



## **ALLIANCE LETTER TO THE NEW YORK TIMES EDITOR**

The Alliance for Home Dialysis believes that home dialysis is an important treatment option that offers patients significant quality of life advantages and meaningful improvements in health.

While decisions around treatment can be difficult, we believe every patient should be given the option of home dialysis. We appreciate the exploration of challenges elderly patients may face at home, as discussed in the [Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> article](#), but would also highlight the health benefits of home dialysis. Patients who receive home dialysis often have less nausea and weight gain, use fewer medications, and have survival advantages in the first years of dialysis. Further, these patients can be better candidates for kidney transplantation.

Home dialysis also provides economic and lifestyle benefits, including increasing a patient's ability to work and travel by enabling greater flexibility over their treatment schedule. And, new devices on the horizon are anticipated to soon make home dialysis even easier.

The decision of whether to dialyze at home should be made between patient and nephrologist. For thousands of kidney patients, home dialysis is the right choice.

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**The Alliance for Home Dialysis** represents patients, clinicians, providers, and industry working to promote policies that facilitate treatment choice for individuals in need of dialysis, and to address systemic barriers that limit access to the many benefits of home dialysis. These issues are particularly important given that over 700,000 Americans are currently living with End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) and most of them depend on dialysis for survival.