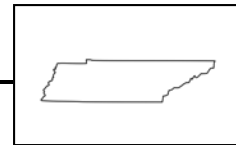


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Tennessee

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 122,500¹



Grade	Summary
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">C</p>	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Tennessee Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) do not impose liver damage restrictions.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: Tennessee FFS and MCOs require six months of sobriety for beneficiaries with a history of alcohol or substance use.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: Tennessee FFS and MCOs allow all physicians to prescribe treatment except in certain clinical situations in which a specialist must consult.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove sobriety and prescriber restrictions. • Maintain parity across FFS and MCO programs and transparency regarding hepatitis C coverage requirements. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Tennessee Medicaid provides moderate access to hepatitis c medications by allowing treatment regardless of liver damage and allowing all physicians to prescribe treatment for most patients. However, Tennessee continues to require six months of sobriety for individuals with a history of alcohol or substance use.</i></p>

Background

As of March 2019, Tennessee has 1,436,508 individuals enrolled in Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).² Tennessee’s Medicaid, known as TennCare, enrolls all beneficiaries in Managed Care Organizations (MCOs).³ TennCare contracts with three MCOs: Amerigroup, BlueCare Tennessee, and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan.⁴ While pharmacy services are coordinated by each MCO, the state finances pharmacy benefits directly through a pharmacy benefit manager.⁵ Thus, the FFS coverage criteria as administered by Magellan Medicaid Administration applies across the entire Medicaid program.⁶

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

Tennessee Medicaid provides moderate access to hepatitis C medications. Prescription drug benefits are carved out of MCO contracts and are managed by the state’s contracted pharmacy benefit manager Magellan Medicaid Administration.⁷ Tennessee Medicaid does not require a minimum level of liver damage prior to treatment.⁸ Tennessee Medicaid requires that patients with a history of “illicit substance or alcohol abuse” maintain six months of sobriety prior to treatment, and lists active participation in illicit substance use or alcohol abuse within the past six months as criteria for denial.⁹ Tennessee allows any physician to prescribe hepatitis c treatment, however if the patient has a “history of HIV, HBV co-infection, prior history with direct acting hepatitis C antivirals, or decompensated cirrhosis,” treatment must be prescribed by or in consultation with a specialist with experience treating hepatitis C “(e.g., Hepatology, Infectious Disease or Gastroenterology).”¹⁰ Tennessee Medicaid’s preferred drug list includes Epclusa, Harvoni, and Mavyret as preferred and Daklinza, Sovaldi, Technivie, Viekira Pak, Vozevi, Zepatier, and generic forms of Harvoni and Epclusa as non-preferred.¹¹

Because pharmacy benefits are administered by the state’s pharmacy benefit manager, these coverage and treatment requirements apply across the entire program regardless of MCO enrollment.

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Tennessee Medicaid does not require a minimum level of liver damage prior to treatment.¹² All beneficiaries are subject to the FFS requirements as pharmacy services are excluded from MCO contracts.

Sobriety Restrictions

Tennessee Medicaid requires that patients with a history of “illicit substance or alcohol abuse” maintain six months of sobriety prior to treatment, and lists active participation in illicit substance use or alcohol abuse within the past six months as criteria for denial.¹³ All beneficiaries are subject to the FFS requirements as pharmacy services are excluded from MCO contracts.

Tennessee allows any physician to prescribe hepatitis c treatment, however if the patient has a “history of HIV, HBV co-infection, prior history with direct acting hepatitis C antivirals, or decompensated cirrhosis,” treatment must be prescribed by or in consultation with a specialist with experience treating hepatitis C “(e.g., Hepatology, Infectious Disease or Gastroenterology).”¹⁴ All beneficiaries are subject to the FFS requirements as pharmacy services are excluded from MCO contracts.

Points of Contact for Questions & Concerns about Tennessee’s State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Access

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¹ HepVu, Tennessee State Profile: <https://hepvu.org/state/tennessee/>

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

³ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Managed Care Market Tracker, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation: <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>.

⁴ TennCare Contracts, Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-contracts.html>. See, e.g. Statewide Contract Between The State of Tennessee, d.b.a. TennCare And Amerigroup Tennessee Inc., Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/AmerigroupTennessee.pdf>.

⁵ TennCare Contracts, Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-contracts.html>. See, e.g. Statewide Contract Between The State of Tennessee, d.b.a. TennCare And Amerigroup Tennessee Inc., Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/AmerigroupTennessee.pdf>.

⁶ Contract Between The State of Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration Division of TennCare and Magellan Medicaid Administration, Inc., Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/Magellan.pdf>.

⁷ TennCare Contracts, Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/information-statistics/tenncare-contracts.html>. See, e.g. Statewide Contract Between The State of Tennessee, d.b.a. TennCare And Amerigroup Tennessee Inc., Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/AmerigroupTennessee.pdf>. See also Contract Between The State of Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration Division of TennCare and Magellan Medicaid Administration, Inc., Tennessee Division of TennCare: <https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents2/Magellan.pdf>.

⁸ Clinical Criteria, Step Therapy, and Quantity Limits for TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Health Services: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/Criteria_PDL.pdf. See also Prior Authorization Forms, Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/tenncare_portal/spring/main?execution=e1s4.

⁹ Clinical Criteria, Step Therapy, and Quantity Limits for TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Health Services: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/Criteria_PDL.pdf. See also Prior Authorization Forms, Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/tenncare_portal/spring/main?execution=e1s4.

¹⁰ Clinical Criteria, Step Therapy, and Quantity Limits for TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Health Services: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/Criteria_PDL.pdf. See also Prior Authorization Forms, Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/tenncare_portal/spring/main?execution=e1s4.

¹¹ TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/TennCare_PDL.pdf

¹² Clinical Criteria, Step Therapy, and Quantity Limits for TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Health Services: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/Criteria_PDL.pdf. See also Prior Authorization Forms, Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/tenncare_portal/spring/main?execution=e1s4.

¹³ Clinical Criteria, Step Therapy, and Quantity Limits for TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Health Services: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/Criteria_PDL.pdf. See also Prior Authorization Forms, Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/tenncare_portal/spring/main?execution=e1s4.

¹⁴ Clinical Criteria, Step Therapy, and Quantity Limits for TennCare Preferred Drug List (PDL), Magellan Health Services: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/static/docs/Preferred_Drug_List_and_Drug_Criteria/Criteria_PDL.pdf. See also Prior Authorization Forms, Magellan Medicaid Administration: https://tenncare.magellanhealth.com/tenncare_portal/spring/main?execution=e1s4.

¹⁵ Tennessee, Medicaid Directors, National Association of Medicaid Directors: <http://medicaiddirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>