

We Want to Hear from You: Submit Your Story About the Impact of Rising Insulin Prices

Since 2012, the price of insulin has nearly doubled in the United States, making it unaffordable for many Americans living with diabetes.¹ Insulin is a life-saving medicine, but in the face of rising insulin costs, some patients have resorted to extreme measures such as rationing or skipping doses. In some tragic cases, these measures have not been enough: Alec Raeshawn Smith, a 26-year-old Minnesotan with diabetes, lost his life in 2017 because he could not afford his insulin.

As parents of children with Type 1 diabetes, the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus, Representatives Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Tom Reed (R-NY), know firsthand the challenges that patients on insulin face. To help make insulin affordable and prevent further tragedies, Representatives DeGette and Reed have been investigating the causes of rising insulin prices for the past year. Through this comprehensive inquiry, they have met with stakeholders from across the insulin supply chain, including providers, insulin makers, and wholesalers. Now, they want to hear from patients and their families about the everyday impact of rising insulin prices.

Representatives DeGette and Reed invite you to submit your story to insulin.inquiry@mail.house.gov by **Thursday, October 11**. In your submission, please include the following if possible:

1. Your full name, address, and preferred method of contact.
2. The amount of time you have been taking insulin and an estimate of how much your insulin costs have increased.
3. The steps you or your family have taken to cope with rising insulin costs.
4. The name of any program or organization that provides you with free or discounted insulin.

¹Bram Sable-Smith, "Insulin's Steep Price Leads to Deadly Rationing," *Kaiser Health News*, September 7, 2018, <https://khn.org/news/insulins-high-cost-leads-to-deadly-rationing/>