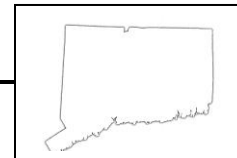


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Connecticut

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 36,800¹



Grade	Summary
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #8B4513;">A+</p>	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Connecticut does not impose any liver damage restrictions.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: Connecticut does not impose any sobriety restrictions.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: Connecticut does not impose any prescriber restrictions.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide access to hepatitis C medications for all Medicaid beneficiaries. • Maintain transparency regarding hepatitis C coverage requirements. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Connecticut Medicaid was the first state to provide access to hepatitis C treatment for all beneficiaries over the age of 12. It serves as a model for other state Medicaid programs. Connecticut's leadership and commitment to people with hepatitis C is recognized with a "plus" added to its A grade.</i></p>

Background

As of March 2017, there were 771,588 beneficiaries enrolled in the state's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).² In 2010, Connecticut's Medical Assistance Program transitioned from a primarily Managed Care Organization (MCO) to a Fee-For-Service (FFS) program.³ All Medicaid beneficiaries are enrolled in the FFS program, which includes pharmacy services.⁴ The FFS program sets the coverage requirements for accessing hepatitis C medications.

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

In 2015, as a result of legal action from New Haven Legal Assistance and political pressure from patient advocates, Connecticut significantly increased access to hepatitis C medications, removing all liver damage, sobriety and prescribing requirements.⁵ Connecticut's prior authorization (PA) form requests if the patient is over 12 years old and has been diagnosed with chronic hepatitis C.⁶ The PA does not request any information on sobriety nor does it indicate any prescribing requirements.⁷ Additionally, the state does not request information on HIV co-infection.⁸ Medications are initially authorized for 12 weeks; however, a prescriber can indicate on the PA if a patient requires a longer duration of treatment.⁹ The Preferred Drug List (PDL) covers the following medications: Daklinza, Epclusa, Harvoni, Olysio, Sovaldi, Technivie, Victrelis, Viekira Pak, Viekira XR and Zepatier.¹⁰

Connecticut is transparent regarding its hepatitis C coverage criteria. The state responded to the NVHR/CHLPI survey on hepatitis C coverage requirements.

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Connecticut requires a diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C infection.¹¹ The state does not impose any liver damage requirements.

Sobriety Restrictions

Connecticut does not impose any sobriety requirements to access hepatitis C medications.¹²

Provider Restrictions

Connecticut does not impose any prescriber requirements.¹³

Points of Contact for Questions & Concerns about Connecticut's State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Access

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Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee¹⁵: PDL Coordinator, Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee
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¹ HepVu, Connecticut State Profile: <https://hepvu.org/state/connecticut/>

² Medicaid.gov; Medicaid & CHIP in Connecticut: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=connecticut> (Accessed May 2017)

³ Connecticut General Assembly, Office of Legislative Research, Report 2015-R-0010, Medicaid Managed Care in Connecticut and Other States (2015): <https://www.cga.ct.gov/2015/rpt/pdf/2015-R-0010.pdf>

⁴ Ibid. Connecticut General Assembly, Office of Legislative Research, Report 2015-R-0010, Medicaid Managed Care in Connecticut and Other States (2015)

⁵ Legal Threat to Connecticut Removes HCV Restrictions, National AIDS Treatment Advocacy Program: http://www.natap.org/2015/HCV/062315_01.htm (Accessed May 2017)

⁶ State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017):

<https://www.ctdssmap.com/CTPortal/Pharmacy%20Information/tabId/65/~Information/Get%20Download%20File/tabId/44/Default.aspx?Filename=Hep%20C%20PA%20Request%20Form.pdf&URI=Forms/Hep%20C%20PA%20Request%20Form.pdf>

⁷ Ibid. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017)

⁸ Ibid. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017)

⁹ Ibid. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017)

¹⁰ Connecticut Medicaid, Preferred Drug List (PDL) (Updated: May 2017): https://www.ctdssmap.com/CTPortal/Portals/0/StaticContent/Publications/CT_PDL_medicaid.pdf

¹¹ Ibid. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017)

¹² Ibid. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017)

¹³ Ibid. State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, CT Medical Assistance Program Hepatitis C Prior Authorization (Updated: April 2017)

¹⁴ National Association of Medicaid Directors: <http://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>

¹⁵ Connecticut Department of Social Services, Pharmacy Information, Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee (Accessed May 2017): <https://www.ctdssmap.com/CTPortal/PharmacyInformation/tabId/65/Default.aspx>