At the request of Rep. Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin and Rep. Rush Holt of New Jersey, the Special Investigations Division investigated Medicare's coverage of prescription drugs for kidney dialysis patients. These reports found that the legislative prohibition preventing the Medicare program from covering inexpensive self-administered prescription drugs for dialysis patients may be costing the federal taxpayer well over $100 million each year. In response to these findings, Rep. Baldwin introduced the Medicare Drug Cost Savings Act of 2001 (H.R. 3317) to allow for Medicare coverage of self-administered drugs when they are cheaper than the physician-administered drugs currently covered by Medicare. **Documents and Links**

- The Report
- Bill Text: H.R. 3317