

Rhode Island

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 10,000¹



Grade	Summary
A+	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Fee-For-Service (FFS) and all Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) do not impose liver damage restrictions.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: FFS and all MCOs do not impose sobriety restrictions.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: FFS and all MCOs do not impose prescriber restrictions.</p> <p><i>Grade Rationale: Rhode Island has made substantial progress in opening access. Beneficiaries can now access treatment without regard to liver damage or sobriety. Additionally, prior authorization is not required when using the preferred agent (Mavyret).</i></p>

Background

As of March 2021, Rhode Island had 331,453 individuals enrolled in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.² The state operates a Fee-For-Service (FFS) program and contracts with three Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).³ Most beneficiaries, 90 percent, are enrolled in a MCO plan, while the remaining 10 percent participate in FFS.⁴ Rhode Island contracts with Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island, a local non-profit plan, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (UHC) and Tufts Health Plan.⁵

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

Rhode Island has made substantial improvement in providing access to hepatitis C treatment.

As of August 1, 2021, the state’s FFS program moved to allow prescribing Mavyret and Vosevi for re-treatment without first requiring a prior authorization form.⁶ For non-preferred regimens, while prior authorization is required, the program does not impose any liver damage, sobriety, or prescriber restrictions on access; only patient genotype is required.⁷ All three MCOs have followed this policy change and have updated their policies to waive prior authorization for Mavyret and Vosevi.⁸ Rhode Island uniquely addresses continuity of treatment when a patient is transitioning between publicly funded delivery systems (e.g. department of correction and Medicaid) by mandating that prior approvals from other systems will be honored.

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Rhode Island does not impose any liver damage restrictions.

Sobriety Restrictions

Rhode Island does not have any sobriety restrictions.

Prescriber Restrictions

Rhode Island does not impose prescriber restrictions.

Point of Contact for Questions & Concerns about Rhode Island's State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Access

Medicaid⁹: Patrick Tigie, Medicaid Director, Executive Office of Health and Human Services, State of Rhode Island
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¹ Rhode Island State Profile, HepVu: <https://hepvu.org/state/rhode-island/>

² Medicaid and CHIP in Rhode Island, By-State, Medicaid.gov: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=rhode-island>

³ Medicaid, Healthcare Programs, Families with Children, Consumer, Executive Office of Health & Human Services: <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/HealthcarePrograms.aspx>.

⁴ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Market Tracker: <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 Healthcare Programs, Executive Office of Health & Human Services, State of Rhode Island: <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/HealthcarePrograms.aspx>; See also: ACA Healthcare Coverage, Medicaid Expansion, Adults, Consumer, Executive Office of Health and Human Services: <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/Adults/MedicaidforAdults.aspx>

⁶ Treatment of Hepatitis C Prior Authorization Guidelines, RI Executive Office of Health & Human Services: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur226/files/2021-08/PA22%20Policy.pdf>. See also Hepatitis C Prior Authorization Request Form, RI Executive Office of Health & Human Services: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur226/files/2021-08/PA22.pdf>; Pharmacy, RI Executive Office of Health & Human Services: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/provider-directories/pharmacy>.

⁷ Hepatitis C Prior Authorization Request Form, RI Executive Office of Health & Human Services: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/sites/g/files/xkgbur226/files/2021-08/PA22.pdf>; Pharmacy, RI Executive Office of Health & Human Services: <https://eohhs.ri.gov/providers-partners/provider-directories/pharmacy>.

⁸ Hepatitis C Criteria, Neighborhood Health Plan Rhode Island: https://www.nhpri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Medicaid_Hep_C_Global_20210624.pdf; Preferred Drug List, Rhode Island UnitedHealthcare Community Plan: <https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/commplan/ri/pharmacy/RI-Children-SHCN-RIteCare-RhodyHealth-Preferred-Drug-List.pdf>; Pharmacy Preferred Drug List, Tufts Health RITogether: <https://tuftshealthplan.com/provider/pharmacy/public-plans/tufts-health-ritogether>.

⁹ Contact Us, Executive Office of Health & Human Services (Accessed August 2017): <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ContactUs/ContactInformation.aspx>