

June 11, 2014

Letter to the Editor  
The Boston Globe  
PO Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819  
[letter@globe.com](mailto:letter@globe.com)

Re: Mass. sued over restrictions on painkiller Zohydro

Dear Editor:

As a nurse and a person living with severe chronic pain due to a workplace injury I find the ongoing controversy around Zohydro both frustrating and saddening. It frustrates me to read the inaccurate descriptions such as "Zohydro is a hydrocodone-based prescription drug that comes in higher doses than Vicodin..." The statement is not only inaccurate, but is a disservice to your readers. Zohydro is an extended release hydrocodone, and comes in 10mg to 50mg doses. It's up to the physician to assess the patient for the severity of the pain and prescribe the best dosage for this individual so though it may appear that the maximum dose is higher, milligram per milligram it isn't. Why? Because instead of taking four to six tablets a day, a patient needs only take 2 tablets and in the end the math works out to be the same.

Zogenix was one of the few companies that answered the FDA's call to produce an opioid without acetaminophen, for this Zohydro is excoriated by a press that seems unable to report **all** the facts.

Sincerely,  
Geneviève M. Clavreul, RN, Ph.D.  
PO Box 867  
Pasadena, CA 91102-0867  
626-844-7812  
raconte@att.net