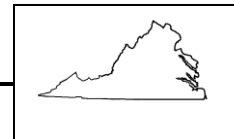


# Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

## Virginia



Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 39,900<sup>1</sup>

Grade	Summary
<b>A</b>	<p><b>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions:</b> Fee-For Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) do not impose liver damage restrictions.</p> <p><b>Sobriety Restrictions:</b> FFS and MCOs do not impose sobriety restrictions.</p> <p><b>Prescriber Restrictions:</b> FFS and MCOs do not impose prescriber restrictions for preferred drugs. For non-preferred drugs, FFS and MCOs require a specialist to prescribe (gastroenterologist, hepatologist, transplant specialist, or infectious disease specialist).</p> <p><b>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure parity between FFS and MCO coverage requirements</li><li>• Regain transparency for MCO coverage requirements</li></ul> <p><i>Grade Rationale: Virginia FFS and most MCOs have expanded access to hepatitis C treatment by no longer requiring prior authorization for preferred regimens. However, one MCO still imposes prior authorization requirements even for preferred regimens. For non-preferred regimens, Virginia does not impose liver damage or sobriety requirements, but requires a specialist to prescribe. If Virginia regains parity between FFS and MCOs, it could achieve an A+.</i></p>

## Background

As of June 2021, Virginia Medicaid had 1,722,107 individuals enrolled in its Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).<sup>2</sup> 97 percent of beneficiaries are enrolled in a Managed Care Organization (MCO) plan.<sup>3</sup> The remaining 3 percent of enrollees participate in the Fee-For-Service (FFS) program.<sup>4</sup> Virginia Medicaid Managed Care began in 1996 and is currently known as Medallion 4.0.<sup>5</sup> Medallion 4.0 contracts with 6 different local and national for-profit and not-for profit insurers including: Aetna Better Health (Aetna), Anthem HealthKeepers Plus (Anthem), Molina Complete Care (Molina), Optima Health (Optima), UnitedHealth Care Community Plan (United), and Virginia Premier (Premier).<sup>6</sup> The state is divided into seven different MCO regions and the plans offered vary in each region.<sup>7</sup> The FFS program is administered by Magellan Medicaid Administration.<sup>8</sup> Virginia mandates that MCOs provide the same coverage criteria as FFS.

## State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

Virginia has significantly increased access to hepatitis C treatment. All liver damage and sobriety requirements have been removed. Virginia requires MCOs to maintain a formulary that, at a minimum, includes all preferred drugs on the state Preferred Drug List (PDL), also known as the Common Core Formulary.<sup>9</sup> Most recently, Virginia has taken the step of removing prior authorization for its preferred direct-acting antiviral agents, Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir (generic Epclusa), as long as the treatment course does not exceed an 84-day supply.<sup>10</sup> FFS still requires prior authorization for non-preferred hepatitis C drugs.<sup>11</sup>

Of the six MCOs, all but one have followed the FFS change and no longer require prior authorization for Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir.<sup>12</sup> Molina Complete Care still lists Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir as requiring prior authorization on its January 2022 formulary.<sup>13</sup> Additionally, while the other MCOs have updated their formularies, prior authorization forms for preferred hepatitis C drugs remain publicly available on the websites for Aetna, Anthem, and UnitedHealthcare, which may cause confusion for providers who are unaware of the policy change.<sup>14</sup>

FFS and five MCOs do not impose liver damage or sobriety restrictions for any agent. All non-preferred drugs must be prescribed by a specialty physician, such as a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, transplant specialist, or infectious disease specialist.<sup>15</sup> Currently, Optima does not publicly share a prior authorization form or criteria for non-preferred agents.

## Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Virginia FFS and five MCOs do not impose liver damage requirements for any agent. For non-preferred agents, a diagnosis of acute or chronic hepatitis C is required.<sup>16</sup> Currently, Optima does not publicly share a prior authorization form or criteria for non-preferred agents.

## Sobriety Restrictions

Virginia FFS and five MCOs do not impose sobriety requirements for any agent. Currently, Optima does not publicly share a prior authorization form or criteria for non-preferred agents.

## Prescriber Restrictions

Virginia FFS and the MCOs do not impose prescriber restrictions for preferred drugs (Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir).

For non-preferred agents, a prescription from a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, transplant specialist, or infectious disease specialist is required.<sup>17</sup>

Currently, Optima does not publicly share a prior authorization form or criteria for non-preferred hepatitis C drugs.

## Points of Contact for Questions & Concerns about Virginia's State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

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<sup>1</sup> Virginia State Profile, HepVu (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://hepvu.org/state/virginia/>.

<sup>2</sup> Medicaid and CHIP in Virginia, By-State, Medicaid.gov (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=virginia>.

<sup>3</sup> Share of Medicaid Population Covered under Different Delivery Systems, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation (accessed January 2022), available at: <http://kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/share-of-medicaid-population-covered-under-different-delivery-systems/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=-%7B%22collid%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. Share of Medicaid Population Covered under Different Delivery Systems, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation.

<sup>5</sup> Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, Medallion 4.0 Managed Care Services Agreement, Effective July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/media/3583/medallion-4-contract-sfy22-v1.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> Virginia Managed Care, Compare Plans (accessed January 2022): <https://www.virginiamanagedcare.com/choose/compare-plans>.

<sup>7</sup> Virginia Managed Care, Health plan charts (accessed January 2022): <https://www.virginiamanagedcare.com/health-plan-charts>.

<sup>8</sup> Provider Synergies, Virginia Medicaid (10/1/2017) (accessed January 2022): <http://www.providersynergies.com/services/medicaid/default.asp?content=Virginia>.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Medical Assistance Services, Medallion 4.0, Managed Care Services Agreement, page 230.

<sup>10</sup> Virginia Medicaid's Preferred Drug List (PDL)/Common Core Formulary, 1/1/2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/external/medicaid/vamps/doc/en-us/VAMed-PDL-List-Criteria-20220101.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid. Virginia Medicaid's Preferred Drug List (PDL)/Common Core Formulary, 1/1/2022; See Also: Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, Service Authorization Form: Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred, effective 01/01/2021 (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/external/medicaid/vamps/doc/en-us/VAMPS\\_SAForm\\_HepatitisC\\_Antivirals\\_Non-Preferred.pdf](https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/external/medicaid/vamps/doc/en-us/VAMPS_SAForm_HepatitisC_Antivirals_Non-Preferred.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Non-Formulary and Prior Authorization Guidelines, Aetna Better Health of Virginia, Effective 1/1/2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/virginia/assets/pdf/pharmacy/auth-guide/CCC/ABH-VA-CCC-Plus-and-Medallion-FAMIS-4.0-Guideline-Chart-External-ua.pdf>; See Also: VA Anthem Common Core Formulary, Hepatitis C Agents (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://client.formularynavigator.com/Search.aspx?siteCode=5187807787&drugSortBy=brand&drugSortOrder=asc&targetScreen=3&drugBrandListBaseTC=\\*antivirals\\*%7c\\*hepatitis+c+agent++combinations\\*\\*\\*](https://client.formularynavigator.com/Search.aspx?siteCode=5187807787&drugSortBy=brand&drugSortOrder=asc&targetScreen=3&drugBrandListBaseTC=*antivirals*%7c*hepatitis+c+agent++combinations***); See Also: Entries for Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir, Formulary for Optima FamilyCare (Medallion 4.0), Effective January 1, 2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.optimahealth.com/documents/drug-lists/2022-formulary-optima-family-care-medicallion-4.pdf>; See Also: UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Virginia, 1st Quarter 2022 Preferred Drug List Update, available at: <https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/complan/va/pharmacy/VA-PDL-Update-Q1-2022.pdf>; UnitedHealthcare, Preferred Drug List: Commonwealth of Virginia Medallion Program, Effective 1/1/2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/complan/va/pharmacy/VA-Medallion-FAMIS-Preferred-Drug-List.pdf>; Virginia Premier Medallion 4.0, Prior Authorization Detail, Effective January 1, 2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://www.virginiapremier.com/wp-content/uploads/VPHPMedallion4.0\\_Full\\_Formulary2022.pdf](https://www.virginiapremier.com/wp-content/uploads/VPHPMedallion4.0_Full_Formulary2022.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> Molina Complete Care, Medicaid Preferred Drug List (Formulary), January 2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://www.molinahealthcare.com/-/media/Molina/PublicWebsite/PDF/members/va/Molina-Complete-Care-VA-0122-122021-usec-v2\\_508c.pdf](https://www.molinahealthcare.com/-/media/Molina/PublicWebsite/PDF/members/va/Molina-Complete-Care-VA-0122-122021-usec-v2_508c.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> Aetna Better Health of Virginia, Hepatitis C Antivirals: PREFERRED, 01/01/2021 (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/virginia/assets/pdf/pharmacy/auth-forms/CCC-plus/Hepatitis-C-Antivirals-Preferred-VA-1.1.2021-ua.pdf>; See Also: Anthem, Forms: Pharmacy (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://providers.anthem.com/virginia-provider/resources/forms>; Anthem, Prior Authorization Form, Hepatitis C Antivirals: Preferred, December 2020 (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://providers.anthem.com/docs/gpp/VA\\_CCC\\_HepatitisCAntiviralsPrefPAForm.pdf?v=202102232031](https://providers.anthem.com/docs/gpp/VA_CCC_HepatitisCAntiviralsPrefPAForm.pdf?v=202102232031); See Also: United Healthcare Community Plan, Virginia Prior Authorization Request Form Preferred Hepatitis C Medications (01/2020) (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/prior-auth/uhccp-pharmacy-forms/m-q/VA-Preferred-HepatitisC-Agents-PA-Form.pdf>.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid. Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, Service Authorization Form: Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred, Effective 01/01/2021 (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/external/medicaid/vamps/doc/en-us/VAMPS\\_SAForm\\_HepatitisC\\_Antivirals\\_Non-Preferred.pdf](https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/external/medicaid/vamps/doc/en-us/VAMPS_SAForm_HepatitisC_Antivirals_Non-Preferred.pdf); See also: Aetna Better Health of Virginia, Hepatitis C Antivirals Non-Preferred (01/2021) (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.aetnabetterhealth.com/virginia/assets/pdf/pharmacy/auth-forms/CCC-plus/Hepatitis-C-Antivirals-Non-Preferred-VA-1.1.2021-ua.pdf>; See also: Anthem HealthKeepers Plus, Prior Authorization Form Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred (December 2020) (accessed January 2022): [https://medioproviders.anthem.com/Documents/VAVA\\_CCC\\_HepCAntiviralsNonPreferredPAForm.pdf](https://medioproviders.anthem.com/Documents/VAVA_CCC_HepCAntiviralsNonPreferredPAForm.pdf); See also: United Healthcare Community Plan, Virginia Prior Authorization Request Form Non-Preferred Hepatitis C Medications (01/2020) (accessed January 2022): <https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/prior-auth/uhccp-pharmacy-forms/m-q/VA-Non-Preferred-HepatitisC-Agents-PA-Form.pdf>; See also: Ibid. Virginia Premier Medallion 4.0, Prior Authorization Detail, Effective January 1, 2022 (accessed January 2022), available at: [https://www.virginiapremier.com/wp-content/uploads/VPHPMedallion4.0\\_Full\\_Formulary2022.pdf](https://www.virginiapremier.com/wp-content/uploads/VPHPMedallion4.0_Full_Formulary2022.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> Ibid. Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, Service Authorization Form: Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred; See also: Ibid. Aetna Better Health of Virginia, Hepatitis C Antivirals Non-Preferred; See also: Ibid. Anthem HealthKeepers Plus, Prior Authorization Form Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred; See also: Ibid. United Healthcare Community Plan, Virginia Prior Authorization Request Form Non-Preferred Hepatitis C Medications; See also: Ibid. Virginia Premier Medallion 4.0, Prior Authorization Detail.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid. Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, Service Authorization Form: Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred; See also: Ibid. Aetna Better Health of Virginia, Hepatitis C Antivirals Non-Preferred; See also: Ibid. Anthem HealthKeepers Plus, Prior Authorization Form Hepatitis C Antivirals: Non-Preferred; See also: Ibid. United Healthcare Community Plan, Virginia Prior Authorization Request Form Non-Preferred Hepatitis C Medications; See also: Ibid. Virginia Premier Medallion 4.0, Prior Authorization Detail.

<sup>18</sup> National Association of Medicaid Directors, Medicaid Directors (Accessed January 2022), available at: <https://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>.

<sup>19</sup> Virginia Medicaid Department of Medical Assistance Services, Pharmacy and Drug Formularies: Additional Information (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-providers/pharmacy-and-drug-formularies>; See Also: Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee (accessed January 2022), available at: <https://www.virginiamedicaidpharmacyservices.com/provider/pharmacy-therapeutic>.