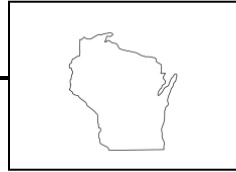


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

Wisconsin

Estimated Number of Individuals Living with Hepatitis C: 27,900¹



Grade	Summary
A+	<p>Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions: Fee-For-Service (FFS) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) do not have any liver damage restrictions.</p> <p>Sobriety Restrictions: FFS and MCOs do not have any sobriety restrictions.</p> <p>Prescriber Restrictions: FFS and MCOs do not have any prescriber restrictions.</p> <p>Recommendations to Improve Patient Access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to provide access to hepatitis C treatment to all beneficiaries.• Maintain coverage parity between FFS and MCOs. <p><i>Grade Rationale: Wisconsin has removed all coverage restrictions and does not require prior authorization for preferred drugs. Additionally, because the state carves prescription drug benefits out of MCO contracts, coverage access is uniform for all beneficiaries statewide. Because Wisconsin has both coverage parity and does not require prior authorization, a “plus” has been added to the state’s A grade.</i></p>

Background

As of August 2020, Wisconsin had 1,144,492 individuals enrolled in Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).² ForwardHealth is the umbrella term used for all the health care and nutrition benefit programs offered through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.³ The state operates a Fee-For-Service (FFS) program and contracts with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs), a program known as BadgerCare Plus.⁴ Seventy-eight percent participate in the MCO program and 22 percent in FFS.⁵ BadgerCare Plus was created to expand Medicaid coverage and since 2008 has expanded to include additional populations.⁶ While Wisconsin contracts with MCOs to deliver most health services to its beneficiaries, the state excludes most prescription medications—including hepatitis C medications—from BadgerCare Plus contracts. Wisconsin pays for drugs through the FFS program.⁷ FFS establishes the prior authorization (PA) coverage criteria and approves hepatitis C treatment.

State of Medicaid Hepatitis C Treatment Access

Wisconsin Medicaid has significantly improved access to hepatitis C medications by eliminating all previous restrictions. Wisconsin has also taken the step of removing prior authorization for its preferred direct-acting antiviral agents, Epclusa (branded and generic) and Mavyret.⁸ While non-preferred agents require prior authorization, the treatment criteria does not include any liver damage, sobriety, or prescriber restrictions.⁹ As these coverage criteria applies to both FFS and MCO beneficiaries, treatment access is uniform for all beneficiaries statewide.

Liver Damage (Fibrosis) Restrictions

Wisconsin does not impose liver damage restrictions.

Sobriety Restrictions

Wisconsin does not impose sobriety restrictions.

Prescriber Restrictions

Wisconsin does not impose prescriber restrictions.

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¹ Wisconsin State Profile, HepVu: <https://hepvu.org/state/wisconsin/>

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

³ Information about Your Enrollment and Benefits, ForwardHealth, Wisconsin Department of Health Services: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00079.pdf>.

⁴ Information about Your Enrollment and Benefits, ForwardHealth, Wisconsin Department of Health Services: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00079.pdf>. See also Wisconsin BadgerCare Plus HMO Choice Booklet, BadgerCare+: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p1/p12020a.pdf>.

⁵ Share of Medicaid Population Covered Under Different Delivery Systems, Medicaid Managed Care Market Tracker, The 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>.

⁶ Alexandra Gates and Robin Rudowitz, Wisconsin's BadgerCare Program and the ACA, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Feb. 25, 2014: <http://kff.org/medicaid/fact-sheet/wisconsin-badgercare-program-and-the-aca/>.

⁷ Contract for BadgerCare Plus and/or Medicaid SSI HMO Services, Wisconsin Department of Health Services:

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/content/Managed%20Care%20Organization/Contracts/pdf/2020-2021HMOContract.pdf.spag>. See also Contracts BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid SSI, ForwardHealth/Wisconsin Department of Health Services: <https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/content/Managed%20Care%20Organization/Contracts/Home.htm.spag>.

⁸ Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus Standard, and SeniorCare Preferred Drug List- Quick Reference:

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/content/provider/medicaid/pharmacy/pdl/pdfs/quickref010121v2.pdf.spag>. See also Pharmacy, ForwardHealth:

<https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/content/provider/medicaid/pharmacy/resources.htm.spag#>.

⁹ Hepatitis C Agents BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid, ForwardHealth/Wisconsin Department of Health Services: <https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Subsystem/KW/Print.aspx?ia=1&p=1&sa=48&s=3&c=345&nt=Hepatitis+C+Agents>. See also Prior Authorization Drug Attachment for Hepatitis C Agents, ForwardHealth/Wisconsin Department of Health Services: https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/kw/html/PADGA_HepatitisCAgents.htm

¹⁰ Medicaid Directors, National Association of Medicaid Directors: <http://medicaidirectors.org/about/medicaid-directors/>.

¹¹ Board Members, Wisconsin Drug Utilization Review Board, ForwardHealth: <https://www.forwardhealth.wi.gov/wiportal/content/provider/medicaid/pharmacy/dur/members.htm.spag>.