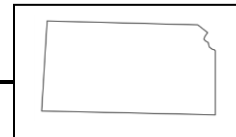


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Kansas



Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 29,900¹

Grade	Summary
<h1>B</h1>	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organization (MCOs) do not require a minimum level of liver damage and only require a diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: FFS and MCOs require that patients do not have a history of illicit intravenous drug use within the past 3 months.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: FFS and MCOs require a prescription to be written by or in consultation with a specialist.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate sobriety and prescribing requirements. • Maintain transparency and parity regarding hepatitis C coverage across the Medicaid program. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Kansas Medicaid requires three months of sobriety and a prescription written by or in consultation with a specialist. However, Kansas no longer imposes minimum liver damage requirements and has ensured parity between FFS and MCO coverage. In recognition of this progress, a “B” grade has been awarded.</i></p>

Background

As of May 2017, Kansas had 386,802 individuals enrolled in the Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).² The Division of Health Care Finance is responsible for purchasing health care services—either by compensating providers on a Fee-For-Service (FFS) basis or through a Managed Care Organization (MCO)—for adults and children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.³ Most beneficiaries, 95 percent, are enrolled in a MCO program known as KanCare.⁴ KanCare currently contracts with three MCOs: Amerigroup of Kansas, Sunflower State Health Plan, and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas, however beginning in 2019, KanCare will begin contracting with Aetna Better Health and Amerigroup will no longer be an option.⁵ The remaining five percent are enrolled in the FFS program.⁶

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

Kansas Medicaid has removed and lessened their previously restrictive criteria due to a lawsuit settlement between Kansas and the ACLU of Kansas.⁷ Kansas no longer imposes a minimum level of liver damage and only requires a diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C.⁸ Treatment must be prescribed by or in consultation with a hepatologist, gastroenterologist, or infectious disease specialist. Additionally, the patient must not have a history of illicit intravenous substance use within the past 3 months, and the prescriber must attest that the patient has demonstrated readiness for treatment using the PREP-C tool, which takes into account alcohol and substance use.⁹ Treatment is approved for an initial four weeks; treatment renewals are approved for four additional weeks and may be re-approved up to the total number of weeks per FDA labeling. Kansas also allows refractory treatment (re-treatment), but requires that MCO claims data show at least 90% treatment adherence to the previous DAA regimen. The KanCare preferred drug list includes Mavryet as preferred and Daklinza, Epclusa, Harvoni, Sovaldi, Technivie, Viekira Pak/XR, Vosevi, and Zepatier as non-preferred.¹⁰

Kansas appears to have parity of coverage criteria in both its FFS and MCO programs. KanCare offers a universal prior authorization (PA) forms as well as drug and class specific PA forms that all MCOs utilize.¹¹ The prior authorization form links directly to the FFS criteria, the KanCare preferred drug list, and includes all MCO’s logos and pharmacy contact information. Additionally, Sunflower Health Plan and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas both direct providers seeking PA forms and coverage criteria to the KanCare FFS criteria and PA forms.¹² As such, MCO coverage criteria mirrors the FFS criteria.

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Kansas FFS and MCOs do not require a minimum level of liver damage and only require a diagnosis of chronic hepatitis C.¹³

Sobriety Restrictions

Kansas FFS and MCOs require that a patient must not have a history of illicit intravenous substance use within the past 3 months prior to treatment.¹⁴ Additionally, the prescriber must attest that the patient has demonstrated readiness for treatment using the PREP-C tool, which takes into account alcohol and substance use.

Prescriber Restrictions

Kansas FFS and MCOs require a prescription to be written by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, hepatologist or infectious disease specialist.¹⁵

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

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¹ HepVu, Kansas State Profile (Accessed July 2017): <https://hepvu.org/state/kansas/>

² Medicaid and CHIP in Kansas, MEDICAID.GOV, <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=kansas> (Accessed July 2017)

³ KanCare and Medicaid, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (Accessed July 2017): <http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/Medicaid/default.htm>

⁴ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Market Tracker, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, July 1, 2016 (Accessed July 2017): <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/state-indicator/share-of-medicaid-population-covered-under-different-delivery-systems/?currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colld%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>

⁵ Choosing a KanCare Health Plan: Health Plan Options, KanCare Medicaid for Kansas, <https://www.kancare.ks.gov/consumers/choosing-a-plan>.

⁶ Ibid. Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Market Tracker, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, July 1, 2016

⁷ Dan Margiotes, Kansas Settles Suit Over Hepatitis C Coverage For Medicaid Patients, KCUR, available at <http://www.kcur.org/post/kansas-settles-suit-over-hepatitis-c-coverage-medicaid-patients#stream/0>.

⁸ Criteria for Prior Authorization, Hepatitis C Agents, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (July 11, 2018). Available at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/PA_Criteria/Hepatitis%20C_PA_Criteria.pdf.

⁹ Ibid. Criteria for Prior Authorization. See also Psychosocial Readiness Evaluation and Preparation for Hepatitis C Treatment, About PREP-C, available at <https://prepc.org/about>.

¹⁰ Preferred Drug List, KanCare, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, last updated October 1, 2018. Available at <http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/download/PDLList.pdf>.

¹¹ Pharmacy, Kansas Department of Health and Education, <http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/default.htm>. See also Hepatitis C Agents Prior Authorization Form, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, available at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/pdl_authorization_forms/Hepatitis_C_Agents.pdf. Pharmacy Resources and Physician Administered Drugs: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas, available at <https://www.uhcprovider.com/en/health-plans-by-state/kansas-health-plans/ks-comm-plan-home/ks-cp-pharmacy.html>.

¹² Pharmacy Resources and Physician Administered Drugs: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Kansas, available at <https://www.uhcprovider.com/en/health-plans-by-state/kansas-health-plans/ks-comm-plan-home/ks-cp-pharmacy.html>. See also Pharmacy: Kansas PA Criteria, Sunflower Health Plan, available at <https://www.sunflowerhealthplan.com/providers/pharmacy.html>.

¹³ Criteria for Prior Authorization, Hepatitis C Agents, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (July 11, 2018). Available at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/PA_Criteria/Hepatitis%20C_PA_Criteria.pdf. See also Hepatitis C Agents Prior Authorization Form, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, available at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/pdl_authorization_forms/Hepatitis_C_Agents.pdf.

¹⁴ Ibid. Criteria for Prior Authorization. See also Psychosocial Readiness Evaluation and Preparation for Hepatitis C Treatment, About PREP-C, available at <https://prepc.org/about>.

¹⁵ Criteria for Prior Authorization, Hepatitis C Agents, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (July 11, 2018). Available at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/PA_Criteria/Hepatitis%20C_PA_Criteria.pdf. See also Hepatitis C Agents Prior Authorization Form, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, available at http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/pharmacy/pdl_authorization_forms/Hepatitis_C_Agents.pdf.

¹⁶ Kansas, Medicaid Director, National Association of State Medicaid Directors (Accessed July 2017): <http://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>