

Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Mississippi

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 35,200¹



Grade	Summary
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #8B0000;">D+</p>	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) do not specify liver damage requirements.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: FFS and MCOs require 6 months abstinence documented by a urine screen for beneficiaries with a history of use.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: FFS and MCOs require a prescription by or in consultation with a specialist.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove sobriety and prescriber restrictions. • Maintain hepatitis C coverage parity across the FFS and MCO program and transparency regarding coverage criteria. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Mississippi severely restricts access to hepatitis C medications. While there are no specified liver damage requirements, both FFS and MCOs require an unacceptable six months of abstinence for beneficiaries with a history of substance or alcohol use. FFS and MCOs also require a prescription be written by or in consultation with a specialist. Mississippi is recognized for the apparent lack of liver damage requirements and parity across FFS and MCOs with a “plus” added to its D grade.</i></p>

Background

As of May 2017, Mississippi had 675,536 individuals enrolled in Medicaid and Children Health Insurance Program (CHIP).² The Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM) administers a Fee-For-Service (FFS) program and contracts with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).³ The MCO program is known as Mississippi Coordinated Access Network (MississippiCAN), which is serviced by two health insurance plans: Magnolia Health and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (UHC).⁴ Most beneficiaries, 70 percent, participate in MississippiCAN; the remaining 30 percent are enrolled in FFS.⁵

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

Mississippi FFS and MCOs restrict access to hepatitis C medications. There is hepatitis C coverage parity across FFS and MississippiCAN contracted health insurance plans.⁶ Magnolia Health utilizes Mississippi DOM’s hepatitis C prior authorization (PA) form, criteria and the Division’s Preferred Drug List (PDL).⁷ UHC utilizes Mississippi DOM’s *Hepatitis C Therapy Request* PA form and imposes the same requirements as the FFS program, with the exception that only beneficiaries older than 18 years old can qualify for treatment.⁸ FFS and Magnolia Health require beneficiaries to be 18 years old (unless requesting Harvoni or Sovaldi, then a patient must be older than 12 years).⁹ FFS and MCOs inquire about the beneficiary’s stage of liver disease but do not stipulate a particular level of liver damage.¹⁰ FFS and MCOs also require abstinence from alcohol and substance use for at least six months documented by a negative urine screen if the patient has a history of intravenous drug use.¹¹ Additionally, a prescriber must provide counseling regarding alcohol and substance use and education on how to prevent hepatitis C transmission.¹² A prescription must be written by or in consultation with a specialist including documentation of a consultation within the last year.¹³

FFS and Magnolia Health’s *Hepatitis C PA Therapy Request* states that Mississippi DOM will approve hepatitis C PA requests that are “compliant with the latest *American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases/Infectious Diseases Society of America Recommendations for Testing, Managing, and Treating Hepatitis C*.”¹⁴ FFS designates the following Direct- Acting Antiviral (DAA) regimens as preferred: Epclusa, Harvoni, Sovaldi, Technivie, Viekira XR, Viekira Pak, Zepatier and non-preferred: Daklinza and Olysio.¹⁵ Magnolia Health and UHC utilize the Mississippi DOM’s PDL.¹⁶ FFS and both MCOs state that non-preferred regimens or requests for uses beyond current guidelines can be considered with clinical documentation of the condition supporting the requested regimen.¹⁷ UHC imposes quantity limits.¹⁸

Mississippi is transparent regarding its hepatitis C coverage requirements. The state responded to the NVHR/CHLPI survey on hepatitis C coverage requirements.

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Mississippi FFS and MCOs (Magnolia Health and UHC) do not appear to impose liver damage requirements.¹⁹

Sobriety Restrictions

Mississippi FFS and MCOs (Magnolia Health and UHC) require at least six months abstinence from alcohol or substance use if a beneficiary has a history of use.²⁰ Sobriety must be documented by a negative urine screen for beneficiaries with a history of intravenous drug use.²¹ Additionally, the prescriber must counsel beneficiaries on alcohol and substance use and ways to avoid hepatitis C transmission.²²

Prescriber Restrictions

Mississippi FFS and MCOs (Magnolia Health and UnitedHealthcare) require a prescription by or in consultation with a “gastroenterologist, hepatologist, ID specialist or other hepatic specialist.”²³ A specialist must be “consulted within the past year with documentation of the recommended regimen.”²⁴

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

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¹ Mississippi State Profile, HepVu (Accessed August 2017): <https://hepvu.org/state/mississippi/>

² Medicaid and CHIP in Mississippi, By-State, Medicaid.gov (Accessed August 2017): <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=mississippi>

³ About, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/about/>

⁴ Managed Care, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/programs/managed-care/>

⁵ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Market Tracker, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, July 1, 2016 (Accessed August 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>

⁶ Standardized One Page Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Hep-C-Packet.pdf>; See also:

Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request Guidelines for Regimen Selection and Definitions, Prior Authorization Description, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Hep-C-Packet.pdf>; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Hep-C-Packet.pdf>; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/providers/pharmacy/prior-authorization/>; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Preferred Drug List Search, Pharmacy Program, MississippiCAN, UnitedHealthcare (Accessed August 2017): <http://www.uhcommunityplan.com/health-professionals/ms/pharmacy-program.html>; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017 https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/content/dam/centene/Magnolia/medicaid/pdfs/Hep%20C%20PACKET%20Effective%205_17_2017.pdf; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request Guidelines for Regimen Selection and Definitions, Prior Authorization Description, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/content/dam/centene/Magnolia/medicaid/pdfs/Hep%20C%20PACKET%20Effective%205_17_2017.pdf; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/content/dam/centene/Magnolia/medicaid/pdfs/Hep%20C%20PACKET%20Effective%205_17_2017.pdf; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health (Accessed August 2017): <https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/providers/pharmacy.html>

⁷ Standardized One Page Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/content/dam/centene/Magnolia/medicaid/pdfs/Hep%20C%20PACKET%20Effective%205_17_2017.pdf; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017 (Accessed August 2017): https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/content/dam/centene/Magnolia/medicaid/pdfs/Hep%20C%20PACKET%20Effective%205_17_2017.pdf; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/content/dam/centene/Magnolia/medicaid/pdfs/Hep%20C%20PACKET%20Effective%205_17_2017.pdf; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health (Accessed August 2017): <https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/providers/pharmacy.html>

⁸ Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017 (Accessed August 2017): https://www.uhcommunityplan.com/content/dam/communityplan/healthcareprofessionals/ProviderForms/MS-Forms/MS_Prior_Authorization_Form.pdf

⁹ Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017 (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/Hep-C-Packet.pdf>; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/providers/pharmacy/prior-authorization/>; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health;

¹⁰ Ibid. Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

¹¹ Ibid. Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

¹² Ibid. Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

¹³ Ibid. Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

¹⁴ Additional Instructions for Completing a Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Pharmacy Prior Authorization Information, Division of Medicaid, November 3, 2016 (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/DOMPriorAuthorizationInstructions.pdf>; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health

¹⁵ Universal Preferred Drug List, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, Effective: 10/01/2017 (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/MSPDEffective100117.pdf>; See also: Additional Instructions for Completing a Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Pharmacy Prior Authorization Information, Division of Medicaid, November 3, 2016; See also: Preferred Drug List, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/providers/pharmacy/preferred-drug-list/>

¹⁶ Preferred Drug List, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Pharmacy, Magnolia Health (Accessed August 2017): <https://www.magnoliahealthplan.com/providers/pharmacy.html>; See also: Preferred Drug List, MississippiCAN Pharmacy Program, UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (Accessed August 2017): <http://www.uhcommunityplan.com/health-professionals/ms/pharmacy-program.html>

¹⁷ Additional Instructions for Completing a Medicaid Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Pharmacy Prior Authorization Information, Division of Medicaid, November 3, 2016; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health

¹⁸ Preferred Drug List Search, Pharmacy Program, MississippiCAN, UnitedHealthcare (Accessed August 2017): <http://www.uhcommunityplan.com/health-professionals/ms/pharmacy-program.html>

¹⁹ Standardized One Page Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request Guidelines for Regimen Selection and Definitions, Prior Authorization Description, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Preferred Drug List Search, Pharmacy Program, MississippiCAN, UnitedHealthcare; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

²⁰ Standardized One Page Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request Guidelines for Regimen Selection and Definitions, Prior Authorization Description, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Preferred Drug List Search, Pharmacy Program, MississippiCAN, UnitedHealthcare; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

²¹ Standardized One Page Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request Guidelines for Regimen Selection and Definitions, Prior Authorization Description, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Preferred Drug List Search, Pharmacy Program, MississippiCAN, UnitedHealthcare; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

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²³ Standardized One Page Pharmacy Prior Authorization Form, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request Guidelines for Regimen Selection and Definitions, Prior Authorization Description, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Criteria Additional Documentation Hepatitis C, Mississippi Division of Medicaid, 5/1/2017; See also: Pharmacy Prior Authorization, Mississippi Division of Medicaid; See also: Prior Authorization Forms, MississippiCAN Medicaid, Magnolia Health; See also: Preferred Drug List Search, Pharmacy Program, MississippiCAN, UnitedHealthcare; See also: Hepatitis C Therapy PA Request, Prior Authorization Request, Mississippi Pharmacy, UnitedHealthcare, February 20, 2017

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²⁵ Mississippi, Medicaid Directors, National Association of Medicaid Directors (Accessed August 2017): <http://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>; See also: Leadership, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/about/leadership/>

²⁶ Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/providers/pharmacy/pharmacy-and-therapeutics-committee/>; See also: Pharmacy Program FAQ, Mississippi Division of Medicaid (Accessed August 2017): <https://medicaid.ms.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/MS-FAQ-010612-Rev5-FINAL.pdf>