

# NEW RIVER VALLEY CANCER CARE CENTER

*Trust Your Health To Us*

## **Pulaski Community Hospital**

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*ISO-9002 Certified*

May 30, 2001

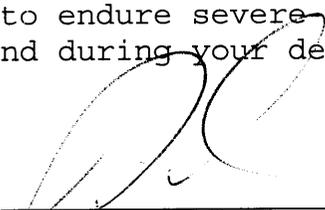
Kimberly Topper  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (HFD-21)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Ms. Topper:

With concern about the federal register notice announcing an advisory panel meeting of the FDA to discuss use of opioid analgesics for the treatment of chronic non cancer pain and pain in the pediatric population, I felt it important to write and express my concern about any limitations of physicians' use of opioid analgesics. I am a practicing radiation oncologist and over 90% of my prescriptions are appropriately for opioid analgesics. As you know, multiple studies have shown that appropriate use of opioid analgesics does not result in opioid addiction.

Without opioid analgesics we would revert back to earlier times when patients with cancer had to endure severe pain and miserable deaths. Please keep this in mind during your deliberation.

Sincerely,



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David M. Randolph, M.D.

RANDA/J.HIM.KD

D: 05/30/2001 15:08

T: 05/31/2001 12:55

Job ID: 0056

CC: Robert F Reder, Vice-President Medical Affairs in Worldwide Drug Safety, 1 Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT 06901-3431