



Service to those affected by chronic kidney disease

Lori Hartwell  
Founder/President

February 3, 2020

Dear Legislator and Whom This May Concern,

Wendy Rodgers, M.Ed, MPH  
Chairman of the Board

RE: Oppose Oregon House Bill 4114

Lana Kacherova, RN  
Treasurer

I have lived with kidney disease since age two, survived 50+ surgeries, 13 years of dialysis, and am now living with a fourth kidney transplant. I founded Renal Support Network in 1993 to empower people who have kidney disease to become knowledgeable about their illness, proactive in their care, hopeful about their future. We serve people with kidney disease from across the county and have over 18,000 members.

Joanna Galeas Lee  
Secretary

Oregon House Bill 4114 is very confusing to me as its goals says it will help people on dialysis. I fear it will do the opposite and lead to tragic outcomes. The bill requires that dialysis facilities treat people who require dialysis medically in the same way that emergency rooms does? Dialysis centers are outpatient settings and do not have all the equipment and trained healthcare specialty team that an Emergency room has. If you are in "congestive heart failure or have an infection" which I have had both I would not be here if I had to go to the dialysis facility for my emergency care.

**Board Members:**

David Ackerman, Esq.

Payment drives practice and limiting reimbursement to Medicare reimbursement can lead to a shortage of dialysis facilities. This can also impact our ability for innovation, equipment upgrades and can lead to fewer dialysis centers that are geographically accessible. The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) said "cost per treatment increased by 2 percent, while Medicare payment per treatment increased by 0.6 percent. We estimate that the aggregate Medicare margin was 1.1 percent. Margins are very thin and will lead to access of care issues.

Lubna Akbany, RD

Kathleen Baldwin, PhD

Marlene De Vera, RN

Joanna Galeas Lee

Susie Gonzalez

Lori Hartwell

Dean Hartwell, JD

Jill Heydorff

Lesley Holden, RN

This bill requires dialysis facilities to act like an emergency room and cut reimbursement to the lowest limits. This bill does not help people who need dialysis care and we ask you to please understand the complexities of dialysis. We ask you to respectfully oppose this bill.

Lana Kacherova, RN

Robert M. Klein

Charlene Lafontant

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Raffi Minasian, MD

Sincerely,

Hasmik Mouradian, RN

Wendy Rodgers, M.Ed, MPH

James Troyer, MS, EMBA,  
MPA

Rafael Villicana, MD

Lori Hartwell  
President/Founder  
Lori@RSNhope.org

Susan Vogel, MHA, RN,  
CNN

\* Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) is an independent federal body established by federal law to advise Congress on issues affecting the Medicare program.

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An illness is too demanding when you don't have hope!