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#### DaVita Dialysis Set To Close In Hiawatha

(KNZA)--The transition process has begun for those patients relying on the dialysis clinic based in Hiawatha.

That comes as DaVita Dialysis, located on Lodge Road, is set to close near the end of this month.

According to DaVita spokesman Skip Thurman, the decision to close the clinic, which has been in operation for around 2 years, was not made lightly by the Colorado-based dialysis service provider.

Thurman, in an email correspondence, tells MSC News the reason for closing the doors is financial, as a significant number of patients are Medicare beneficiaries which makes the clinic financially unsustainable. He says treating such patients comes as a loss to the company, with private insurance relied on to subsidize those losses.

Apparently, that has not happened; and, with each treatment at the center costing around 1.7 times what Medicare will reimburse, Davita made the decision to close.

Thurman says the company has been working with patients and teammates in order to provide a smooth transition to other dialysis facilities.

An exact closing date is not yet specified.

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