

Good morning, for the record, my name is Carmella Gadsen and I am speaking on behalf of Cyndi Sturgis who is still sick and could not be with us today.

Cyndi writes:

I take two medications daily Zoloft and Synthroid. Each of these will be for the duration of my life, and I'm 44. The cost for Zoloft is 30\$ a month, and Synthroid is 44\$ which doesn't sound like much but when you do the math these two medications alone will cost me 32,000 dollars IF prices don't increase and live an average life span. And that is if I have no other issues that come up.

But, as we all know, sometimes things happen, sometimes you wake up to unbelievable eye pain and unable to see clearly. For me, that was on Jan 26th. As the day went on, my eyelid began to swell and the pain intensified. On the 27th, I found an ophthalmologist who could see me that day for 70\$. I had a bacterial corneal infection. I had scratched my eye while sleeping, and it just happens. The treatment for this is three bottles of moxifloxacin, an antibiotic eye drop. According to the CDC, without this antibiotic, the infection would spread and ultimately cause vision loss or blindness. Each bottle is 3ml and costs 100\$ each. That's 300 dollars extra this month! We live in a society where the decisions we make are difficult and sometimes unmanageable. I was given the option of preventable vision loss /blindness or not being able to pay all my bills. Luckily I was able to fill my prescription, but my family will go without this month because I scratched my eye.

I look to my elected officials to give me and other people like me some much-needed relief. I ask for your leadership in finding solutions to lower prescription drugs for every-day Nevadans like me. Thank you for your time.