

SAMPLE Tashia M * DCBS

From: BECK Douglas * DCBS
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 2:11 PM
To: SAMPLE Tashia M * DCBS
Subject: FW:

From: Elizabeth Knight [<mailto:Elizabeth.Knight@davita.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 7:10 AM
To: BECK Douglas * DCBS
Cc: FORDHAM Brian J * DCBS; CALI Laura N * DCBS
Subject:

Dear Mr. Beck,

I am a renal social worker and it has come to my attention that there are health insurance plans in the Pacific Northwest that are proposing adoptions that would decrease the amount of treatment that they will provide for patients with End-Stage-Renal-Disease with regard to dialysis treatment. One of the many things that I do with patients is assist them with adjusting to this condition that has lasting effects on their health. A key area is working with stress and ensuring that they are able to obtain care that they can feel confident in. I am concerned that ESRD patients are being singled out by the insurance companies, which is disappointing and is coverage discrimination. I am concerned about the stress and financial burden to my patients. People that are dealing with ESRD are dealing with so many changes and challenges in their everyday lives and to add an additional burden, seems unnecessary. I encourage you to think of people that you care about being placed in situations like this, and how you would like them to be treated. Everyone of our patients is loved and cared for by someone, and belongs to someone. It is not only the patient that would be left out in this situation, but the family, friends and community that patients are a part of. I feel that the action proposed affects not just ESRD patients and their community, but each member of a community. If insurances are allowed to dictate and discriminate based on a condition, what is to stop them from making changes at will to disallow other conditions from being covered ?

I understand that you are receiving a great deal of input regarding this and I thank you for taking careful consideration of this very serious issue.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Knight, MSW

DaVita Vancouver

360-891-5777

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