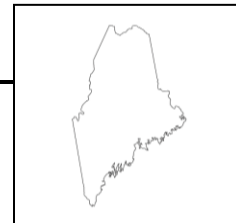


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Maine

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 11,200¹



Grade	Summary
<p>A-</p>	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Maine requests a patient’s liver damage but does not stipulate any minimum level required.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: Maine does not impose sobriety restrictions.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: Maine requires a prescription be written by or in consultation with a prescriber.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove prescriber restrictions. Maintain transparency regarding hepatitis C coverage criteria. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Maine has made great progress in expanding access to hepatitis C coverage. Maine has no liver damage restrictions and no longer requires a minimum period of sobriety prior to treatment. However, Maine continues to require a prescription be written by or in consultation with a specialist, creating a physician bottleneck to treatment. As such, a “minus” has been added to the state’s “A” grade.</i></p>

Background

Maine’s Medicaid program is called MaineCare. As of March 2017, MaineCare had 267,252 beneficiaries enrolled in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).² All MaineCare beneficiaries participate in the Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) program which works like a Fee-For-Service (FFS) model.³ Under the PCCM program, beneficiaries either choose or are assigned to a primary care provider (doctor, nurse, physician assistant or health care clinic) to manage their care.⁴ Maine does not contract with any Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

MaineCare requires prior authorization (PA) to access hepatitis C treatment. Coverage requirements apply to all beneficiaries. MaineCare does not stipulate any liver damage requirements on the PA form.⁵ A prescription must be written by or in consultation with a specialist. At the September meeting of the Maine Drug Utilization Review Board, the Board unanimously decided to remove the section of the PA form that required six months of sobriety as proved by a urine screen.⁶ The current PA does not inquire about alcohol or substance use at all.⁷ PA is approved initially for up to 12 weeks of therapy and only a 14-day-supply is allowed for the first prescription fill.⁸ Additionally, documentation of adherence (viral load changes or progress notes with a documented compliance discussion) are required to secure approval for continuation of therapy beyond 12 weeks and must be submitted with the PA request prior to completing the third month of therapy.⁹ Maine’s preferred drug list includes preferred Direct-Acting Antiviral (DAA) regimens: Epclusa, Mavyret, Olysio, and Zepatier; and non-preferred regimens: Daklinza, Harvoni, Sovaldi, Viekira Pak/XR, and Vosevi.¹⁰

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

MaineCare requests the patient’s liver damage but does not stipulate any minimum level of damage required.¹¹

Sobriety Restrictions

MaineCare does not impose sobriety restrictions.¹²

Prescriber Restrictions

MaineCare requires a prescription written by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, infectious disease specialist or other

hepatitis specialist.¹³ If the prescriber is not one of the previously listed specialists, he or she must have had the consultation within the past year and provide documentation of the recommended regimen.¹⁴

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

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Drug Utilization Review Committee¹⁶: Jill Kingsbury, Pharmacy Director, Office of MaineCare Services

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¹ HepVu, Maine State Profile: <https://hepvu.org/state/maine/>

² Medicaid.gov; Medicaid & CHIP in Maine: <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=maine> (accessed May 2017)

³ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, State Health Facts, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (Updated July 2016): <http://kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/share-of-medicare-population-covered-under-different-delivery-systems/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>

⁴ MaineCare Member Handbook, MaineCare Services, Office of the Department of Health and Human Services, Summer 2018, available at

https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/pdfs/doc/member/mainecare_mbr_handbook.pdf.

⁵ MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018), available at <http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/prior-authorization-forms/2018-09-28/hepatitis-c-treatment-pa-10700.21final.pdf>.

⁶ Maine Department of Health and Human Services, MaineCare Services Pharmacy Unit, Maine DUR Board Meeting minutes from September 11, 2018, available at <http://www.mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/dur-minutes/2018-10-12/mainedur09112018meetingminutesapproved.pdf>.

⁷ MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018), available at <http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/prior-authorization-forms/2018-09-28/hepatitis-c-treatment-pa-10700.21final.pdf>.

⁸ MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018), available at <http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/prior-authorization-forms/2018-09-28/hepatitis-c-treatment-pa-10700.21final.pdf>.

⁹ MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018), available at <http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/prior-authorization-forms/2018-09-28/hepatitis-c-treatment-pa-10700.21final.pdf>.

¹⁰ Physician's Summarized PDL, MaineCare, PDL Effective September 28, 2018: <http://mainecarepdl.org/sites/default/files/ghs-files/pdl/2018-09-28/copy-sscdpdlmainecriteria-sept282018.pdf>.

¹¹ Ibid. MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018).

¹² Ibid. MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018).

¹³ Ibid. MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018).

¹⁴ Ibid. MaineCare/MEDEL Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Treatment, DHHS, State of Maine (Updated: September 2018).

¹⁵ MaineCare Services, Contact Us (Accessed May 2017): <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/contacts.shtml>.

¹⁶ MaineCare Services, Contact Information (Accessed May 2017): <http://www.mainecarepdl.org/content/contact-information>.