

# HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch: February 2019



The HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch is a publication of the Community Access National Network (CANN). It is a patient-centric informational portal serving three primary groups – Patients, Healthcare Providers, and AIDS Service Organizations.

Learn more: <http://www.tiicann.org>

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# Overview

The HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch is a project of the Community Access National Network (CANN) designed to research, monitor and report on HIV and Hepatitis C (HCV) co-infection in the United States. The HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch delivers the information from a “**patient-centric**” perspective on access to care and treatment.

People living with HIV-infection face a higher risk of long-term liver failure as a result of co-infection with HCV. In fact, HCV-related liver failure has become the leading non-AIDS-related cause of death among people living with HIV-infection in the United States – and as such, treating HCV is of paramount importance.

With well over half of the HCV-infected population falling near, at, or below the Federal Poverty Limit (FPL), patients frequently rely on coverage provided by state- and federally-funded programs – such as the AIDS Drugs Assistance Program (ADAP), Medicaid and Medicare. It is for these patients, and those who still, for whatever reason, lack coverage, that the HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch advocates.

The research component of the HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch is designed to gather the following information:

- Formulary information in every state and territory covered by ADAP, as it relates to coverage for HCV drug therapies.
- Formulary information for HCV drug therapies covered by the State Medicaid programs.
- Formulary information for HCV drug therapies covered by the Veterans Affairs system.
- Information about patient assistance programs (PAPs).
- State-by-state harm reduction data for HIV, HCV, and HIV/HCV co-infection, as well as relevant public policy changes.
- Up-to-date information as it relates to HCV treatment under the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Statistics related to HIV/HCV co-infection (i.e., Existing Diagnoses, New Diagnoses, and Morbidity Rates).

For the purposes of this report, coverage is divided into three categories:

- No Coverage – no HCV treatments are covered
- Basic Coverage – only older HCV regimens (Ribavirin, Pegylated-Interferon, etc.) are covered; no Direct Acting Antivirals
- Expanded Coverage – Direct Acting Antivirals are covered

The HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch list-serve sign-up form is available online: [http://tiicann.org/signup\\_listserv.html](http://tiicann.org/signup_listserv.html)

# Findings

The following is a summary of the key findings for February 2019:

- **AIDS Drug Assistance Programs**

There are **56** State and Territorial AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) in the United States, **45** of which offer some form of coverage for Hepatitis C (HCV) treatment. Of those programs, **39** have expanded their HCV coverage to include the regimens that serve as the current Standard of Care (SOC) for Hepatitis C treatment. Six (**6**) programs offer only Basic Coverage and **11** programs offer No Coverage. Three (**3**) territories – American Samoa, Marshall Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands – are not accounted for in this data. A state-by-state Drug Formulary breakdown of coverage is included in **Figure 1**, with accompanying drug-specific maps in **Figures 2 – 12**.

Additionally, patient assistance programs (PAPs) are manufacturer-provided programs that offer coverage to low-income uninsured and/or underinsured patients who are unable to afford the cost of their medications. These programs often cover part or all of the cost of treatment at the manufacturer's expense.

Although many (if not most) ADAP clients already meet the income qualifications required for eligibility, our findings suggest that these patients may not be receiving information about or assistance with applying for coverage under these program: only **19** ADAPs reported that they actively provide clients with this information, **7** states – **AL, AK, CT, DE, MN, DC, PR** – indicated that they do not provide this information.

- **Medicaid Programs**

There are **59** State and Territorial Medicaid programs in the United States, and data is represented for all fifty states and the District of Columbia. As of October 01, 2016, all **50** states offer Expanded Coverage. All states will cover at least one of the regimens that serve as the current SOC for Hepatitis C treatment. A state-by-state PDL breakdown of coverage is included in **Figure 14**, with accompanying drug-specific maps in **Figures 13 – 24**.

With respect to PAPs, while many Medicaid clients already meet the income requirements for eligibility, Gilead Sciences, the manufacturer of Sovaldi and Harvoni, automatically decline applicants currently enrolled in Medicaid. This is in response to Medicaid programs actively denying coverage for patients, despite having current or developing pricing negotiations with Gilead for the drugs.

# Findings

The following is a summary of the key findings for February 2019:

- **Veterans Administration:**

On March 09, 2016, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it was able to fund care for all Veterans with HCV for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, regardless of the stage of the patient's liver disease. VA has treated over 76,000 Veterans infected with Hepatitis C, and approximately 60,000 have been cured since 2014. In FY 2015, VA allocated \$696 million for new HCV drugs – 17% of the VA's total pharmacy budget – and in FY 2016, VA anticipates spending approximately \$1 billion on HCV drugs (Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, 2016).

- **Harm Reduction Programs:**

Every State and Territory in the United States currently provides funding for low-income people living with substance abuse issues to enter state-funded rehabilitation services (National Center for Biotechnology Information, n.d.). Forty-three (**43**) States and Territories currently have syringe exchange programs in place, regardless of state. Fifty (**50**) states and the District of Columbia have expanded access to Naloxone to avert opioid drug overdoses. Forty-eight (**48**) states have Good Samaritan laws or statutes that provide protection for those rendering emergency services during drug overdoses. Forty-one (**41**) states have in place Mandatory Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) that require physicians and/or pharmacists to report prescriptions written or filled to a state agency for monitoring. Thirty-eight (**38**) states have Doctor Shopping Laws preventing patients from attempting to receive multiple prescriptions from numerous physicians, and/or from withholding information in order to receive prescriptions. Thirty-seven (**37**) states mandate a Physical Exam Requirement in order for patients to receive a prescription for opioid drugs. Twenty-six (**26**) states have in place an ID Requirement mandating that people filling opioid prescriptions present a state-issued ID prior to receiving their prescription. Thirty-six (**36**) states require prescribing physicians to attend mandatory and continuing opioid prescribing education sessions. All but three (**3**) states – **AZ, CA, & SD** – have Medicaid doctor/pharmacy Lock-In programs that require patients to receive prescriptions from a single physician and/or fill prescriptions from a single pharmacy. A state-by-state program breakdown is included in **Figure 27**, with accompanying drug-specific maps in **Figures 25 – 34**.

# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Figure 1. – Figure 12.

# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Figure 1. (\* Indicates “Preferred Drug”)

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Epclusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Epclusa <i>Generic</i>	X
Alabama	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y			X
Alaska	Y	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info	No Info			X
Arizona	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			X
Arkansas	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y			X
California	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Colorado	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			X
Connecticut	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N			X
Delaware	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N			X
Florida	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y			X
Georgia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	No Info	No Info			X
Hawaii	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Idaho	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N			X
Illinois	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Indiana	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Iowa	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Kansas	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Kentucky	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Louisiana	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Maine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X

# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Figure 1. (\* Indicates “Preferred Drug”) Con’t.

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Epclusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Epclusa <i>Generic</i>	X
Maryland	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Massachusetts	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Michigan	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y			X
Minnesota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Mississippi	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y			X
Missouri	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y			X
Montana	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N			X
Nebraska	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Nevada	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
New Hampshire	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
New Jersey	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
New Mexico	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
New York	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y			X
North Carolina	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y			X
North Dakota	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N			X
Ohio	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Oklahoma	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	No Info	No Info			X
Oregon	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Pennsylvania	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			X



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Figure 1. (\* Indicates “Preferred Drug”) Con’t.

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Epclusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Epclusa <i>Generic</i>	X
Rhode Island	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
South Carolina	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N			X
South Dakota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Tennessee	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Texas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Utah	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Vermont	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Virginia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y			X
Washington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	X
West Virginia	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N			X
Wisconsin	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N			X
Wyoming	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X
Washington, DC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y			X
												X
Fed. St. Micronesia	Y	N	N	N	No Info	No Info	No Info	No Info	No Info			X
Guam	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N			X
Palau	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info	No Info	No Info			X
Puerto Rico	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	No Info	No Info			X
U.S. Virgin Islands	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X

# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

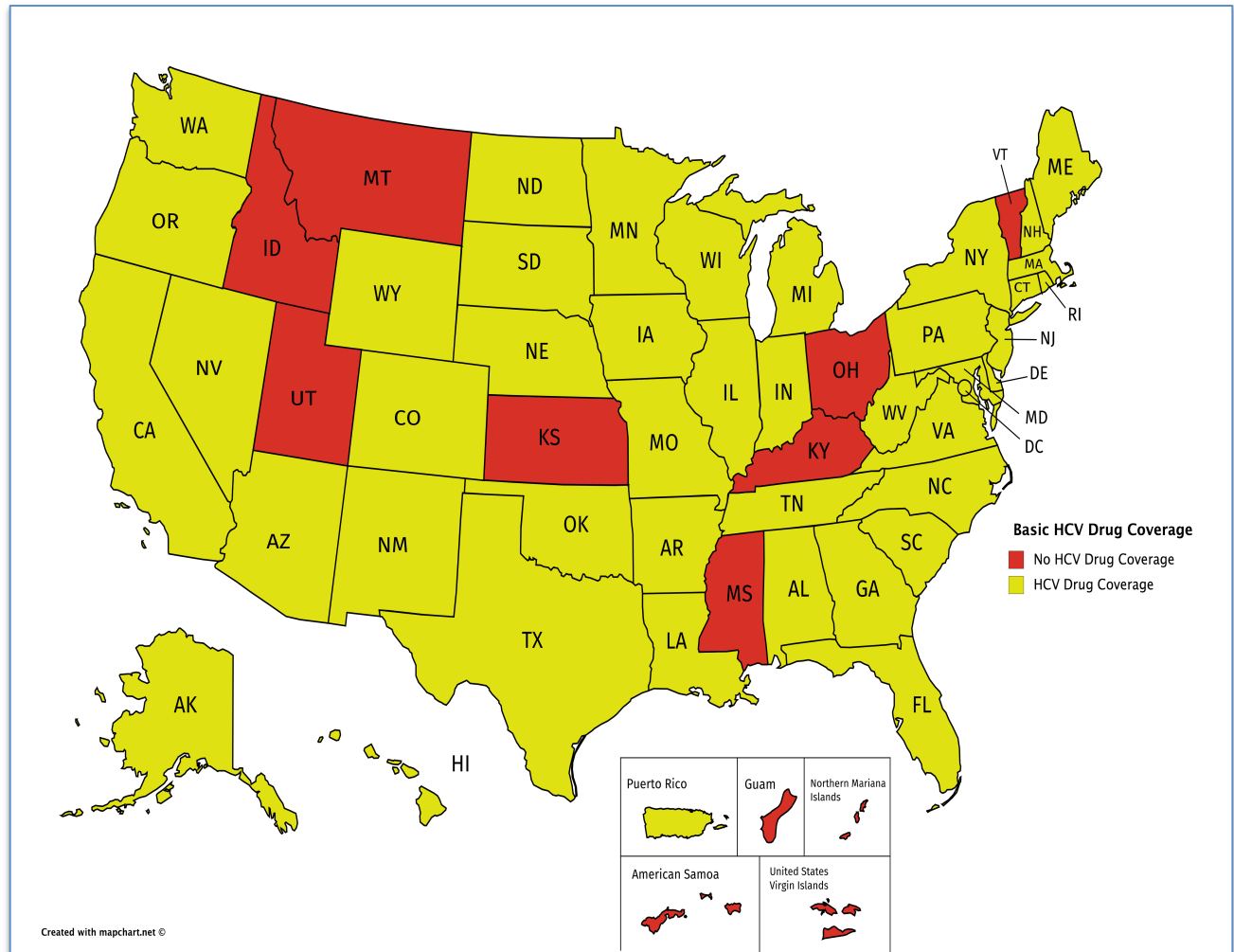
There are currently **45** AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) that cover some form of HCV drug therapies as part of their approved drug formularies. To learn more about ADAPs or their approved drug formularies, please visit <http://adap.directory>.

**Figure 2.**

Basic Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Basic Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Sovaldi Coverage Map

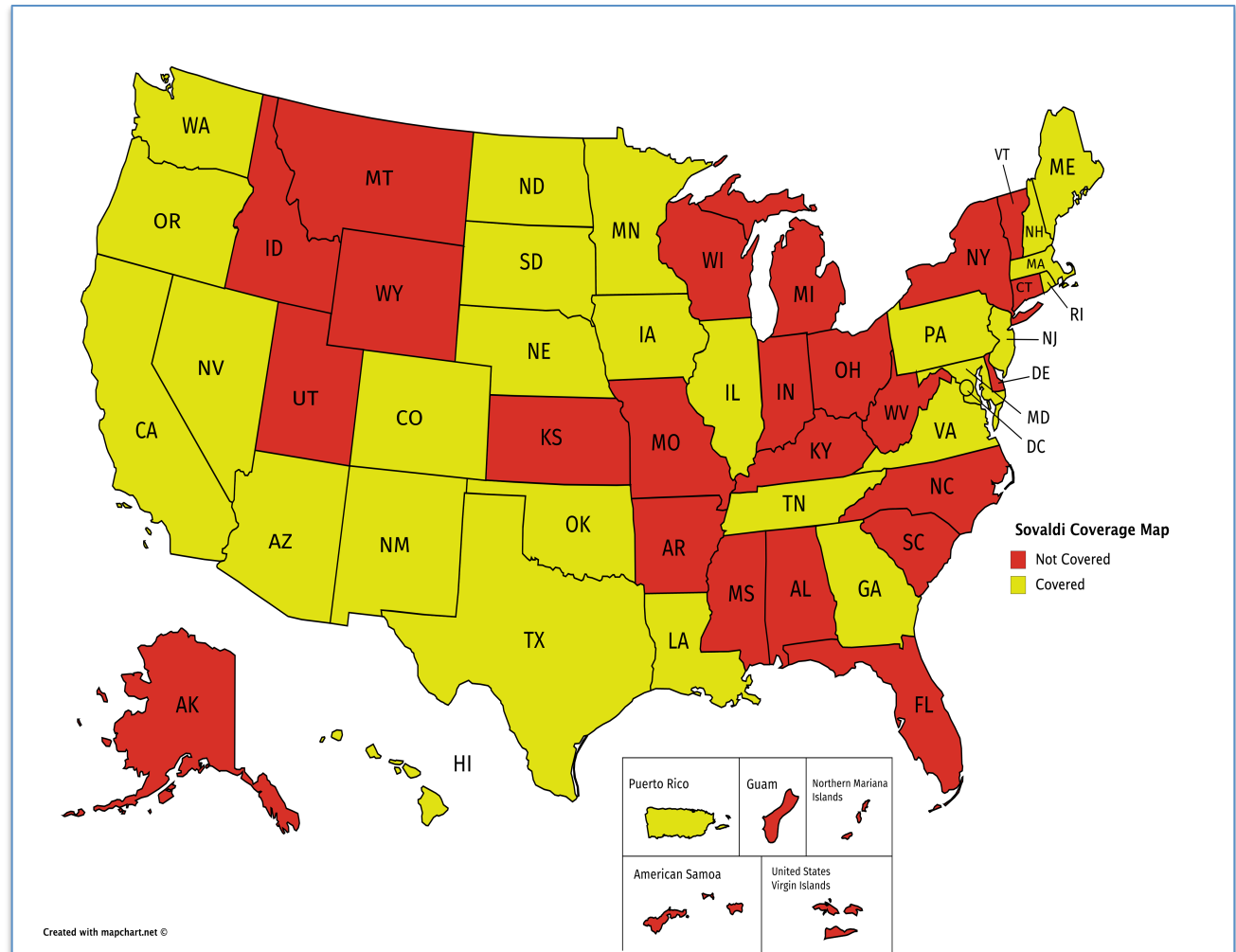
February 2019

**Figure 3.**

Sovaldi Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Harvoni Coverage Map

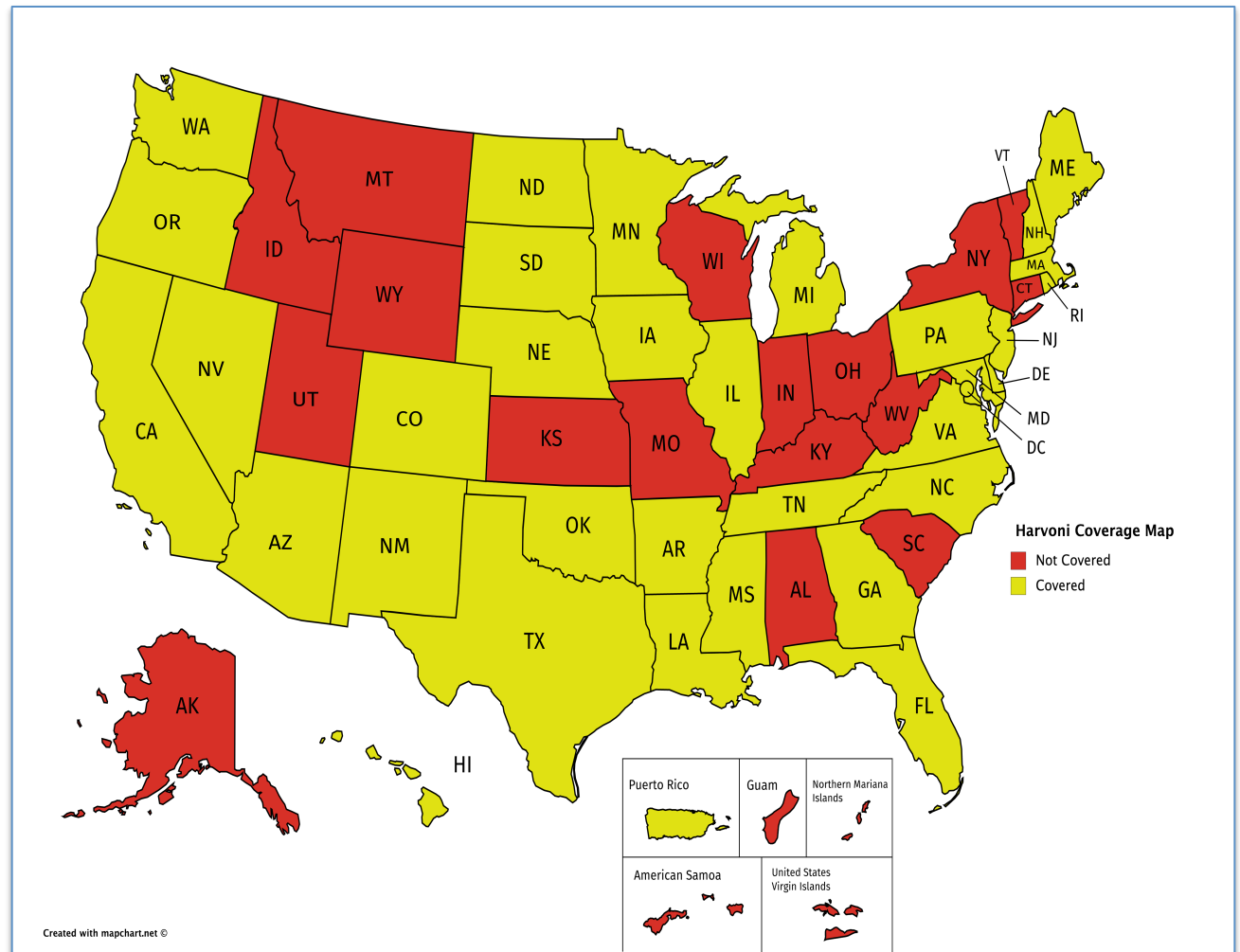
February 2019

**Figure 4.**

Harvoni Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Viekira Pak Coverage Map

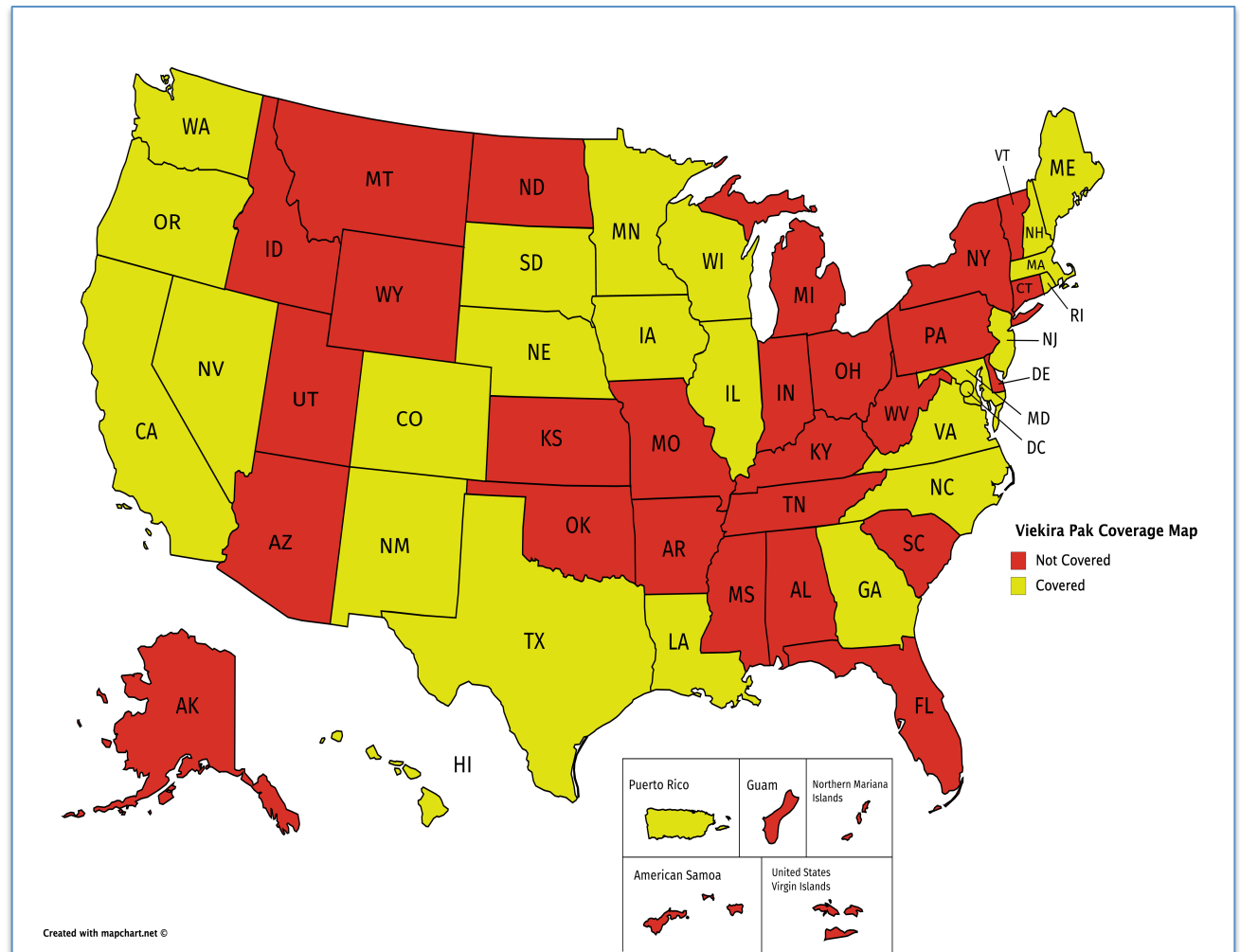
February 2019

**Figure 5.**

Viekira Pak Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Daklinza Coverage Map

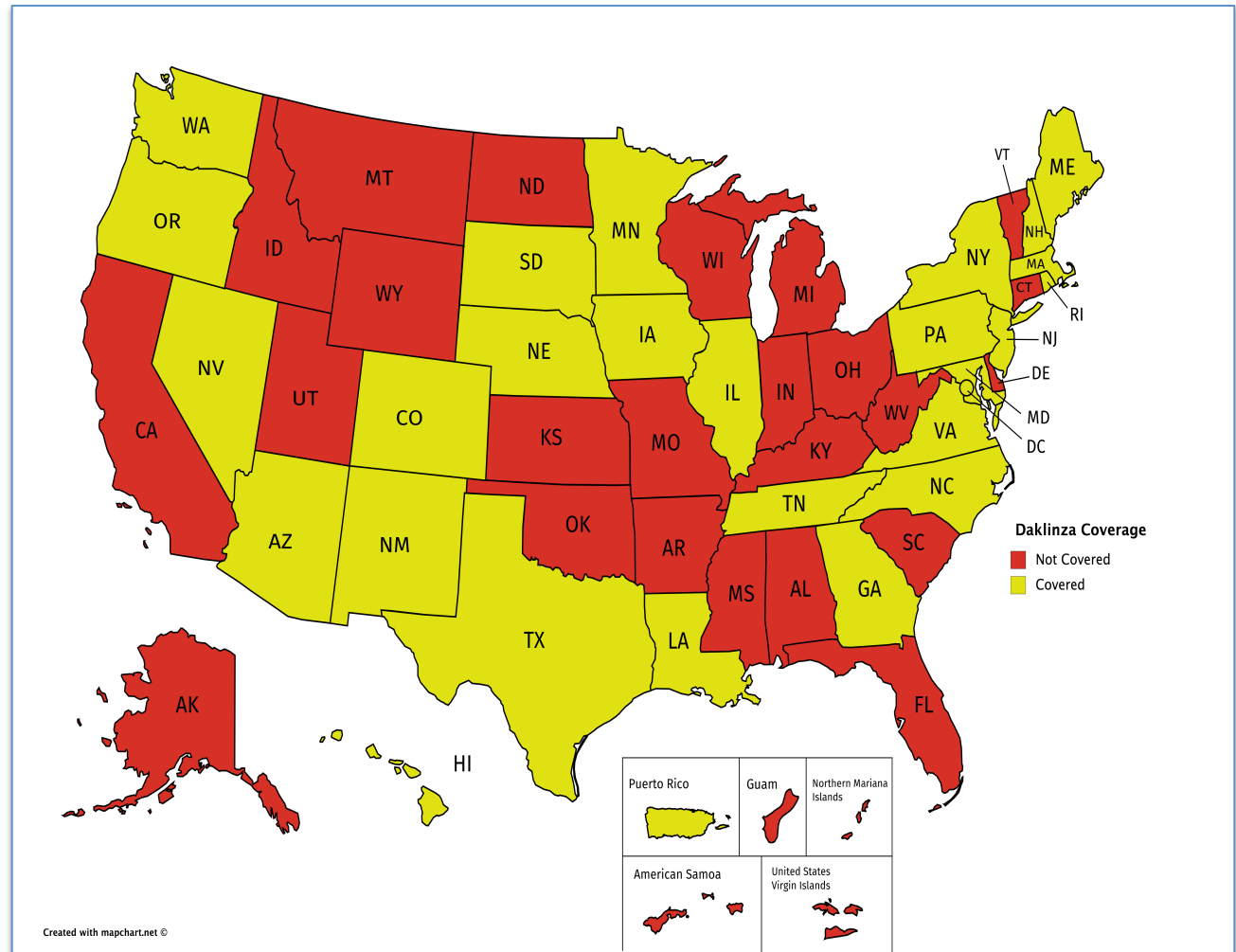
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**Figure 6.**

Daklinza Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Zepatier Coverage Map

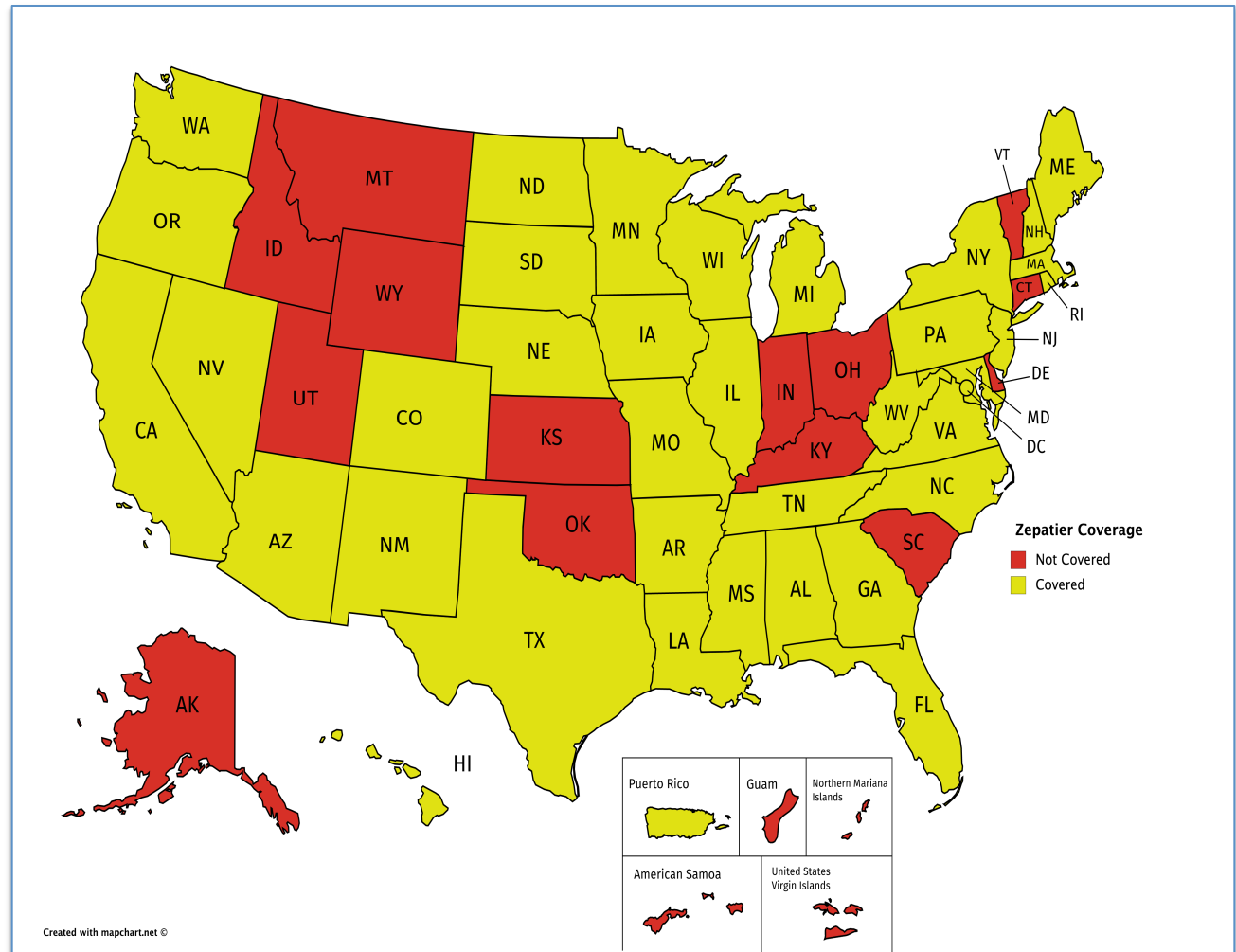
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**Figure 7.**

Zepatier Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Epclusa Coverage Map

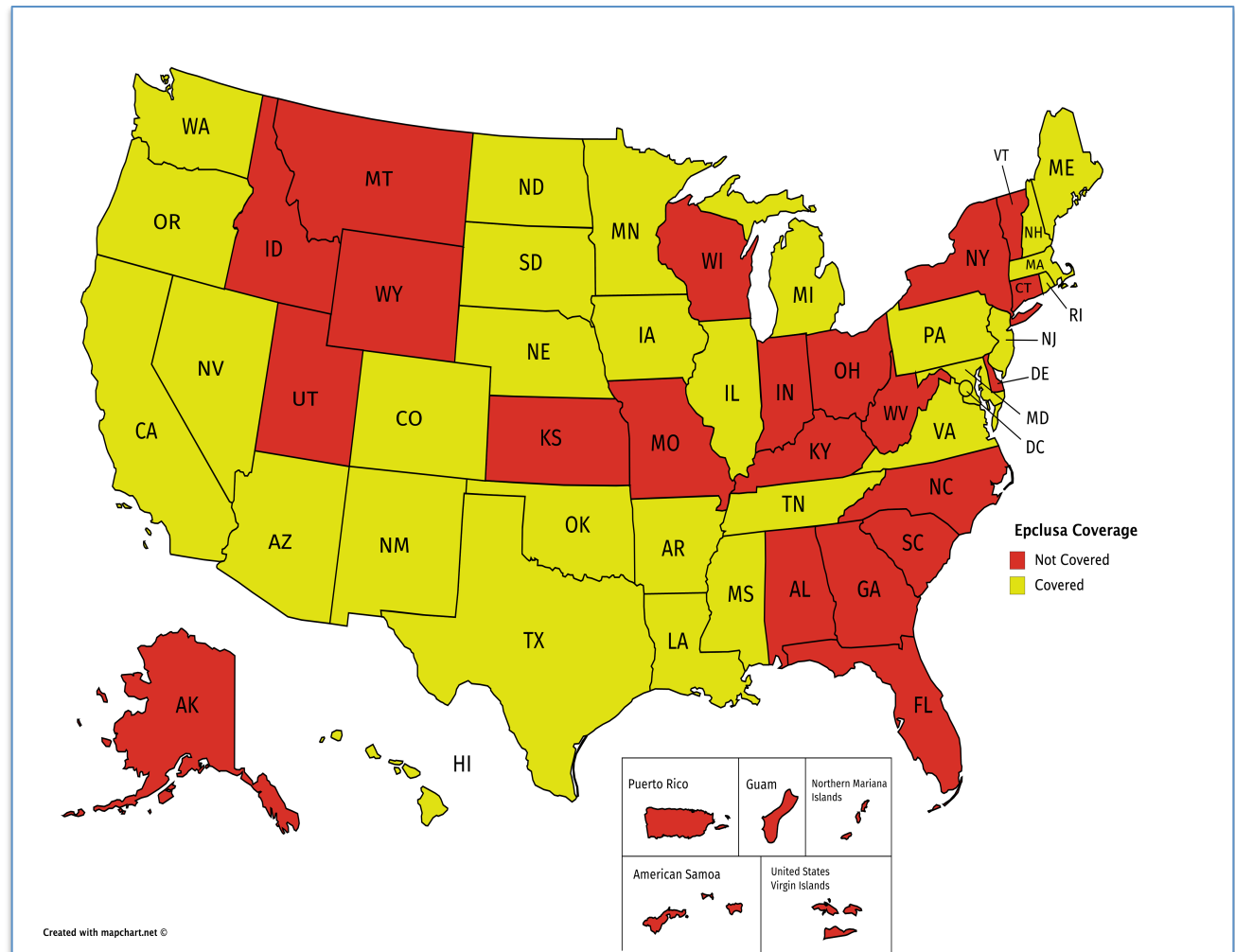
February 2019

**Figure 8.**

Epclusa Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage





# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Vosevi Coverage Map

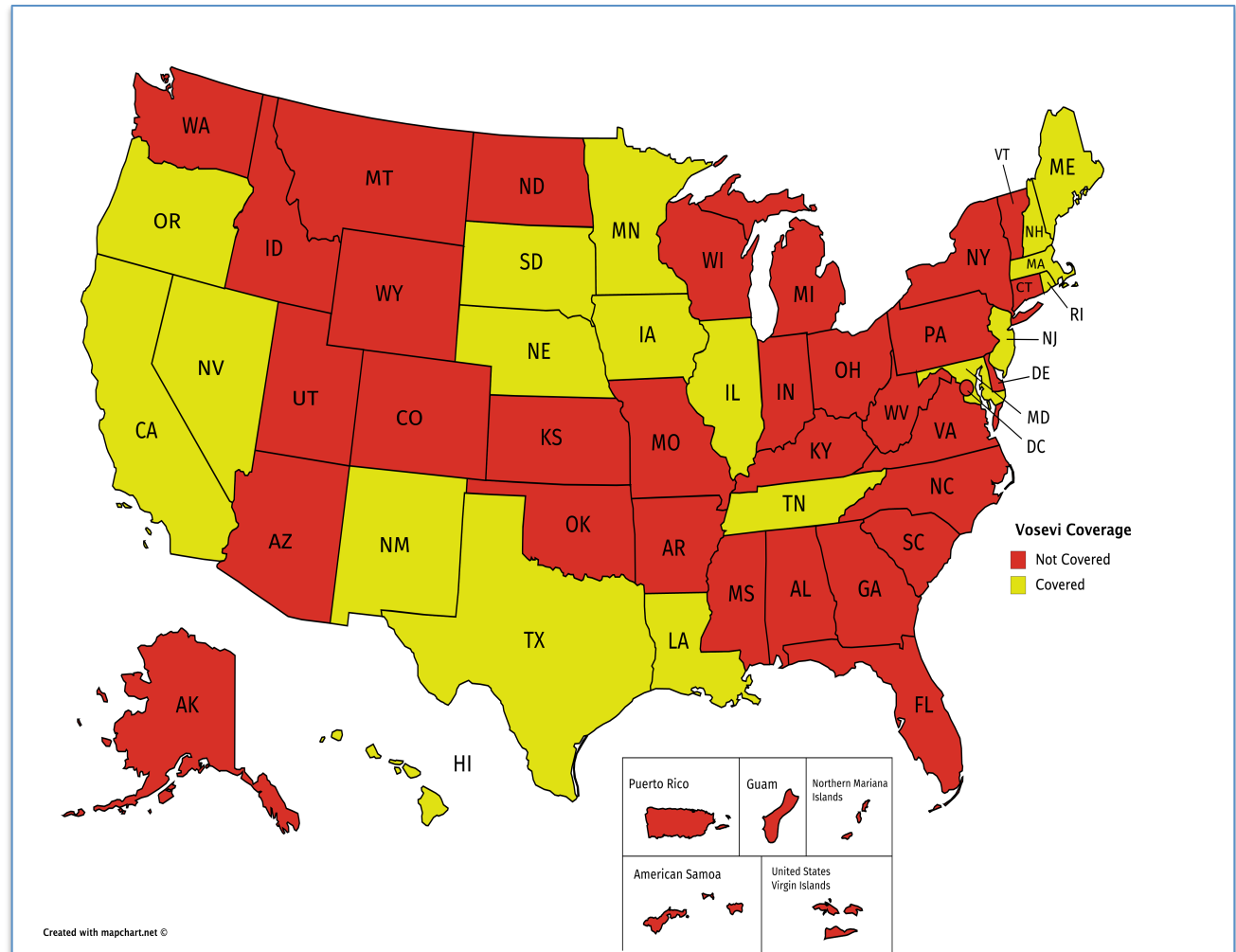
February 2019

**Figure 9.**

Vosevi Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Mavyret Coverage Map

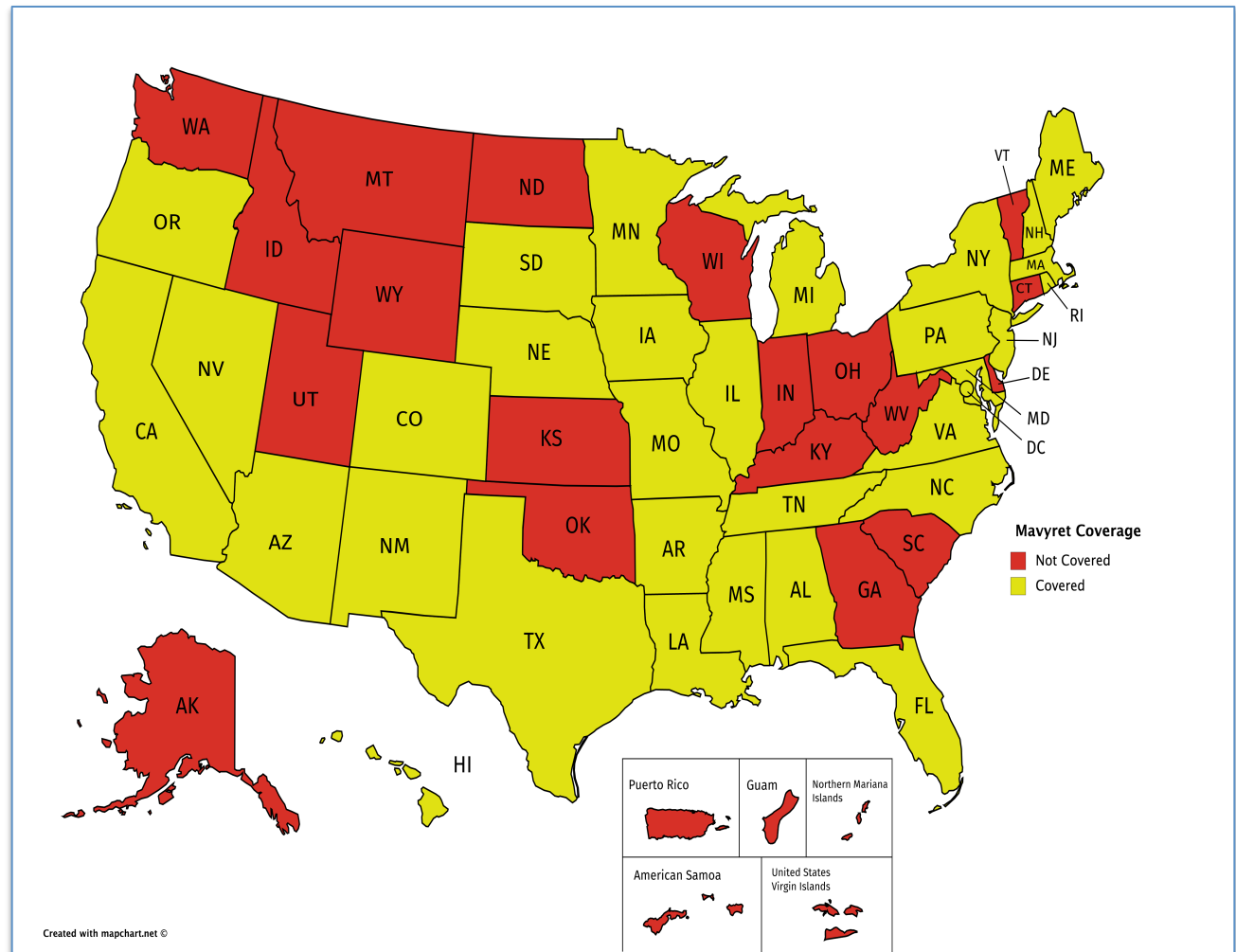
February 2019

Figure 10.

Mavyret Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



Created with mapchart.net ©

# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map

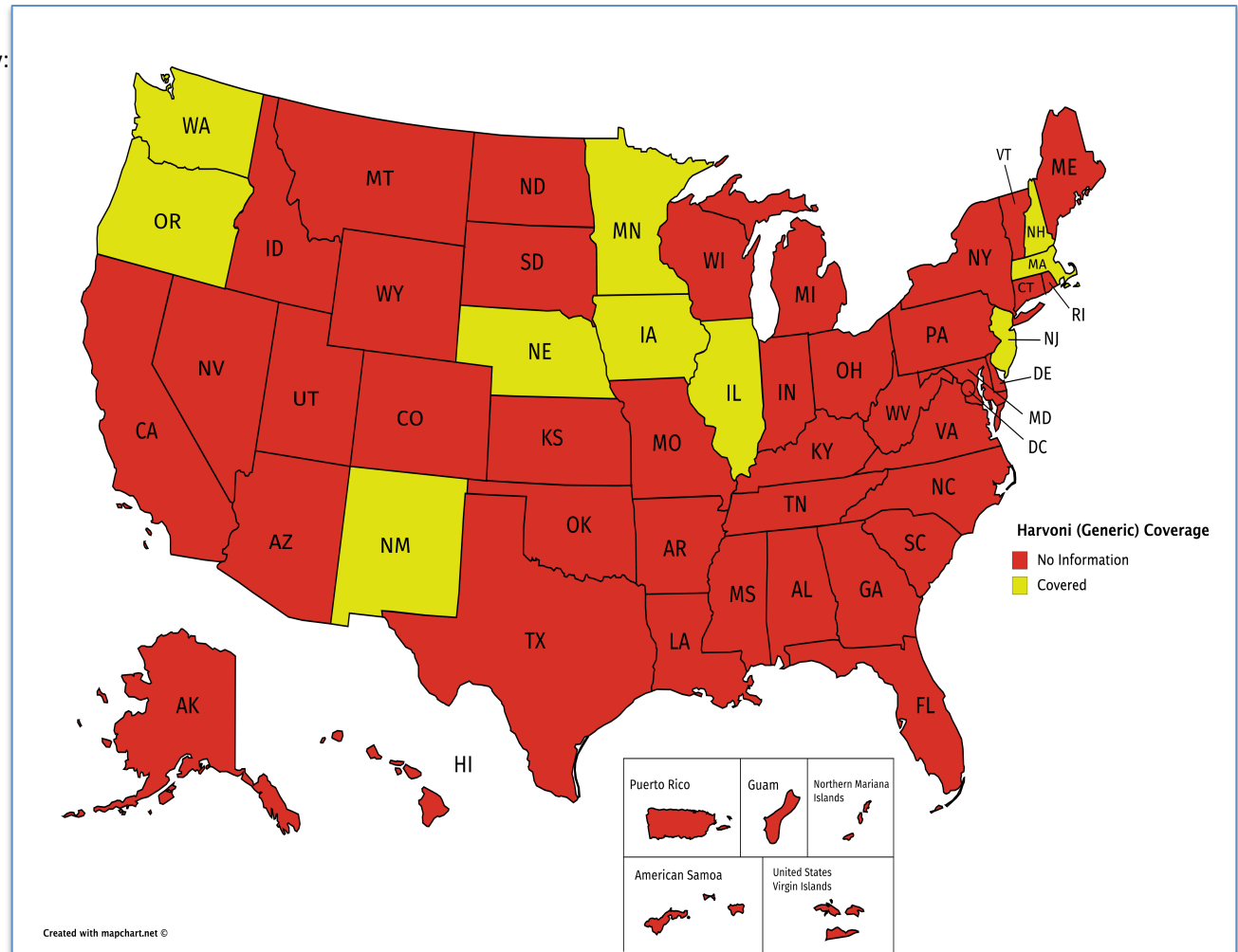
February 2019

**Figure 11.**

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Epclusa *Generic* Coverage Map

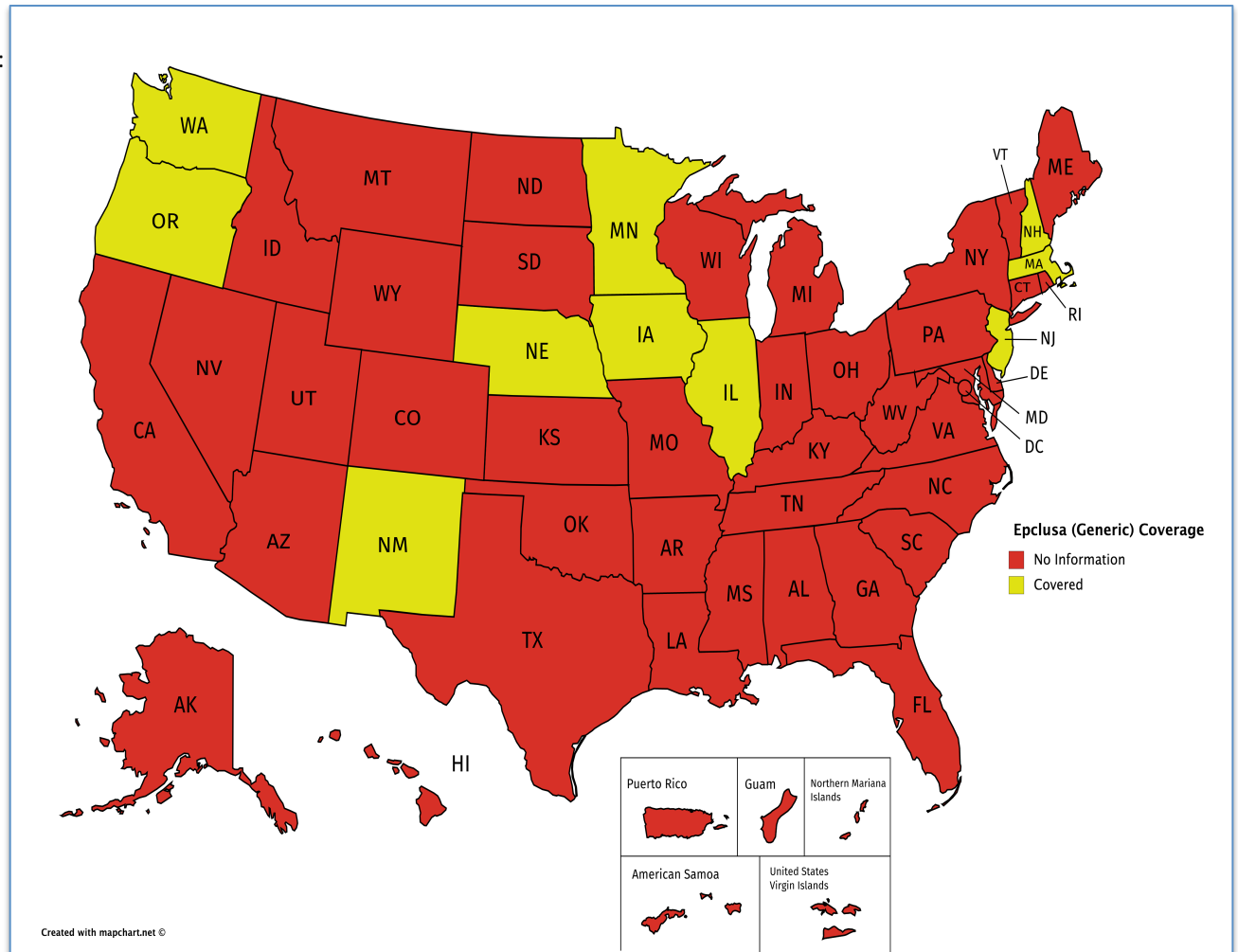
February 2019

**Figure 12.**

Epclusa *Generic* Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Of the 56 respective State and Territorial ADAPs, only **10** (ID, KS, KY, MT, OH, UT, VT, GU, PW, VI) do not offer any coverage for HCV drug therapies. States whose formularies are not available on the state-run website have been checked against the most recent National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD) formulary database (last updated February 01, 2018). The data presented are current as of February 15, 2019.

## February 2019 Updates:

- As of January 2019, both Technivie, and Viekira XR are no longer being manufactured. Some state ADAP formularies may reflect coverage for Olysio, Technivie, and Viekira XR, these drugs are no longer in production and only remaining supplies of the drugs are available for use. As such, coverage for these drugs is no longer reflected in either Figure 1., or in the coverage maps
- As of February 2019, Gilead has released generic versions of both Harvoni and Eplclusa. Coverage for these drugs is reflected in Figures 1., 11., and 12. As with all HCV drugs, adoption rates tend to be slower for ADAPs, as ADAP formulary committees do not meet as regularly as their Medicaid Preferred Drug List counterparts
- At this time, only New Hampshire has formally listed Harvoni (Generic) as being covered on its ADAP formulary. That said, the Open Formulary models of IL, IA, MA, MN, NE, NJ, NM, OR, and WA are listed as covering both the Harvoni (Generic) and Eplclusa (Generic), as the nature of their formulary models suggest, unless notified otherwise by state officials
- Nevada has expanded its ADAP formulary to include all HCV Direct-Acting Agents except for Harvoni (Generic) and Eplclusa (Generic)

## February 2019 Notes:

- States with Open Drug Formularies IL, IA, MA, MN, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OR, WA
  - N.B. – Although Ohio is listed by NASTAD as having an open formulary, both NASTAD’s ADAP Formulary Database and Ohio’s ADAP website indicates that the state does not offer any treatment for HCV
- Colorado’s ADAP offers five coverage options – Standard ADAP, HIV Medical Assistance Program (HMAP), Bridging the Gap Colorado (BTGC), HIV Insurance Assistance Program (HIAP), and Supplemental Wrap Around Program (SWAP). ‘Yes’ indications in Figure 1. for Colorado denote that at least one of these programs offers coverage for each respective drug. The Standard ADAP Formulary covers medications only if funds are available to do so
- Louisiana’s ADAP (Louisiana Health Access Program – LA HAP) offers two coverage options – Uninsured (Louisiana Drug Assistance Program – L-DAP) and Insured (Health Insurance Program – HIP). HIP pays for the cost of treatment only if the client’s primary insurance covers the drug under its formulary

# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Figure 13. – Figure 24.

# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Figure 13. (\* Indicates “Preferred Drug”)

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Epclusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Epclusa <i>Generic</i>	X
Alabama	Y	N	Y*	N	N	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	X
Alaska	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Arizona	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y*			X
Arkansas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X
California	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	X
Colorado	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Connecticut	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	Y	X
Delaware	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Florida	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*			X
Georgia	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Hawaii	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Idaho	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Illinois	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Indiana	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Iowa	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Kansas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*			X
Kentucky	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Louisiana	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Maine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X

# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Figure 13. (\* Indicates “Preferred Drug”) Con’t.

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Epclusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Epclusa <i>Generic</i>	X
Maryland	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Massachusetts	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			X
Michigan	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Minnesota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*			X
Mississippi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Missouri	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y		X
Montana	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*			X
Nebraska	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	X
Nevada	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X
New Hampshire	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*		X
New Jersey	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
New Mexico	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	X
New York	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	X
North Carolina	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
North Dakota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Ohio	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Oklahoma	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	No Info	No Info			X
Oregon	Y	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Pennsylvania	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Figure 13. (\* Indicates “Preferred Drug”) Con’t.

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Epclusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Epclusa <i>Generic</i>	X
Rhode Island	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*			X
South Carolina	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
South Dakota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Tennessee	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Texas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Utah	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Vermont	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Virginia	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y*			X
Washington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
West Virginia	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Wisconsin	Y	Y	Y*	N	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Wyoming	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*			X
Washington, DC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*			X
												X
Fed. St. Micronesia												X
Guam												X
Palau												X
Puerto Rico												X
U.S. Virgin Islands												X

# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

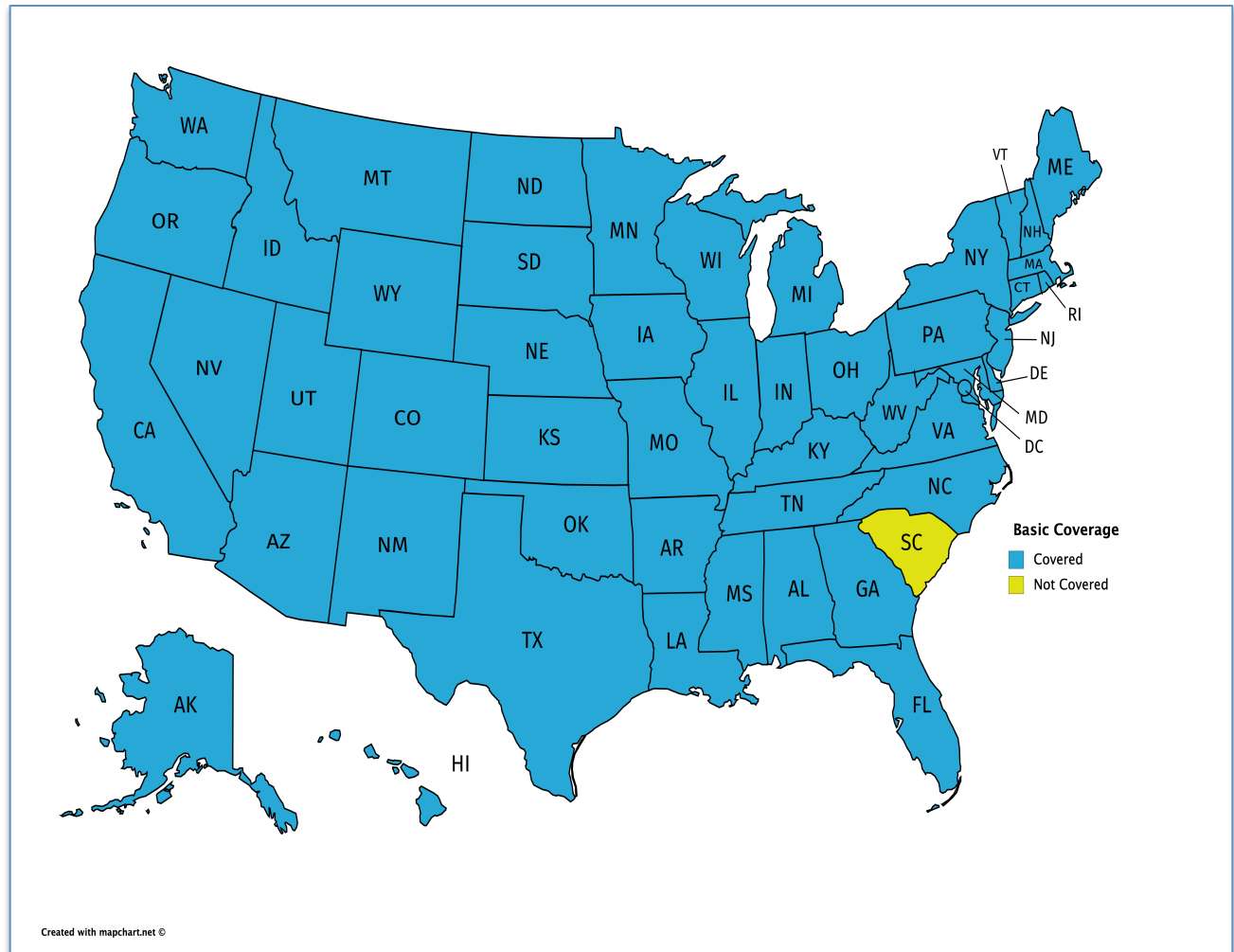
There are currently **51** Medicaid programs that cover some form of HCV-related drug therapies as part of their Preferred Drug Lists. To learn more about Medicaid or their Preferred Drug Lists, please visit <http://medicaiddirectors.org>.

**Figure 14.**

Basic Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Sovaldi Coverage Map

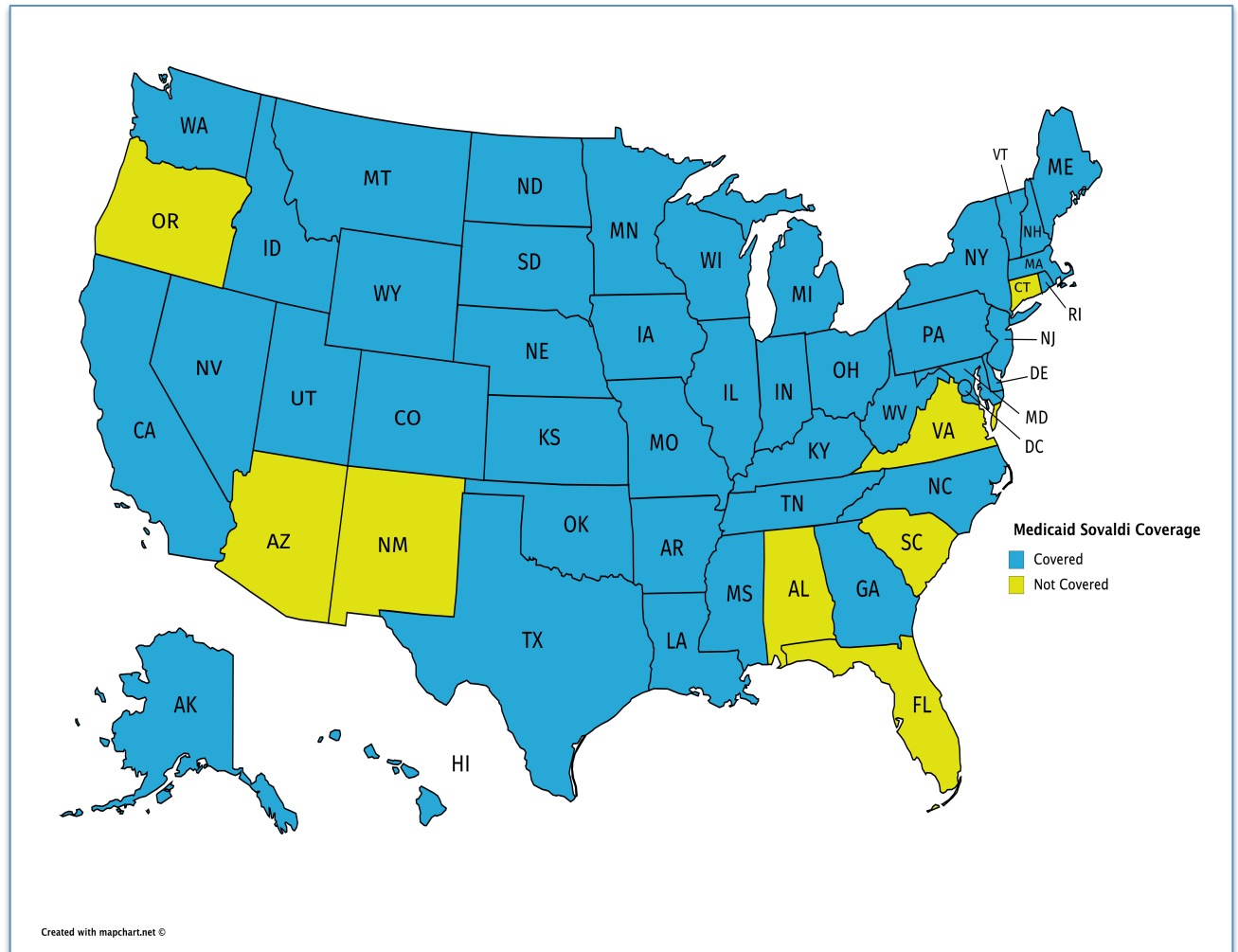
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**Figure 15.**

Sovaldi Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Harvoni Coverage Map

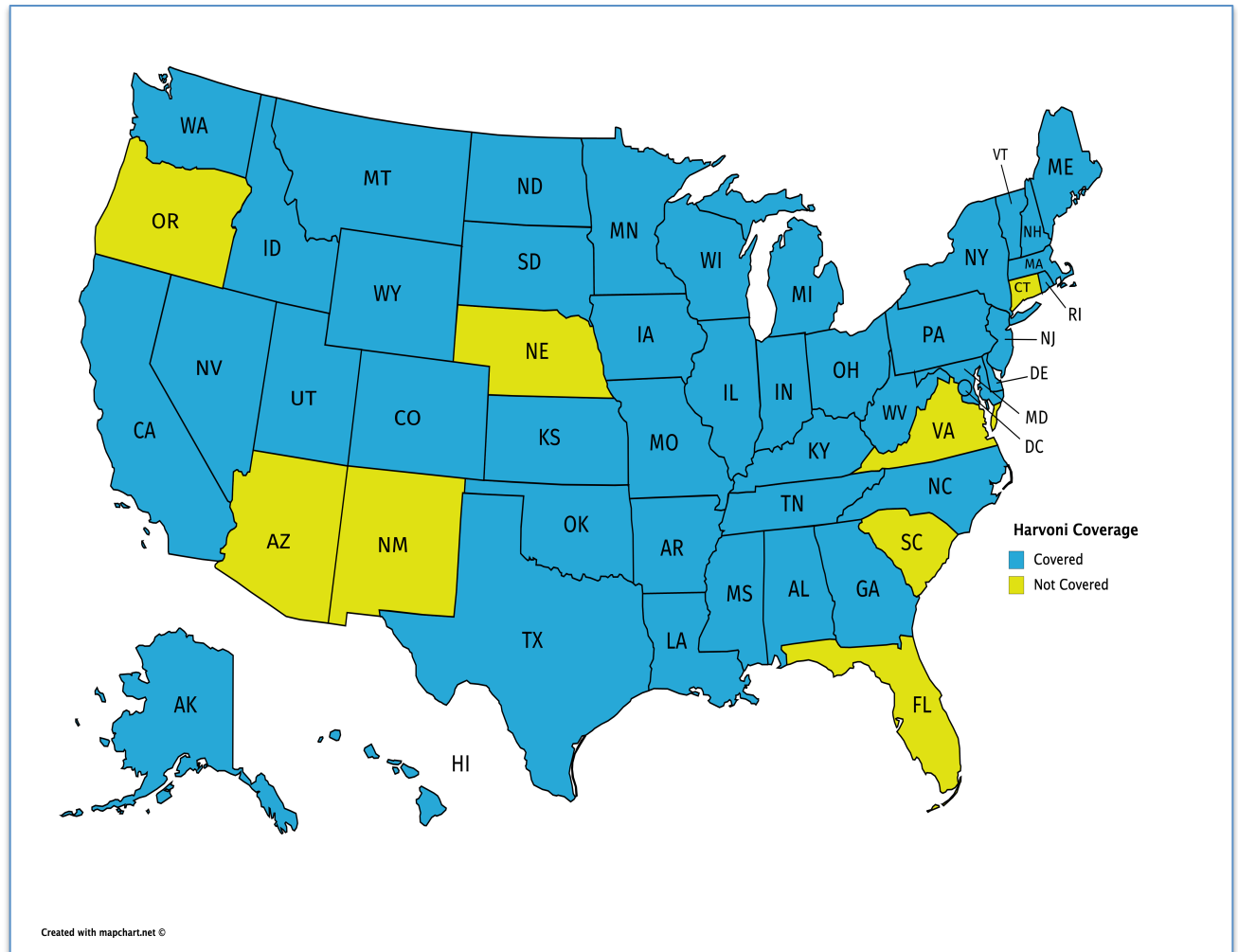
February 2019

**Figure 16.**

Harvoni Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Viekira Pak Coverage Map

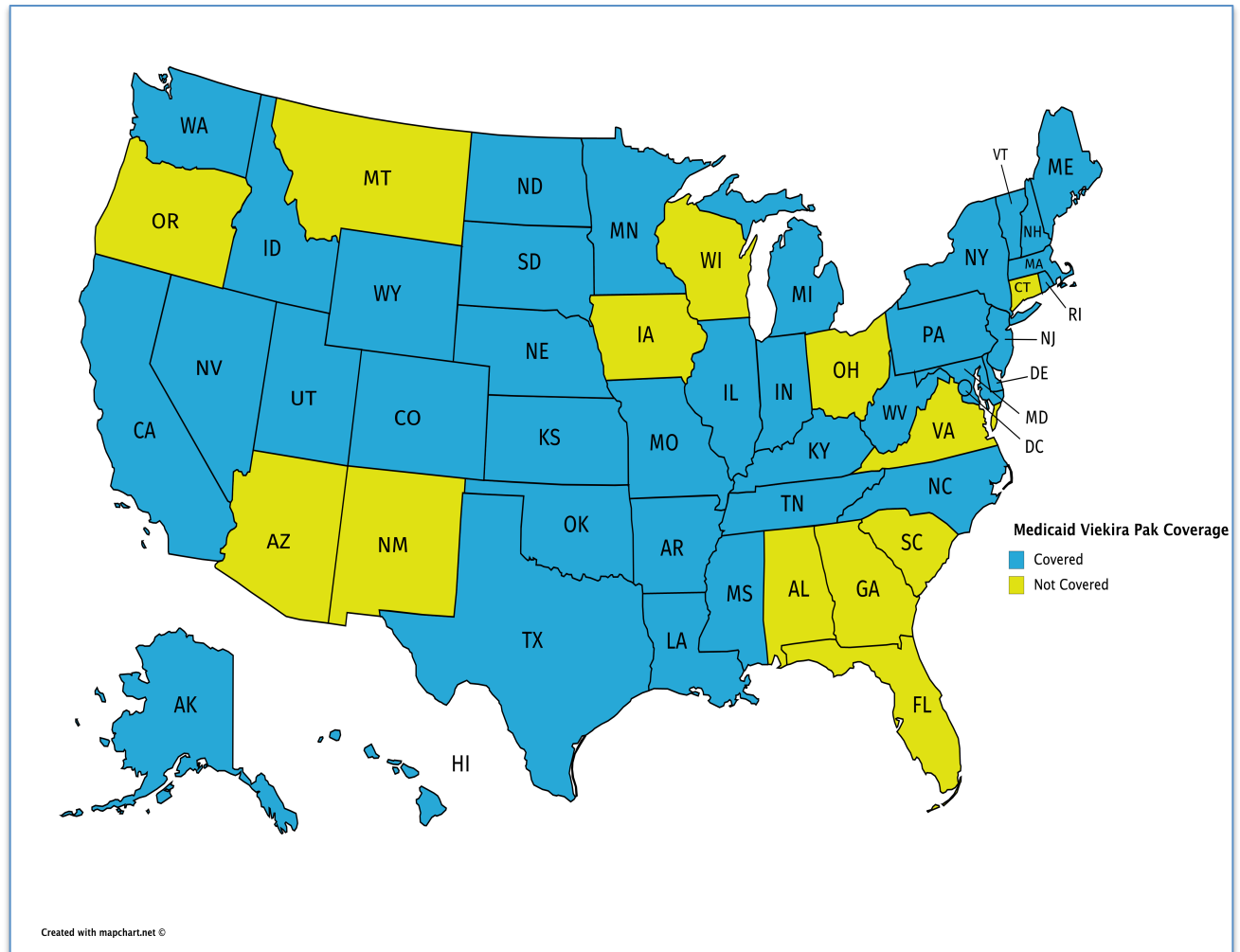
February 2019

**Figure 17.**

Viekira Pak Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Daklinza Coverage Map

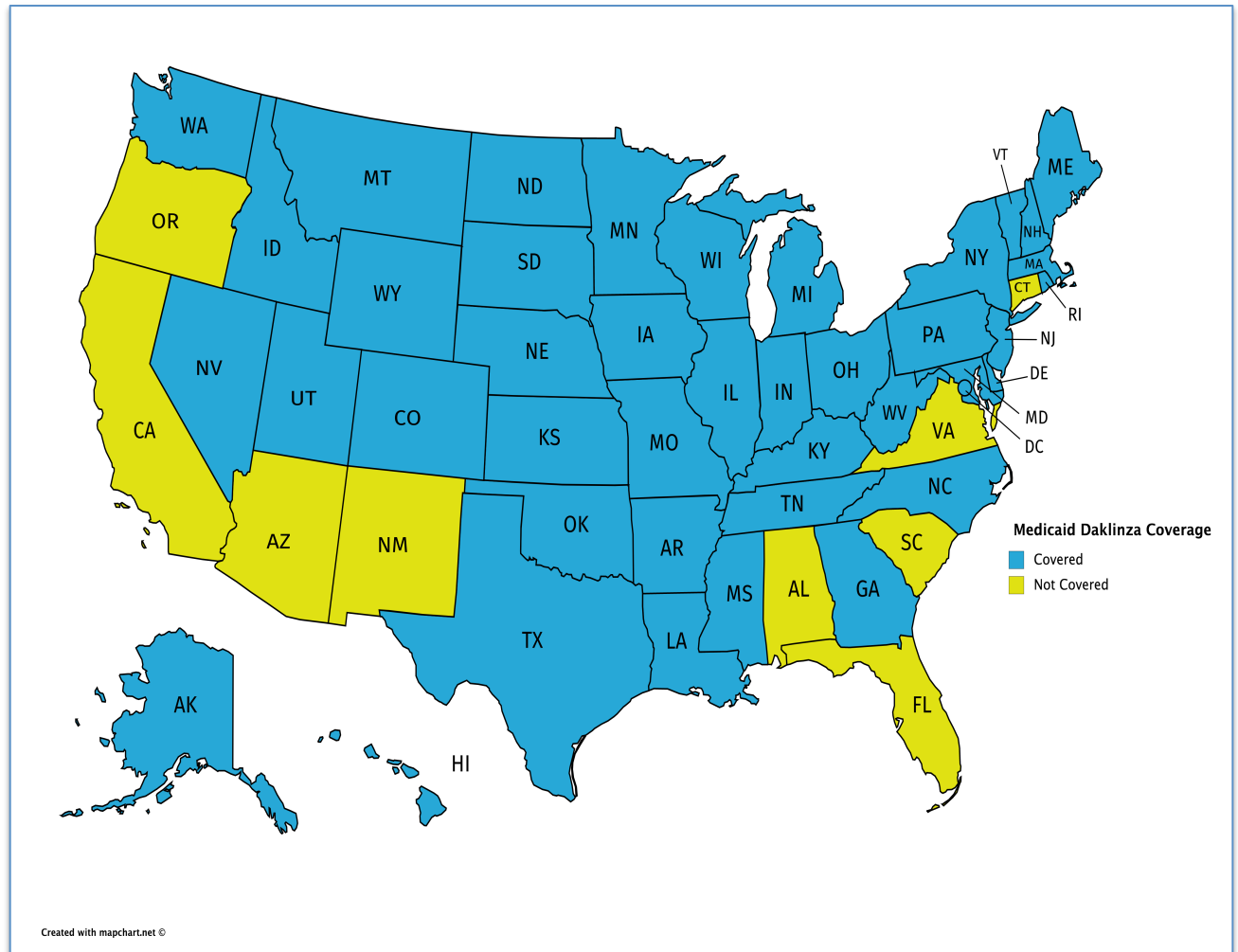
February 2019

**Figure 18.**

Daklinza Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Zepatier Coverage Map

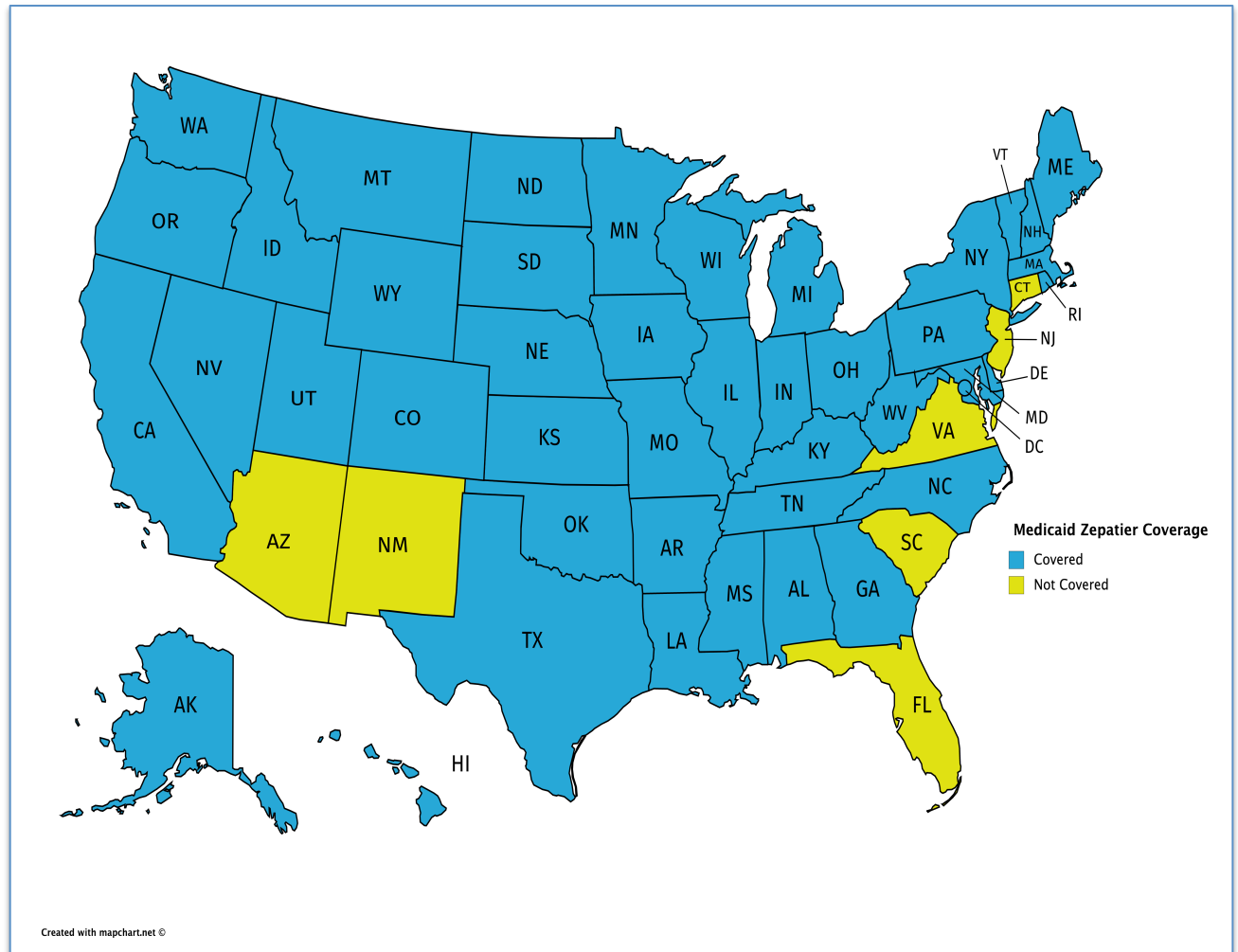
February 2019

**Figure 19.**

Zepatier Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Epclusa Coverage Map

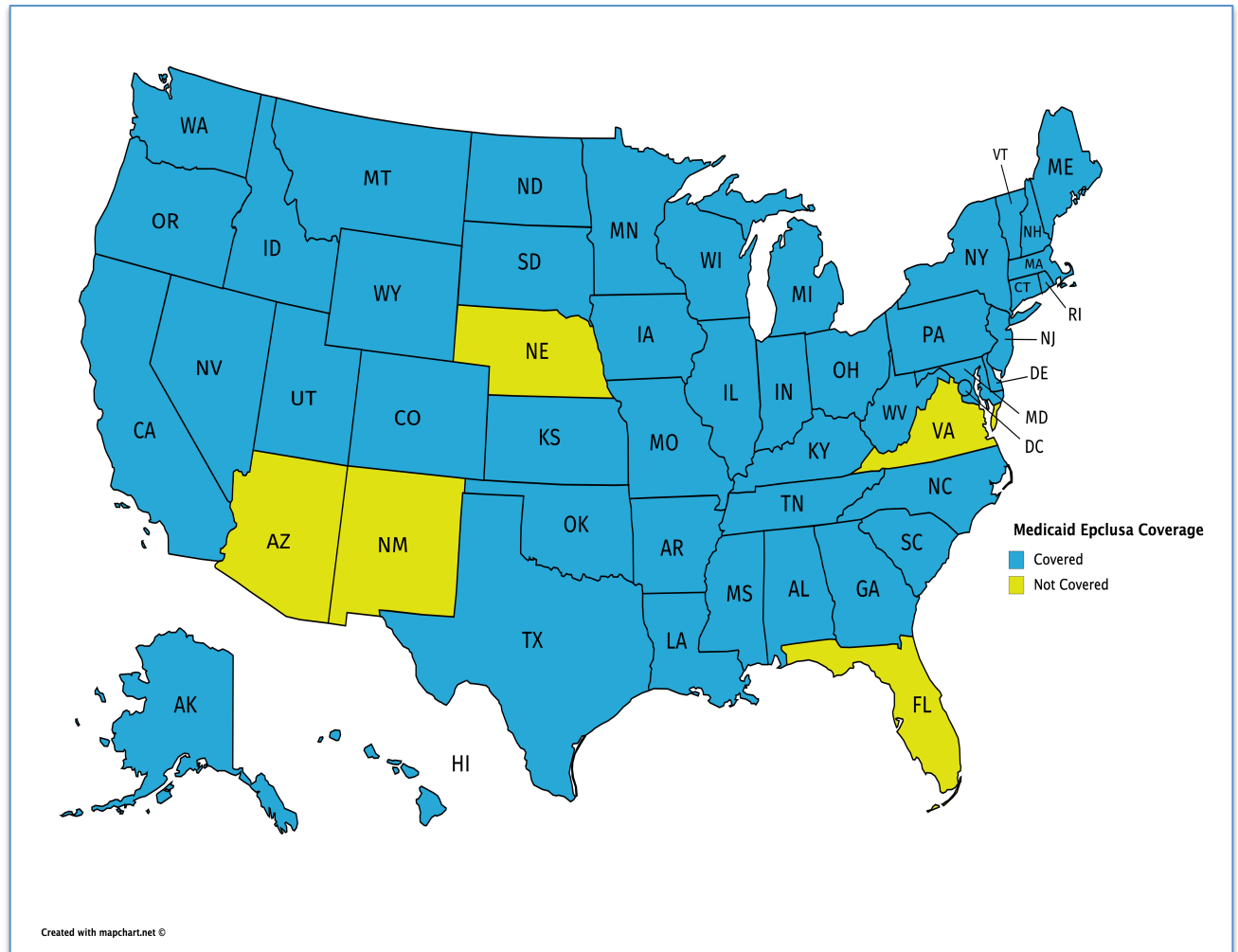
February 2019

**Figure 20.**

Epclusa Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered





# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Vosevi Coverage Map

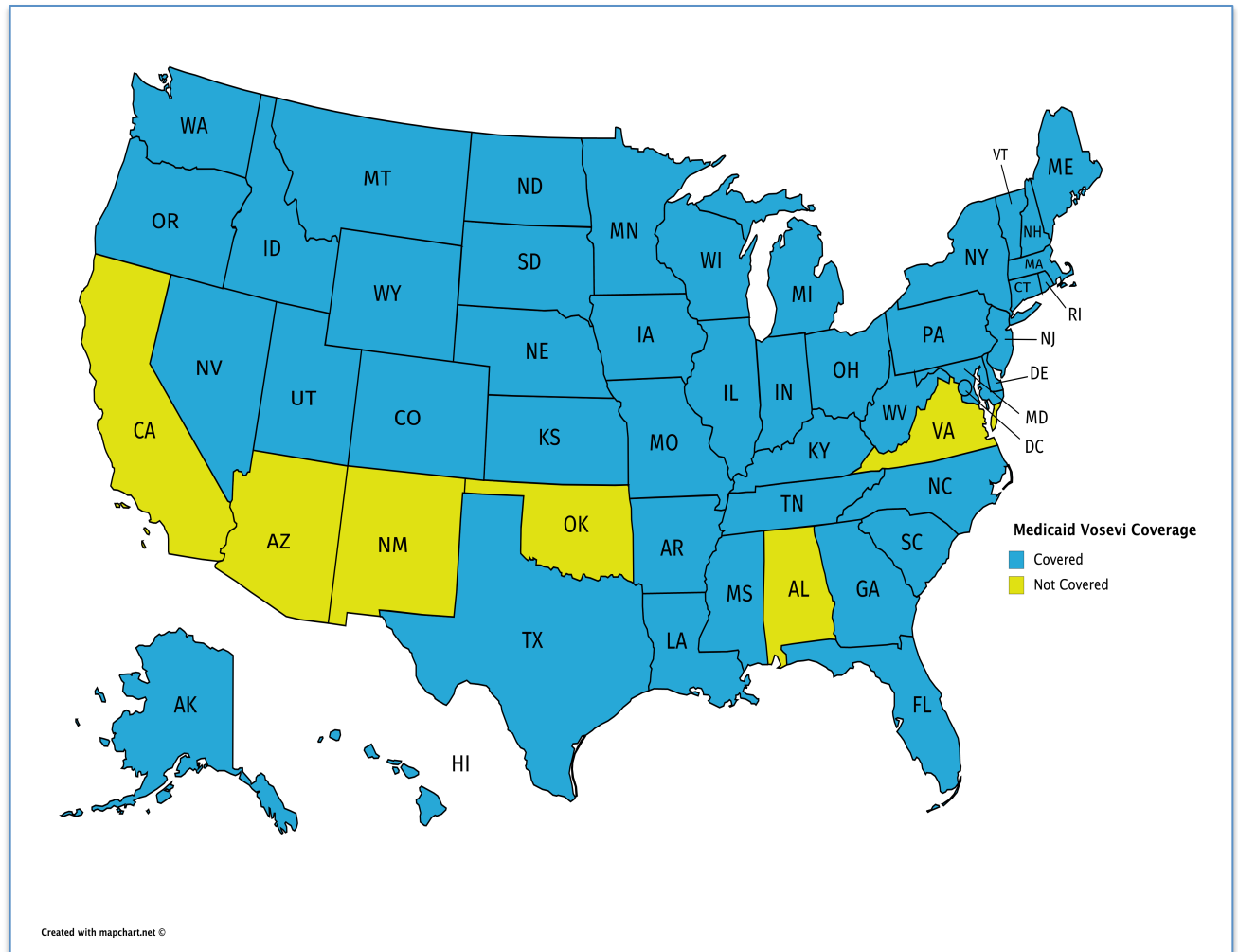
February 2019

**Figure 21.**

Vosevi Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Mavyret Coverage Map

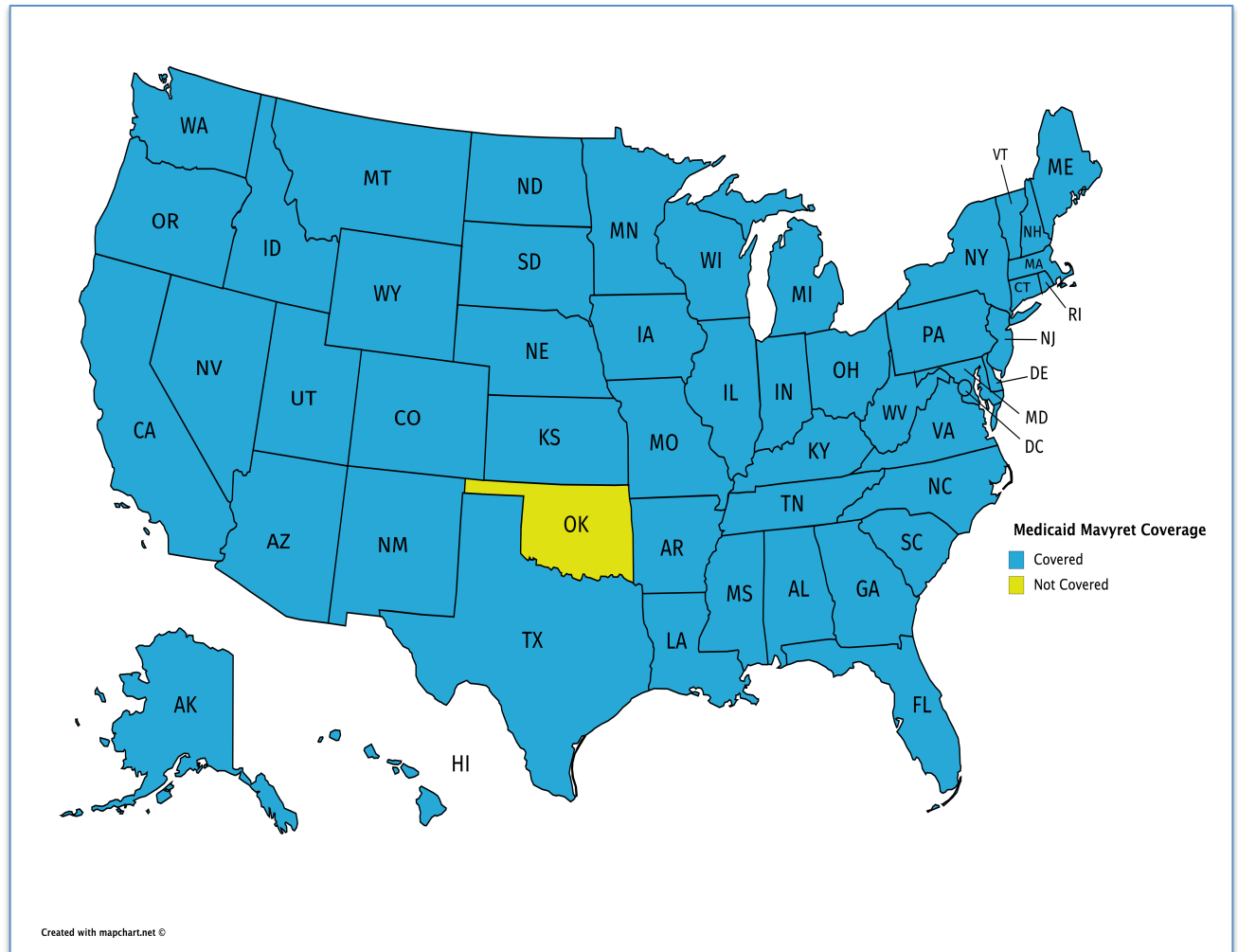
February 2019

**Figure 22.**

Mavyret Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map

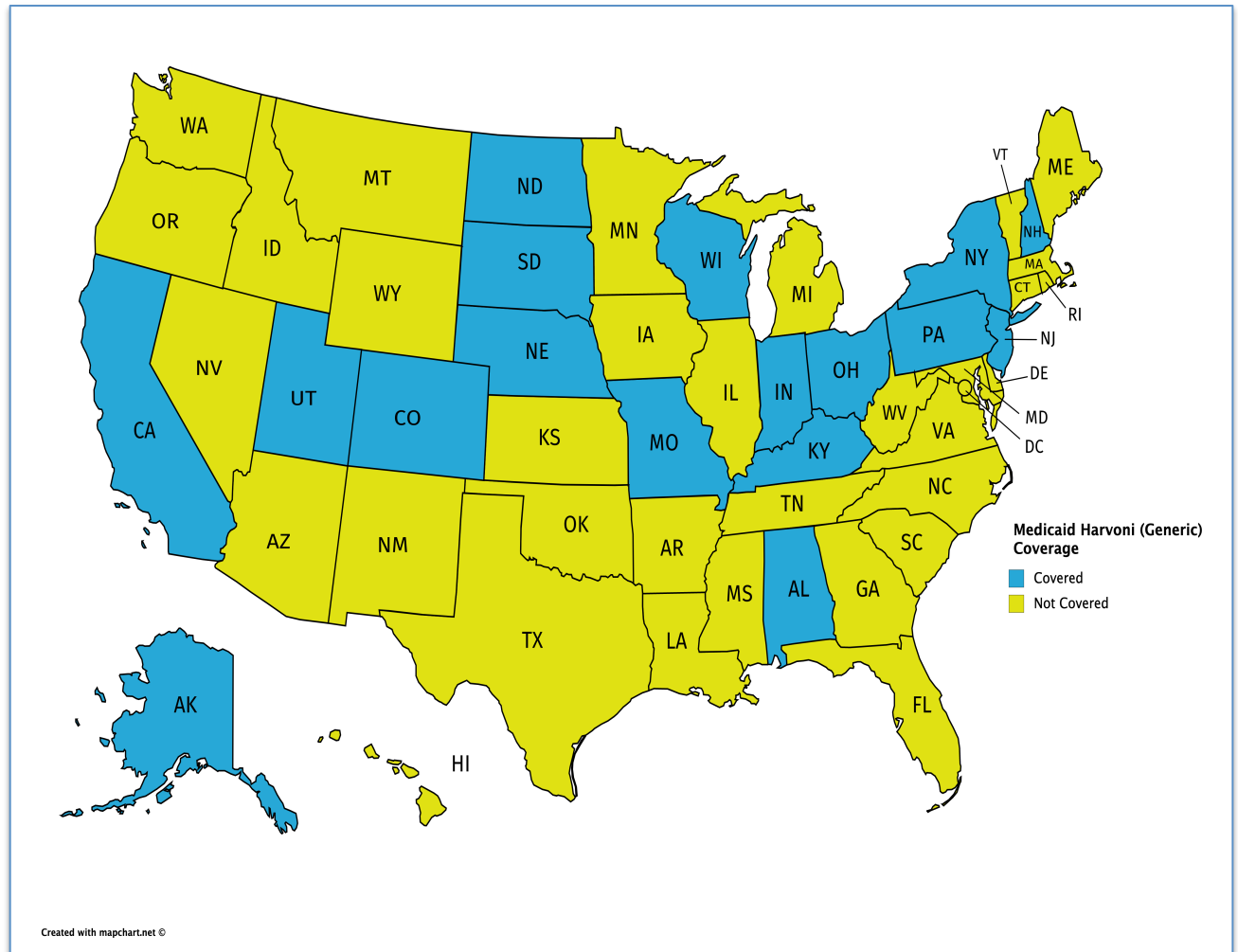
February 2019

**Figure 23.**

Harvoni *Generic* Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Epclusa *Generic* Coverage Map

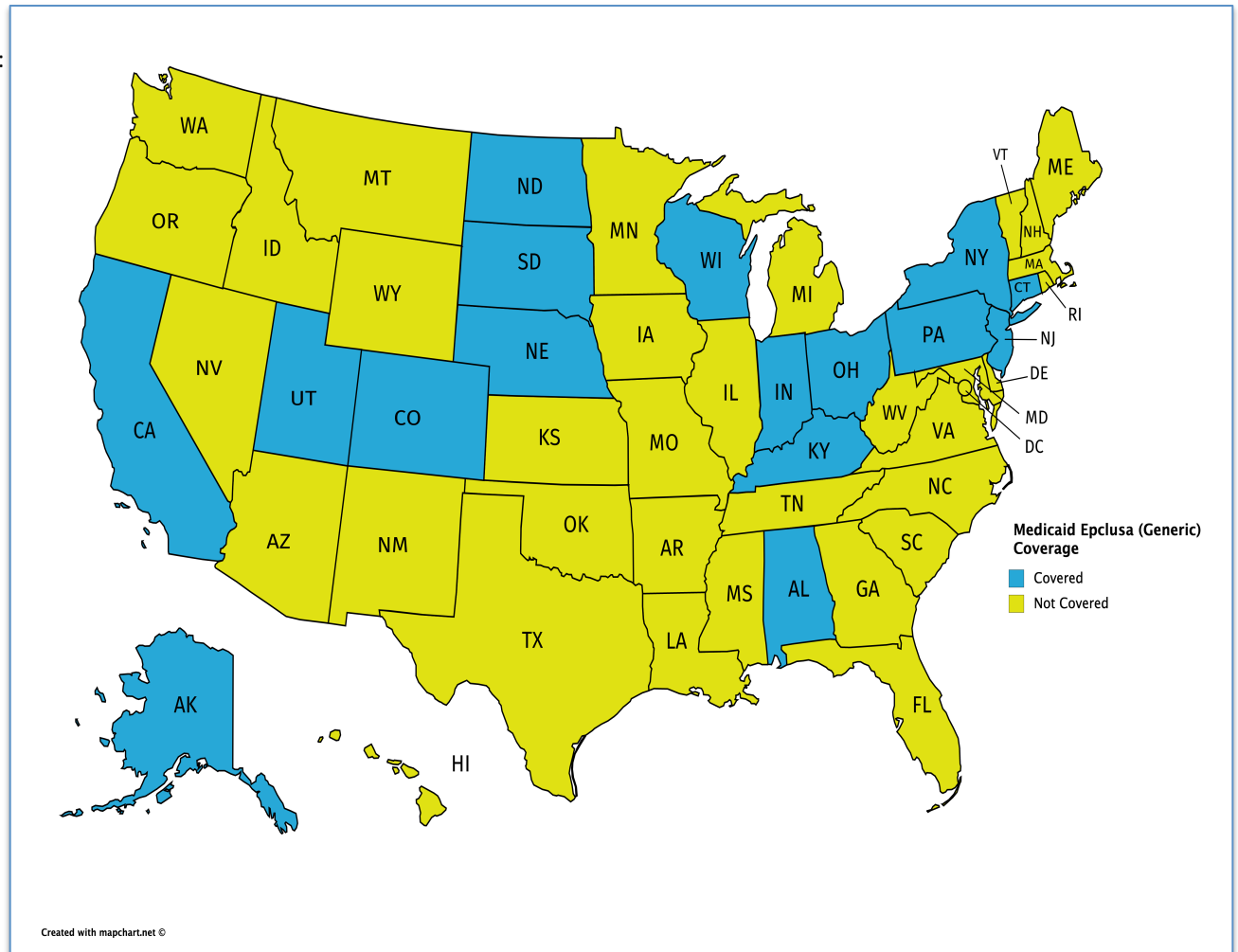
February 2019

**Figure 24.**

Epclusa *Generic* Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

All **50** states and the District of Columbia continue to offer some form of HCV coverage. All 50 states and the District of Columbia have expanded their Preferred Drug Lists to include at least one HCV Direct Acting Agent (DAA).

## February 2019 Updates:

- As of January 2019, both Technivie, and Viekira XR are no longer being manufactured. While some state Medicaid PDLs may reflect coverage for Olysio, Technivie, and Viekira XR, these drugs are no longer in production and only remaining supplies of the drugs are available for use. As such, coverage for these drugs is no longer reflected in either Figure 13., or in the coverage maps
- As of January 2019, Gilead has released generic versions of both Harvoni and Epclusa. Coverage for these drugs is reflected in Figures 13., 23., and 24. As with all HCV drugs, adoption rates tend to be slow, at first
- **Virginia** has reduced its Medicaid PDL coverage of HCV DAAs to cover only Mavyret for treatment

## February 2019 Notes:

- The follow states' Medicaid programs offer multiple coverage plans for their respective Medicaid clients. An indication of "Y" in **Figure 12.** for these states indicates that **at least one** of that state's Medicaid coverage plans offers coverage for the drug in question. The plan highlighted in bold typeface represents the most comprehensive plan with the most drugs covered in the respective state:
  - Hawaii – (1.) **Advantage Plus**; (2.) QUEST Integration
  - Kentucky – (1.) Aetna Better Health of Kentucky; (2.) Anthem BlueCross BlueShield; (3.) Humana – CareSource; (4.) Magellan Medicaid; (5.) **Passport Health Plan**; (6.) WellCare of Kentucky
  - New Jersey – (1.) Aetna; (2.) **AmeriGroup NJ**; (3.) Horizon NJ Health; (4.) UnitedHealthcare of New Jersey; (5.) WellCare
  - New Mexico – (1.) **BlueCross BlueShield of New Mexico**; (2.) **Molina Healthcare of New Mexico**; (3.) Presbyterian Centennial Care; (4.) UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of New Mexico
  - Ohio – (1.) Buckeye Health Plan – MyCare Ohio; (2.) CareSource Ohio Medicaid; (3.) **Molina Healthcare of Ohio**; (4.) Paramount Advantage; (5.) UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Ohio.
- No data is has been made available by the Medicaid programs in the U.S. Territories

\* Medicaid coverage excludes patients from most drug manufacturer patient assistance programs (PAPs)

# Veterans Affairs & HCV Treatments

# Veterans Affairs & HCV Treatments

The Veteran's Administration (VA) currently offers coverage for all HCV drugs. This is according to the most recent VA National Formulary, dated July 2018 (U.S. Dept. of V.A., 2018a). The VA Treatment Considerations and Choice of Regimen for HCV-Mono-Infected and HIV/HCV Co-Infected Patients (U.S. Dept. of V.A., 2018b) lists the following therapies as preferred treatments:

## Abbreviations:

- CTP – Child-Turcotte-Pugh (score used to assess severity of cirrhosis)
- IU/mL – International Units Per Milliliter
- PEG-IFN/IFN – Peginterferon/Interferon
- RAS – Resistance-associated substitutions
- RBV – Ribavirin

## Genotype 1:

- Treatment-naïve without or with cirrhosis (CTP A):
  - Zepatier: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks if GT1a without baseline NS5A RAS or GT1b
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food
- If non-cirrhotic: 8 weeks
- If cirrhotic: 12 weeks
  - Harvoni: 1 tablet orally daily
- If HCV-monoinfected, non-cirrhotic, and baseline HCV RNA <6 million IU/mL: 8 weeks
- If cirrhotic, baseline HCV RNA ≥6 million IU/mL or HIV/HCV coinfecting: 12 weeks
- Consider adding RBV in cirrhotic patients
  - Eplusa: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
- Treatment-naïve with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP B or C):
  - Harvoni: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV (600 mg/day and increase by 200 mg/day every 2 weeks only as tolerated) for 12 weeks
  - Eplusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBVd for 12 weeks; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb)

# Veterans Affairs & HCV Treatments

## Genotype 1 (Cont.):

- Treatment-experienced (NS5A- and SOF-naïve [e.g., failed PEG-IFN/RBV ± NS3/4A PI]) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Zepatier: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks if GT1b, or if failed only PEG-IFN/RBV and GT1a without baseline NS5A RAS
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food
- If PEG-IFN/RBV-experienced: 8 weeks if non-cirrhotic or 12 weeks if cirrhotic
- If NS3/4A PI + PEG-IFN/RBV-experienced: 12 weeks
  - Harvoni: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks; add RBVd if cirrhotic
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
- Treatment-experienced (NS5A-naïve and SOF-experienced) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food
- If PEG-IFN/RBV + Sovaldi-experienced: 8 weeks if non-cirrhotic or 12 weeks if cirrhotic
- If Olysio + Sovaldi-experienced: 12 weeks
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks if GT1b
- Treatment-experienced (prior NS5A-containing regimen) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food for 16 weeks if failed only an NS5A inhibitor without NS3/4A PI (e.g., Harvoni)
  - Vosevi: 1 tablet orally daily with food for 12 weeks
- Treatment-experienced with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP B or C)
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb);
- If NS5A-naïve: 12 weeks
- If NS5A-experienced: 24 weeks; NOT FDA approved for 24 weeks



# Veterans Affairs & HCV Treatments

## Genotype 2:

- Treatment-naïve or treatment-experienced (PEG-IFN/IFN ± RBV or Sovaldi + RBV ± PEG-IFN) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food
- If non-cirrhotic: 8 weeks
- If cirrhotic: 12 weeks
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
- Treatment-experienced (NS5A-experienced) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Vosevi: 1 tablet orally daily with food for 12 weeks
- Treatment-naïve or treatment-experienced patients with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP B or CTP C)
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb)
- If NS5A-naïve: 12 weeks
- If NS5A-experienced: 24 weeks

## Genotype 3:

- Treatment-naïve without cirrhosis or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food for 12 weeks
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
- If CTP A, test for NS5A RAS
- Add RBV if Y93H RAS present
- Treatment-experienced (PEG-IFN ± RBV or Sovaldi + RBV ± PEG-IFN) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food for 16 weeks

# Veterans Affairs & HCV Treatments

## Genotype 3 (Cont.):

- Treatment-experienced (NS5A-experienced) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Vosevi: 1 tablet orally daily with food for 12 weeks
- If CTP A, consider adding RBV (no supporting data)
- Treatment-naïve or treatment-experienced with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP B or CTP C)
  - Eplusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb)
- If NS5A-naïve: 12 weeks
- If NS5A-experienced: 24 weeks

## Genotype 4:

- Treatment-naïve without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Zepatier: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food
- If non-cirrhotic: 8 weeks
- If cirrhotic: 12 weeks
  - Harvoni: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
  - Eplusa: 1 tablet orally daily for 12 weeks
- Treatment-naïve with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP B or C)
  - Harvoni: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV (600 mg/day and increase by 200 mg/day every 2 weeks only as tolerated) for 12 weeks
  - Eplusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV for 12 weeks; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb)

# Veterans Affairs & HCV Treatments

## Genotype 4 (Cont.):

- Treatment-experienced (Sovaldi-experienced and NS5A-naïve) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Mavyret: 3 tablets orally daily with food for 12 weeks
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV for 12 weeks; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb)
- Treatment-experienced (NS5A-experienced) without or with cirrhosis (CTP A)
  - Vosevi: 1 tablet orally daily with food for 12 weeks
- Treatment-experienced with decompensated cirrhosis (CTP B or CTP C)
  - Epclusa: 1 tablet orally daily + RBV; start at lower RBV doses as clinically indicated (e.g., baseline Hgb)
    - » If NS5A-naïve: 12 weeks
    - » If NS5A-experienced: 24 weeks; NOT FDA approved for 24 weeks

# Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs)

# Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs)

The drug manufacturers and various national nonprofit organizations offer a variation of patient assistance programs (PAPs) to assist patients in accessing treatments. They include:

## **Support Path (Gilead Sciences):**

- Financial Assistance
  - Provides Co-Pay Coupons for Sovaldi, Harvoni, Harvoni (Generic), Epclusa, Epclusa (Generic), and Vosevi
  - Co-Pay Coupons cover out-of-pocket costs up to 25% of the catalog price of a 12-week regimen (3 bottles/packages) of Sovaldi, Harvoni, Harvoni (Generic), Epclusa, Epclusa (Generic), or Vosevi
  - Excludes patients enrolled in Medicare Part D or Medicaid
- Insurance Support
  - Researches and verifies patient's benefits, and gives information they need about coverage options and policies
  - Explain Prior Authorization process and works with HCV Specialist's office so they can submit PA forms to a patient's insurance company
  - May be able to provide assistance with appeals process
- Website: <http://www.mysupportpath.com/>

## **AbbVie Mavyret Co-Pay Savings Card:**

- Financial Assistance
  - Patient may be eligible to pay as little as \$5
  - Excludes patients enrolled in Medicare Part D, Medicare Advantage, Medigap, Medicaid, TRICARE, Department of Defense, or Veterans Affairs programs)
- Website: <https://www.mavyret.com/copay-savings-card>

# Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs)

## NeedyMeds:

- NeedyMeds Drug Discount Card
  - Designed to lower cost of prescription medications by up to 80% at participating pharmacies
  - NeedyMeds DOES NOT keep a list of prescription medications covered
  - No eligibility requirements
  - Patients CANNOT be enrolled in any insurance
  - CANNOT be used in combination with government healthcare programs, but CAN be used IN PLACE of program
  - CANNOT be combined with other offers
- Website: <http://ow.ly/fEJo309cJ7Z>

## The Assistance Fund:

- Status: **Closed**
- Website: <https://tafcares.org/patients/covered-diseases/>

## Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief:

- Status: **Open**
- Maximum award of \$15,000
- Eligibility Requirements:
  - Patient must be insured, and insurance must cover prescribed medication
  - Confirmed HCV diagnosis
  - Reside and receive treatment in the U.S.
  - Income falls below 400% of FPL with consideration of the Cost of Living Index (COLI) and the number in the household
- Website: <https://www.copays.org/diseases/hepatitis-c>

# Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs)

## Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation:

- Status: **Closed**
- Co-Pay Assistance with a maximum award of \$7,200
  - Patients may apply for a second grant during their eligibility period subject to availability of funding
- Eligibility Requirements:
  - Must be being treated for HCV
  - Have insurance that covers HCV prescribed medication
  - Medication must be listed on PAN's list of covered medications:  
<https://www.panfoundation.org/index.php/en/patients/medications-covered>
  - Income falls below 500% of FPL
  - Residing and receiving treatment in the U.S. (citizenship NOT required)
- Website: <https://www.panfoundation.org/index.php/en/patients/assistance-programs/hepatitis-c/>

## HealthWell Foundation:

- Status: **Open**
- Co-Pay Assistance with a maximum award of \$30,000
- Minimum Co-Pay Reimbursement Amount: None
- Minimum Premium Reimbursement Amount: None
- Eligibility Requirements:
  - Must be being treated for HCV
  - Have insurance that covers HCV prescribed medication
  - Income falls below 500% of FPL
  - Receiving treatment in the U.S.
- Website: <https://www.healthwellfoundation.org/fund/hepatitis-c/>

# Harm Reduction Programs

Figure 25. – Figure 34.



# Harm Reduction Programs

The HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch monitors the following Harm Reduction programs nationally:

- **Syringe Exchange:**

Syringe Exchange (or Needle Exchange) programs exist to provide injection drug users (or those whose prescriptions require injection) with clean syringes and/or in exchange for used ones.

- **Expanded Naloxone:**

Naloxone is a drug used to counteract the effects of opioid overdoses. Expanded Access refers to one of more of the following conditions: Naloxone purchase without a prescription; availability to schools, hospitals, and emergency response units for use in the event of an overdose.

- **Good Samaritan Laws:**

Good Samaritan Laws are laws that are designed to protect emergency services personnel, public or private employees, and/or citizens from being held legally liable for any negative healthcare outcomes as a result of providing "reasonable measures" of emergent care.

- **Mandatory PDMP Reporting:**

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) are programs established by state and/or federal law that requires prescribing physicians and the fulfilling pharmacies to report to a state agency one or more of the following data points: Patient Names; Specific Drug(s) Prescribed; Prescription Dosage; Date; Time; Form of State-Issued ID.

- **Doctor Shopping Laws:**

Doctor Shopping Laws are those laws designed to prevent patients from seeking one or more of the same prescription from multiple doctors through the use of subterfuge, falsifying identity, or any other deceptive means. Some states also include provisions that prohibit patients from seeking a new prescription if another physician has denied a similar prescription within a certain period of time.

- **Physical Exam Required:**

Physical Exam Requirements are those that mandate that the prescribing physician perform a physical examination on a patient before providing a prescription for a controlled substance to determine if the prescription is medically necessary.

# Harm Reduction Programs

- **ID Required for Purchase of Opioid Prescription:**

Federal law requires anyone purchase a controlled substance to provide a state-issued identification (“I.D.”) in order to fill the prescription. Mandatory ID requirements go further and require that this information be recorded and stored in an effort to prevent the same patient from obtaining multiple or repeated prescriptions in a given period of time.

- **Prescriber Education Required/Recommended:**

States that require/do not require that prescribing physicians undergo special training related to safer prescribing and utilization practices.

- **Lock-In Program:**

Lock-In Programs are laws requiring that patients either receive prescriptions from only one physician and/or fill prescriptions from only one pharmacy.

# Harm Reduction Programs

Figure 27.

State	Syringe	Naloxone	Samaritan	PDMP	Doc Shop	Phy Exam	I.D.	Prescriber Ed	Lock-In
Alabama – AL	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Alaska – AK	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Arizona – AZ	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Arkansas – AR	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y
California – CA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N
Colorado – CO	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y	N	N	N	Y
Connecticut – CT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Delaware – DE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Florida – FL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Georgia – GA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hawaii – HI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y
Idaho – ID	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Illinois – IL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Indiana – IN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Iowa – IA	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Kansas – KS	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y
Kentucky – KY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Louisiana – LA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Maine – ME	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

# Harm Reduction Programs

Figure 27.

State	Syringe	Naloxone	Samaritan	PDMP	Doc Shop	Phy Exam	I.D.	Prescriber Ed	Lock-In
Maryland – MD	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y
Massachusetts – MA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y	Y	Y
Michigan – MI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pending	N	Y	Y	Y
Minnesota – MN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y	Y	N	Y
Mississippi – MS	Pending	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Missouri – MO	Y	Y	Y	Pending	N	Y	N	N	Y
Montana – MT	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y
Nebraska – NE	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Nevada – NV	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
New Hampshire –NH	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
New Jersey – NJ	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
New Mexico – NM	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
New York – NY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
North Carolina – NC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
North Dakota – ND	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Ohio – OH	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Oklahoma – OK	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Oregon – OR	Y	Y	Y	Pending	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Pennsylvania – PA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y	N	Y	Y

# Harm Reduction Programs

Figure 27.

State	Syringe	Naloxone	Samaritan	PDMP	Doc Shop	Phy Exam	I.D.	Prescriber Ed	Lock-In
Rhode Island – RI	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y
South Carolina – SC	Y	Y	Pending	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
South Dakota – SD	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Tennessee – TN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Texas – TX	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Utah – UT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Vermont – VT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Virginia – VA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y	Y	N	Y
Washington – WA	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
West Virginia – WV	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Wisconsin – WI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Wyoming – WY	N	Y	Y	Pending	Y	N	N	N	Y
District of Columbia	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y
American Samoa	N	?	?	?	N	N	?	?	?
Guam	N	?	?	Y	N	N	?	?	?
N. Mariana Islands	N	?	?	?	N	N	?	?	?
Puerto Rico	Y	?	?	?	N	N	?	?	?
U.S. Virgin Islands	Y	?	?	?	N	N	?	?	?

# Harm Reduction Programs

Syringe Exchange Coverage Map

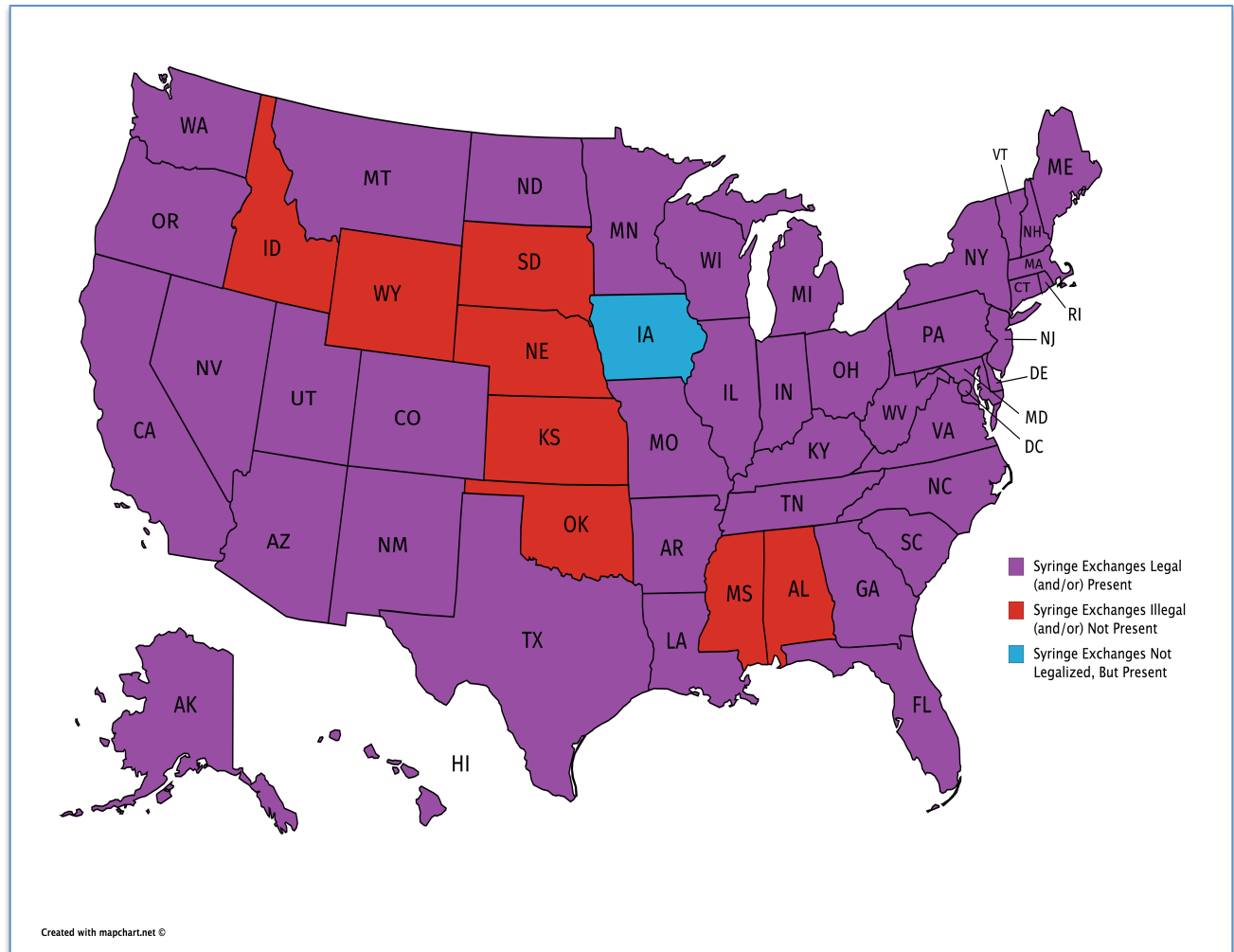
February 2019

**Figure 28.**

Syringe Exchange Map Key:

Purple: Syringe Exchange(s)

Red: No Syringe Exchange(s)



# Harm Reduction Programs

Expanded Naloxone Coverage Map

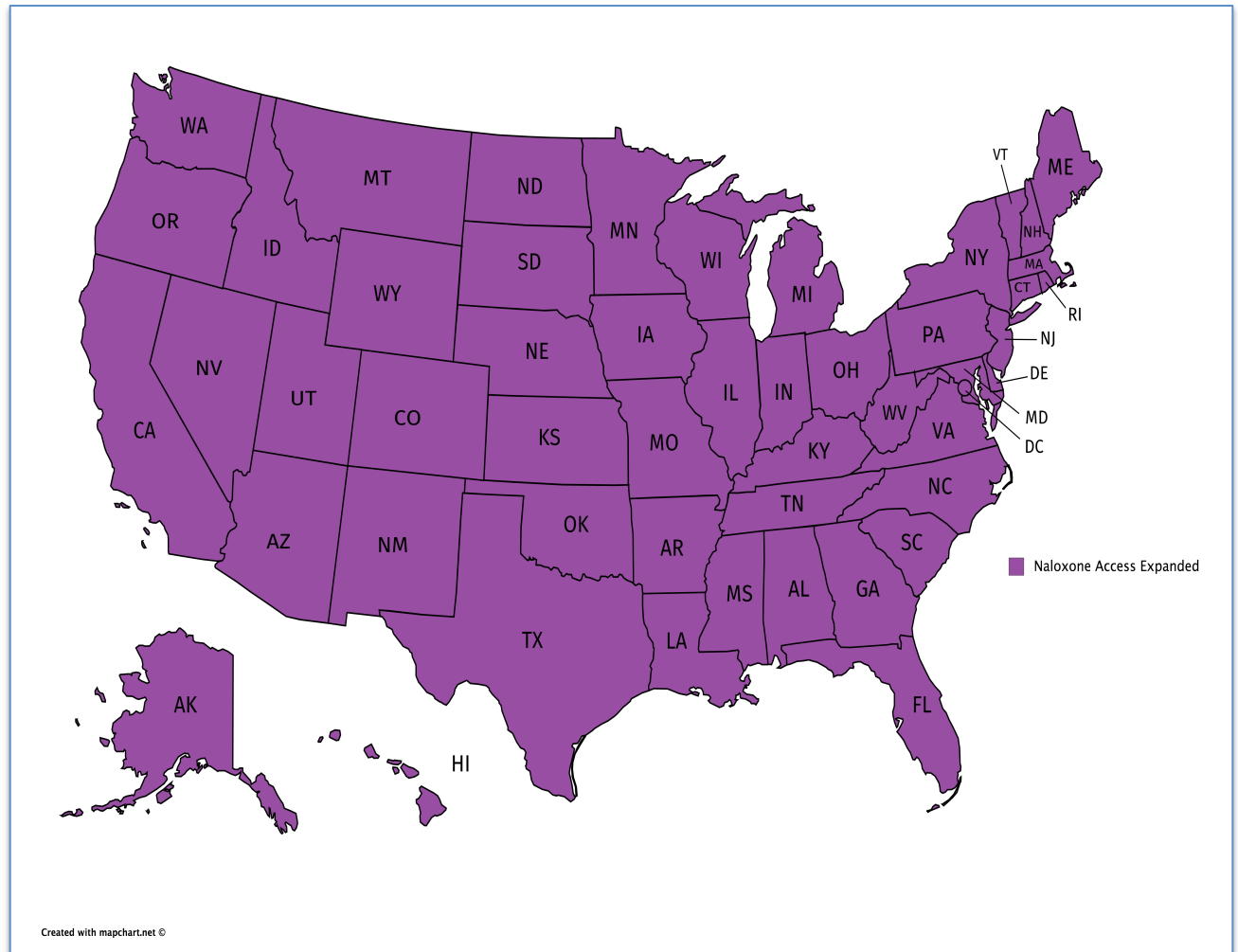
February 2019

**Figure 29.**

Expanded Naloxone Map Key:

Purple: Expanded Naloxone

Red: Restricted Naloxone



# Harm Reduction Programs

Good Samaritan Laws Coverage Map

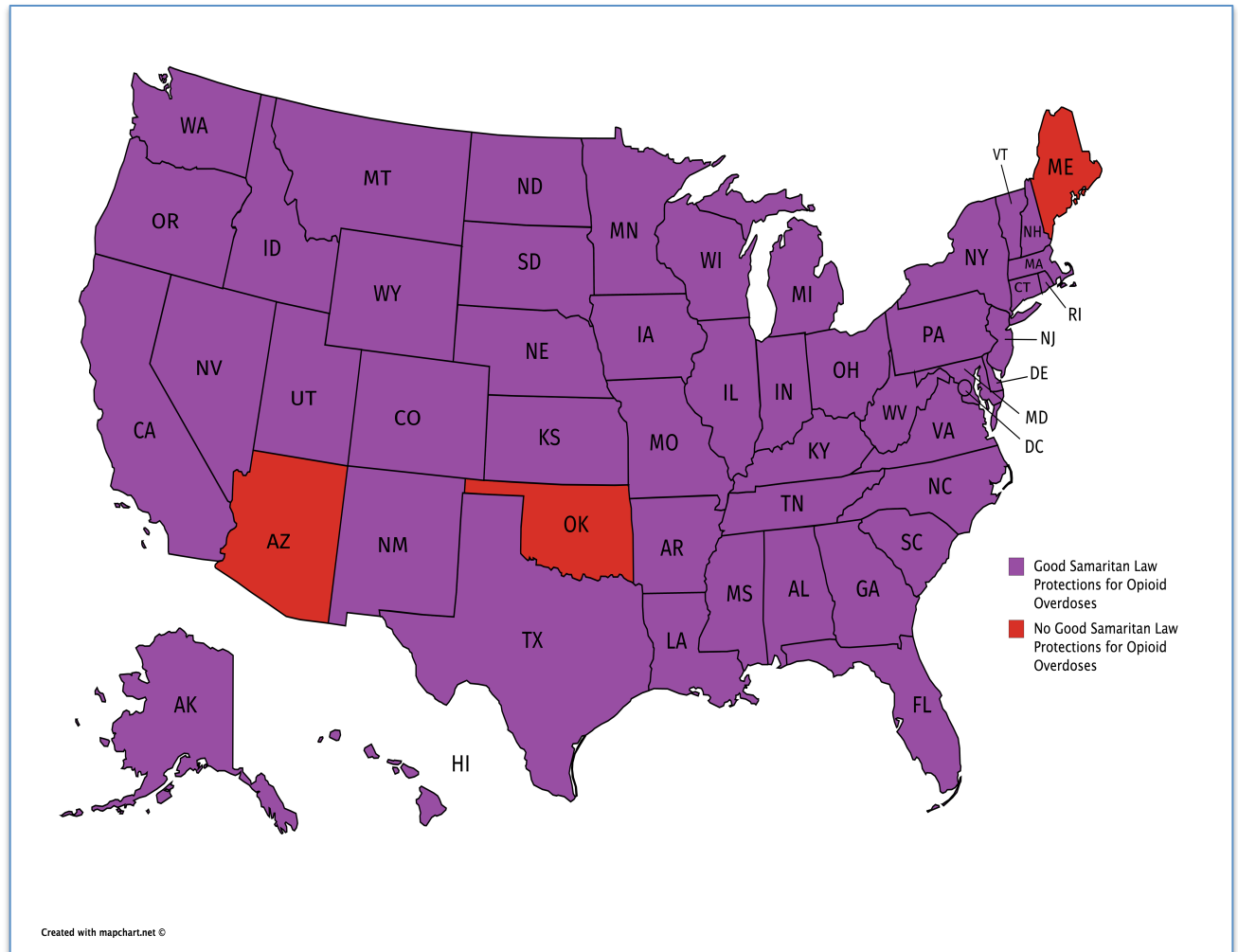
February 2019

**Figure 30.**

Good Samaritan Laws Map Key:

Purple: Good Samaritan Laws

Red: No Good Samaritan Laws





# Harm Reduction Programs

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) Coverage Map

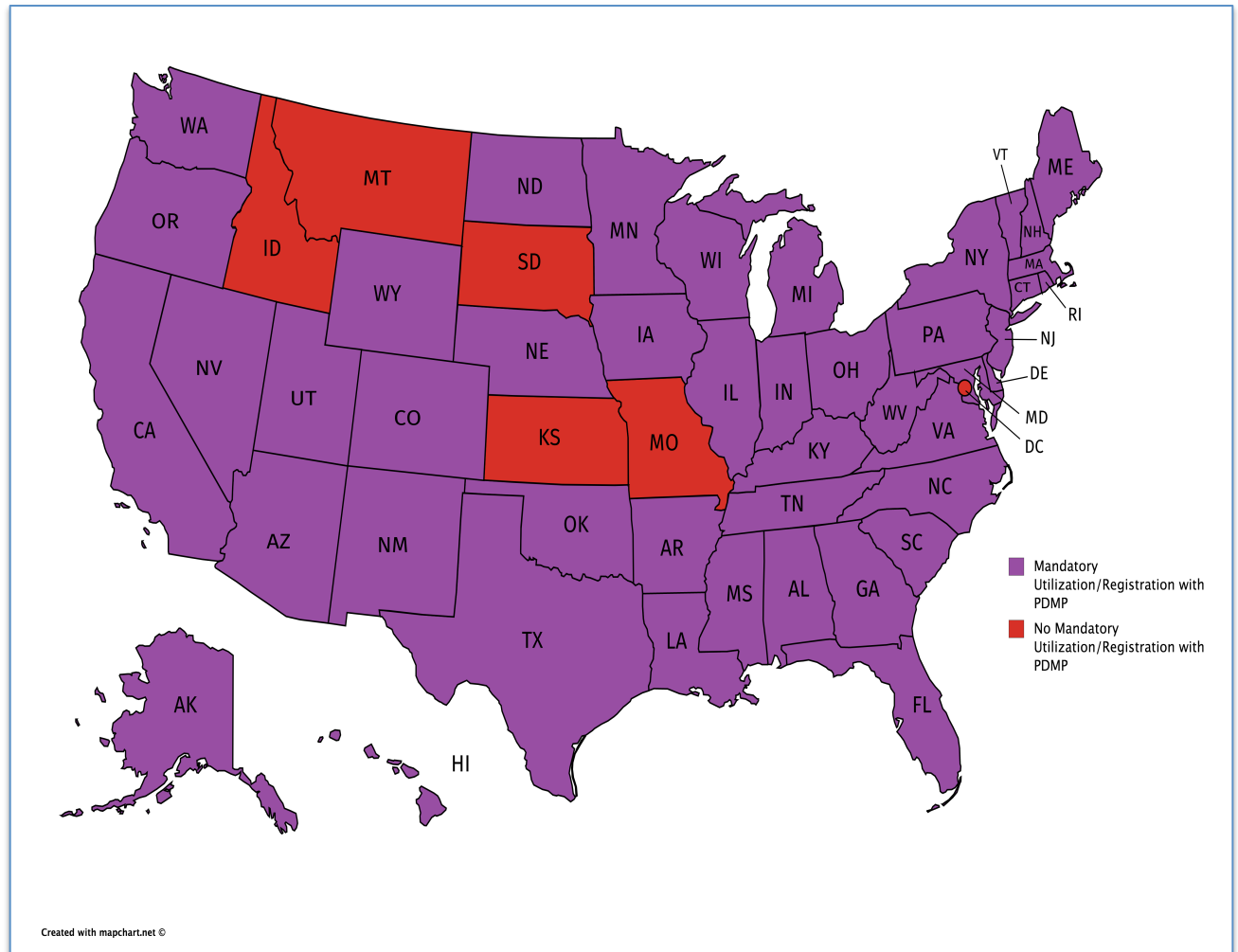
February 2019

**Figure 31.**

PDMPs Map Key:

Purple: Mandatory PDMPs

Red: No Mandatory PDMPs



# Harm Reduction Programs

Doctor Shopping Laws Coverage Map

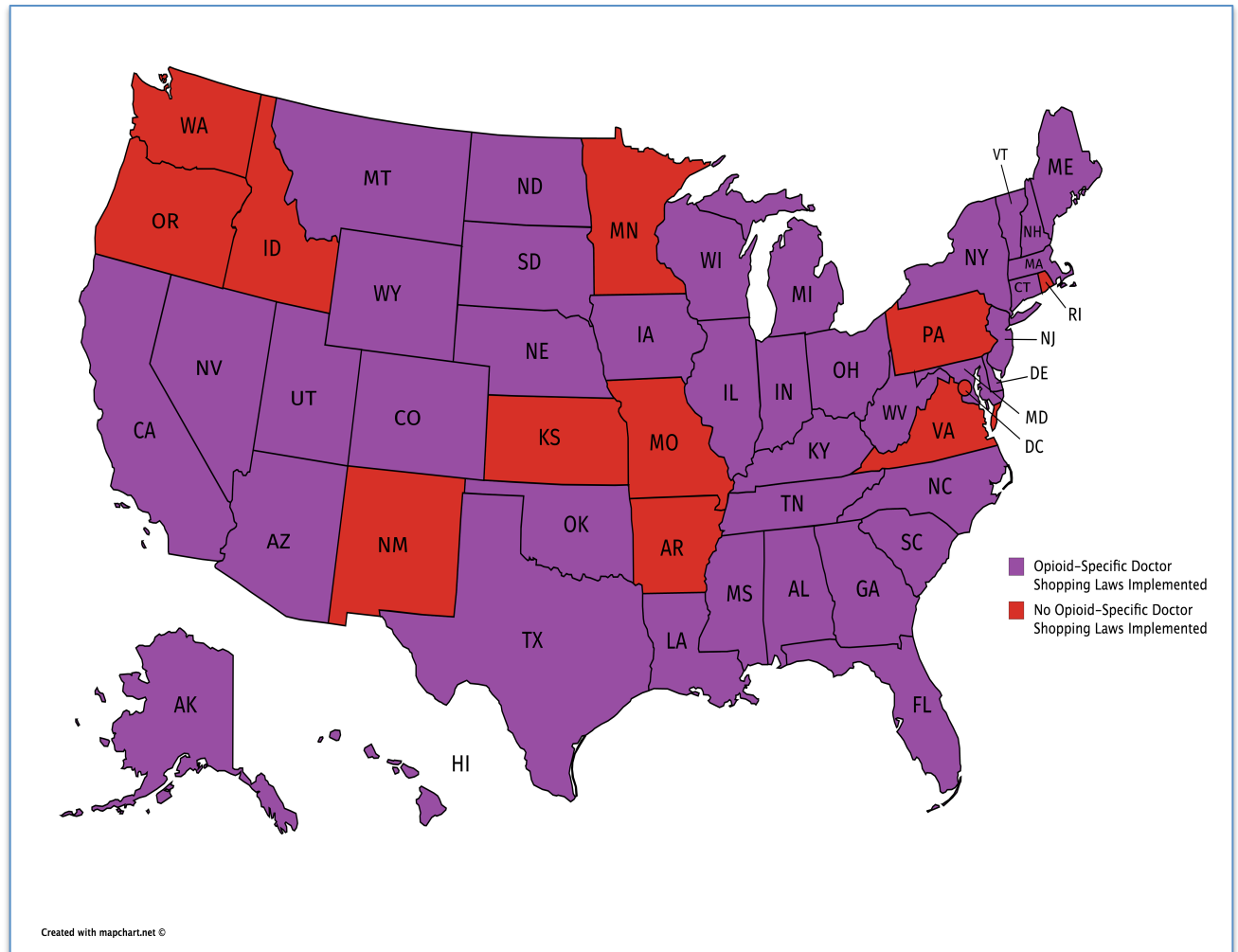
February 2019

**Figure 32.**

Doctor Shopping Laws Map Key:

Purple: Doctor Shopping Laws

Red: No Doctor Shopping Laws



# Harm Reduction Programs

Physical Exam Required Coverage Map

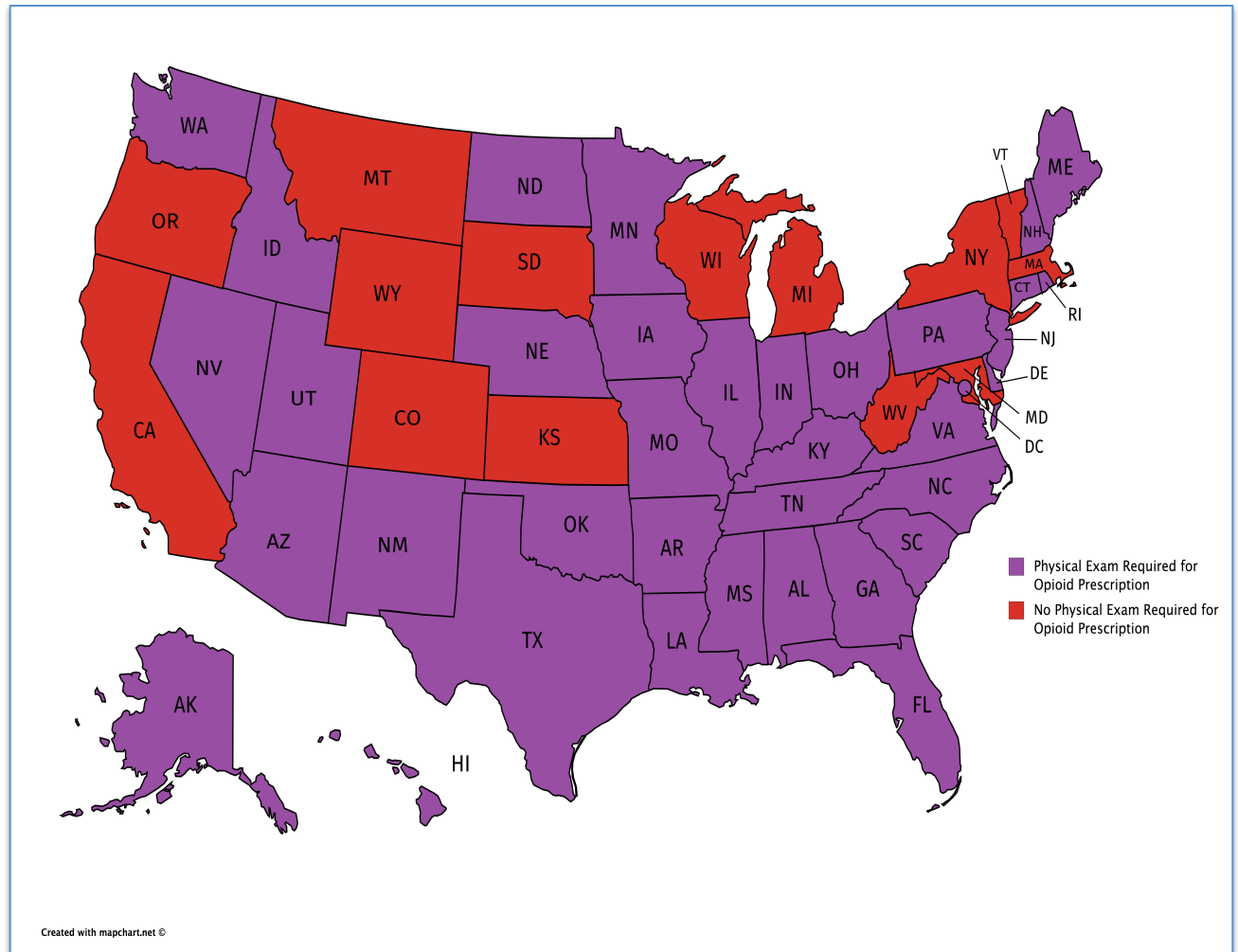
February 2019

**Figure 33.**

Physical Exam Required Map Key:

Purple: Physical Exam Required

Red: No Physical Exam Required



# Harm Reduction Programs

I.D. Required Coverage Map

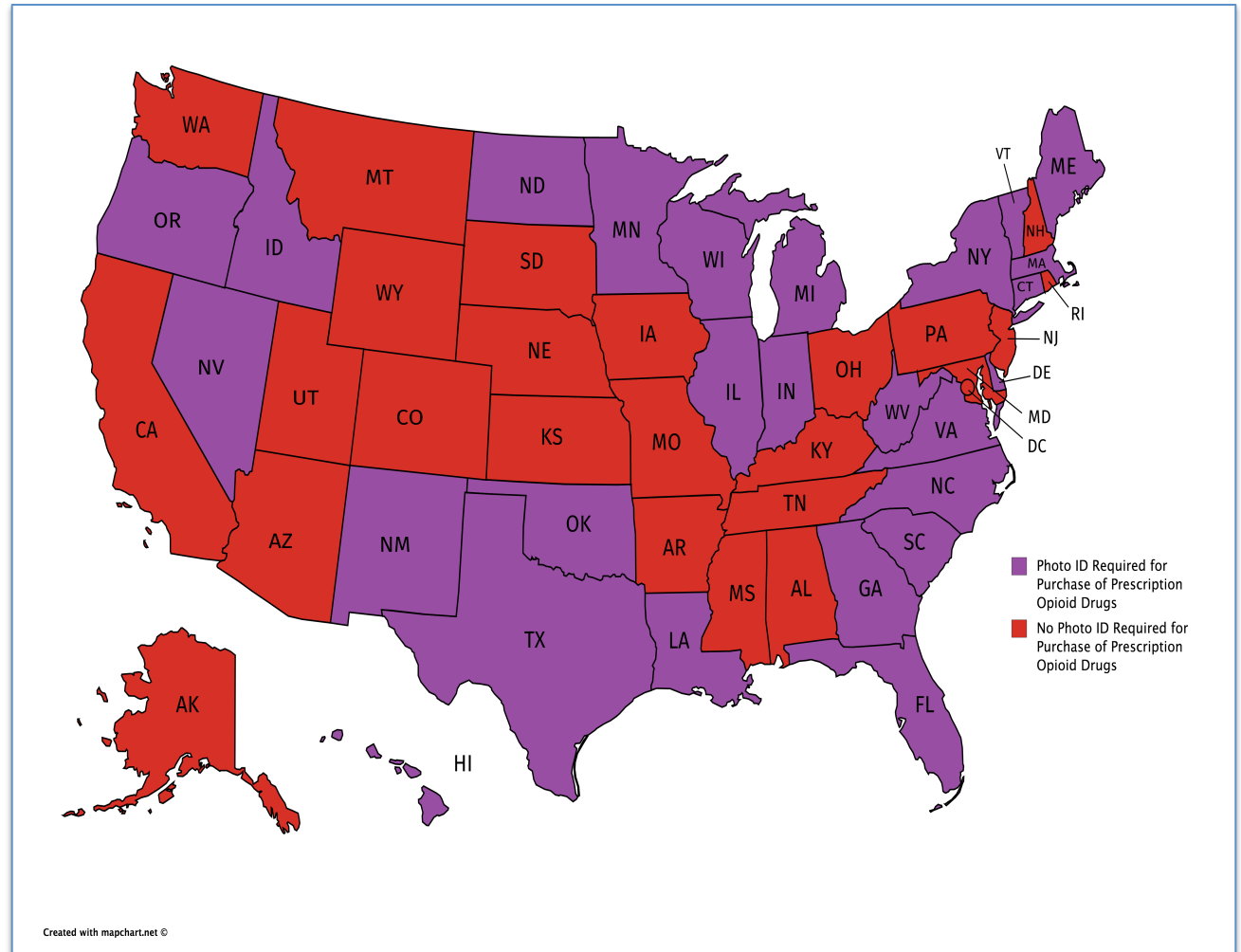
February 2019

Figure 34.

I.D. Requirement Map Key:

Purple: I.D. Required

Red: No I.D. Required



# Harm Reduction Programs

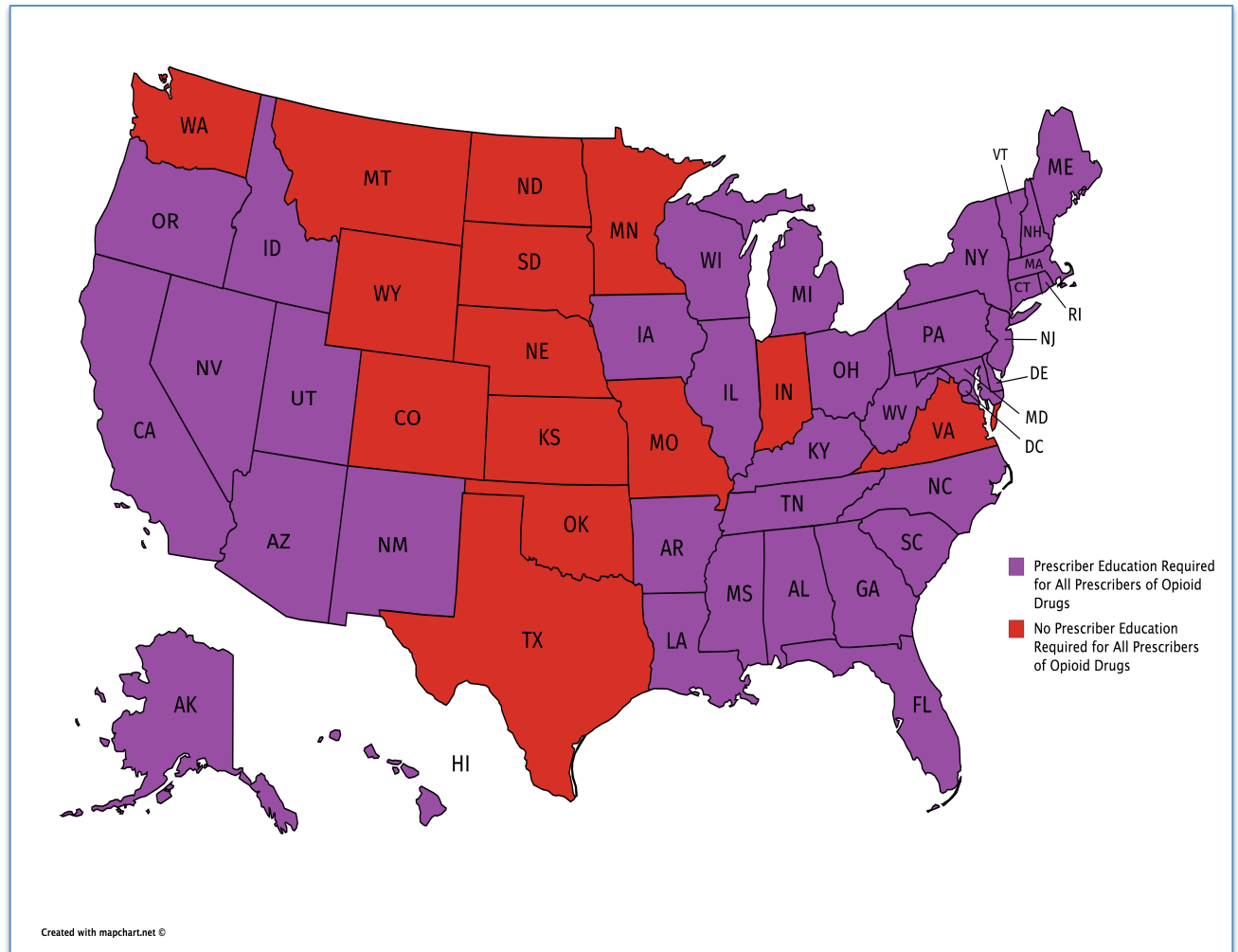
Prescriber Education Required Coverage Map

February 2019

**Figure 35.**

Prescriber Ed Required Map Key:

- Purple: Prescriber Ed Required
- Red: No Prescriber Ed Required



# Harm Reduction Programs

Lock-In Program Coverage Map

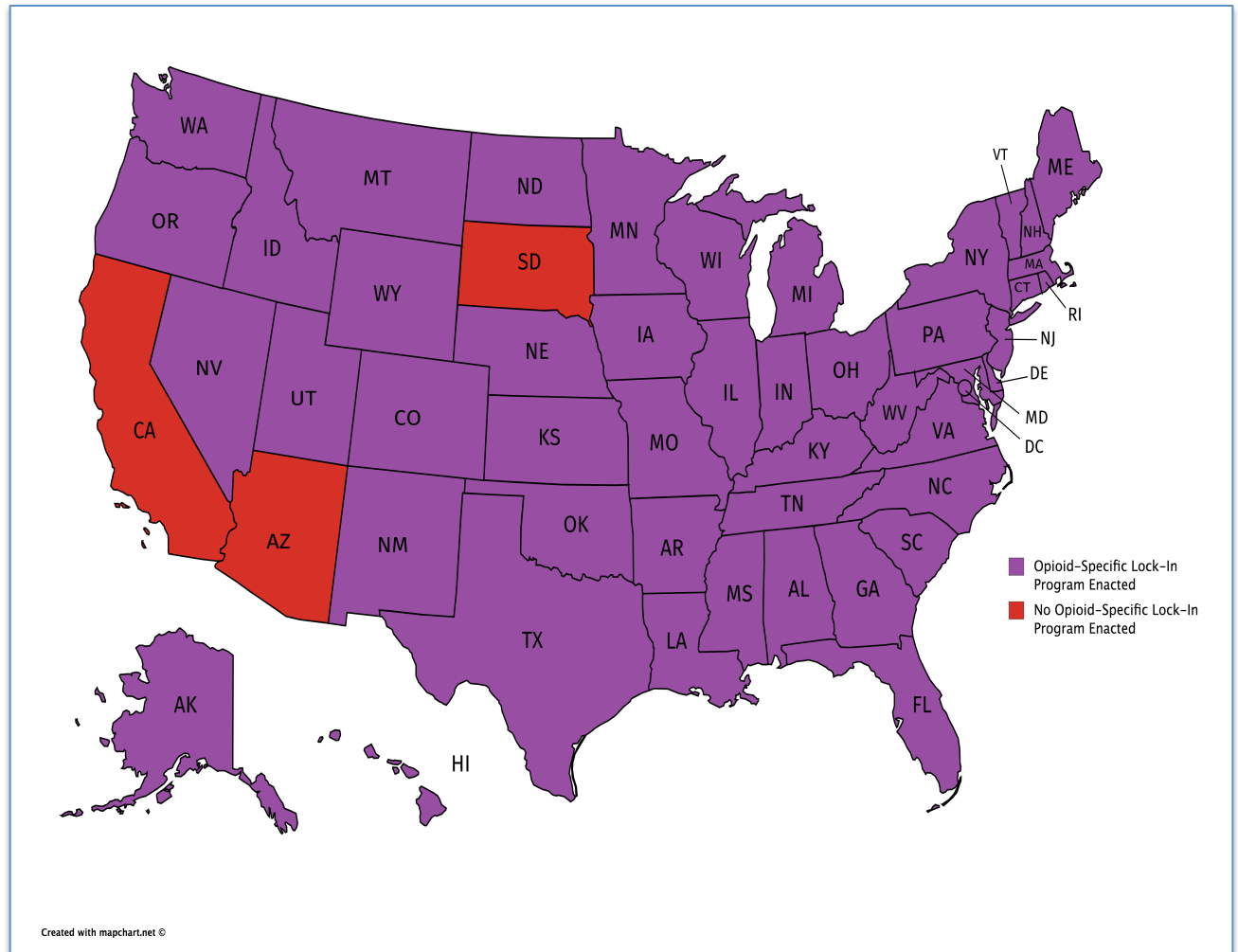
February 2019

**Figure 36.**

Lock-In Program Map Key:

Purple: Lock-In Program

Red: No Lock-In Program



# Harm Reduction Programs

Harm Reduction, as it relates to opioid abuse and HCV, are measures designed to serve as preventive or monitoring efforts in combating opioid prescription drug and heroin abuse, and as an effect, helping to prevent the spread of HCV and HIV. The Co-Infection Watch covers the following measures: Syringe Exchange, Expanded Naloxone Access, Good Samaritan Laws, Mandatory PDMP Reporting, Doctor Shopping Laws, Physical Exam Requirements, ID Requirements for Purchase, Required or Recommended Prescriber Education, and Lock-In Programs.

## February 2019 Updates:

- No updates

## February 2019 Notes:

- The following state has pending legislation that would legalize state-sponsored Syringe Exchanges – **(None)**
- The following states have pending legislation requiring Mandatory PDMP reporting – **(None)**
- The following state has pending legislation implementing Doctor Shopping Laws – **PA**
- The following state has pending legislation requiring a Physical Examination before Opioid Prescribing – **MA**
- The following state has pending legislation requiring Prescriber Education – **(None)**

# Regional Trends

## District 01 - New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT):

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# Regional Trends

## District 01 - New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT):

### HBV (2016 National Rate – 1.0):

- This region has a low burden of HBV, with only one state that tracks and reports HBV having a rate above the national rate of infection. Maine has a rate of 4.0 (per 100,000)
- Rhode Island does not report HBV

### HCV (2016 National Rate – 1.0):

- This region has a relatively moderate burden of HCV, with two states having infection rates higher than the national rate (MA – 6.2; ME – 1.9). Massachusetts has the highest rate of infection in the U.S.; Maine has the 7th-highest rate of infection
- Neither New Hampshire, nor Rhode Island report HCV

### Overdose Deaths (2016 National Rate – 21.7):

- Four states had overdose death rates in the top ten for 2017 – NH (6th – 37.0), ME (8th – 34.4), MA (9th – 31.8), and RI (10th – 31.0). Connecticut came in at 11th with a rate of 30.9
- Every state in the region had an overdose death rate above the national average, the lowest being Vermont with a rate of 23.2

### ADAP HCV Coverage:

- All but two (2) states – CT & VT– have expanded their state ADAP formularies to include HCV DAA drugs. Vermont offers no HCV drug coverage, whatsoever, while Connecticut offers only Basic coverage

### Correctional Hepatitis Testing:

- All but two states – CT & ME– replied to our information request re: screening/testing guidelines for HBV and HCV
- Only one (1) state – VT – requires compulsory HBV testing; MA and RI test based on request or clinical criteria; no states use Opt-Out delivery
- Only two (2) states – RI & VT– require compulsory HCV testing; MA and NH test based on request or clinical criteria; all four states use Opt-Out delivery.

# Latest News

# Latest News

- **Medicaid Patients In Puerto Rico Don't Get Coverage For Drugs To Cure Hepatitis C**

Drugs that can cure hepatitis C revolutionized care for millions of Americans living with the deadly liver infection. The drugs came with a steep price tag — one that prompted state Medicaid programs to initially limit access to the medications to only the sickest patients. That eased, however, in many states as new drugs were introduced and the prices declined.

But not in Puerto Rico. Medicaid patients in the American territory get no coverage for these drugs.

The joint federal-territory health care program for the poor — which covers about half the island's population — does not pay for hepatitis C medications. They also do not cover liver transplants, a procedure patients need if the virus causes the organ to fail.

The Puerto Rico Department of Health created a separate pilot project in 2015 to provide hepatitis C medications to those sickened by the liver infection who also have HIV but expanded the program later to those with only hepatitis C. However, according to the Office of Patient Legal Services, an official territorial agency that advocates for consumers, the program ran out of funding and is no longer accepting patients only with hepatitis C (Heredia Rodriquez, 2019).

**FULL STORY:** <https://khn.org/news/medicaid-patients-in-puerto-rico-dont-get-coverage-for-drugs-to-cure-hepatitis-c/>.

- **Iowa Medicaid Expands Care To Hepatitis C Patients, But Restrictions Remain**

Starting this month more hepatitis C patients can qualify for care under Iowa Medicaid. But some doctors and advocates argue the remaining restrictions are immoral and illegal.

Iowa is considered one of the most restrictive states when it comes to treatment of the blood-borne hepatitis C Virus, or HCV, under state Medicaid programs. The state received a 'D' grade in a nationwide analysis conducted by the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation of Harvard Law School and the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable. But Iowa Medicaid officials are expanding care to some HCV patients with less severe stages of liver disease, as defined by their fibrosis score. The metric measures liver scarring and ranges from F0, signifying no signs of liver scarring, to F4, signifying cirrhosis and permanent liver damage.

Previously, only Iowans with more advanced liver disease, a fibrosis score of F3 or above, would qualify for treatment. As of January 1, 2019, those with a score of F2 and above can request the treatment from their doctor through a process known as prior authorization, which requires they meet certain criteria beyond their need for the treatment.

A spokesman for the state Department of Human Services, which oversees Iowa Medicaid, says the agency will continue to review the requirements it places on hepatitis C patients (Payne, 2019).

# Latest News

- **Lowering the Risk of Hepatitis C Virus Reinfection in HIV-Positive Men**

Hepatitis C infection used to be a concern mainly for people who used injectable drugs. However, it's become clear that sexual transmission of hepatitis C is not an uncommon occurrence, particularly among men who have sex with men (MSM). According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), roughly 1 in 4 people in the U.S. who have HIV are coinfecting with hepatitis C. And while hepatitis C is treatable, the likelihood of reinfection in this population, unfortunately, is high.

Seeking to understand what motivates HIV-infected MSM to engage in – or not engage in – risky behaviors, as well as obstacles they may face in attempting to mitigate this risk, a team of Dutch investigators conducted a study consisting of lengthy interviews with 20 MSM with hepatitis C, 19 of whom also were living with HIV. Five of the men were undergoing treatment for hepatitis C at the time of the interviews, 4 of whom had been infected with the virus more than once.

The investigators feel that an emphasis should be put on providing MSM with an honest accounting of the potential complications of hepatitis C as well as a realistic assessment of their chances of reinfection. Not only should clinicians provide this information, but ideally hepatitis C virus-infected peers will do so as well.

Newer hepatitis C treatments entail fewer side effects than those MSM may have experienced in the past, reducing the of fear of treatment. For this reason, the study team suggests that risk-reduction strategies focus less on the burdens of hepatitis C treatment and more on helping men overcome their unwillingness to challenge the norms in their peer groups, such as drug use and condomless group sex (Saloman, 2019).

- **Hepatitis C poorly treated in New Mexico prisons**

The treatment was simple — three pills a day, best taken on a full stomach — and it cured Gabriel Serna of hepatitis C in eight weeks. He just had to wait eight years to get it.

Revolutionary medications have made the blood-borne, sometimes fatal infection curable, so people with the disease need not endure the inexorable and irreversible damage it causes to their livers.

Unless they are in one of New Mexico's prisons, like Serna was for much of his wait.

That's because although the state's inmates have the highest prevalence of hepatitis C of any group in New Mexico — more than 4 in 10 are infected — the prisons are not hardly treating any all of them. Out of some 3,000 prisoners diagnosed with the disease, just 46 received treatment for hepatitis C during the 2018 fiscal year.

# Latest News

- **Hepatitis C poorly treated in New Mexico prisons (Con't)**

State officials have been aware of their obligation to treat inmates with hepatitis C for years. In a television interview in 2016, the Corrections Department secretary at the time acknowledged New Mexico might be sued if it didn't increase drug access in the state prisons.

And local civil rights lawyers are already considering ways to push for reform, including litigation (Alcorn, 2019).

# Contact

Marcus J. Hopkins

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Marcus J. Hopkins is a West Virginia native currently living in his familial hometown of Morgantown, WV. In 2005, Marcus was diagnosed HIV-positive.

After thirty years of involvement in the performing arts (vocal and instrumental music, color guard, and Drum Corps International), he currently spends most of his time dedicated to bringing attention, clarity, and comprehensive education to the world of Patient-Centric HIV and Hepatitis C research and reporting. Marcus presently serves as the Project Director for the HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch, which is a publication of the Community Access National Network (CANN). He also blogs for CANN's "Hepatitis: Education, Advocacy & Leadership" (HEAL) coalition.

In his spare time, he's a video game-addicted, cat-loving insomniac who leaves audiobooks playing in the background at all times.



# Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report are the opinions of the Community Access Network, and are in no way to be considered the official position of any other party, including any directors, employees, funders or providers of either ADAP- or Medicaid-related services.

The purpose of these presentations is to provide a clearer picture of the state of the HCV treatment landscape for those patients co-infected with HIV/HCV. While the programs that offer limited or no treatment are color coded, these colors do not represent any judgments made about any of the programs, their directors, their employees, or their providers.

Additionally, any conclusions, observations, or recommendations made related to the design, layout, content, or maintenance of these state-run websites are the opinion of the HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch, and are not intended to serve as a reflection of the programs, their directors, their employees, or their providers.

# Methodology

The HIV/HCV HIV/HCV Co-Infection research is conducted using the following resources:

- State- and privately-run websites (publicly available information, only).
- Prior research and reporting conducted by for-profit and non-profit organizations (publicly available information).
- Contact lists from state- and privately-run sources (publicly available information, only).
- Responses to a quarterly formulary survey.

Research gathering is conducted from a “patient perspective,” meaning that the project manager performs all tasks from the view of the patient. When conducting research, the researcher is tasked with considering the following questions:

- Is the information readily available?
- Is the information easy to access, clearly laid out, and easy to understand?
- Does the information answer basic questions about coverage options?
- Is the information up-to-date, recent, and accurate?
- Is the website user-friendly?
- Is there current and correct contact information available?

Using the information gathered during the research phase, data is documented, compiled and presented in a way that is clear and easy to understand. Maps are provided to indicate which states’ and territories’ programs offer HCV treatment coverage, and spreadsheets are provided, as well. “Coverage” is broken down into seven categories - Basic Coverage, Sovaldi, Olysio, Harvoni, Viekira Pak, Daklinza, Technivie, Epclusa, Viekira XR, Vosevi, and Mavyret. This will be expanded as newer treatment options become available.

States and territories where no information could be found, whether because it was not readily available or because those entities failed to respond to requests for information by the researcher, are indicated on the maps by being “greyed” out (as opposed to filled in with color); those programs are indicated in the spreadsheets by being left blank, or with the symbol “?”.

Regional Trends tracks coverage data, HCV-related statistics, and harm reduction strategies in specific U.S. Census regions. This section uses data gathered from various government, public, and private resources, including data represented elsewhere in the Report.



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