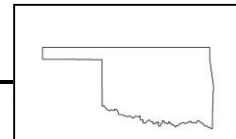


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Oklahoma

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 53,300¹



Grade	Summary
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #800000;">C</p>	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Oklahoma does not impose liver damage requirements.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: Oklahoma requires screening and counseling for alcohol and substance use as well as the beneficiary to commit to abstain from alcohol and substance use during and after treatment. Patients must agree to random drug testing during treatment.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: Oklahoma requires a prescription be written by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, infectious disease, or transplant specialist.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove sobriety and prescriber requirements. • Maintain transparency regarding hepatitis C coverage requirements. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Oklahoma has improved access to hepatitis C treatment by removing liver damage requirements for preferred Direct Acting Antiviral (DAA) regimens. The state also reduced sobriety restrictions and now requires screening and counseling and a commitment to abstinence. However, Oklahoma still requires many clinical issues to be addressed before a patient begins therapy. A prescription must still be written by or in consultation with a specialist. With these restrictions, some patients have limited access to treatment.</i></p>

Background

As of May 2021, Oklahoma had 887,980 individuals enrolled in Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program.² Oklahoma Medicaid, known as SoonerCare, operates a Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) system known as SoonerCare Choice and a Fee-For-Service (FFS) program known as SoonerCare Traditional.³ The state does not contract with any managed care organizations. 60 percent of beneficiaries are enrolled in the PCCM system.⁴ The remaining 40 percent participate in the FFS program.⁵ The state establishes hepatitis C coverage criteria for all Medicaid beneficiaries.

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

SoonerCare has separate PA forms for each regimen.⁶ Significant other clinical issues including, but not limited to anemia, surgery, depression, obesity, epilepsy, psychosis, weight management, and severe concurrent medical diseases must be addressed before starting therapy.⁷ SoonerCare requires patients, after discussing treatment adherence with the prescriber, to sign the *Hepatitis C Therapy Intent to Treat Contract*, which states that SoonerCare will stop paying for treatment if the patient misses taking his medications for more than three days in a month.⁸ Additionally, the contract requires female patients and partners to commit to undergo monthly pregnancy tests throughout the patient’s treatment.⁹ A beneficiary must “work with one pharmacy” and provide the name of the pharmacy.¹⁰ SoonerCare also requires the designated pharmacy to sign and submit the *Hepatitis C Pharmacy Therapy Agreement* in which the pharmacy commits to counsel a beneficiary on the potential side effects and support the proper administration of the pharmacy benefit.¹¹ SoonerCare requires patients to be adherent to receive approval for continued treatment.¹² Prescribers must submit a Hepatitis C Therapy Continuation Prior Authorization Form, which must be completed by both the pharmacy and prescriber, to be considered for approval of extended treatment.¹³

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

SoonerCare does not impose liver damage requirements.¹⁴ For F0, the state requires confirmation of chronic HCV using two HCV RNA results within the last six months or a positive HCV antibody and HCV RNA result within the last 3 months.¹⁵

Sobriety Restrictions

SoonerCare requires screening and counseling for alcohol and substance use.¹⁶ Beneficiaries must sign and submit the *Hepatitis C Therapy Intent to Treat Contract* that imposes random drug testing throughout treatment and commits the individual to be abstinent during and after therapy.¹⁷

Provider Restrictions

SoonerCare requires a prescription to be written by a gastroenterologist or infectious disease or transplant specialist, or the patient to be evaluated by one of the previously designated specialists in the past three months prior to submitting the PA request.¹⁸

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

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¹ Oklahoma State Profile, HepVu: <https://hepvu.org/state/oklahoma/>.

² Medicaid and CHIP in Oklahoma, By-State, Medicaid.gov (Accessed December 2021): <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=oklahoma>.

³ Programs, Oklahoma Health Care Authority (Accessed December 2021): <http://www.okhca.org/individuals.aspx?id=94&menu=42>.

⁴ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Managed Care Market Tracker, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, July 1, 2021 (Accessed December 2021): <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/share-of-medicaid-population-covered-under-different-delivery-systems/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>.

⁵ Ibid. Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Managed Care Market Tracker.

⁶ Prior Authorization Forms, Oklahoma Health Care Authority (Accessed December 2021): <https://oklahoma.gov/ohca/providers/forms/rxforms.html>.

⁷ Ibid. Hepatitis C Criteria, Hepatic Disorders, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

⁸ Hepatitis C Therapy-Intent to Treat Contract, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority, State of Oklahoma (Accessed December 2021): <https://oklahoma.gov/ohca/providers/forms/rxforms.html>; See also PHARM-28, Hepatitis C Therapy-Intent to Treat Contract, Forms (Accessed December 2021): <https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/okhca/documents/a0304/20434.pdf>.

⁹ Ibid. Hepatitis C Therapy-Intent to Treat Contract, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹⁰ Ibid. Hepatitis C Therapy-Intent to Treat Contract, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹¹ Hepatitis C Pharmacy Therapy Agreement, Oklahoma Health Care Authority, State of Oklahoma, Approved: 03/29/2017 (Accessed December 2021): <https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/okhca/documents/a0304/20435.pdf>.

¹² Ibid. Hepatitis C Criteria, Hepatic Disorders, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹³ Hepatitis C Therapy Continuation Prior Authorization Form, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority, State of Oklahoma, Approved: 03/29/2017 (Accessed December 2021): <https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/okhca/documents/a0304/20436.pdf>.

¹⁴ Hepatitis C Criteria, Hepatic Disorders, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority (Accessed December 2021) <https://oklahoma.gov/ohca/providers/types/pharmacy/prior-authorization/prior-authorization-2021/hepatic-disorders-2021.html>.

¹⁵ Ibid. Hepatitis C Criteria, Hepatic Disorders, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹⁶ Ibid. Hepatitis C Criteria, Hepatic Disorders, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹⁷ Ibid. Hepatitis C Therapy-Intent to Treat Contract, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹⁸ Ibid. Hepatitis C Criteria, Hepatic Disorders, SoonerCare, Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

¹⁹ Oklahoma, Medicaid Directors, National Association of Medicaid Directors (Accessed December 2021): <http://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>.