Competitor Offers $1 Alternative to Turing's $750 Pill. Plus: Bernie Sanders vs. Martin Shkreli

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Activists protest Martin Shkreli outside Turing Pharmaceuticals headquarters on October 1.

Business might not be booming for Turing Pharmaceuticals CEO Martin Shkreli, the "hedge fund bro" who jacked up the price of AIDS-related anti-parasitic med Daraprim from $13.50 to $750 per pill.

First came the public outcry and activist protests. Then came the New York attorney general's investigation into Turing for possibly violating anti-trust rules.

And now, as the Boston Globe reports, Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders publicly rebuked the pharma leader. Shkreli donated $2,700 to the Sanders campaign—the maximum individual contribution allowed—because he says he's a fan of the Vermont senator and wanted to meet with him and explain why pharmaceutical companies set their prices as they do.

Instead of keeping the money, Sanders's campaign donated it to Whitman-Walker Health, which services the LGBT and HIV populations of Washington, DC.

Shkreli, the Globe reports, was "furious" to be used to promote Sanders's viewpoint without being given a chance to discuss his opinions.

Meanwhile, a compounding pharmacy service called Imprimis Pharmaceuticals announced it will offer a cheaper alternative to Turing's $750-a-pill Daraprim—selling its version for as low as 100 capsules for $99.

As Forbes reports, the Imprimis version includes the generic chemical, pyrimethamine, found in Daraprim, but adds leucovorin, which is often given separately to counter side effects of pyrimethamine.

Read the Forbes article to learn more about compounding pharmacies, which create patient-specific customized formulations of meds.

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