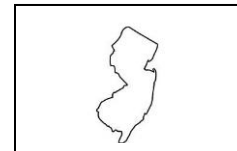


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

New Jersey



Grade	Recommendations to Improve Patient Access
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove prior authorization for HCV treatment. Publish FFS HCV coverage criteria. Ensure transparency and parity across FFS and MCOs regarding HCV coverage criteria.

State Overview

As of September 2023, 2,202,361 individuals were enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.¹ It is estimated that as of 2016, 47,200 people were living with HCV in New Jersey.² New Jersey Medicaid operates a fee-for-service (FFS) program and contracts with managed care organizations (MCOs). Most beneficiaries, 98 percent, are enrolled in an MCO. The remaining 2 percent participate in FFS.³ New Jersey Medicaid contracts with five MCOs: Aetna Better Health of New Jersey (Aetna), Amerigroup Community Care/Wellpoint (Wellpoint), Fidelis Care, Horizon NJ Health (Horizon), and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (UHC).⁴

New Jersey Medicaid does not use a Preferred Drug List.⁵

Deductions		Policy
Prior Authorization	-8	Prior authorization is required for all HCV treatment regimens. ⁶
Fibrosis Restrictions	0	New Jersey Medicaid does not impose fibrosis restrictions. ⁷
Substance Use Restrictions	0	New Jersey Medicaid does not impose substance use restrictions. ⁸
Prescriber Restrictions	0	New Jersey Medicaid does not impose prescriber restrictions. ⁹
Retreatment Restrictions	0	New Jersey Medicaid does not impose retreatment restrictions. ¹⁰
Access in Managed Care	-8	Fidelis does not publish HCV treatment coverage criteria. ¹¹ Aetna, ¹² Wellpoint, ¹³ Horizon, ¹⁴ and UHC ¹⁵ appear to follow the same criteria as FFS. UHC asks about the provider's "specialty," but does not appear to require a specialist to prescribe treatment. ¹⁶
Additional Restrictions	-8	Additional restrictions could not be assessed as New Jersey Medicaid does not publish clinical criteria nor publish a prior authorization form for HCV treatment. An 8-point deduction was given due to lack of transparency about clinical coverage criteria.
Total Deductions	-24	Total Score [100-Deductions] 76
		Grade C

Contact Your State Officials

Medicaid Office¹⁷: Jennifer Langer Jacobs, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Department of Human Services, State of New Jersey
7 Quakerbridge Plaza, PO Box 712, Trenton, NJ 0862-0712; Telephone: (609) 588-2600

Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB)¹⁸: DURB Secretary, New Jersey DURB, Office of the Medical Director, Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Department of Human Services
PO Box 712, Trenton, NJ 08625; Telephone: (609) 588-2739

Key Sources

New Jersey Medicaid does not publish clinical criteria nor publish a prior authorization form for HCV treatment. Treatment access was evaluated using Drug Utilization Review Board minutes.¹⁹ The unpublished *Protocol for Direct Acting Antiviral Hepatitis C Drugs (Updated Jul. 1, 2021)* shared by email from the NJ Department of Human Services Office of Public Communications was not used to evaluate treatment access.

¹ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Medicaid and CHIP in New Jersey, <https://perma.cc/N9HZ-V58V>.

² HepVu, Local Data: New Jersey State Profile, <https://hepvu.org/state/new-jersey/>.

³ Kaiser Family Foundation, Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems (July 1, 2022), <https://perma.cc/EMN8-QR8B>.

⁴ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, New Jersey Medicaid & Managed Care, <https://perma.cc/4S7G-QX9F>.

⁵ Kaiser Family Foundation, State Medicaid Preferred Drug Lists (Jul. 1, 2019), <https://perma.cc/N5A2-97EE>.

⁶ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, DURB Meeting Summary (Jul. 14, 2021), <https://perma.cc/3C89-3WTV>.

⁷ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, DURB Meeting Summary (Jul. 18, 2018), <https://perma.cc/R8JP-XMVQ>.

⁸ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, DURB Meeting Summary (Jul. 22, 2016), <https://perma.cc/4364-SHKY>.

⁹ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, DURB Meeting Summary (Jul. 14, 2021), <https://perma.cc/3C89-3WTV>.

¹⁰ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, DURB Meeting Summary (Jun. 22, 2016), <https://perma.cc/5AU5-QV3D>.

¹¹ Fidelis Care, Medicaid, Pharmacy Services, <https://perma.cc/3PT6-T67N>.

¹² Aetna Better Health, Protocol for Direct Acting Antiviral Hepatitis C Drugs (July 2021), <https://perma.cc/SV5P-NVJW>.

¹³ Wellpoint Formulary, Clinical Criteria for Mavyret (May 16, 2022), https://client.formularynavigator.com/Search.aspx?siteCode=1501420370&targetScreen=3&drugBrandListBaseTC=*antivirals*%257c*hepatitis%2Bc%2Bagent%2B-%2Bcombinations***

¹⁴ Horizon NJ Health, Hepatitis C Prior Authorization Form (Sept. 2023), https://www.horizonnjhealth.com/securecms-documents/1081/Hepatitis_C.pdf.

¹⁵ New Jersey United Healthcare Community Plan, Hepatitis C Prior Authorization Form (Jul. 2022), <https://perma.cc/2JS5-TDCR>.

¹⁶ New Jersey United Healthcare Community Plan, Hepatitis C Prior Authorization Form (Jul. 2022), <https://perma.cc/2JS5-TDCR>.

¹⁷ National Association of Medicaid Directors, Medicaid Directors, <https://perma.cc/TG6Y-BQFA>.

¹⁸ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, Department of Human Services, Drug Utilization Review Board (DURB), <http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/boards/durb/>.

¹⁹ New Jersey Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services, DURB Meeting Schedule & Minutes Index, <https://nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/boards/durb/meeting/index.html>.