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Pain Patients Harmed by Opioid Rules

Nearly 18 million Americans are long-term opioid users because of chronic pain. But due to a 2016 federal prescribing guideline, many doctors have discontinued pain medications to avoid losing their license or being charged by the government as an “over-prescriber.” Despite most opioid deaths being due to heroin and illegally-produced fentanyl, these physicians have abandoned their patients to protect themselves.

Desperate patients, left to their own devices, may seek relief through dangerous street drugs or suicide, preferring death over a life of debilitating pain. Many were productive, responsible members of society until their lifeline was cut. This is a tragic example of government taking over the exam room.


Addressing the limitations of the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Noncancer Pain,” Jason W. Busse, DC PhD, et al, CMAJ JAMC, December 6, 2016: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5135486/

VIDEO ON TWITTER: Patient screaming in pain three days after pain medication taken away: https://twitter.com/SparlingAngela/status/1075893918867177472