function, and good quality of life.**

**Does he deserve to suffer because an arbitrary meaningless number, MME, is “too high?”**

***Freedom from pain, to the extent achievable, is the most fundamental of all human rights.***