

Optimizing Outcomes for People With HIV in Medicaid: A Resource Guide

Medicaid is the largest source of insurance coverage for people with HIV, covering **~42% of the adult population with HIV** and providing a broad range of services from inpatient and outpatient care, to prescription medications, to preventive services. As such, State Medicaid Departments and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) have important roles in Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE)—an epidemic receiving renewed federal attention from the Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS).¹⁻³

The most recent data available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates that **among the estimated 1.2 million people living with HIV in the United States in 2019, 87% were diagnosed with HIV, 66% received HIV medical care, 50% were retained in HIV medical care, and 57% were virally suppressed.**⁴ For known cases of HIV, the national viral suppression rate was 65.5%, far less than the national goals as outlined in the EHE.^{2,3}

EHE is a bold plan supported by the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) announced in 2019 that aims to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030, with the stated goal of **reducing the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 75% by 2025, and then by at least 90% by 2030**, for an estimated 250,000 total HIV infections averted.^{2,3,5}

Medicaid has an important role in the treatment and care of people with HIV and people vulnerable to HIV. This guide details online resources that impact the current Medicaid landscape arranged by topics to include state and federal policies, guidelines, and programs.

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References: **1.** Medicaid and HIV. Kaiser Family Foundation. Published October 1, 2019. Accessed January 28, 2022 <https://www.kff.org/hiv/aids/fact-sheet/medicaid-and-hiv> **2.** Ending the HIV epidemic: about ending the HIV epidemic in the U.S. HIV.gov. Accessed January 28, 2022. <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/ending-the-hiv-epidemic/overview> **3.** America's HIV Epidemic Dashboard (AHEAD). Ending the HIV epidemic. Accessed February 3, 2022. <https://ahead.hiv.gov> **4.** HIV Care Continuum. HIV.gov. Updated June 21, 2021. Accessed January 28, 2022. <https://www.hiv.gov/federal-response/policies-issues/hiv-aids-care-continuum> **5.** The U.S. Ending the HIV Epidemic (EHE) initiative: What you need to know. Kaiser Family Foundation. Published February 9, 2021. Accessed January 28, 2022. <https://www.kff.org/hiv/aids/issue-brief/the-u-s-ending-the-hiv-epidemic-ehe-initiative-what-you-need-to-know/>

General Resources: Understanding Medicaid and HIV

[10 Things to Know About Medicaid:](#)

Information about Medicaid, the largest insurer of people with HIV

[Medicaid State Fact Sheets:](#)

Snapshot of key Medicaid data for every state, including current coverage, access, and spending

[KFF Medicaid and HIV Fact Sheet:](#)

Examination of Medicaid's critical role in HIV care, covering a broad range of services for people with HIV

[KFF Annual Survey of Medicaid Directors Finds States Continue to Adopt Policies to Respond to the Pandemic and Are Addressing Issues Related to Social Determinants of Health and Health Equity:](#)

Annual KFF survey of Medicaid Directors highlighting program policies and changes

[DHHS 2016 Informational Bulletin:](#)

Describes opportunities available for state Medicaid programs to drive improvements in the accessibility, quality, cost, and population-level impact of HIV prevention and care services, including state examples

[Adult LGBTQ+ Population in the United States:](#)

Estimates the number of LGBTQ+ adults in each US state (2017 data)

[LGBTQ+ Healthcare Law and Policies:](#)

Overview of non-discrimination policies per insurance coverage type and state to protect LGBTQ+ health coverage and care improvements in the accessibility, quality, cost, and population-level impact of HIV prevention and care services

[Prison and Jail Reentry and Health:](#)

People reentering communities after incarceration are sicker than the general population and face barriers to accessing healthcare

[States Reporting Corrections-Related Medicaid Enrollment Policies:](#)

Overview of Medicaid policies around incarceration—a factor that may impact continuity of care upon release

[Health Outcomes for People With HIV Released From the New York City Jail System With a Transitional Care-Coordination Plan:](#)

People with HIV detained in New York City jails who accepted a transitional care plan during incarceration were asked to participate in a multi-site evaluation aimed at improving linkages to community-based care. The evaluation included a 6-month follow-up; HIV surveillance data were used to assess outcomes for those considered lost to follow-up

Ending the HIV Epidemic in the United States

[National HIV/AIDS Strategy \(NHAS\) for the United States 2022-2025:](#)

The NHAS Strategy and EHE initiative are closely aligned and share the common goal of reducing new HIV infections by 90% by 2030. The NHAS Strategy has a broader focus, with federal partners, including the CMS, working across the country to address factors critical to the NHAS Strategy's collective work such as stigma, discrimination, and social determinants of health. The EHE is a cross-agency initiative under DHHS that focuses on reducing new HIV infections in targeted Phase I counties, jurisdictions, and states

[Ending the HIV Epidemic in the U.S. \(EHE\):](#)

Plan announced in 2019 that aims to end the HIV epidemic in the United States by 2030. The initiative seeks to reduce the number of new HIV infections in the United States by 75% by 2025, and then by at least 90% by 2030, for an estimated 250,000 total HIV infections averted

[EHE Plans and Websites | NASTAD:](#)

Resource by NASTAD (National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors) providing a dynamic map to demonstrate states' progress in developing plans for "ending the HIV epidemic" in their jurisdictions

[AHEAD Dashboard:](#)

America's HIV Epidemic Analysis Dashboard (AHEAD) is a data visualization tool designed to display data on the 6 indicators for each of the Phase 1 jurisdictions

[HIV Surveillance Report—Supplemental Report:](#)

Report presenting analyses of National HIV Surveillance System (NHSS) data to measure progress toward achieving national goals

[Local Data on HIV Care:](#)

City, county, state, regional, and national HIV/AIDS epidemiologic data

[Fast-Track Cities—A Network to End the Global HIV Epidemic:](#)

Overview of efforts in the 200 largest cities and municipalities in the world to reduce new HIV infections and AIDS-related deaths

HIV Quality Measures and Care

[Medicaid Quality Measures:](#)

Overview of the current Medicaid Adult Core Set (including HIV Viral Load Suppression [VLS]), and annual reporting data

[Quality of Care for Adults in Medicaid: Findings from the FY2020 Adult Core Set Chart:](#)

Resource outlining CMS's FY2020 core set of quality measures (reporting year 2021) for adults covered by Medicaid. This resource includes information from CA, DE, IA, LS, MS, NV, NY, RI, TX

[Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set \(HEDIS\) Measures and Technical Resources:](#)

Resource outlining current HEDIS measures (HIV VLS and testing are notable omissions)—and Health Plan Ratings (report cards) for commercial, Medicare, Medicaid and Exchange health plans

[HRSA: Building Capacity to Improve Collecting and Reporting Viral Suppression Data to the Medicaid Adult Core Set:](#)

Announcement which detailed grant program for Systems Coordination Provider (SCP) to select, fund, and work with up to 10 RWHAP Part B states and their associated HIV surveillance and Medicaid programs with the goal of improving reporting of the HIV Viral Load Suppression (HVL-AD) to The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of annual reporting of the Medicaid Adult Core Set

[HIV VLS Quality Measure Backgrounder:](#)

Overview on HIV VLS and the associate quality measure

[10 Things to Know About HIV Suppression \(NIH: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases\):](#)

Description of clinical conditions of viral load suppression, which provides the basis for the VLS quality measure in HIV

[Bree Collaborative LGBTQ+ Healthcare Recommendations:](#)

Resource outlining LGBTQ+ recommendations from Washington State public and private healthcare project to improve quality, health outcomes, and cost effectiveness of care

[NASHP: States Share Data to Improve the Health of People With HIV:](#)

Overview of the partnership between Medicaid and public health departments in HIV Health Improvement Affinity Group to increase rates of sustained virologic suppression, including sharing and comparing outcomes data (December 2017)

State Examples: Best Practices in HIV Quality Measures

[State of California Department of Health Care Services Comprehensive Quality Strategy:](#)

Outline of state's quality strategy (including mandate to track VLS measure), and applicability to Medicaid managed care systems (MCOs)

[Illinois Governor's Executive Order Regarding the HIV Epidemic:](#)

Introduces enhanced investment in various programs, as well as mandatory reporting of viral load metrics to the state 2019

[Illinois 2019 MCO Preferred Drug List Assessment \(July, 2019\):](#)

Report card detailing which Illinois Medicaid Managed Care Organizations cover HIV and Hepatitis C medications

[Healthy Louisiana Performance Measure Reporting:](#)

List of reporting measures, including HIV VLS as an incentive-based quality metric for MCOs

[New York State Quality Assurance Reporting Requirements:](#)

Resource outlining state-specific quality measures (including VLS), as well as requirement for MCOs and Medicaid Managed Care plans to report measures to the state department of health

[Community Health Workers Within Medicaid Managed Care:](#)

Examines strategies, as observed in New Mexico, to address social determinants of health within Medicaid Managed Care

[National Lieutenant Governors Association VLS Resolution:](#)

Resource expressing recognition of the importance of HIV VLS in improving health outcomes and reducing transmission, 2019

Access to Antiretroviral Therapy

[National ADAP Formulary Database | NASTAD:](#) [↗](#)

Resource for the national AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP formulary database)

[2020 National RWHAP Part B and ADAP Monitoring Project Annual Report \(nastad.org\)](#) [↗](#)

Resource for NASTAD's National AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Formulary Database provides an online, searchable, publicly available resource detailing state-by-state ADAP coverage of medications

[DHHS Guidelines For the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in Adults and Adolescents With HIV:](#) [↗](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services HIV treatment guidelines

["Implementation Of The Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefit is Associated With Antiretroviral Therapy Interruptions":](#) [↗](#)

The Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit, implemented on January 1, 2006, increased consumer cost-sharing. Consumer cost-sharing is associated with decreased access to medications and adverse clinical outcomes

["Impact of Non-Medical Switching on Clinical and Economic Outcomes, Resource Utilization and Medication-Taking Behavior: A Systematic Literature Review":](#) [↗](#)

Data on medical impact of switching HIV drugs unnecessarily

[Express Scripts, Viral Signs: Understanding HIV Medication Use:](#) [↗](#)

Understanding HIV Medication Use | Express Scripts research report that reveals increased use of single-tablet HIV regimens can yield lower costs, better outcomes, and underscores need to expand affordable access to PrEP

[Real-World Health Plan Data Analysis: Key Trends in Medication Adherence and Overall Costs in Patients With HIV:](#) [↗](#)

Key trends in medication adherence and overall costs in patients with HIV. Study shows single-tablet regimens (STRs) have improved adherence and decreased healthcare costs and hospitalizations, lead to long-term viral suppression in patients

[Enforcement Needed to Ensure Health-Plan Compliance With HIV Preventive Drug Requirement—Morning Consult:](#) [↗](#)

Article penned by Executive Director of HIV+HEP Policy Institute, Carl Schmid expressing opinion on ensuring health plans comply with HIV preventive drug requirements

[Undetectable=Untransmittable \(U=U\):](#) [↗](#)

Community resources and scientific information to convey the fact that viral suppression is 100% effective for preventing HIV sexual transmission (i.e., "treatment as prevention")

[\(Federal Register\) Finalization of Medicare Protected Classes:](#) [↗](#)

Resource outlining an overview of the modernization of Part D and Medicare Advantage, which forbids the use of prior authorizations or step therapy for antiretrovirals for treatment of HIV

[AAHIVM: Prior Authorization Fact Sheet:](#) [↗](#)

Resource outlining the American Academy of HIV Medicine's position statement opposing prior authorization for antiretrovirals

State Examples: Model Legislation Protecting Access to Antiretrovirals

[CA SB 1021:](#) [↗](#)

Legislation that ensures access to medically necessary STRs for the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS, prohibits drug formularies from having more than 4 tiers, and limits copay amounts

[Illinois PrEP Access Mandate: Legislation: 2016:](#) [↗](#)

Mandates Medicaid Coverage of PrEP

[2021 Illinois MAC and Subcommittee Meeting Notice:](#) [↗](#)

Example of a state providing a list of upcoming state MAC meetings (similar webpages exist for each state), allowing for transparency and the opportunity for public engagement/commenting on Medicaid and HIV-specific policy-making at the local level

[NV SB 378:](#) [↗](#)

Legislation that establishes that prescription drugs used to treat HIV/AIDS are excluded from any restrictions imposed by the state Medicaid program regarding its list of preferred prescription drugs (i.e., formulary)

[TX SB 1283:](#) [↗](#)

Legislation that prohibits Medicaid vendor drug program from employing restrictions or utilization management tools for antiretroviral drugs used to treat HIV or prevent AIDS, other than those intended to minimize fraud, waste, or abuse

HIV Prevention Resources and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Policies

[The Role of Medicaid Financing and Coverage Benefits in the Delivery of PrEP Intervention Services:](#)

Resource outlining Medicaid benefits and financing mechanisms that could be used to improve uptake and delivery of PrEP medication and clinical care

[CDC Let's Stop HIV Together:](#)

Resource for public awareness encouraging individuals at risk for HIV to talk about sexual health

[USPSTF - Grade A Recommendation - HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\):](#)

Resource outlining the United States Preventive Services Taskforce (USPSTF) recommendation of PrEP as "Grade A" prevention service

[FAQs ABOUT AFFORDABLE CARE ACT IMPLEMENTATION PART 47 \(doL.gov\):](#)

Resource outlining clarifying guidance from DHHS that all private insurance plans must cover PrEP and PrEP-related lab services, 2021

[\(NASTAD\) PrEP Access:](#)

Information from the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors about PrEP/PEP access

[NASTAD: State PrEP Assistance Programs:](#)

Resource listing state PrEP assistance programs

[NASTAD PrEP Coverage Brief:](#)

Resource outlining PrEP services covered with no cost-sharing

[Pharmacist-Initiated PrEP and PEP:](#)

Brief which examines the opportunities and challenges with pharmacy-initiated PrEP and PEP treatment

[Evaluating the Impact of Prior Authorization Requirements for PrEP and PEP in California:](#)

Policy brief on the perspectives of clinical providers of PrEP/PEP and PrEP/PEP navigators in California on prior authorization requirements to prescribe PrEP and PEP

[NASHP: How Can States Stop HIV Transmission? Increase Access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis \(PrEP\):](#)

Resource outlining the PrEP Policy Learning Series, led by HealthHIV and the National Academy for State Health Policy, Policy innovations from officials from Maryland, Michigan, and Connecticut on PrEP

[Estimation of the Incremental Cumulative Cost of HIV Compared With a Non-HIV Population:](#)

Retrospective, multi-year, cross-sectional analysis evaluated annual costs from 2013 to 2017, and projected cumulative costs of HIV from age 25 to 69 years.

[CMS Letter to State Medicaid Directors: Affordable Care Act Section 4106 \(Preventive Services\) Guidance:](#)

Guidance on incentives for states to cover preventive services without patient cost-sharing

[Health Law Lab: Harvard University Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation:](#)

Resource that provides opportunities for partnership with the next generation of healthcare law and policy thought leaders through hands-on work with clients, partners, and community allies

See state examples on next page >

HIV Prevention Resources and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Policies (cont'd)

State Examples: HIV Prevention Resources & Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Policies

[AZ \(AHCCCS\) 2019:](#)

Medicaid in Arizona adds HIV prevention drug to approved list

[California Senate Bill 159:](#)

Pharmacists Furnishing PrEP (2019)

[California Department of Managed Healthcare:](#)

Guidance Regarding Preventive Health Services Coverage for HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

[Louisiana State Legislature:](#)

[RS 46:153.3: Legislation:](#)

Restricts use of prior authorization ensuring access to ARVs for treatment and prevention

[Maine PrEP Access Bill: Legislation:](#)

Ensures coverage of HIV prevention medications - one per route of administration. Summer 2021

[Mississippi Division of Medicaid Office of the Governor Drug Utilization Review Board:](#)

Resource outlining the June 10, 2021 meeting minutes. Discusses provider education on PrEP therapy (page 8)

[Oregon Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee:](#)

The Committee recommended development of an educational retrospective Drug Use Review (DUR) program to improve provider knowledge of PrEP for patients with a recent sexually transmitted infection, diagnosis of high-risk sexual behavior, or potential viral exposure.

Meaningful Partnerships and Managed Care Organization Requirements

[HIV Health Improvement Affinity Group 2019](#)

[Evaluation Report:](#)

Resource that highlights the efforts of the HIV Affinity Group to increase collaborations between state public health departments and state Medicaid agencies

[The Commonwealth Fund Reviews Managed Care Plans A Review of Medicaid Managed Care](#)

[Rate-Setting Tools:](#)

Resource that identifies practical strategies that states can deploy to support Medicaid managed care plans and their network providers in addressing social issues

[NASHP Tool Kit: Partnering With Providers and MCOs to Improve Health Outcomes of People With HIV:](#)

Overview of the HIV Health Improvement Affinity Group initiative and provides tools and resources for improving health outcomes for people with HIV

State Examples: Meaningful Partnerships and Managed Care Organization Requirements

[Community Health Workers Within Medicaid Managed Care:](#)

Resource that examines strategies, as observed in New Mexico, to address social determinants of health within Medicaid Managed Care

[Standardized Social Determinants of Health Screening:](#)

Resource outlining how the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services addresses social determinants of health and provides methods to identify and assist patients with unmet health-related resource needs

Medicaid Coverage Design and 1115 Waivers

[UMASS Medical School: State Differences in the Application of Medical Frailty Under the Affordable Care Act \(2017\):](#) [↗](#)

Analysis that CMS has left defining medically frail populations up to the states

[Government Publishing Office. 42 C.F.R. § 440.315 - Exempt individuals:](#) [↗](#)

Federal definition of Medical Frailty

[Coverage and Service Design Opportunities for People With HIV:](#) [↗](#)

Guidance from CMS to states highlighting opportunities for Medicaid coverage to align to federal HIV/AIDS policy efforts

[NASHP: Where States Stand on Medicaid Expansion:](#) [↗](#)

Resource (interactive map) depicting the status of each state regarding Medicaid expansion and whether states are using alternative approaches through waivers

[NASTAD Medicaid Waiver Map:](#) [↗](#)

Resource illustrating which states are employing 1115 Waivers, as well as the potential impact on beneficiaries

[NASTAD: Considerations for HIV and Hepatitis Programs:](#) [↗](#)

Review of Medicaid 1115 Waivers and considerations for HIV and Hepatitis programs

[HHCAWG 1115 Waiver Comments:](#) [↗](#)

Collection of comment letters from the HIV Healthcare Access Working Group of the Federal AIDS Policy Partnership on state-specific Section 1115 Demonstration Applications that have the potential to adversely affect Medicaid beneficiaries, including those applications proposing work requirements

[KFF: Work Among Medicaid Adults: Implications of Economic Downturn and Work Requirements:](#) [↗](#)

Data on Medicaid beneficiaries and work status, as well as the potential negative implications of imposing work requirement waivers

[Risks Associated With Block Grant Waivers:](#) [↗](#)

Analysis on block grant waivers leading to poorer outcomes for Medicaid beneficiaries and heightened financial risk for states

State Examples: Medicaid Coverage Design and Waivers

[North Carolina Healthy Opportunities Pilot:](#) [↗](#)

Program evaluating the value of select evidence-based, nonmedical interventions (eg, housing, food, transportation) to high-needs Medicaid enrollees

[New York Medicaid Redesign 1115 Demonstration:](#) [↗](#)

Overview of NY State's proposed 1115 waiver providing continuity of care for the justice-involved population

The Opioid and HIV Epidemics

[1115 Substance Use Disorder Demonstrations:](#) [↗](#)

Guidance from CMS on substance use disorder 1115 Waiver Demonstrations

[Strategies to Address the Opioid Epidemic:](#) [↗](#)

Guidance from CMS to state Medicaid Directors about the opioid epidemic (2017)

[HIV and the Opioid Epidemic: 5 Key Points:](#) [↗](#)

Kaiser Family Foundation issue brief on the convergence of the HIV and opioid epidemics

[ASAM National Practice Guideline:](#) [↗](#)

Recommendations from the American Society of Addictive Medicine (ASAM) on treatments for opioid addiction (includes screening patients for HIV and other infectious diseases)

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