

# Jonathan Rosenfeld's Nursing Homes Abuse Blog

## Study Questions If Use Of Narcotic Painkillers Are Causing Unnecessary Harm To Elderly

*Posted by **Jonathan Rosenfeld** on January 06, 2011*

If you ever needed proof that there's no such thing as a 'safe' drug, check out a new study published in the Archives of Internal Medicine conducted by Daniel Solomon.

The results of the study were discussed in a New York Times [article](#), "Narcotic Painkillers May Pose Danger to Elderly Patient, Study Says," and the overwhelming conclusion was that narcotic painkillers put seniors at an increased risk for: bone fractures, heart attack and death compared to milder, over-the-counter pain relief medications such as Advil and Motrin.

In reaching its conclusions, the study analyzed the records from a group of women who were diagnosed with different types of arthritis, using varying types of pain medication, over a six-year period.

Based on data in the patients medical records, patients who took narcotic-based pain medications were at a significantly higher risk for medical complications compared with their peers using other types of medications.

While, researchers look closer at the underlying reasons for the increased rates of patient injury, I think this study should give patients reason to pause and re-consider the medications they are taking with their physicians to assure all medications are necessary and in the proper dosage.

Jonathan Rosenfeld represents victims of nursing home abuse and neglect throughout the country. For more information please visit Nursing Homes Abuse Blog ([www.nursinghomesabuseblog.com](http://www.nursinghomesabuseblog.com)), Bed Sore FAQ ([www.bedsorefaq.com](http://www.bedsorefaq.com)) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757.