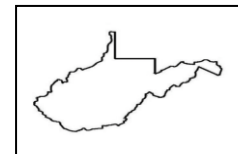


Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access Report Card

West Virginia



| Grade | Recommendations to Improve Patient Access |
|----------|--|
| B | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implement the upcoming removal of prior authorization for HCV treatment. ● Remove substance use restrictions. ● Remove retreatment restrictions. ● Remove additional restrictions as described below. |

State Overview

As of June 2025, 501,577 individuals were enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.¹ It is estimated that as of 2016, 20,600 people were living with HCV in West Virginia.² The state operates a Fee-For-Service (FFS) program and West Virginia’s Bureau of Medical Services contracts with four Managed Care Organizations (MCOs): Aetna Better Health of West Virginia, Health Plan of West Virginia, and Highmark Health Options, and Wellpoint, West Virginia (formerly Unicare).³ Eighty-one percent of beneficiaries are enrolled in an MCO, while the remaining 19% are enrolled in FFS.⁴

The West Virginia Medicaid Preferred Drug List designates Mavyret and sofosbuvir/velpatasvir as preferred treatment regimens.⁵

| Deductions | | Policy |
|----------------------------|------------|---|
| Prior Authorization | | West Virginia Medicaid is removing prior authorization for simplified treatment with preferred regimens effective January 1, 2026. ⁶ |
| Fibrosis Restrictions | | West Virginia Medicaid does not impose fibrosis restrictions. ⁷ |
| Substance Use Restrictions | -4 | West Virginia Medicaid imposes substance use restrictions. Patients and prescribers must sign a Patient-Provider Agreement Form that affirms the patients “[understands] the importance of not drinking alcohol or using illicit drugs during and after my treatment for hepatitis C to avoid liver damage and reinfection” and that they have “been educated on how to avoid being reinfected.” Additionally, patients must agree “to IMMEDIATELY notify my prescriber if for any reason I feel that I should stop my treatment.” ⁸ |
| Prescriber Restrictions | | West Virginia Medicaid does not impose prescriber restrictions for patients who qualify for simplified treatment. It is noted that “While not required, it is highly recommended that the prescriber is educated in the treatment and diagnosis of Hepatitis C through an academic/training mentorship program such as Project ECHO and/or WVHAMP.” ⁹ |
| Retreatment Restrictions | -8 | West Virginia Medicaid imposes retreatment restrictions. Retreatment may be covered at the discretion of the Medical Director, but only on a case-by-case basis. ¹⁰ |
| Access in Managed Care | | West Virginia excludes the pharmacy benefit from MCO contracts and covers medications under the FFS program for all beneficiaries. ¹¹ |
| Additional Restrictions | -6 | West Virginia Medicaid imposes additional restrictions as follows ¹² : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documentation of HCV genotype. ● All patients must have a fibrosis score and one detectable HCV viral level documented within 6 months prior to the start of therapy (i.e., time-based lab requirement) ● Documentation that patient has been vaccinated for hepatitis A & B or is currently immune. |
| Total Deductions | -18 | Total Score [100-Deductions] 82 |
| | | Grade B |

Contact Your State Officials

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Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee¹⁴: Priya Shah, Drug Utilization Review Coordinator

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Key Sources

Preferred Drug List (2025): [West Virginia Medicaid, Preferred Drug List with Prior Authorization Criteria \(Jul. 1, 2025\)](#)

Preferred Drug List (2026): [West Virginia Medicaid, Preferred Drug List and Prior Authorization Criteria \(effective Jan. 1, 2026\)](#)

Clinical Criteria: [West Virginia Medicaid, Hepatitis C: Criteria for approval \(Sep. 16, 2025\)](#)

Prior Authorization Form: [West Virginia Medicaid, Hepatitis C Therapy Prior Authorization Form \(Aug. 6, 2025\)](#)

Patient-Provider Agreement: [West Virginia Medicaid, Patient-Provider Enrollment Form – Hepatitis C \(Jul. 23, 2025\)](#)

¹ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Medicaid & CHIP in West Virginia, <https://perma.cc/82NU-M5TH>.

² HepVu, Local Data: West Virginia, <https://perma.cc/9AWG-3TTN>.

³ West Virginia Department of Human Services, West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services, <https://perma.cc/WN8W-S9LY>.

⁴ Kaiser Family Foundation, Share of Medicaid Population Covered under Different Delivery Systems, <https://perma.cc/EMN8-QR8B>.

⁵ Preferred Drug List (2025)

⁶ Preferred Drug List (2026).

⁷ Clinical Criteria.

⁸ Clinical Criteria.

⁹ Clinical Criteria.

¹⁰ Clinical Criteria.

¹¹ Kaiser Family Foundation, Annual Medicaid Budget Survey for State Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (Nov. 14, 2023), <https://perma.cc/4K6Y-8DEM>.

¹² Clinical Criteria.

¹³ West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services, Meet the Commissioner, <https://perma.cc/7TQA-NVX5>.

¹⁴ West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services, DUR Board Meetings, <https://perma.cc/H98W-4ZK7>.