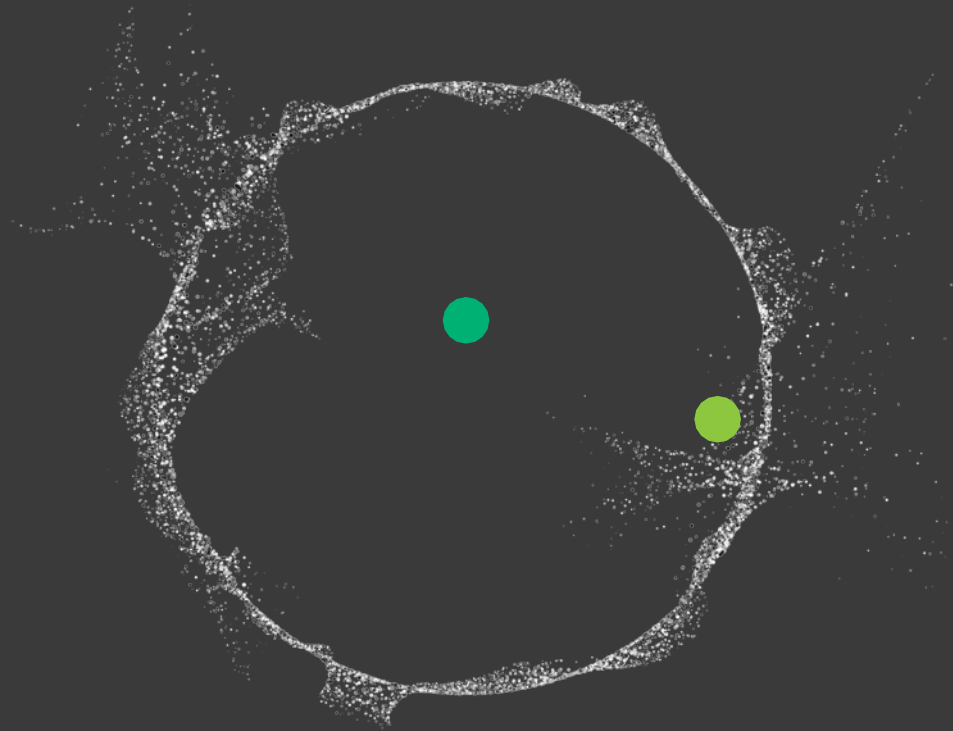


Grünenthal

Grünenthal's position on the  
responsible medical use of opioid  
analgesics in pain patients

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# Grünenthal's position on the responsible medical use of opioid analgesics in pain patients



## Preamble

Grünenthal is a science-based pharmaceutical company with a strong focus on pain treatment. Our core objective is to develop and make available products and solutions which address the unmet needs of patients and have the potential to improve their quality of life.

It is important that patients receive appropriate pain treatment with careful consideration of the benefits and risks of the available options. Amongst the wide spectrum of pain treatments that need to be wisely chosen, one option available to physicians and their patients remains the use of opioid analgesics. As an R&D based manufacturer of efficacious analgesics including opioids, Grünenthal is aware that besides the benefits these medicines can provide to patients suffering from pain, they can also carry a risk for inappropriate use, i.e. misuse, abuse, addiction and diversion.

Grünenthal will continue and further enhance its efforts to implement appropriate measures to minimize the risk of inappropriate and illegitimate use of prescription opioids while striving to ensure that patients with a clear need are not denied access.

We share the broad consensus in the pain community that the opioid crisis in some countries needs to be addressed with high urgency and that preventive measures need to be implemented to limit or stop this crisis and to prevent its occurrence or worsening in other countries and geographies.



## The Grünenthal charter on the responsible medical use of opioid analgesics in pain

1. Grünenthal recognizes the unfulfilled medical needs of patients with pain, the challenges for Health Care Professionals treating these patients and the increasing pressure on social and health care systems caused by the inappropriate and illegitimate use of prescription opioids.

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2. The patient needs are central in the development and therapeutic use of Grünenthal medicines. Grünenthal adheres to the principles of “Access to Pain Management Is a Fundamental Human Right” and “Pain as a disease in its own right”. At the same time we acknowledge that an individually tailored approach to opioid therapy is of high importance including a clear and realistic therapeutic objective and a respective agreement between patient and treating physician.

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3. Grünenthal is committed to the development of novel analgesics with better safety profiles **including**
  - safer opioid analgesics by formulation technology, i.e. our abuse deterrent technology intac<sup>®</sup>,
  - differentiated molecular mechanism of action represented by Grünenthal's portfolio of nociceptin-receptor agonists with a  $\mu$ -component
  - and non-opioid analgesics, e.g. our development of Neridronate for CRPS (phase 3)Aiming to broaden the therapeutic options for health care providers, Grünenthal R&D is committed to deliver state of the art pain treatments to patients in need.

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4. Opioid analgesics will remain an important treatment option for selected pain patients. While striving to ensure that patients in need are not denied access to opioid analgesics, we take our role associated with the development and commercialization of opioid analgesics seriously and aim to reduce the risks of nonmedical inappropriate use of our products to the greatest degree possible. Currently, we are strengthening our efforts in developing innovative technological solutions to curb misuse, abuse and diversion of prescription opioids.

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5. Grünenthal recognises the importance of working with the medical community and supports medical education to ensure compliance to policies and guidelines regulating the correct medical use of opioid analgesics in pain treatment.

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6. We are committed to develop, commercialize and distribute our products in line with highest ethical and scientific standards; we continuously work with pain experts, their associations, patient representatives and regulatory authorities to make sure best guidance to a balanced and individually adapted use of prescription opioids can be provided. We live up to this charter and work professionally and respectfully with all involved parties for the benefit of the pain patient and society.

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