



“ The roaches and gnats at my clinic got so bad that my wife made me a vinegar and soap concoction that I would take with me so that flies wouldn’t swarm around me while I got dialysis treatment.”

Richard Elliott,
dialysis patient



What is dialysis? Dialysis keeps patients alive when their kidneys fail by taking out the patient’s blood, cleaning it, and putting it back in their body. In California, 66,000 people depend on dialysis, and two big corporations, Fresenius and DaVita, dominate the dialysis industry.

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Dialysis patient care is in crisis and it's driving up costs for all Californians

Patient care is suffering

Patients and caregivers report bloodstains and cockroaches in dialysis clinics. The lack of sanitation and hygiene can contribute to high infection rates.

Overcharging drives up costs

California dialysis companies charge patients with private insurance an average \$150,000 for a year of dialysis treatment. That's a 350% markup from the cost of providing care! Insurance companies are forced to pass the costs to all policyholders, driving up healthcare premiums for ALL Californians. Blue Shield of California reports that it takes 3,800 enrollees to offset the cost of one dialysis patient.

Dialysis corporation profits are out of control

Big dialysis corporations make billions of dollars annually, yet the largest company in California, DaVita, spends only 73% of its revenue toward providing patient care. The average profit margin for dialysis clinics in California is 17% — nearly five times as high as an average hospital in California.

Some patients face additional hurdles

In low income communities and communities of color clinics are often in run-down strip malls with outdated equipment.

The Fair Pricing for Dialysis Act

A ballot initiative for the November 2018 election

Invest in patient care

The Fair Pricing for Dialysis Act pushes for-profit dialysis corporations to spend more money on direct patient care. If passed, dialysis corporation revenues will be limited to no more than 15% above the amount they spend on patient care. By linking revenue to care, dialysis corporations will have a greater incentive to invest in patient care.

Lower healthcare costs for all Californians

When we stop dialysis companies from overcharging we can bring down the cost of healthcare premiums for all of us.

Now	Under initiative
\$38 MILLION	\$15 MILLION
PROFIT AND NON-CARE EXPENSES	
COST OF CARE	COST OF CARE
\$100 MILLION	\$100 MILLION

Example



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