



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
280 State Drive, Center Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-1000

Global Commitment Register

August 4, 2023

GCR 22-109
FINAL

Hepatitis C Treatment in Hubs

Policy Summary:

The Vermont Medicaid program allows Opioid Treatment Programs (Hubs) to provide Hepatitis C screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment services to patients receiving Hub services. This includes physician evaluation of the patient, lab tests to diagnose and monitor treatment, Hepatitis C antiviral drug therapy, and post-treatment follow-up. It is expected that this change will improve access, treatment, and health outcomes for one of Vermont's most at-risk populations of people who inject drugs and are in Medication Assisted Treatment.

Hub providers may buy and bill Hepatitis C direct acting antiviral (DAA) drugs through the Physician Administered Drug benefit using miscellaneous code J8499. Related services are paid via the Resource Based Relative Value Scale (RBRVS) methodology or Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Fee Schedule as appropriate. Alternatively, prescriptions for DAA drugs for treatment of Hepatitis C may also be filled at any VT Medicaid enrolled pharmacy. All prescriptions for DAAs require Prior Authorization. See the [Preferred Drug List](#) and [Pharmacy Prior Authorization Forms](#) for more information.

Reimbursement for drugs billed with procedure code J8499 will be manually priced. DAA drug reimbursement is based on the National Drug Code (NDC) billed and will be paid according to the State Maximum Allowable Cost (see [SMAC Weblist](#)). NDC pricing will be updated annually during the physician administered drugs fee schedule update.

All other drugs (non-HEP C) billed with J8499 require the purchase invoice to be submitted with the claim, and reimbursement equals the cost of the drug.

The State expects individual Hub providers to enroll with VT Medicaid by July 1, 2023. Effective July 1, 2023, claims must identify the individual provider delivering the service in order to be paid. Claims listing the facility number as the provider will be reimbursed until June 30, 2023 only. To enroll, please visit the [Provider Management Module](#).

Effective Date:

June 1, 2023

Authority/Legal Basis:

[Medicaid State Plan](#)

[Global Commitment to Health Waiver](#): Waiver authority #5 [Section 1902(a)(13), 1902(a)(30)]; Special Term and Condition #6.8.

Population Affected:

All Medicaid

Fiscal Impact:

The estimated gross annualized budget impact is \$518,200.

Public Comment Period:

The public comment period ended on June 26, 2023. No comments were received.

To be added to the GCR email list, send an email to AHS.MedicaidPolicy@vermont.gov.

Additional Information:

Hub and Spoke is Vermont's system of treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD). [More information on the Vermont Hub and Spoke model is available here.](#)