

My name is Andrea Hogstad and I am a diabetes nurse and my husband also has Type 1 diabetes mellitus, making him dependent on insulin to stay alive. I have worked as a nurse and with diabetes patients for over 17 years (8 years as a Diabetes educator) and my husband has had diabetes for over 18 years. In my experience, insulin prices have increased from about \$30 per vial back when I first started as a nurse to over \$250 per vial in recent years (please note that some patients are on several vials of insulin in a month). I have experience having to pay over \$1000.00 for insulin for my husband and even last February, needing to pay \$508 out of pocket due to a communication error on the part of our insurance PBM (pharmacy benefit manager). I could not get this overturned and we were out that money. Also understand that insulin is not the only cost for a person with diabetes. There are glucose testing supplies and sometimes insulin pump supplies to deliver the insulin into their bodies.

On the patient side, I have worked with children and adults that have struggled to pay for insulin due to high deductible or co-insurance costs, lack of insurance, or waiting periods for state insurance. I fully support any cap on insulin prices as this is a drug needed for survival for so many people. It is heart breaking to see patients ration insulin or stop their insulin because they cannot afford it. They end up dead or in the hospital (which is a much higher cost to insurance or to state taxpayers).

Thank you for your time reviewing my testimony.

Andrea Hogstad