

Governor Whitmer's Plan to Lower the Cost of Insulin

Background

Hundreds of thousands of Michiganders need insulin. For years, drug companies have been jacking up the price and today, the average cost of a single vial is [\\$98.70](#). Most people who use it need two or three vials a month. That's up to \$300 a month—thousands every year that could pay the bills or put food on the table. Too many Michiganders are forced to forgo insulin or ration it—putting their lives at risk. And prices just keep going up. The price of insulin tripled from 2009 to 2019.

Putting Michiganders First

Douglas and Emilie from Wyoming, Michigan live with these challenges every day. They both have Type 1 diabetes—Douglas was diagnosed when he was 5 years old and Emilie when she was 19. They both have been paying for insulin for decades—Douglas for 65 years. Their doctor recommended that they take a certain brand of insulin, but they can't afford to pay the \$1400/month that it would cost. Instead, they resort to a cheaper brand which still costs too much. Emilie spends up to her \$5,000 deductible every year and Douglas pays between \$200 to \$300 a month for insulin.

While Douglas and Emilie have been battling diabetes and paid tens of thousands of dollars for insulin over the course of their lives, drug companies have been raking in billions in profit by skyrocketing prices on life-saving medication because without serious competition, they can name their own price.

Plan

Yesterday, Attorney General Dana Nessel launched an investigation into one of the three largest drug companies that manufactures nearly all the insulin in the United States. The Attorney General is seeking to use the Michigan Consumer Protection Act to investigate the role drug companies play in raising prices. Meanwhile, in the Michigan Legislature, there is a [bipartisan effort](#) to cap the cost of insulin at \$50 a month.

Governor Whitmer will work with the legislature and the Attorney General to hold drug companies accountable, lower the cost of insulin, and save lives.

Opportunity

Lowering the cost of insulin will save lives and help Michiganders pay the bills, put food on the table, or save for the future. Governor Whitmer will work with anyone to put the health and financial wellbeing of Michiganders first.