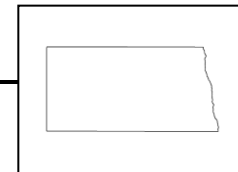


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

North Dakota

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 4,400¹



Grade	Summary
C+	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) do not impose liver damage restrictions. The Managed Care Organization (MCO), Sanford Health Plan, does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: FFS/PCCM require three months of abstinence from alcohol and injection drug use. The MCO, Sanford Health Plan, does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: FFS/PCCM require a prescription to be written by or in consultation with a specialist. The MCO, Sanford Health Plan, does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove sobriety and prescriber requirements. Ensure parity across FFS and MCO and transparency regarding hepatitis C coverage requirements. <p><i>Grade Rationale: While North Dakota does not impose liver damage requirements and has reduced its sobriety restriction from 12 months to three months, this discriminatory policy still prevents many individuals from accessing treatment.</i></p>

Overview

As of March 2017, North Dakota had 93,474 individuals enrolled in Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program.² The state operates three different Medicaid programs. North Dakota contracts directly with primary care physicians through a Primary Care Case Management (PCCM) program that covers almost 50 percent of beneficiaries.³ The Fee-For-Service (FFS) program has 29 percent of enrollees.⁴ After the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, North Dakota opted to increase its Medicaid enrollment by contracting with a Managed Care Organization (MCO), which now covers 21 percent of beneficiaries.⁵ The state contracts with one MCO plan, Sanford Health Plan.⁶

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

North Dakota’s FFS/PCCM require the beneficiary to have an FDA-approved diagnosis to qualify for treatment and does not impose liver damage requirements.⁷ FFS/PCCM require 3 months of abstinence from alcohol and injection drug use.⁸ Both FFS/PCCM require a prescription by or in consultation with a hepatologist, gastroenterologist, or infectious disease specialist.⁹

For FFS/PCCM, a patient must be “an FDA-approved age” to qualify for treatment.¹⁰ A patient must also sign the *Hepatitis C Patient Consent Form*¹¹ and attest that they will continue treatment without interruption for the duration of therapy. Beneficiaries must have established compliant behavior by attending scheduled provider visits and filling maintenance medications on time as shown in the individual’s prescription medication history.¹² A patient must be tested for hepatitis B and, if positive, must either be treated or closely monitored.¹³ A patient must have life expectancy of “not less than 12 months due to non-liver related comorbid conditions.”¹⁴ The HCV RNA level must be taken at week 4 and submitted with a “request for renewal for any duration of treatment 12 weeks or longer.”¹⁵ The FFS/PCCM includes the following Direct-Acting Antivirals (DAAs) on the Preferred Drug List (PDL): Epclusa, Mavyret; and non-preferred: Harvoni, Sovaldi, Viekira XR, Viekira Pak, Daklinza, Olysio, and Zepatier.¹⁶ A beneficiary must fail all preferred treatment options indicated for the patient’s genotype before a non-preferred agent will be considered for approval.¹⁷

Sanford Health does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.¹⁸ Sanford Health’s formulary lists Epclusa and Mavyret as drugs that require prior authorization.¹⁹

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

North Dakota’s FFS/PCCM require an FDA-approved diagnosis to qualify for treatment and do not have any liver damage requirements.²⁰

Sanford Health does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.

Sobriety Restrictions

North Dakota's FFS/PCCM require a prescriber to document that a patient has been abstinent from alcohol and injection drug use for three months.²¹

Sanford Health does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.

Prescriber Restrictions

FFS/PCCM require a prescription to be written by or in consultation with a gastroenterologist, hepatologist, or infectious disease specialist.²²

Sanford Health does not have publicly available hepatitis C coverage criteria.

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

Medicaid²³: Maggie Anderson, Director, Medical Services Division, Department of Human Services, State of North Dakota
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Pharmacy Provider Drug Utilization Review (DUR) Board²⁴: Brendan Joyce, PharmD, Administrator, Pharmacy Services
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¹ HepVu, North Dakota State Profile: <https://hepvu.org/state/north-dakota/>

² Medicaid and CHIP in North Dakota, By-State, Medicaid.gov (Accessed June 2017): <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/by-state/stateprofile.html?state=north-dakota>

³ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Managed Care Market Tracker, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, July 1, 2016 (Accessed: June 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>

⁴ Ibid. Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems

⁵ Ibid. Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems

⁶ Medicaid Expansion, North Dakota Department of Human Services (Accessed March 2018): <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/medicaidexpansion/>

⁷ Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services (Effective: March 12, 2018; Version 2018.3):

<http://www.hidesigns.com/assets/files/ndmedicaid/NPDPL.pdf> (Accessed March 2018)

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Eplclusa PA Form, Health Information Designs, Prior Authorization Vendor for ND Medicaid (Accessed March 2018): <http://nddruglookup.hidinc.com/forms/Eplclusaform.pdf> (Hepatitis C Patient Consent Form on the second page)

¹² Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

¹³ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

¹⁴ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

¹⁵ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

¹⁶ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

¹⁷ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

¹⁸ Ibid. Medicaid Expansion, North Dakota Department of Human Services (Accessed March 2018): <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/medicaidexpansion/>

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

²¹ Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

²² Ibid. Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria, North Dakota Medicaid, ND Department of Human Services

²³ Contact Information, Medical Services Division, ND Department of Human Services (Accessed June 2017): <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/info.html>; See also Biographical Information, Maggie D

Anderson, Department of Human Services (Accessed June 2017): <https://www.nd.gov/dhs/about/director/bio.html>; See Also Medicaid Directors, National Association of State Medicaid Directors (Accessed June 2017):

<http://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>

²⁴ Pharmacy Provider Drug Utilization Review Board, Medicaid Provider Information, ND Department of Human Services (Accessed June 2017): <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/provider-pharmacy-dur.html>; See also DUR Board, Health Information Designs (Accessed June 2017): <http://www.hidesigns.com/ndmedicaid/dur-board/>