



## Client Services Requirements for Hepatitis C Treatment Preauthorization

**Purpose:** Client Services requires preauthorization for Hepatitis C medications to ensure that eligible clients receive these drugs within program guidelines. Furthermore, Client Services advises adherence to the established Hepatitis C clinical and treatment guidelines to optimize the therapeutic benefits to each patient.

### A. Program Requirements:

1. The preauthorization request process to obtain Client Services coverage for an HCV treatment regimen is **initiated by having the pharmacy submit the prescription claim(s) for payment**. The pharmacy should then contact Client Services to request review of the claim. Client Services will make every effort to process the **preauthorization for submitted claims within 1-3 business days**.
2. Client Services will provide coverage for an FDA-approved Hepatitis C drug regimen recommended by the current **AASLD HCV guidelines for patients with HIV/HCV co-infection**. The standard treatment period may not exceed a 16-week course, as determined by the patient's HCV genotype, treatment regimen and prior treatment history, subject to a review of the patient's treatment response.
3. Client Services must verify that the patient has a sufficient period of eligibility to cover the date range of the prescribed HCV drug regimen. A patient enrolled in the **Temporary Assistance Program (TAP)**, while awaiting Medicaid coverage, **is not eligible for Client Services coverage of HCV medications**.
4. Client Services must review the patient's insurance status. As **payer of last resort**, Client Services will provide coverage for the prescription plan deductibles, copays and coinsurance for insured clients and the full drug costs for clients who are uninsured or denied coverage by their primary insurance plans, within program limits. **Proof of all appeal actions being exhausted is required for clients with a primary insurance plan that will not cover HCV treatment**.
5. If the Hepatitis C therapy has been approved by Client Services initially, and the patient becomes ineligible for Client Services coverage during therapy, the prescribing clinician must be prepared to enroll the patient in other patient assistance drug programs to complete therapy. (Client Services will make every reasonable effort to maintain coverage until other resources are identified and put into place.)

### B. Clinical and Treatment Guidelines:

**Please consult the HCV Guidance:**

***Recommendations for Testing, Managing, and Treating Hepatitis C***

**Unique Patient Populations: Patients with HIV/HCV Coinfection**

**<http://www.hcvguidelines.org/full-report/unique-patient-populations-patients-hivhcv-coinfection>**