

Roate, George

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From: Joseph Van Leer [JVanLeer@Polsinelli.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 7:33 PM
To: Roate, George
Cc: 'Timothy Tincknell'
Subject: Support Letters
Attachments: West Side Dialysis Support Letters (Proj. No. 12-102).pdf; West Side Dialysis Support Ltr (Proj. No. 12-102).pdf; Markham Renal Center Support Letter (Proj. No. 12-097).pdf; Markham Renal Center Patient Support Letters (Proj. No. 12-097).pdf; Pro 12-099 Galassie.pdf; Proj 12-093 Galassie.pdf

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HEALTH FACILITIES SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

George,

I've attached several support letters for Markham Renal Center and West Side Dialysis. If you would prefer that I send in separate emails for each project, let me know. I've also attached two opposition letters that DaVita mailed yesterday. Given the inclement weather, I wanted to make sure they arrived at least electronically. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks,

Joe

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Joseph Van Leer
 Associate

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 Add me to your address book.



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**HEALTH FACILITIES
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

February 27, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Mr. Galassie:

12-102

I am the Alderman representing the City of Chicago's 28th Ward, which includes the proposed site for the planned West Side Dialysis clinic. This facility will directly benefit the residents of my community. As such, I am writing to express my support for DaVita's proposal to establish a 12-station dialysis facility at 1600 West 13th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60608. West Side Dialysis will improve access and essential dialysis treatment for Chicago residents who reside in my Ward. This project will help meet the health care needs of the 28th Ward. As such, I fully support DaVita's application for a Certificate of Need to establish West Side Dialysis in my Ward.

Unfortunately, the kidney failure incident rate in our community is much higher than the general population. With the high levels of the co-morbidities of end-stage renal disease – obesity, hypertension and diabetes, demand for dialysis services will continue to rise.

Given growing demand in the area, we fully support the development of new dialysis facilities to meet patient need and enable treatment at convenient times, and in close proximity to their homes. There are many hardships for dialysis patients and there is no reason to deprive them of scheduling dialysis around their lives, rather than scheduling their lives around dialysis.

Should you have any questions please contact me at the number listed above.

Sincerely,

Jason Ervin
Alderman - 28th Ward

"Moving the 28th Ward to the Next Level"



Olympia Fields Dialysis
4557 West Lincoln Highway, Str. B
Matteson, IL 60443
Tel: 708.503.1112 | Fax: 708.503.1116
www.davita.com

February 26, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Letter of Support for West Side Dialysis – Proj. No. 12-102

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am writing to give my full support for DaVita's application for a Certificate of Need to establish West Side Dialysis, a 12-station dialysis facility at 1600 West 13th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60608. I am a practicing nephrologist with Provident Hospital, a Division of Cook County Health Services, and run a pre-ESRD clinic with Edward Cohen, MD, as well as the planned Medical Director for West Side Dialysis, Donald Hollandsworth, D.O.

This facility is needed now, as the need for dialysis services continues to grow at a troubling rate. In the more than thirty years since I began practice, I have seen the number of cases of ESRD skyrocket. From 1980 to 2010, the number of reported ESRD cases in the United States has increased nearly 10 fold from 60,109 cases in 1980 to 594,374 cases in 2010. This increase is due in large part to the obesity epidemic our country is facing.

One of the results of higher obesity rates is the increasing prevalence of diabetes and hypertension in the general public, two of the leading causes of chronic kidney disease and ESRD. In fact, diabetes accounts for 44% of all new cases of kidney failure, and hypertension causes approximately 25,000 new cases of kidney failure annually. As the number of individuals with diabetes and hypertension continues to rise, the incidence and prevalence of kidney failure will increase.

While this may seem like a public health crisis, there is a silver lining. The rising rates of individuals receiving renal replacement therapies are partially attributed to improved intervention and treatment of pre-ESRD patients. Direct patient contact is imperative to good clinical care and improved patient outcomes. The kidney disease intervention work that DaVita does helps patients better understand their disease and take charge of their health care.

While DaVita's work to treat pre-ESRD patients has improved the lives of many, it does not offer a solution to those suffering from ESRD. Only increased access can offer such a solution. Given the increased rates of diabetes, obesity, and hypertension in the community surrounding West Side Dialysis, it is no surprise there is a need for more kidney dialysis units in this area.



Olympia Fields Dialysis
4557 West Lincoln Highway, Ste. B
Marengo, IL 60443
Tel: 708.503.1112 | Fax: 708.503.1116
www.davita.com

This facility will improve access to underprivileged and disadvantaged individuals in Chicago's west side community who suffer from kidney failure. Thus, I urge the Board to consider the needs of this community and approve the West Side CON application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwin Cook, D.O.".

Edwin Cook, D.O.

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

February 11, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support for West Side Dialysis – Proj. No. 12-102

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am a practicing nephrologist with Provident Hospital, a Division of Cook County Health Services. I write to give my full support for DaVita's application for a Certificate of Need to establish West Side Dialysis, a 12-station dialysis facility at 1600 West 13th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60608. The proposed Medical Director for West Side Dialysis, Donald Hollandsworth, DO, is a colleague of mine at Provident Hospital. Together with Edwin Cook, D.O., we run a very active pre-ESRD clinic. This facility will improve access to necessary dialysis treatment for those individuals in Chicago's west side community who suffer from ESRD. With the unfilled demand for in-center hemodialysis stations in the city of Chicago, I look forward to the opportunity to refer patients and make rounds on them at this much needed new facility.

The prevalence of patients identified with CKD continues to increase, as does the prevalence in the diagnosis of diabetes and hypertension – the two major causes of CKD. African Americans and Hispanics are at greater risk than the general population to suffer from these diseases that can ultimately lead to ESRD. The location of West Side Dialysis was specifically chosen to reflect the needs of the community – a predominantly African American and Hispanic demographic with 140 identified ESRD patients in zip code 60608 (per the Renal Network, as of 9/30/12). The West Side Dialysis facility will deliver essential health care services to a community that needs it most.

In closing, I fully support the establishment of West Side Dialysis and request that you approve DaVita's application.

Sincerely,



Edward Cohen, MD

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Donald L. Hollandsworth, DO, FACOI
710 West 43rd Street
Chicago, Illinois 60609
Office (773) 843-5668
Cell (708) 207-7111
Pager (708) 319-8861

February 26, 2013

Mr. Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Letter of Support for West Side Dialysis - Proj. No. 12-102

Dear Mr. Galassie:

I am writing to support DaVita's application for a Certificate of Need to establish West Side Dialysis, a 12-station dialysis facility at 1600 West 13th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60608. I am a practicing nephrologist with Provident Hospital, a Division of Cook County Health Services, as well as the proposed Medical Director for West Side Dialysis. As stated in my referral letter, I am treating a large and increasing patient population that is quickly progressing to ESRD.

Over the years, I have seen my base of CKD and ESRD patients steadily increase alongside the rapidly growing population that suffers from diabetes and hypertension, the two leading causes of kidney disease. There are basically two options for patients once they reach ESRD: transplant or dialysis treatment.

Transplantation is the ideal solution for patients with renal failure when the donor kidney isn't rejected. First, however, many patients simply are not eligible to receive a donor kidney. Generally, patients must be in satisfactory physical condition and not suffer from other medical conditions that severely limit life expectancy like vascular disease. Obese patients also will not be eligible for transplant. Historically, many of my patients had been too old to qualify for transplant. This is less the case now as the average age of those suffering from ESRD becomes lower.

Setting transplant eligibility aside, the major transplantation issue is that there are not enough kidneys for all the patients who need them. The median wait-time for a kidney is somewhere between 4 to 7 years. Wait times are longer for African Americans and Hispanics than they are for non-Hispanic, White patients. When kidneys are available to eligible patients, advances in immunosuppressive therapy in recent decades have led to excellent renal transplant survival rates at one year, but the advantages are lower in the long term as graft failure at some point following transplant is common and those patients who lose function of the transplanted kidney must return to dialysis.

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The bottom line is that there are many challenges associated with transplant. So dialysis is an essential component of kidney disease treatment for most ESRD patients. I have witnessed DaVita's commitment to improving its dialysis patients' quality of life by an integrated care management approach. DaVita works to educate patients formally and informally, provide emotional support, coordinate care among providers, and also to identify modalities that allow patients to continue living their lives with as few interruptions as possible.

In fact, DaVita has the largest home peritoneal and home hemodialysis programs in the U.S. One of the key considerations with these programs, however, is that patients must have the capability to self-manage their care and an adequate support network at home. Unfortunately, in the City of Chicago and other communities with higher concentrations of minority and low-income population, patients are more often without these tools.

In this environment, patients must have adequate access to in-center dialysis treatment. DaVita has taken its role as a provider of these services very seriously and made significant efforts to expand access in this community. There has been a need for stations in the City of Chicago for many years and I applaud DaVita for moving forward with plans to develop this unit.

I fully support the establishment of West Side Dialysis and urge the Board to approve DaVita's application.

Sincerely,



Donald L. Hollandsworth, D.O.

1773642



The University of Chicago
Biological Sciences Division

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5841 South Maryland Avenue, MC5100
Chicago, IL 60637-1470
Phone 773-702-1476; FAX 773-702-5818
F. Gary Toback, M.D., Ph.D.
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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

February 18, 2013

Dale Galassie, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and
Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: West Side Dialysis, Proj. No. 12-102

Dear Chairman Galassie:

I am the Chief of Nephrology at the University of Chicago. Our hospital has served the City of Chicago since 1927. Beyond the acute care services we provide, the University of Chicago Medical Center routinely assesses the health care needs of the community. We also support preventative and health screening and education services within our community through our Urban Health Initiative and the South Side Healthcare Collaborative, which is a network of more than 30 community-based health centers, free clinics, and local hospitals that have come together to improve health in our community. Based upon positive, firsthand experiences of working with the leadership of DaVita on the south side of the city, I am pleased to support DaVita's proposed establishment of West Side Dialysis. West Side Dialysis will provide on-going outpatient care for a similar chronically-ill and vulnerable patient population, near what is known as the Illinois Medical District.

DaVita provides life sustaining dialysis services for residents of the Chicago community and has invested in many quality initiatives to improve the health and outcomes of our patients. In addition to in-center hemodialysis services, DaVita also delivers other modalities, including home-based peritoneal dialysis, home hemodialysis, and in-center nocturnal dialysis.

We have a particularly keen understanding of the need for quality dialysis services in our community, as we once owned and operated three facilities which the University of Chicago Hospitals sold to DaVita in 2010. While we were certainly capable of successfully operating these facilities, changing reimbursement mechanisms in the dialysis industry make it very difficult for hospital-based dialysis facilities to maintain viable operating margins.

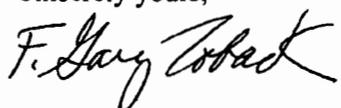
It is well documented that demand for dialysis services in our nation continues to increase. Diabetes and hypertension are the two leading causes of kidney disease. Diabetes affects 25.8 million adults and children in the United States, or 8.3% of the population, according to the American Diabetes Association.

An additional 79 million people have prediabetes, which means that their blood glucose levels are higher than normal and could be causing long-term damage to the body. Diabetes leads to many health complications including kidney disease.

Socio-economically disadvantaged communities on both the City of Chicago's south and west sides exhibit a higher prevalence of obesity, which is a primary driver of diabetes and hypertension. African Americans and Hispanics are at an increased risk of end-stage renal disease compared to the general population due to the higher prevalence of these conditions in these minority communities. Notably, the community surrounding the proposed site is comprised of a primarily African American and Hispanic, low-income, elderly and disabled population. This patient population has been steadily growing for many years. The proposed establishment of West Side Dialysis will allow more patients in this community to be served.

As DaVita is one of the leading providers of dialysis services in the U.S., we are happy to support their proposed development of West Side Dialysis near the Illinois Medical District. When completed, this facility will provide much needed treatment and supportive care for additional members of our city with renal disease.

Sincerely yours,



F. Gary Toback, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Medicine