

**To:** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

**Date:** February 25, 2025

**Subject:** Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Pharmaceutical Treatment

**Summary:** Information regarding HCV Pharmaceutical Treatment

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana members have access to safe and effective treatment for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV). In conjunction with treatment, AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana is providing education to practitioners regarding evidence-based treatment and formulary coverage.

The most common risk factor for HCV is past or current injection drug use. Members with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) are also at higher risk to contract HCV due to shared transmission modes. <sup>(1)</sup>

As a reminder, there should still be *routine periodic testing* for people with ongoing risk factors *and* for any person who requests Hepatitis C testing. Click to view the CDC's [recommended testing sequence for identifying current hepatitis c virus infection](#) and also the [recommended interpretation of test results and further actions](#).

### What do you need to know?

One of the approved pharmaceutical treatments is **Epclusa** (sofosbuvir/velpatasvir). Members have open access to the authorized generic (AG) of Epclusa, which has proven effective in curing 95% of people living with HCV. <sup>(2)</sup> Generic Epclusa is the preferred direct-acting antiviral (DAA) which may be taken over the course of 12 weeks and does not require prior authorization unlike other available treatment regimens. <sup>(3)</sup>

**Vosevi** (Sofosbuvir/Velpatasvir/Voxilaprevir) is the preferred agent for the re-treatment of chronic HCV for persons who have experienced failure with DAA therapy.<sup>4</sup> For more information on the approval criteria for Vosevi, please view the Louisiana Medicaid Infectious Disorders-Hepatitis C Direct-Acting Antiviral (DAA) Agents, located [here](#).

More members may be treated due to the simplification of treatment regimen and the increased number of providers who can prescribe the medication, including primary care providers, specialists, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. For more information regarding Epclusa, please view the [Epclusa prescribing information](#) here.

**References:**

<sup>1</sup> Louisiana Health Hub: Hepatitis C Virus (HCV): Packet for Clinicians. <https://www.louisianahealthhub.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/HCV-Provider-Detailer-Packet.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> CDC. Hepatitis C Basics. <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis-c/about/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> Louisiana Medicaid. Infectious Disorders – Hepatitis C Direct-Acting Antiviral (DAA) Agents January 2025. <https://www.ldh.la.gov/assets/docs/BayouHealth/Pharmacy/6.24.24/2/Infectious.Disorders.Hepatitis.C.DAA.04192024.pdf> 2015.

<sup>4</sup>Louisiana Medicaid Preferred Drug List (PDL)/Non-preferred Drug List (NPDL). <https://ldh.la.gov/assets/healthyla/pharmacy/pdl.pdf>

**Questions:**

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the care of our members. If you have questions about this communication, please get in touch with AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Provider Services at 1-888-922-0007 or your [Provider Network Management Account Executive](#).

**Missed an alert?** You can find a complete list of provider alerts on our website's [Providers Newsletters and Updates](#) page.

**Need to update your provider information?** Send full details to [network@amerihealthcaritasla.com](mailto:network@amerihealthcaritasla.com)