

HB0283

My name is Jennie and I am a single disabled mama of 3 little ones, two who are special needs. Kratom has saved my life. I have had over 30 failed surgeries, most on my spine, due to a genetic connective tissue disorder called ehler danlos syndrome. My joints dislocate on a regular basis. I also have autoimmune diseases, as well as chronic neuro lyme, gastroparesis and finally hidradenitis suppurativa which is a chronic extremely painful skin condition. Prior to taking kratom I was prescribed very high doses of narcotics.

These were my prescribed medications. All legally Rx from 2008-2015. I read about kratom on a forum and decided to give it a try. I wanted my life back.

Valium 10mg 3x a day

Xanax 2mg bars 4x a day

Soma 350mg 3x a day

Morphine 100mg 3x a day (15 days on of these rotating with 80mg oxycontin 3x a day)

Roxicodone (30mg 4x a day)

Vicoprofin 10s (for break thru) 120 pills a month

Now, thanks to kratom the only prescribed medication I take is my insulin. I use kratom almost every day. Every few weeks I do a full body detox/fast. I have very minimal withdrawal symptoms, no different than caffeine withdrawal. I can still take care of my kids and go about my normal activities during this time. Unlike the Rx pain meds, if I missed a dose within 6 hours I was so sick and needing help with my kids.

As I said before, I have two autistic kids ages 2.5 (nonverbal) and 4.5 and a neurotypical 10 year old . Their therapies combined total over 50 hours a week. With kratom I can function, I don't ever feel high, I feel normal, my pain and anxiety are gone. I am able to eat. Beings I have gastroparesis (paralyzed vagus nerve) I was not able to eat due to severe stomach pain & vomiting. Which was caused by narcotic pain meds & diabetes. This gave me very bad anxiety because I would vomit over 50 times a day. Kratom has allowed me to gain weight as I was severely underweight and requiring a feeding tube & multiple hospitalizations back in 2013-2015. My blood sugars are stable as a brittle type 1 diabetic as a result. I am able to exercise and attend physical and occupational therapy to strengthen my joints to reduce dislocations.

I have used kratom for after surgery. I've denied all pain medications. Recently I broke my foot in three places. Was able to take my normal dose which is twice a day at 5 grams for pain control. I never have cravings or feel like I need more as I did with my pain meds.

If this plant becomes illegal I can only see bad things happening. So many will take to the street for illegal opiates. Or even worse, commit suicide. People will be going back to synthetic poisons that are prescribed. I do support lab testing, the KCPA and 18+ for age limits. Thank you for your time.

Jennie