

# HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch: June 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 June 2019:

- **AIDS Drug Assistance Programs**

There are **56** State and Territorial AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) in the United States, **47** of which offer some form of coverage for Hepatitis C (HCV) treatment. Of those programs, **42** have expanded their HCV coverage to include the regimens that serve as the current Standard of Care (SOC) for Hepatitis C treatment. Five (**5**) programs offer only Basic Coverage and **9** 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 June 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-four (**44**) States and Territories currently have syringe exchange programs in place, regardless of state. Fifty-one (**51**) states and the District of Columbia have expanded access to Naloxone to avert opioid drug overdoses. Fifty (**50**) states have Good Samaritan laws or statutes that provide protection for those rendering emergency services during drug overdoses. Forty-five (**45**) 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. Forty (**40**) 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. Forty (**40**) 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. Forty-three (**43**) 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	N	N	Y	Y	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	Y	N	Y			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	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	No Info	Y			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	N	N	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
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	Y			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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	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	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
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	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			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	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y			X
U.S. Virgin Islands	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	No Info	No Info			X





# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Sovaldi Coverage Map

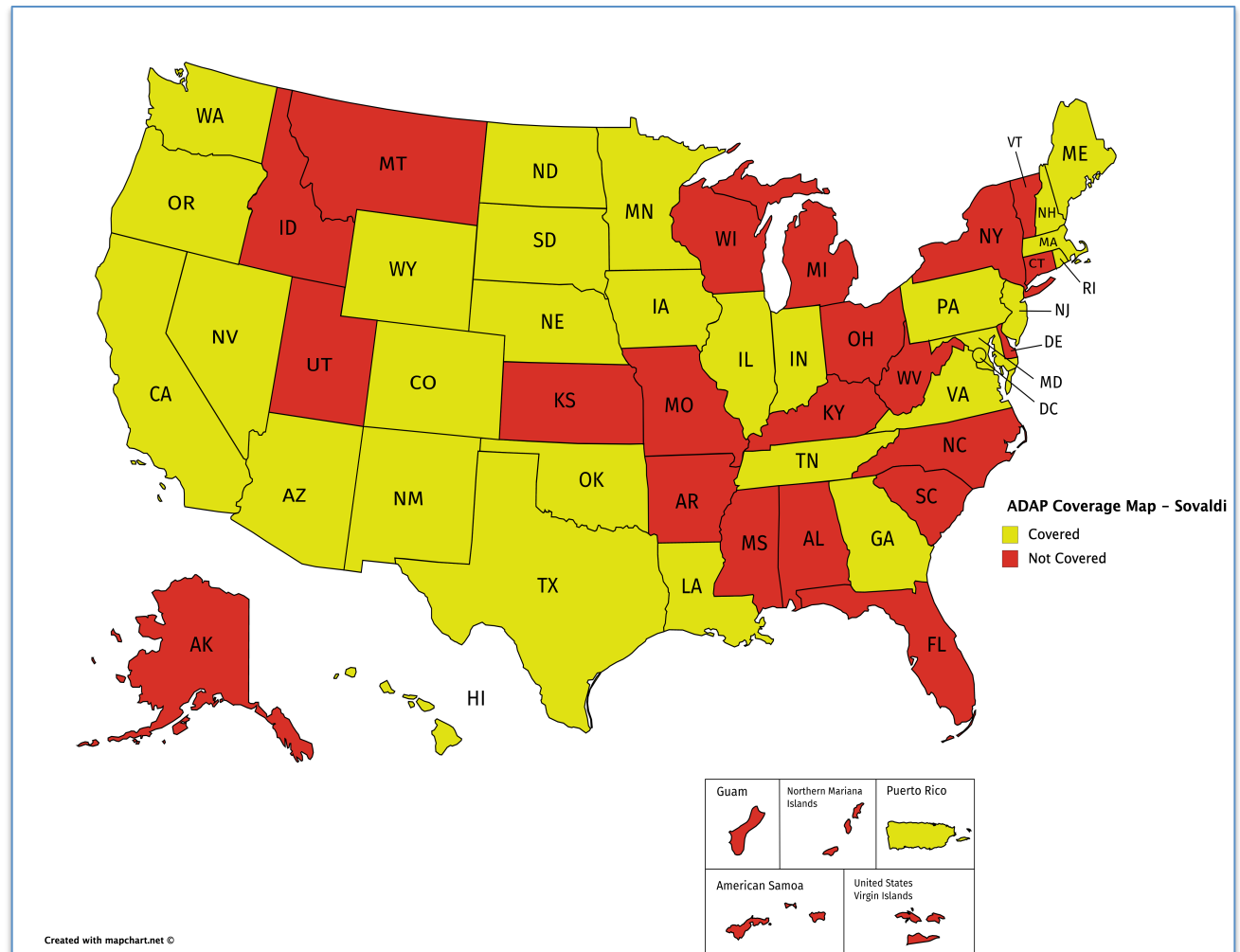
June 2019

**Figure 3.**

Sovaldi Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Harvoni Coverage Map

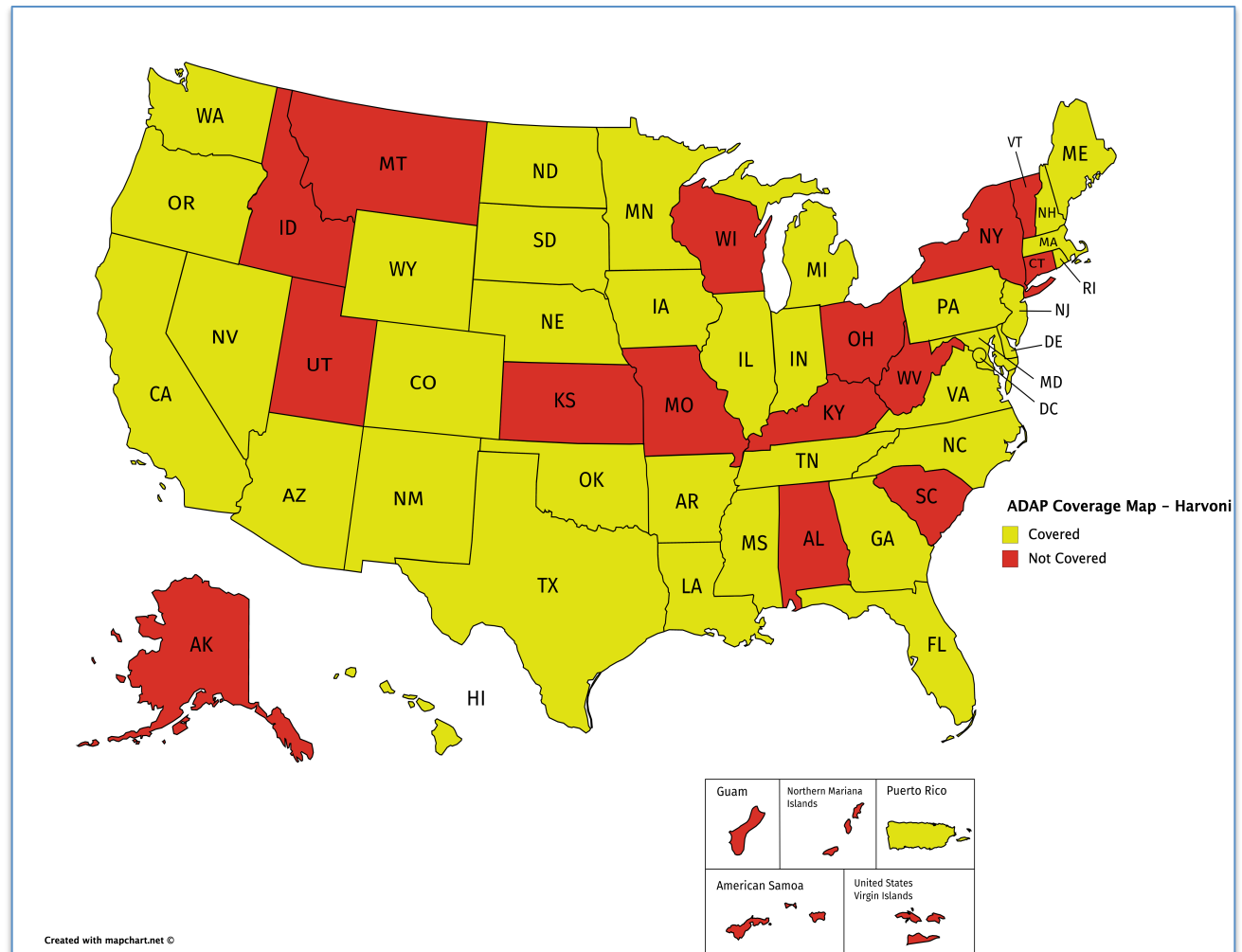
June 2019

**Figure 4.**

Harvoni Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Viekira Pak Coverage Map

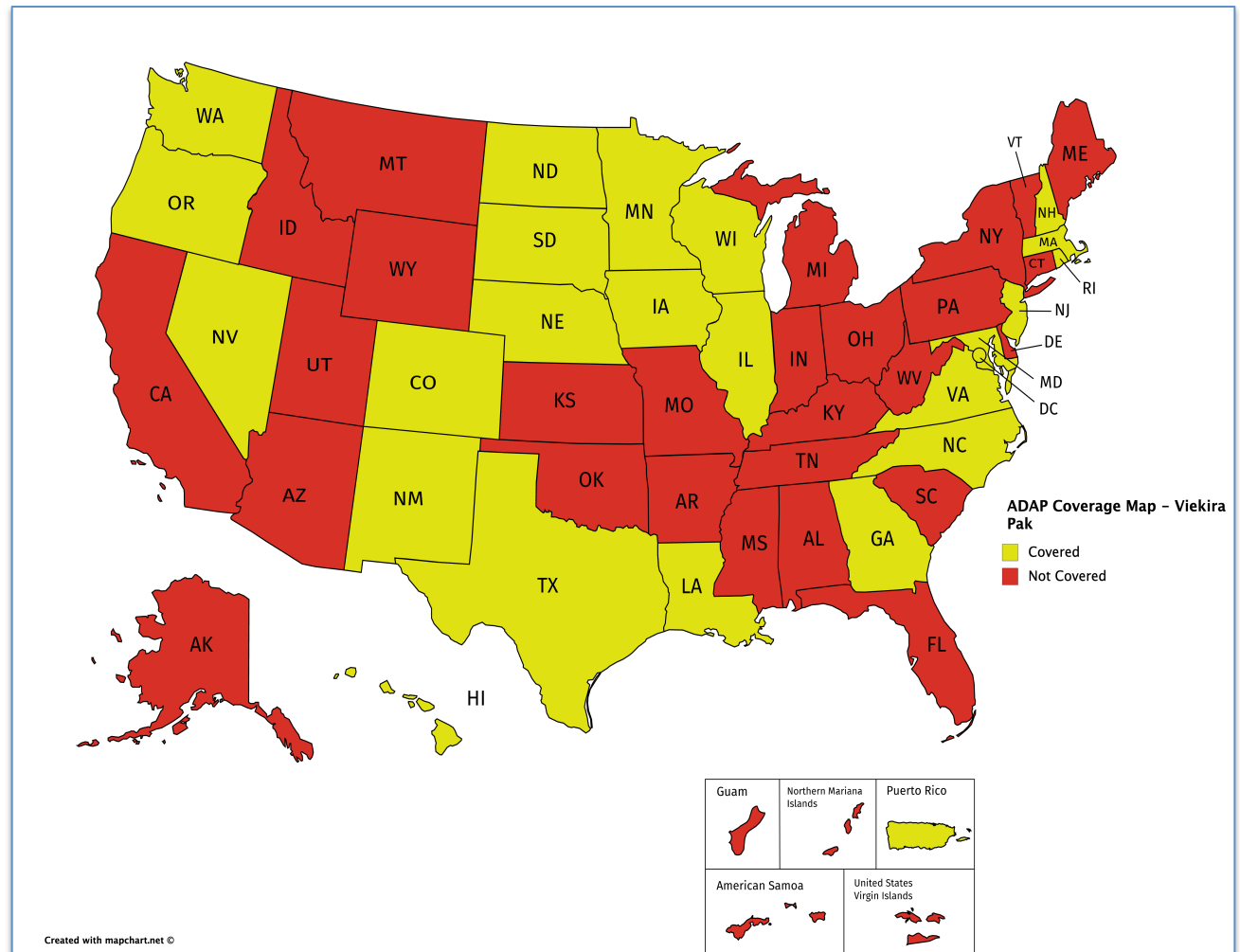
June 2019

**Figure 5.**

Viekira Pak Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Daklinza Coverage Map

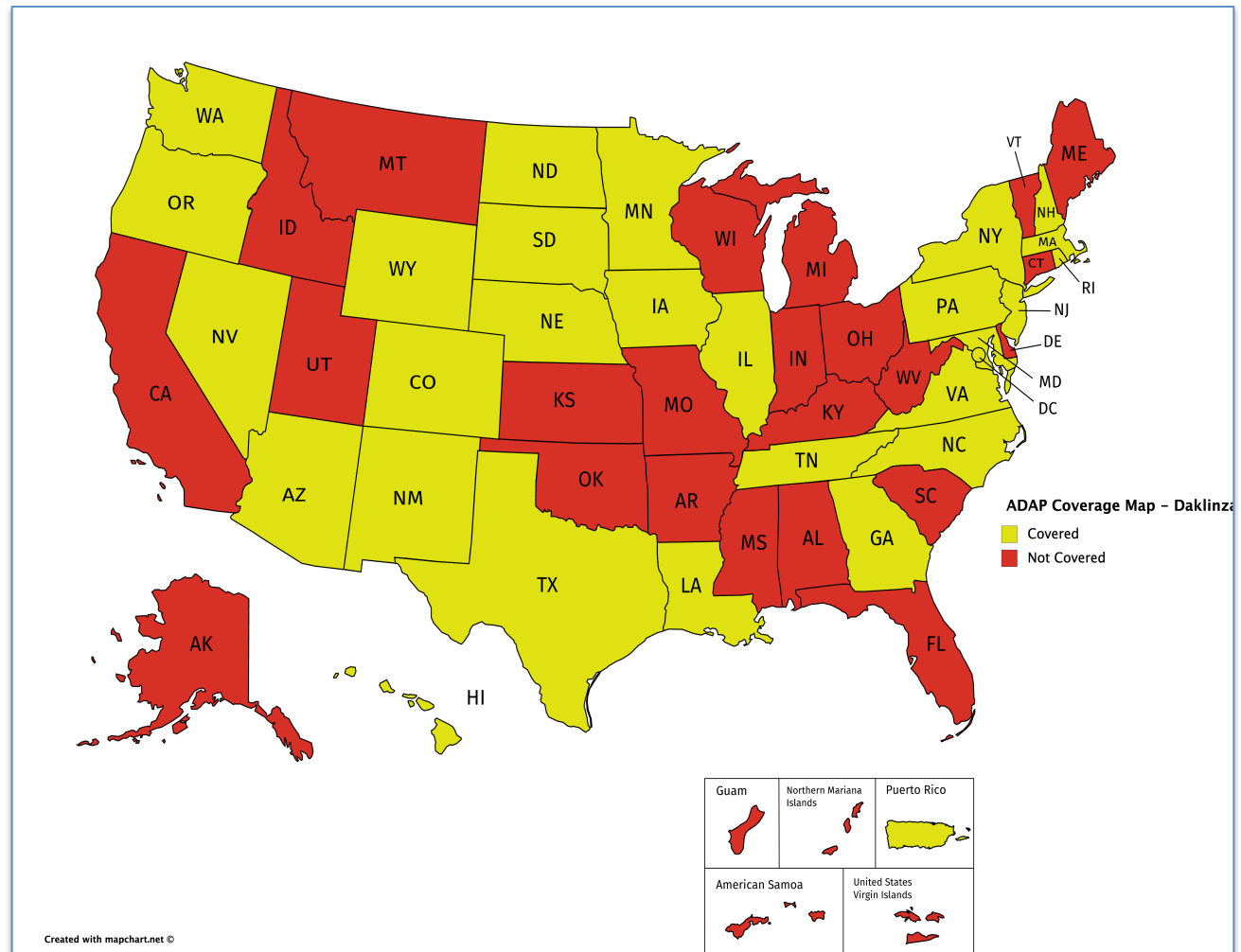
June 2019

**Figure 6.**

Daklinza Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Zepatier Coverage Map

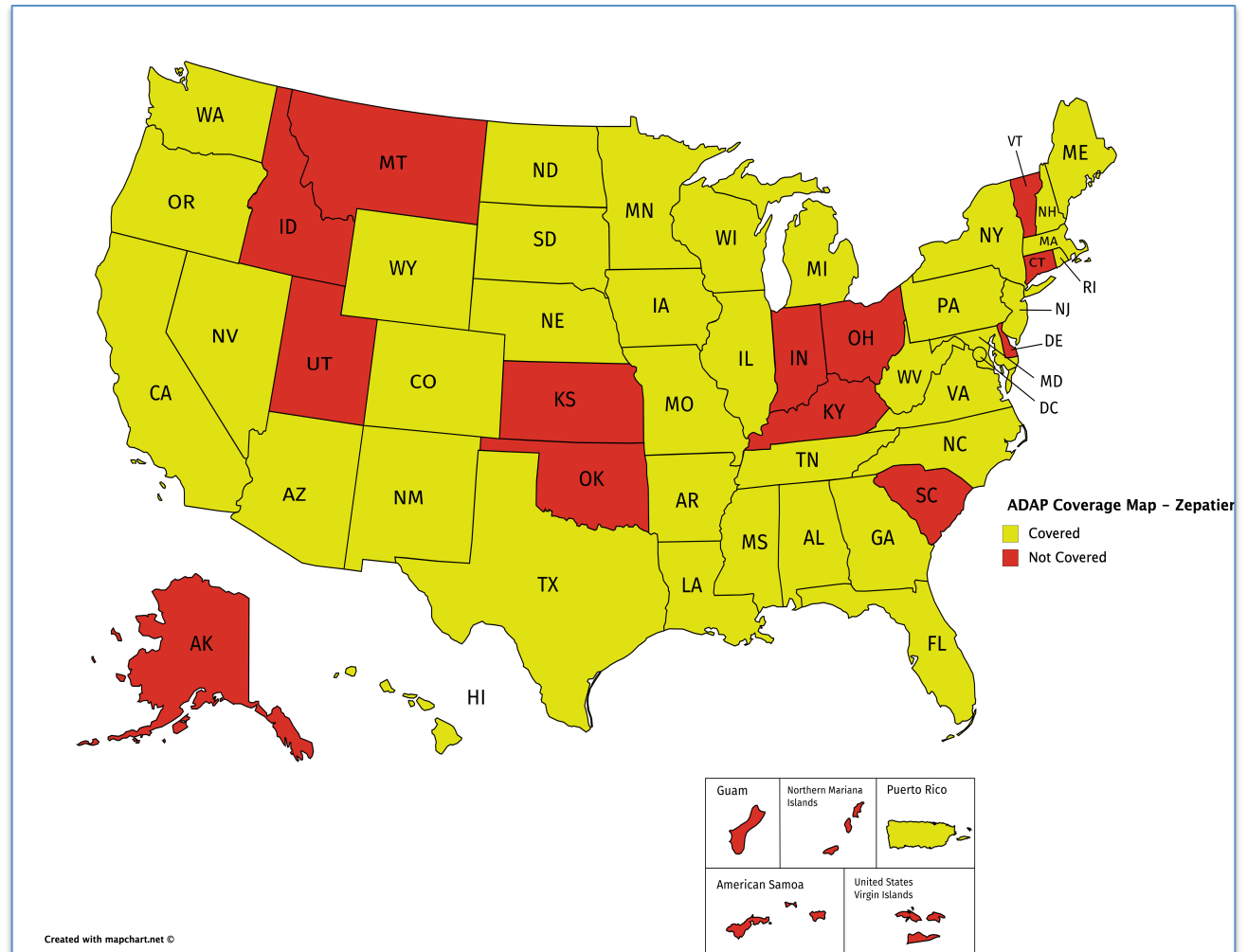
June 2019

**Figure 7.**

Zepatier Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Eplusa Coverage Map

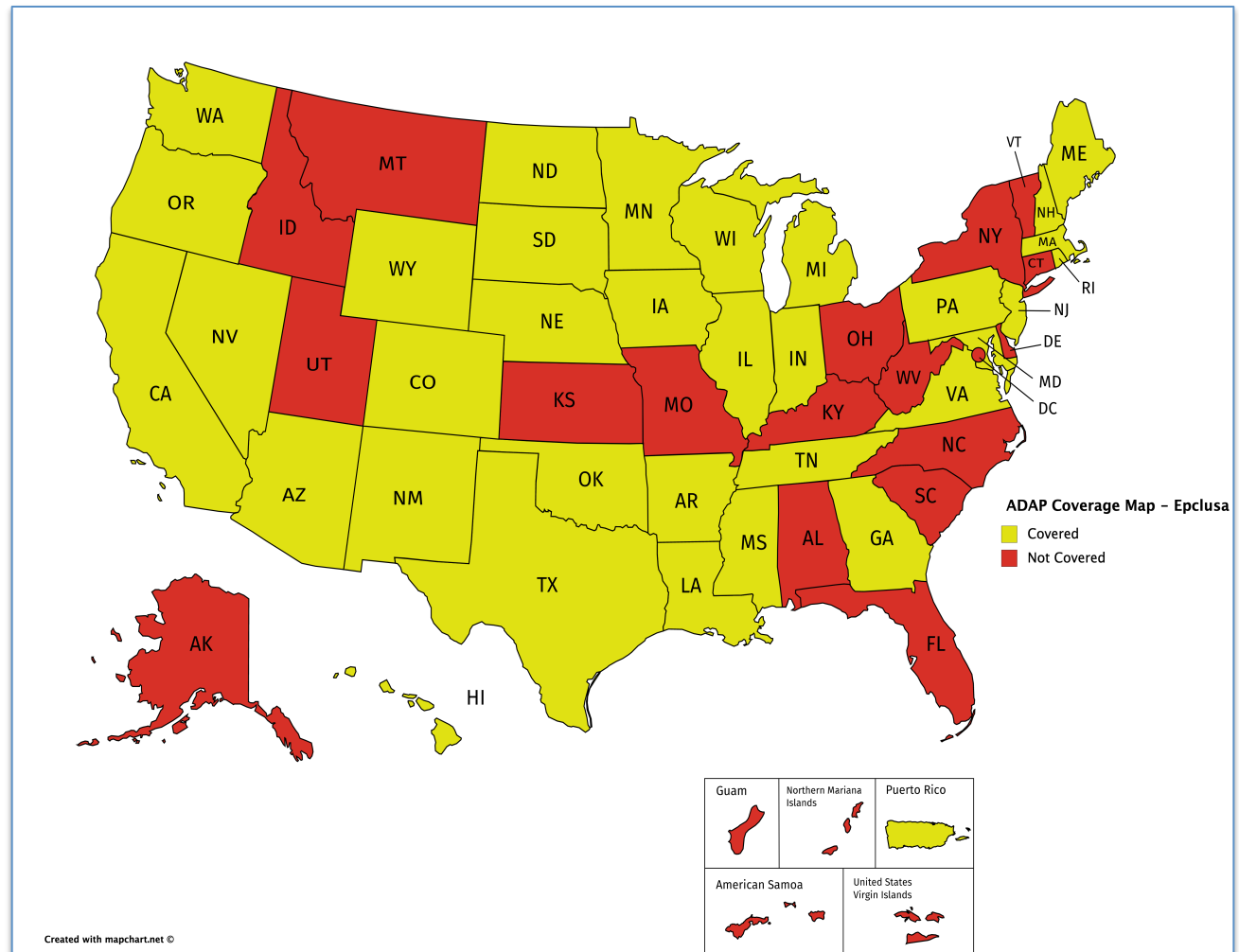
June 2019

**Figure 8.**

Eplusa Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

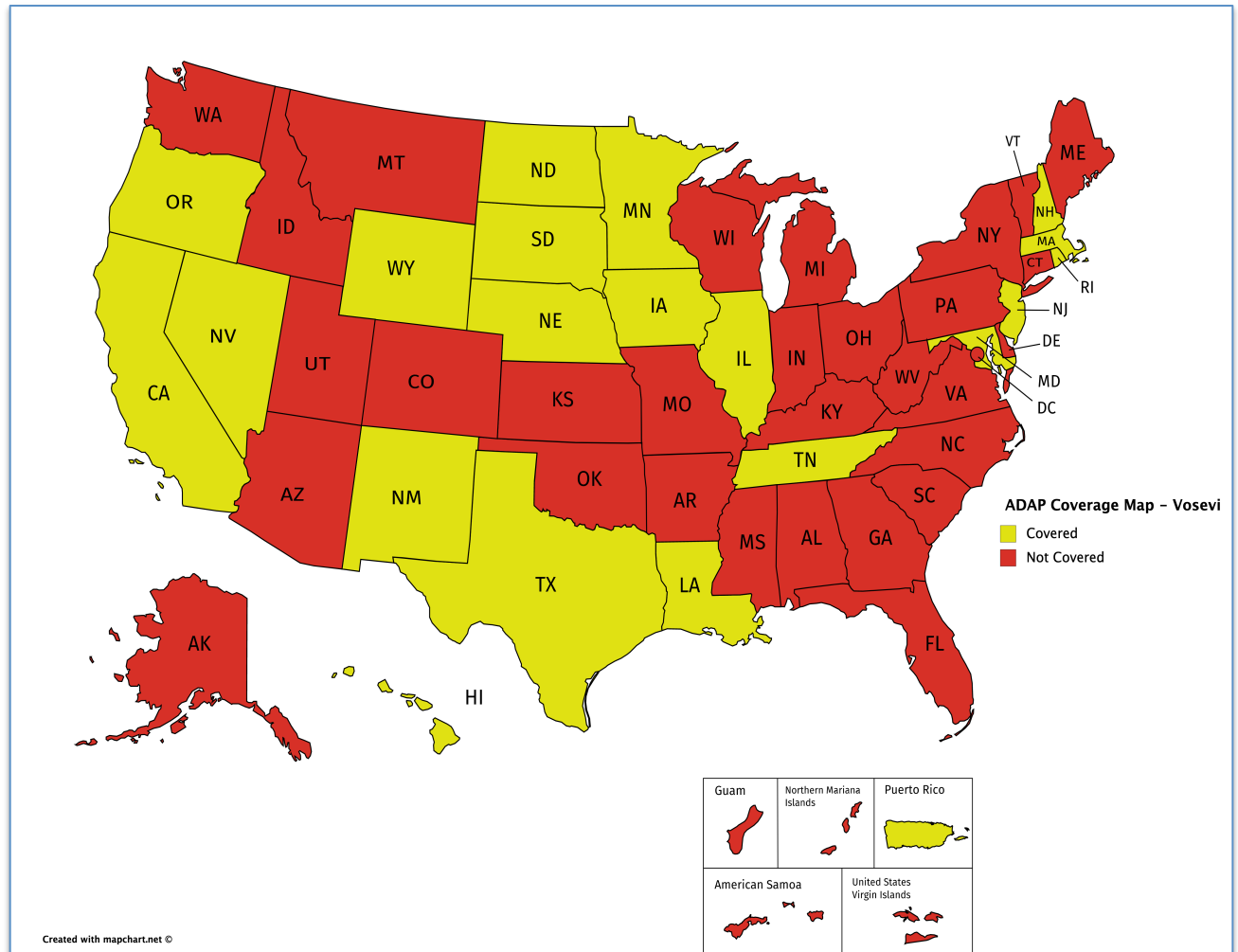
Vosevi Coverage Map  
June 2019

**Figure 9.**

Vosevi Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Mavyret Coverage Map

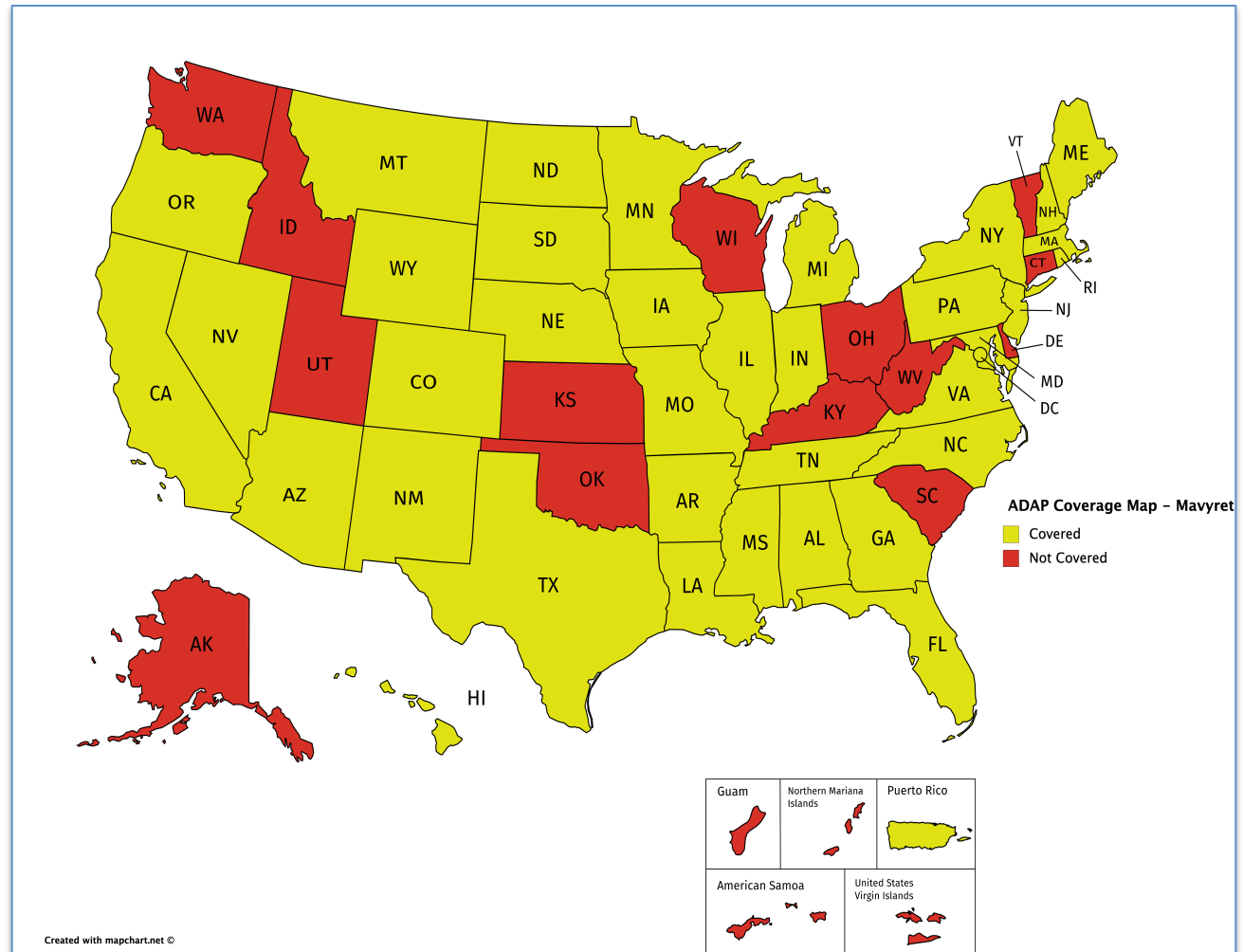
June 2019

**Figure 10.**

Mavyret Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage





# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map

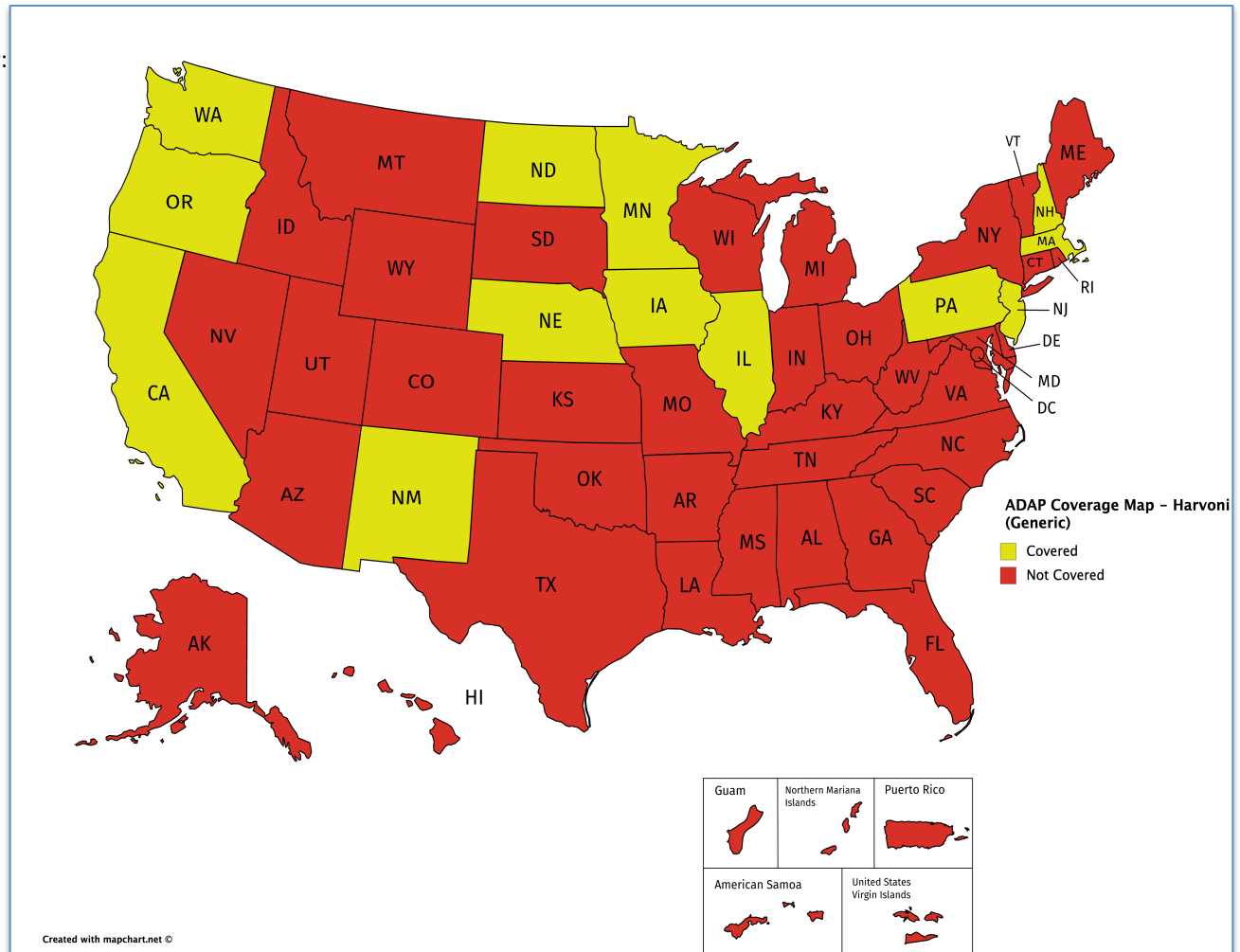
June 2019

**Figure 11.**

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



# AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

Eplusa *Generic* Coverage Map

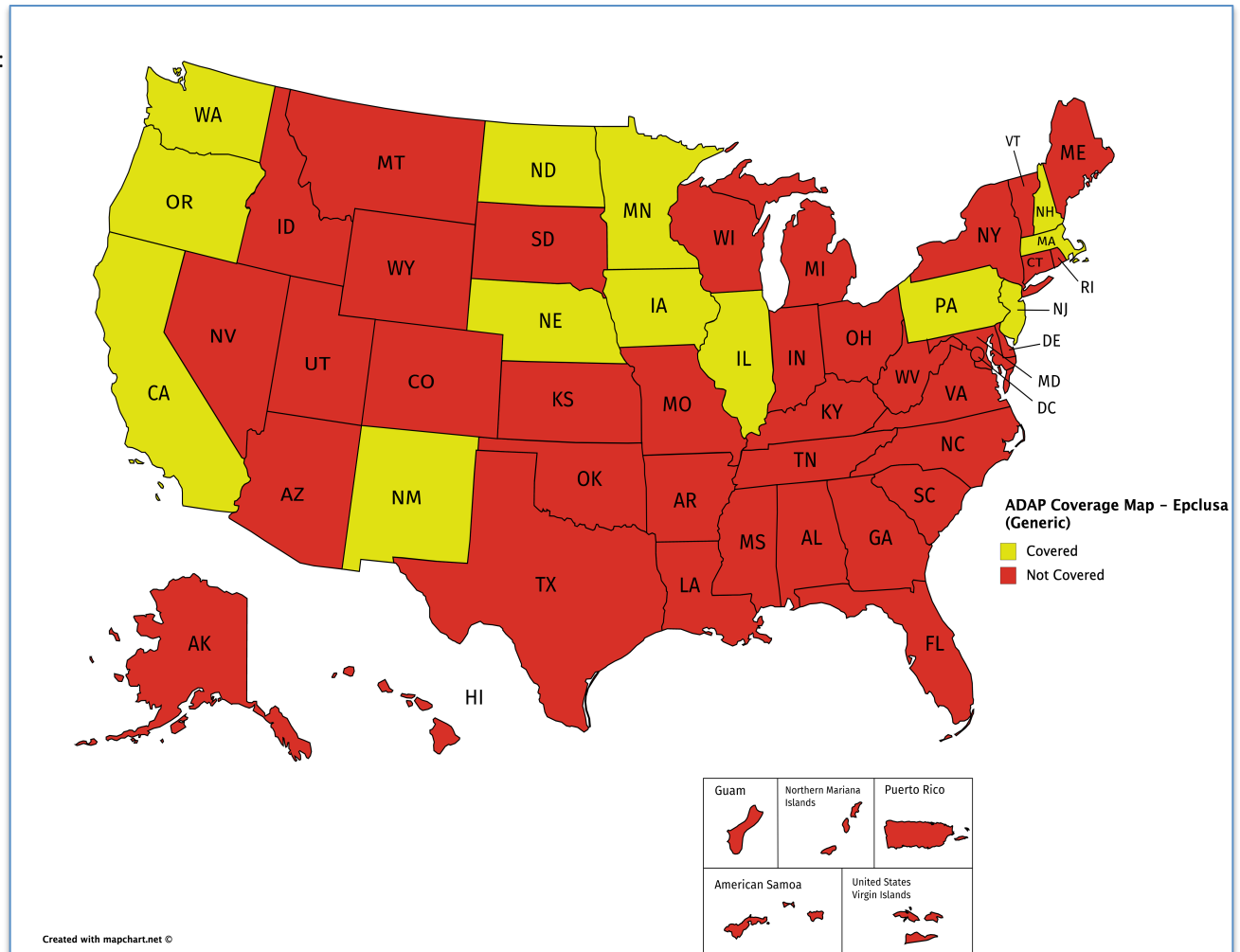
June 2019

**Figure 12.**

Eplusa *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 **9** (**ID, KS, KY, 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 15, 2019). The data presented are current as of June 15, 2019.

## June 2019 Updates:

- States that have added Harvoni (Generic) to their ADAP Formularies: **CA, IL, IA, MA, MN, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OR, PA, WA**
- States that have added Epclusa (Generic) to their ADAP Formularies: **CA, IL, IA, MA, MN, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OR, PA, WA**

## June 2019 Notes:

- States with Open Formularies: IL, IA, MA, MN, NE, NH, NJ, NM, ND, OH, OR, WA, WY
  - 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
  - N.B. – Although North Dakota has adopted an open formulary, they provide only co-pay and deductible assistance for HCV medications
  - N.B. – Wyoming's ADAP Open Formulary document, the following disclaimer related to HCV is made: *Hepatitis C treatment medications (i.e. Harvoni, Viekira XR, Sovaldi, Ribavirin, Zepatier, Technivie, Daklinza, Epclusa) must be prior authorized. To be eligible, clients must have applied for prior authorization from their insurance plan and the WY ADAP Hepatitis C Treatment checklist must be completed and signed by the provider and client*
- 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	N	Y	Y	Y*	N	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	Y	Y	X
Idaho	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*			X
Illinois	Y	Y	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*	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	N	Y*	Y	Y*	N	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*	Y	Y	X
Mississippi	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*		Y*	X
Missouri	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	X
Montana	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	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*	Y*	X
New Jersey	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
New Mexico	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	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	N	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Ohio	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	X
Oklahoma	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	X
Oregon	Y	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	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*	Y	Y	X
Texas	Y	Y	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*	Y	Y	X
Virginia	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	X
Washington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	X
West Virginia	Y	Y	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

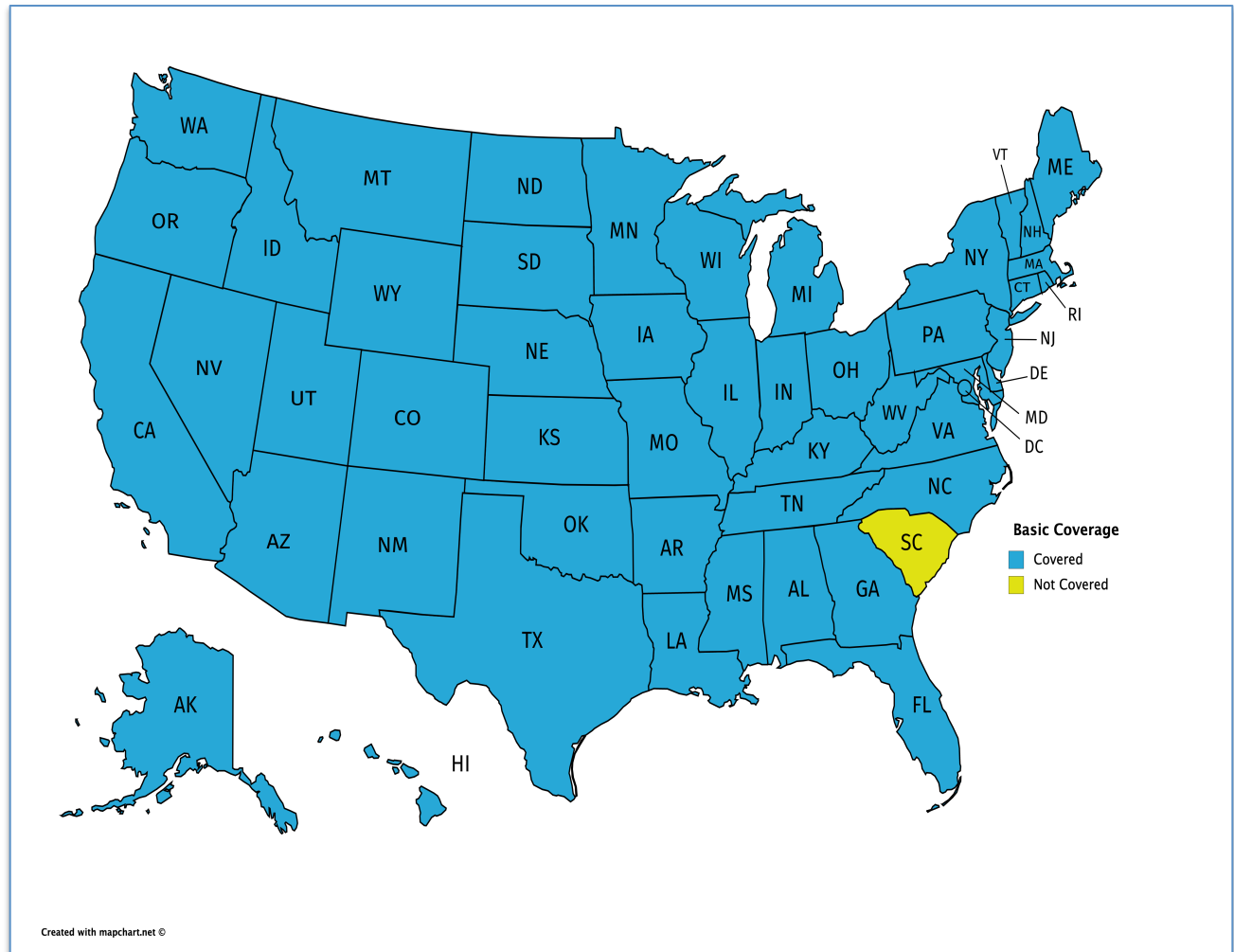
There are currently **51** Medicaid programs that cover some form of HCV-related drug therapies as part of their Preferred Drug Lists. To learn more about Medicaid or their Preferred Drug Lists, please visit <http://medicaidirectors.org>.

**Figure 14.**

Basic Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered





# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Sovaldi Coverage Map

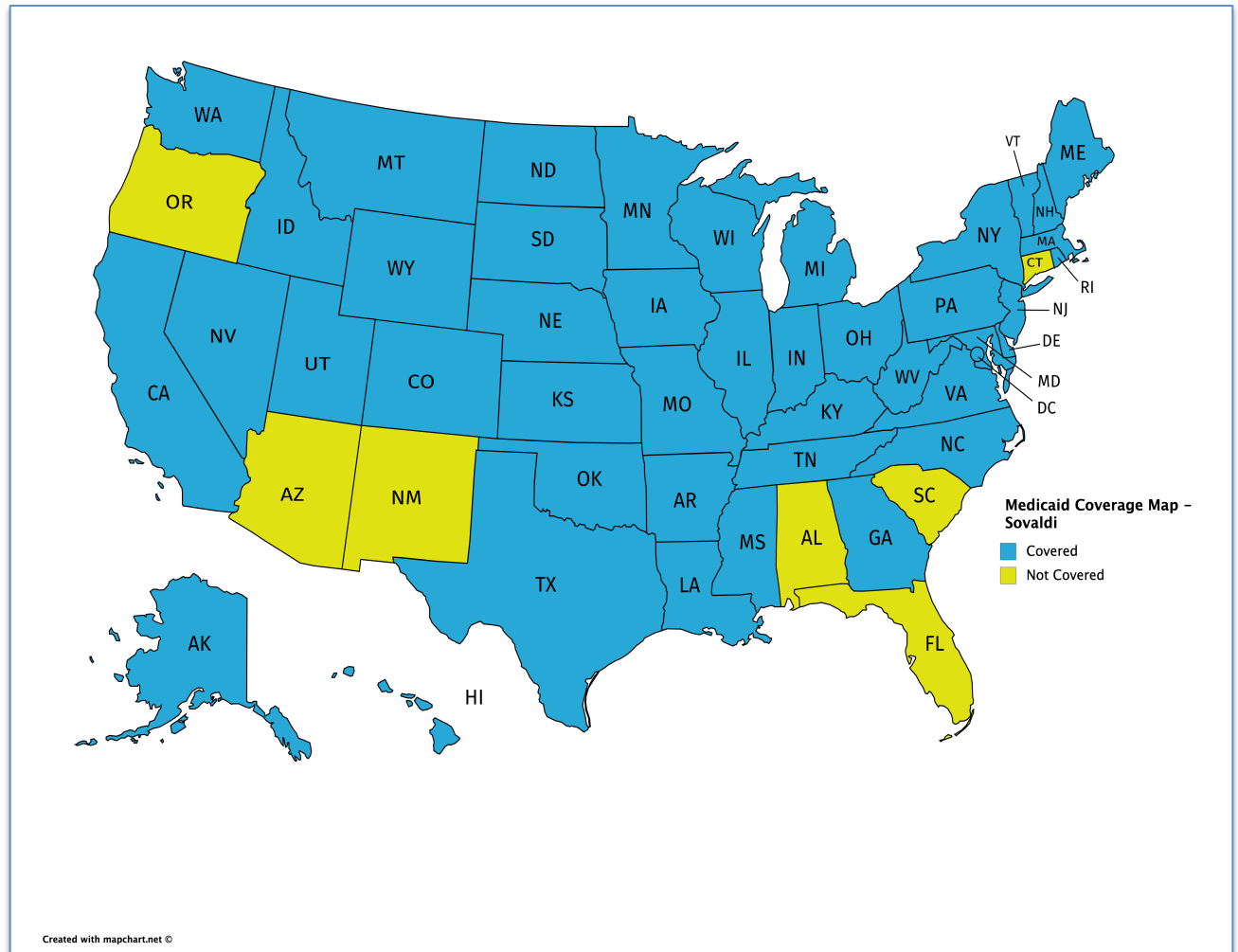
June 2019

**Figure 15.**

Sovaldi Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Harvoni Coverage Map

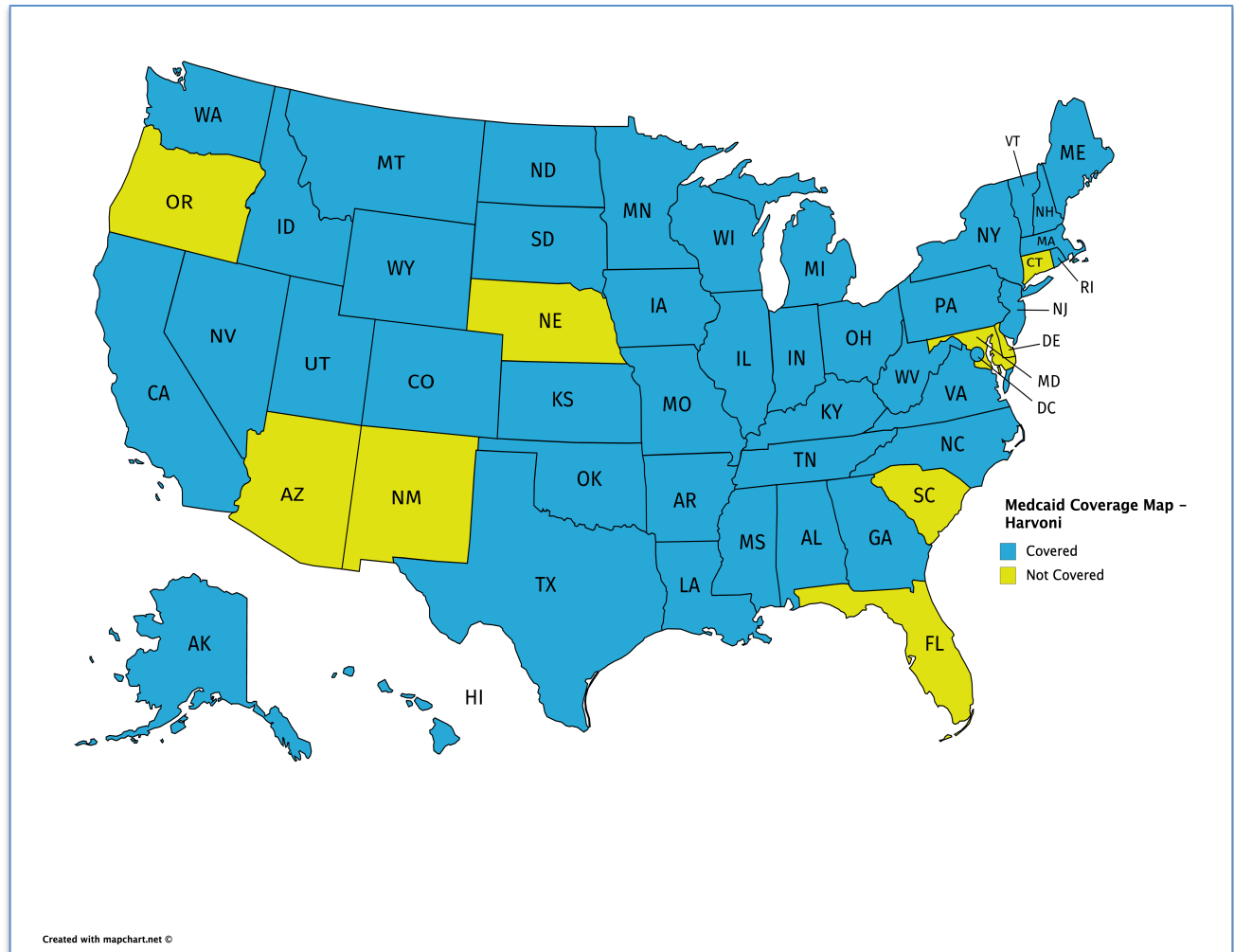
June 2019

**Figure 16.**

Harvoni Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Viekira Pak Coverage Map

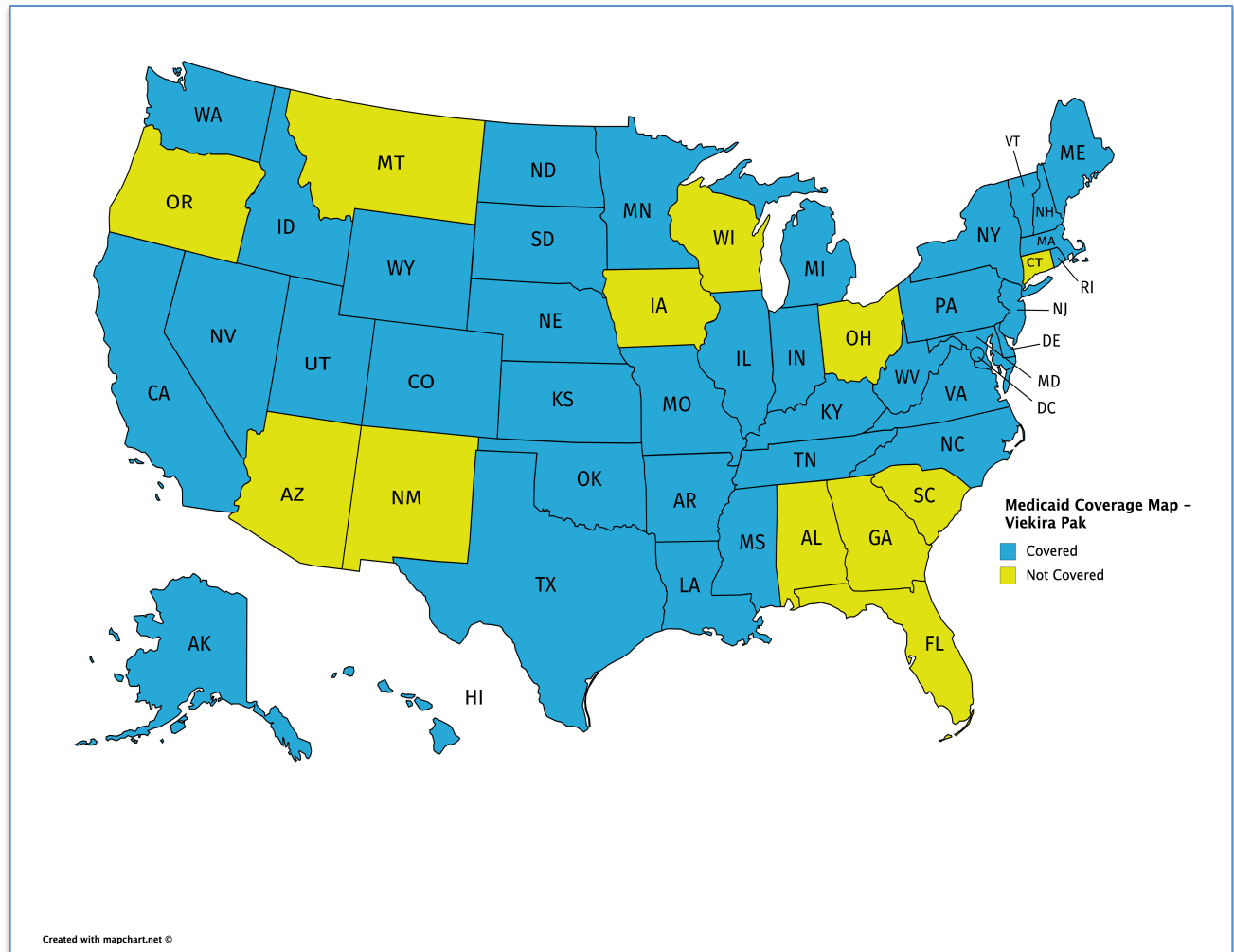
June 2019

**Figure 17.**

Viekira Pak Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Daklinza Coverage Map

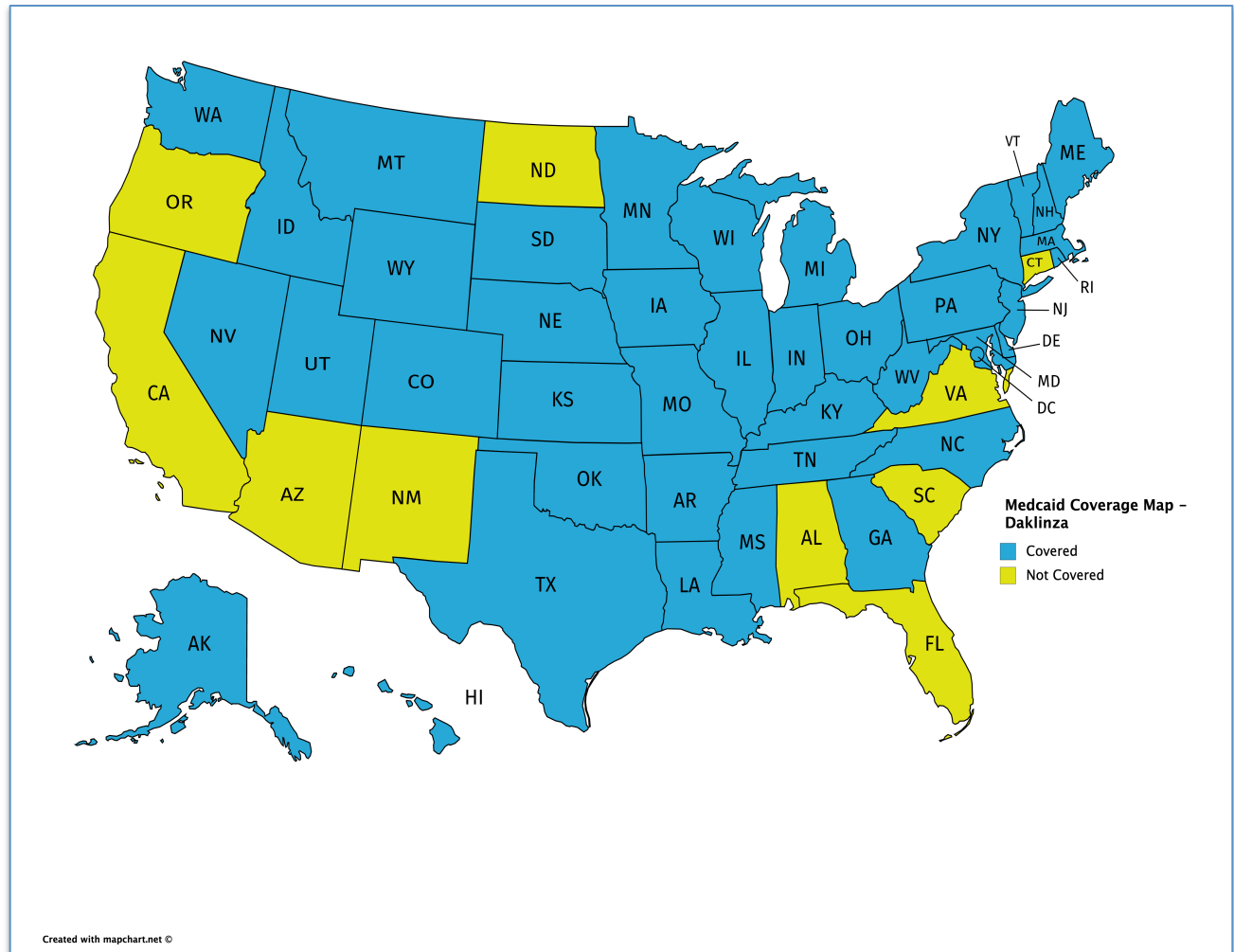
June 2019

**Figure 18.**

Daklinza Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Zepatier Coverage Map

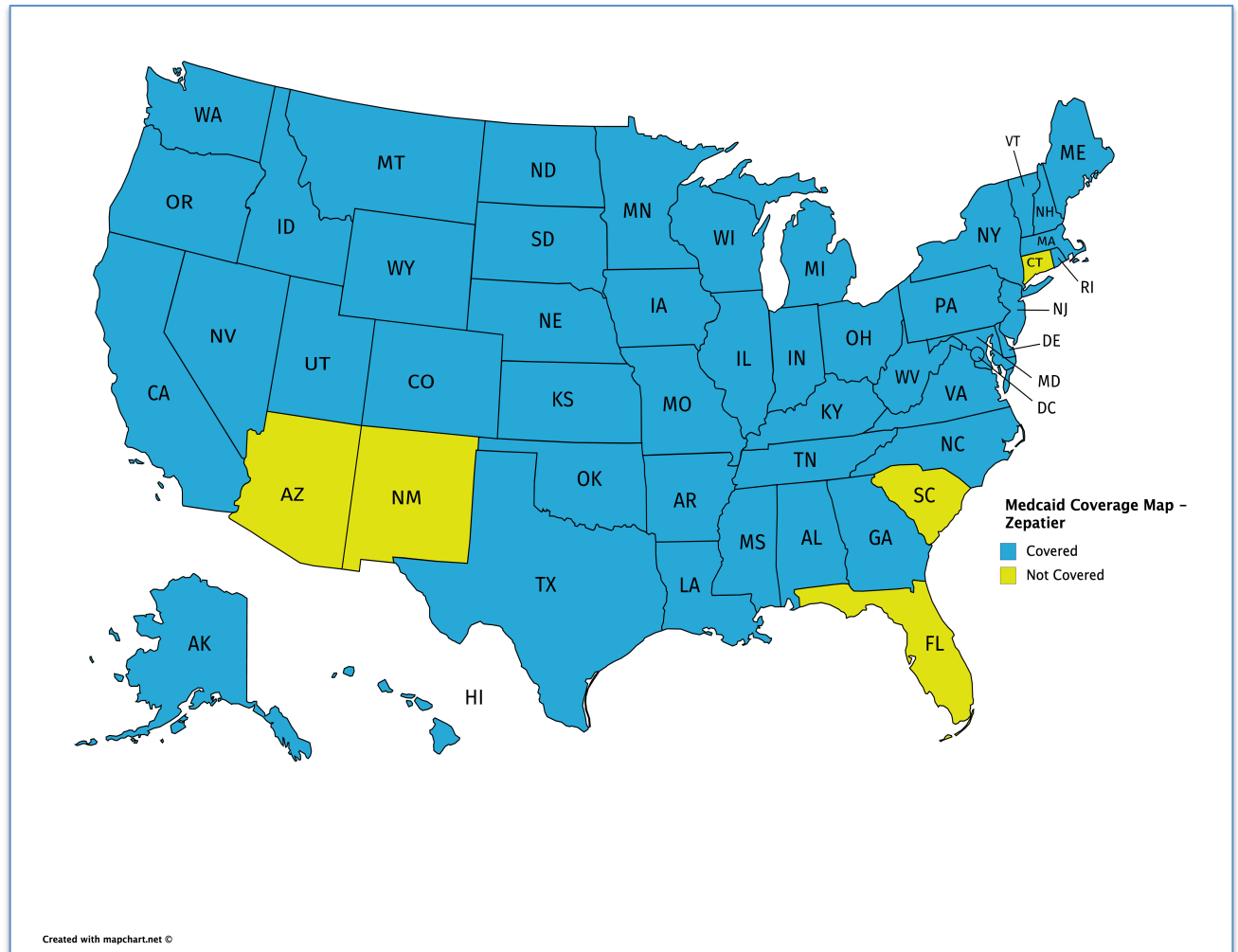
June 2019

**Figure 19.**

Zepatier Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Eplusa Coverage Map

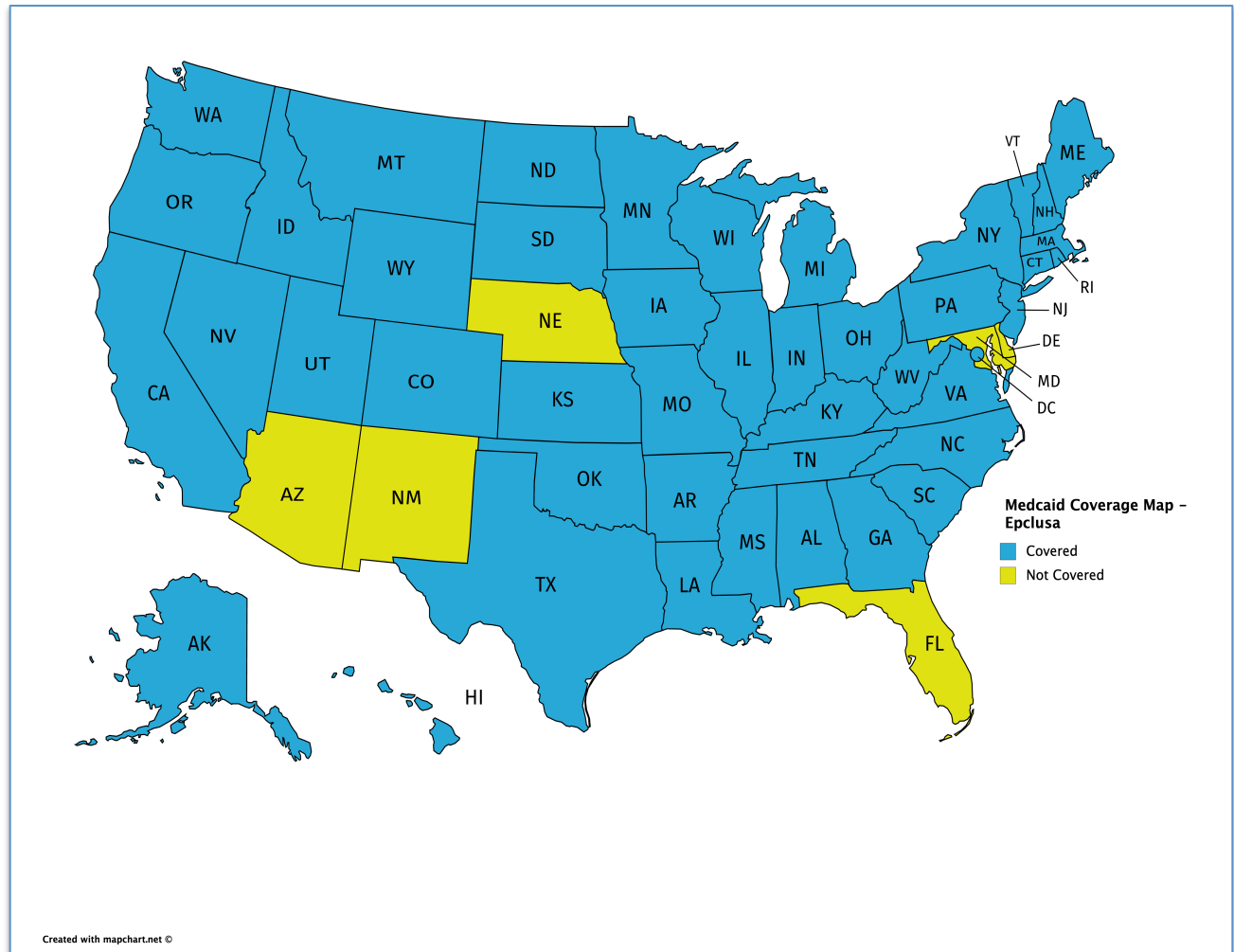
June 2019

**Figure 20.**

Eplusa Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Vosevi Coverage Map

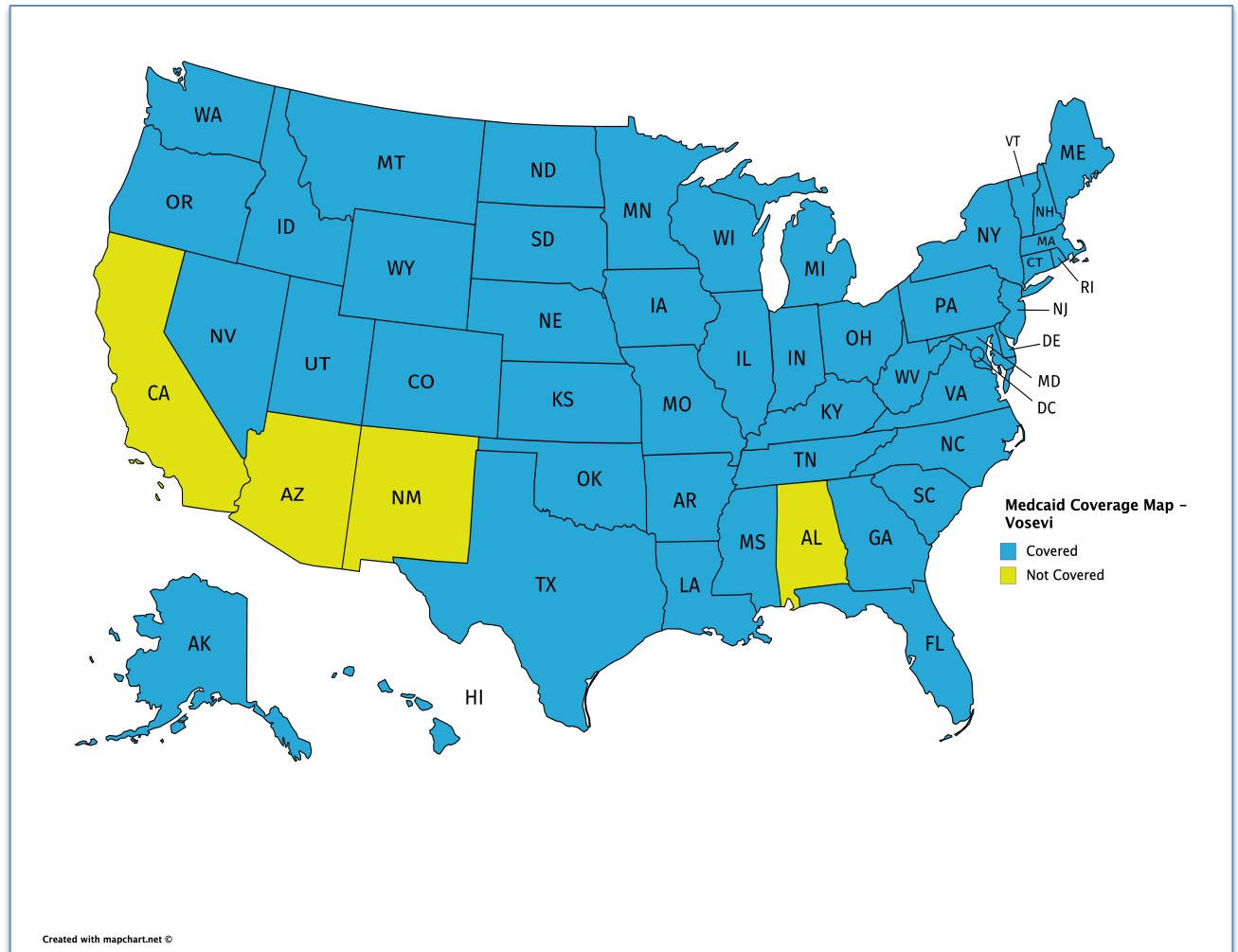
June 2019

**Figure 21.**

Vosevi Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Mavyret Coverage Map

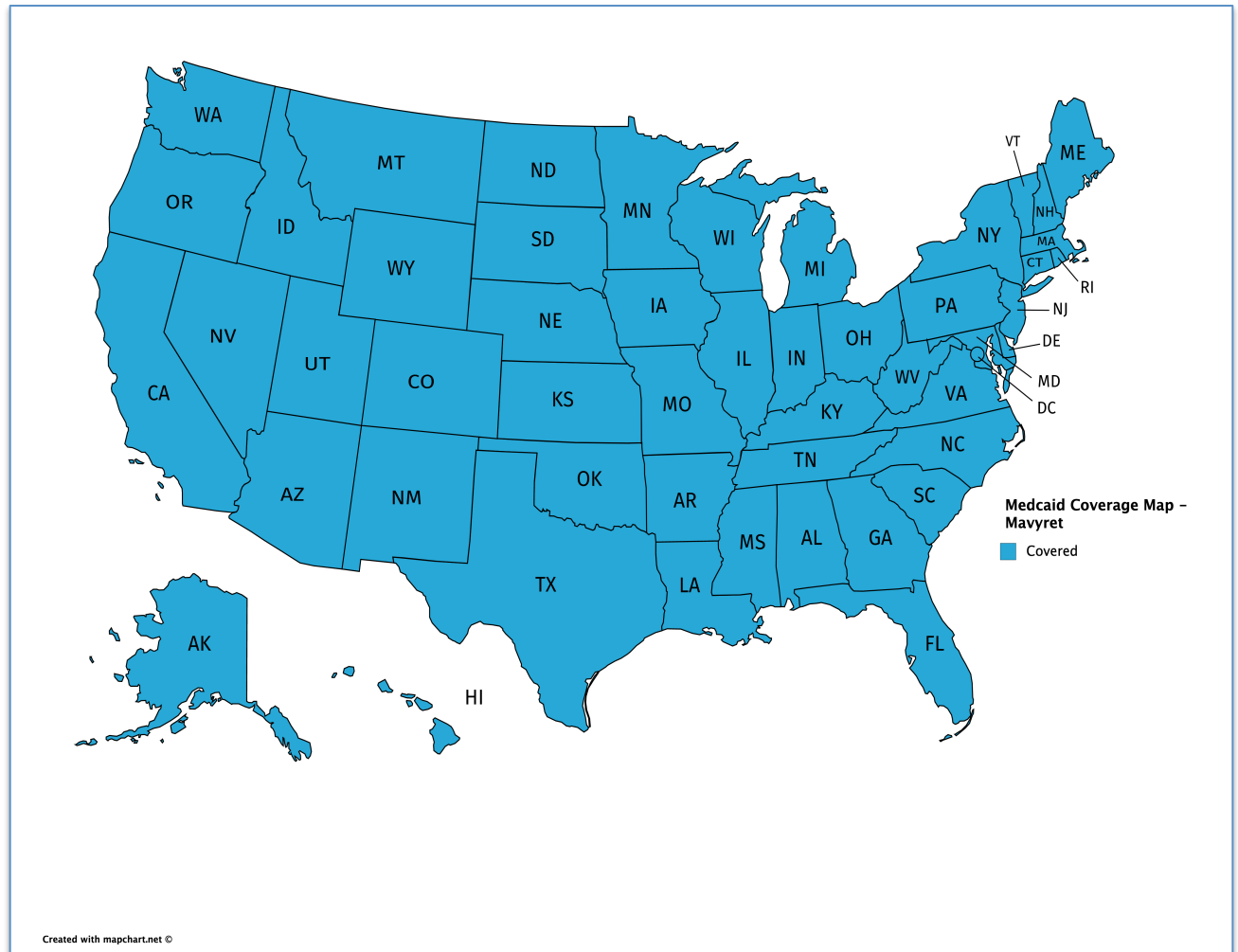
June 2019

**Figure 22.**

Mavyret Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered





# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map

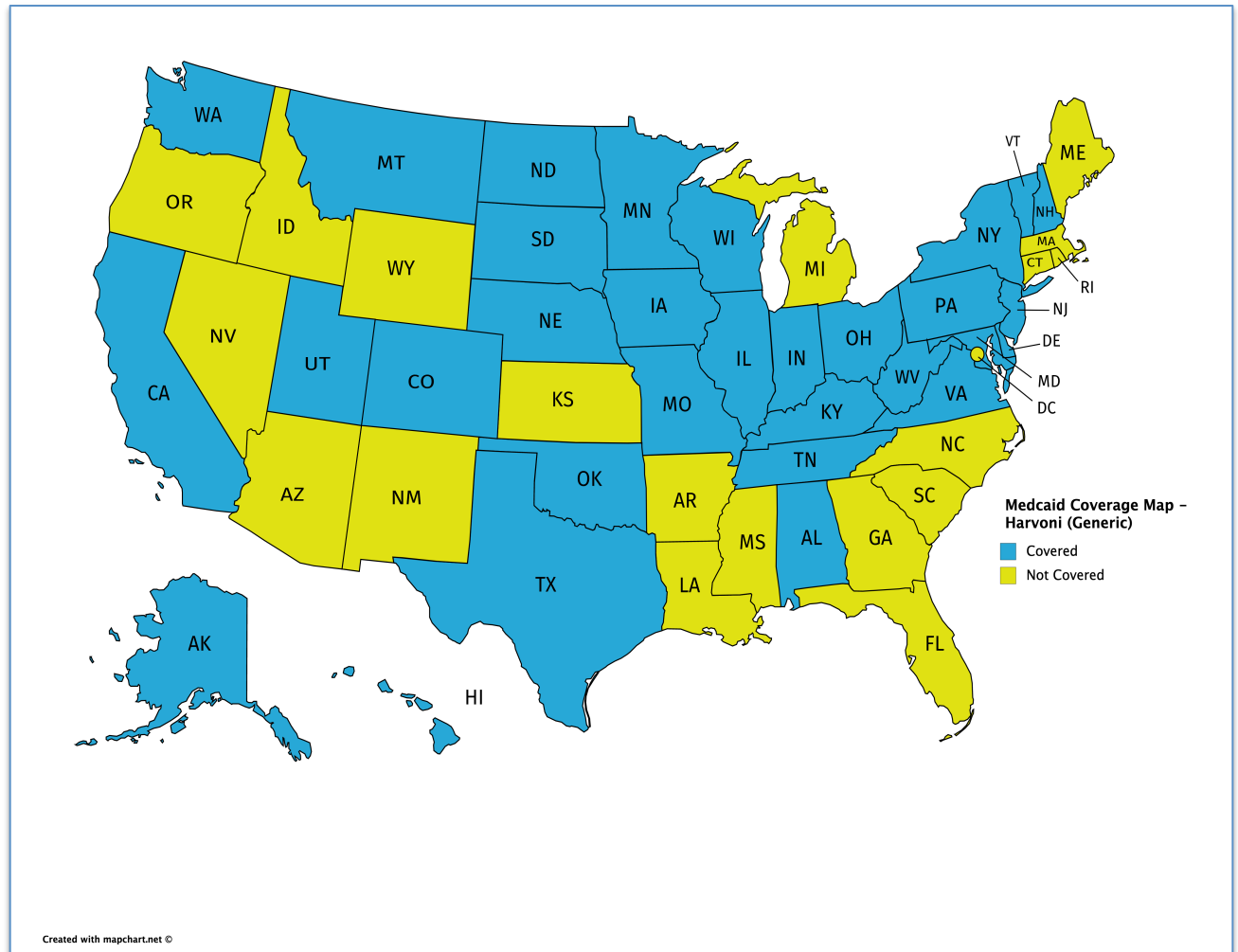
June 2019

**Figure 23.**

Harvoni *Generic* Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



# Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Eplusa *Generic* Coverage Map

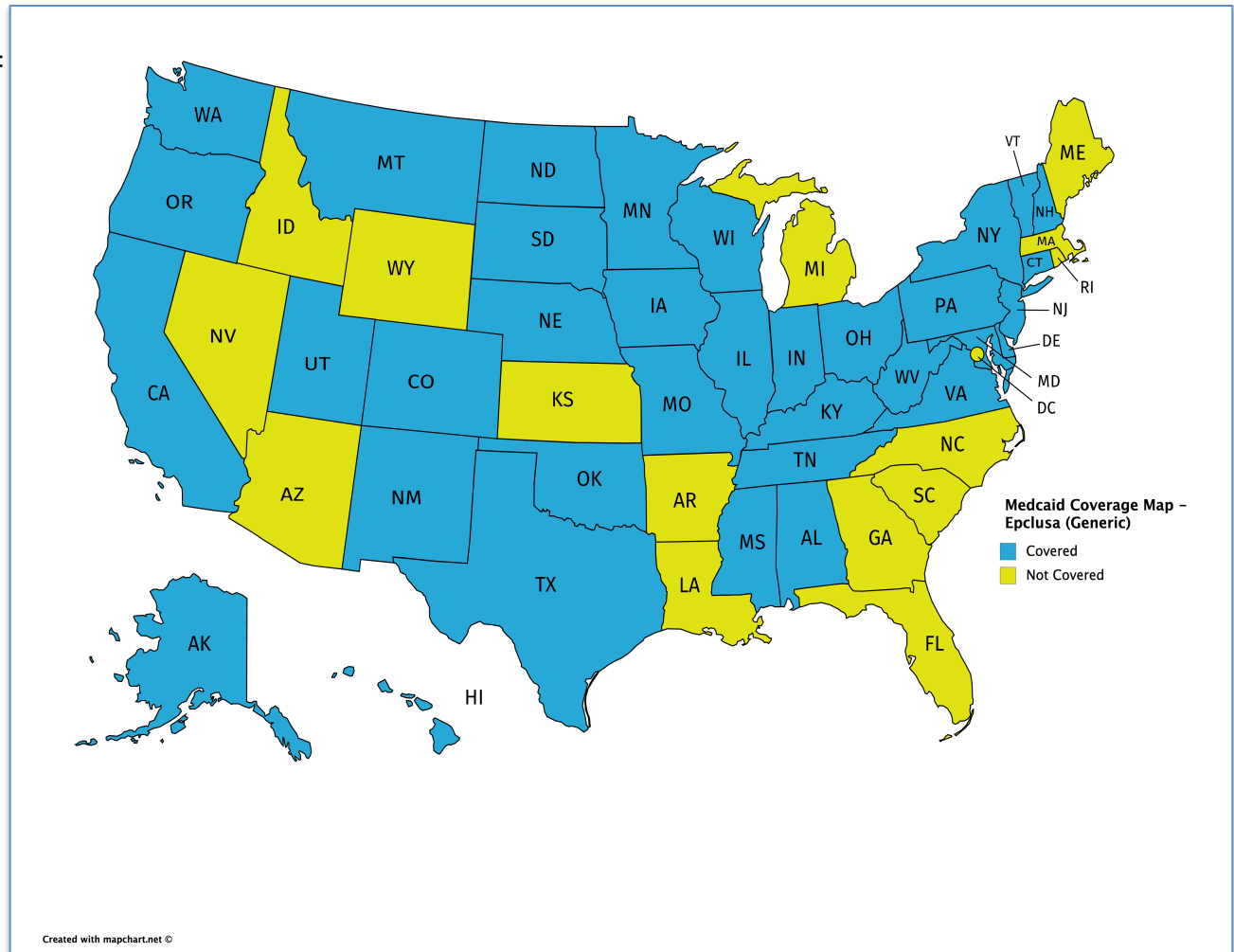
June 2019

**Figure 24.**

Eplusa *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).

## June 2019 Updates:

- States that have included Harvoni (Generic) in their PDLs: **AL, AK, CA, CO, DE, HI, IL, IN, IA, KY, MD, MN, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, ND, OH, OK, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI**
- States that have included Eplusa (Generic) in their PDLs: **AL, AK, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, IN, IA, KY, MD, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WV, WI**

## June 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.) Presbyterian Centennial Care
    - 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)
  - Eplclusa: 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
  - Eplclusa: 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
  - Eplclusa: 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: **Closed**
- 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. (N.b. – states listed as “Y” indicate only that a Syringe Services Program (SSP) exists within the state, regardless of the legality of SSPs under state law).

- **Expanded Naloxone:**

Naloxone is a drug used to counteract the effects of opioid overdoses. Expanded Access refers to one or 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	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Arkansas – AR	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y
California – CA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Colorado – CO	Y	Y	Y	Pending	Y	Y	N	Y	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	Y	Y
Idaho – ID	Y	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	Y	Y
Iowa – IA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Kansas – KS	Y	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	N	Y	Y	Y
Michigan – MI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Minnesota – MN	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Pending	Y
Mississippi – MS	Y	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	Y	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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Oregon – OR	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Pennsylvania – PA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	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	Y	Y
Washington – WA	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y
West Virginia – WV	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Wisconsin – WI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Wyoming – WY	N	Y	Y	Y	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

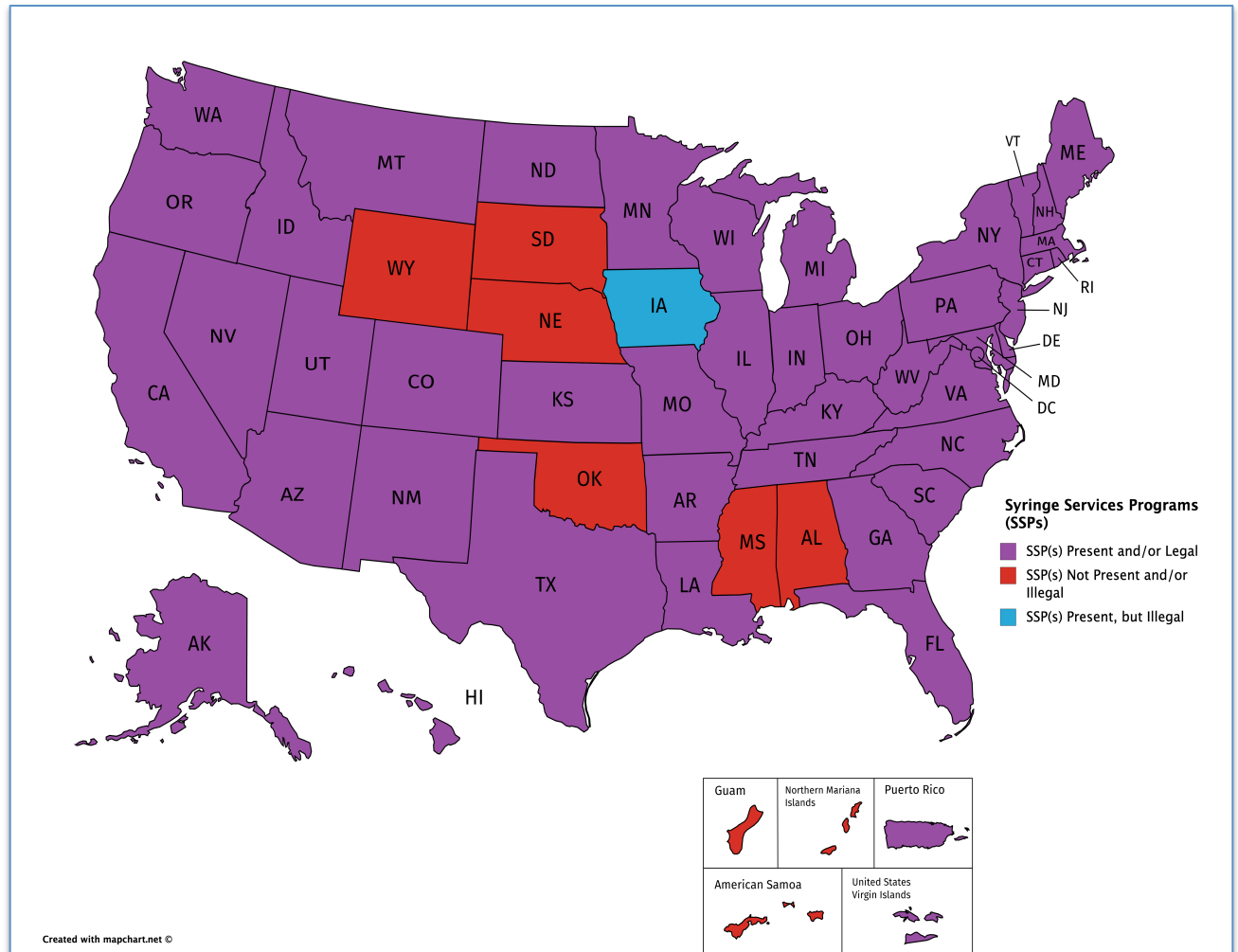
June 2019

**Figure 28.**

Syringe Exchange Map Key:

Purple: Syringe Exchange(s)

Red: No Syringe Exchange(s)



# Harm Reduction Programs

Expanded Naloxone Coverage Map

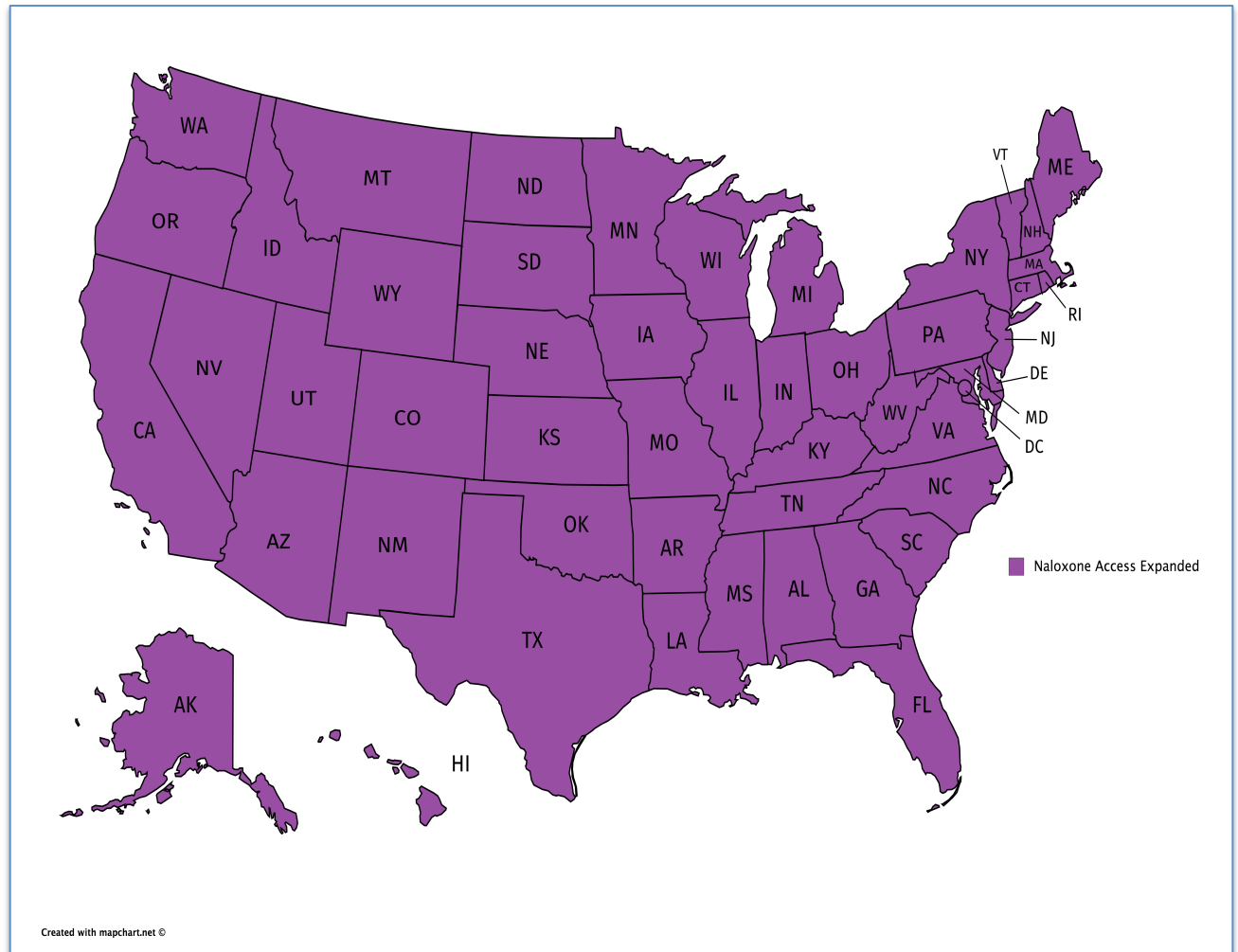
June 2019

**Figure 29.**

Expanded Naloxone Map Key:

Purple: Expanded Naloxone

Red: Restricted Naloxone



# Harm Reduction Programs

Good Samaritan Laws Coverage Map

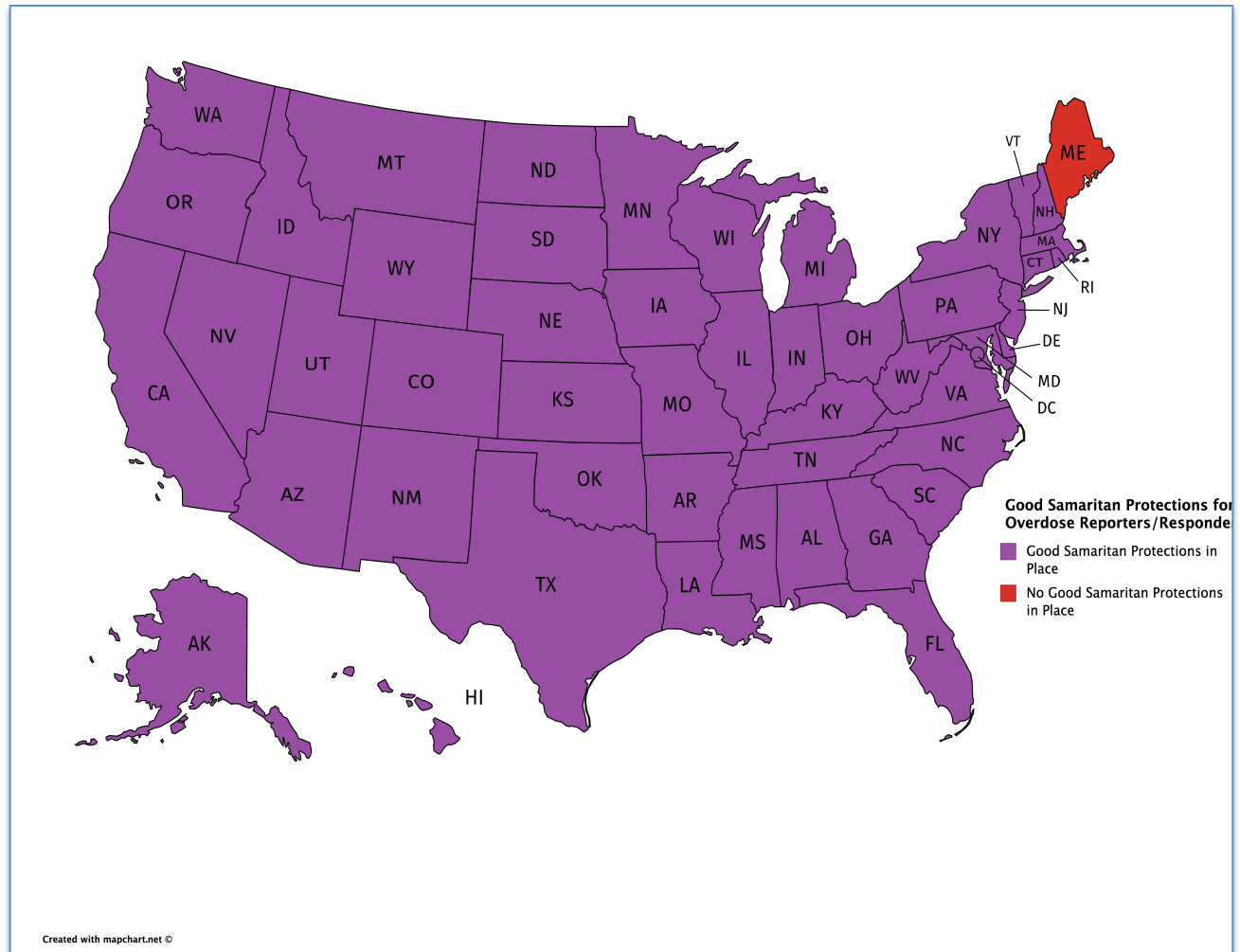
June 2019

**Figure 30.**

Good Samaritan Laws Map Key:

Purple: Good Samaritan Laws

Red: No Good Samaritan Laws



# Harm Reduction Programs

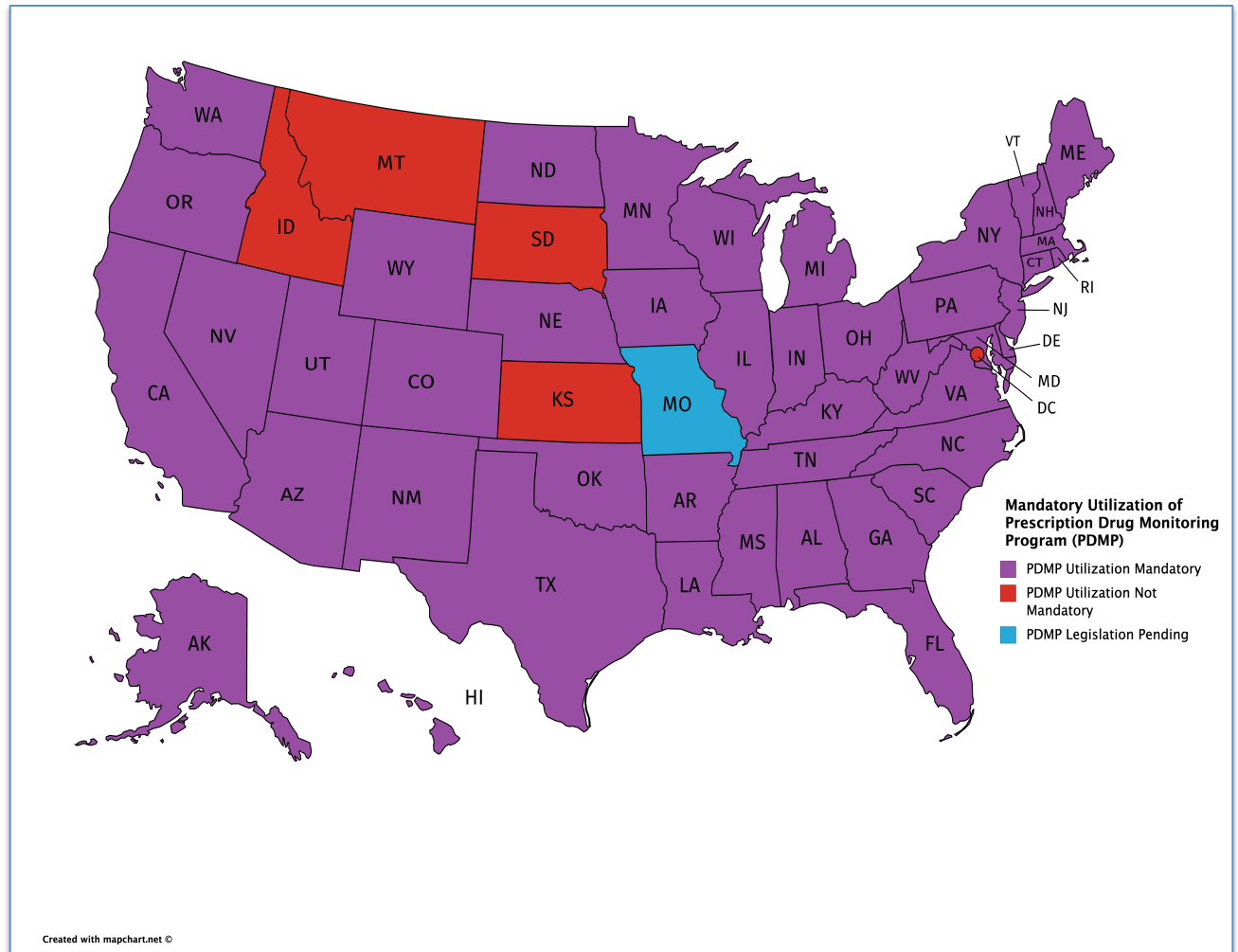
## Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) Coverage Map

June 2019

**Figure 31.**

PDMPs Map Key:

- Purple: Mandatory PDMPs
- Red: No Mandatory PDMPs



# Harm Reduction Programs

Doctor Shopping Laws Coverage Map

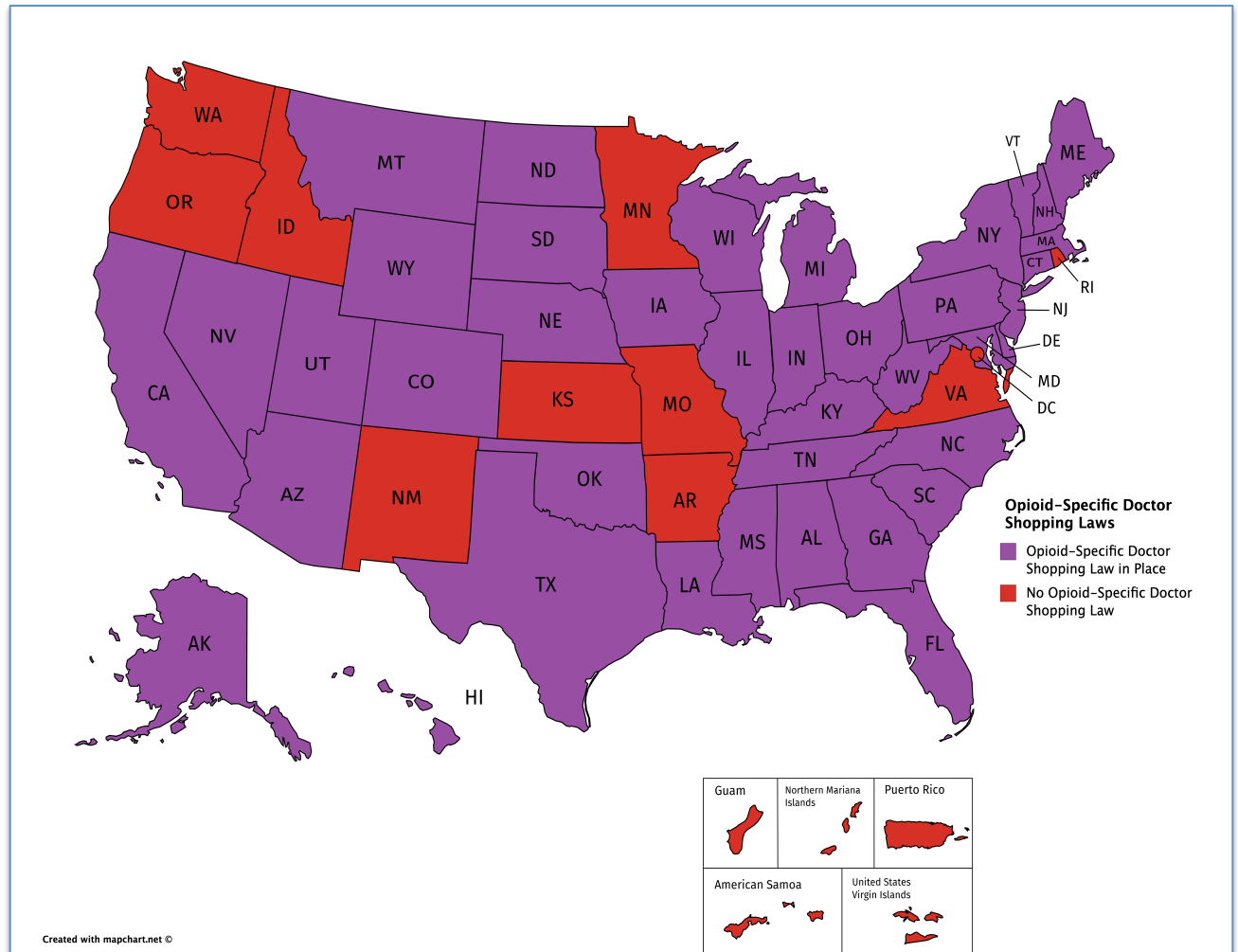
June 2019

**Figure 32.**

Doctor Shopping Laws Map Key:

Purple: Doctor Shopping Laws

Red: No Doctor Shopping Laws









# Harm Reduction Programs

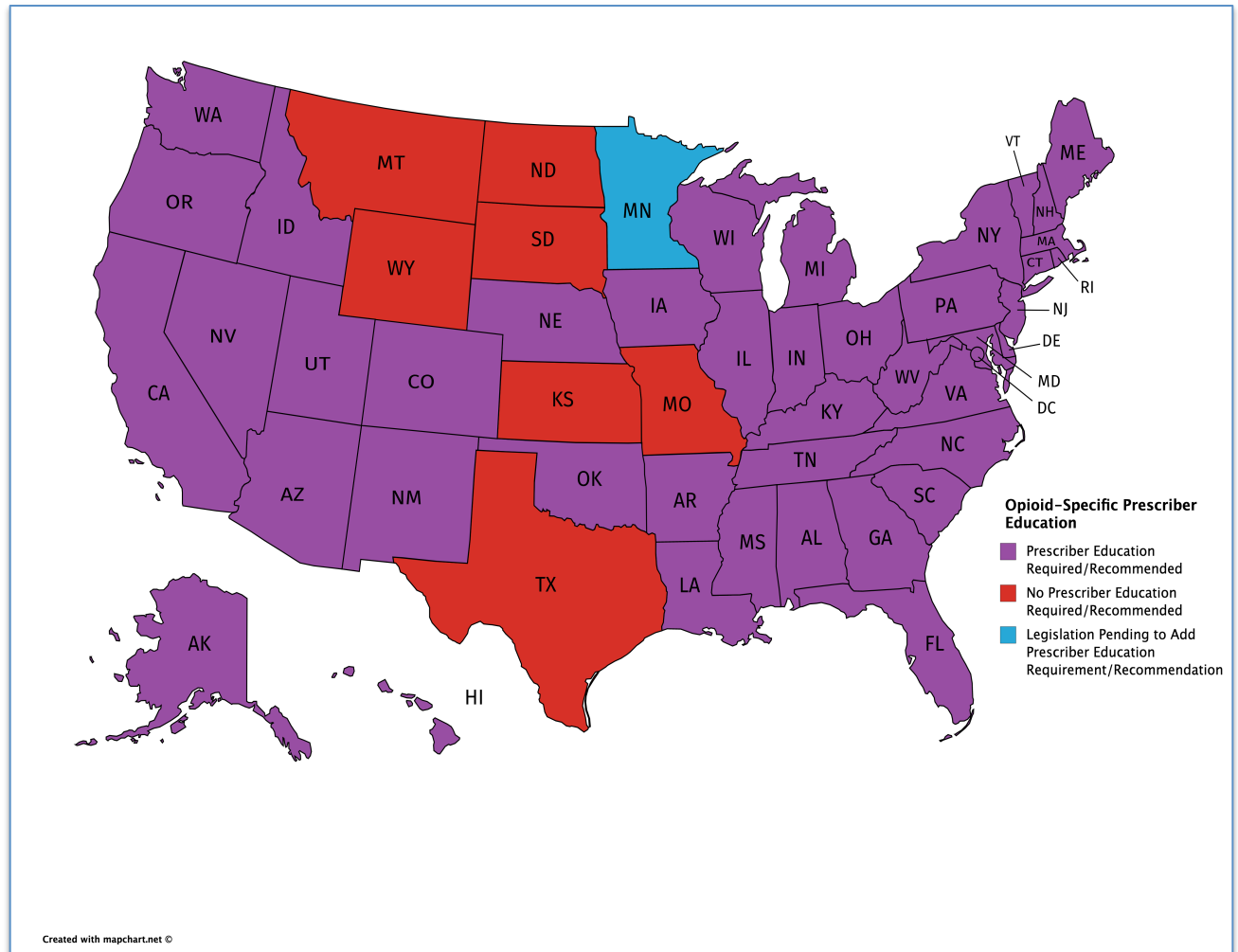
Prescriber Education Required Coverage Map

June 2019

**Figure 35.**

Prescriber Ed Required Map Key:

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





# 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.

## June 2019 Updates:

- No updates

## June 2019 Notes:

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

# Regional Trends

## District 05 – South Atlantic

(DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV, DC):

.

# Regional Trends

## District 05 – South Atlantic (DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV, DC):

### HIV (2016 National Rate – 12.3):

- This region has an extremely high burden of HIV, with seven states having rates of new infections above the national rate, and five states (FL – 22.9, GA – 24.9, MD – 17.0, SC – 14.3, DC – 46.3) with rates in the top ten in the U.S. The District of Columbia has the highest rate of new infections, with a preliminary rate of 46.3 (per 100,000) for 2017, down from 50.3 in 2016. West Virginia has the lowest rate in the region, with a preliminary rate of 4.3 for 2017, up from 3.7 in 2016.

### HBV (2016 National Rate – 1.0):

- This region has a moderate burden of HBV, with four states (WV – 14.6, FL – 2.7, NC – 1.7, GA – 1.0) having rates of new infections at or above the national rate. West Virginia has the highest rate of HBV in the U.S., with a rate of 14.6 (per 100,000) in 2016, down from 14.7 in 2015. The state with the second highest rate of HBV in the U.S. is Kentucky, with a rate of 5.0. DC does not track HBV as a reportable condition.

### HCV (2016 National Rate – 1.0):

- This region has a moderate burden of HCV, with three states (WV – 5.1, DE – 2.6, FL – 1.1) having rates of new infections higher than the national rate of 1.0 (per 100,000). WV's Department of Health and Human Services has reported that their rate of new HCV infections in 2017 has leapt to 9.1 (West Virginia Electronic Disease Surveillance System, 2018). DC does not track HCV as a reportable condition.

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

- This region has a high burden of overdose deaths, with six states (WV – 57.8, DC – 44.0, DE – 37.0, MD – 36.3, FL – 25.1, NC – 24.1) having rates of overdose deaths higher than the national rate of 21.7 (per 100,000). West Virginia has the highest rate of overdose deaths in the U.S., with a rate of 57.8; the second-highest rate is Ohio, with a rate of 46.3.

# Regional Trends Con't.

## District 05 – South Atlantic (DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV, DC):

### ADAP HCV Coverage:

- Only South Carolina has not expanded its ADAP formulary to include HCV DAAs.

### Correctional Hepatitis Testing:

- All states but North Carolina and West Virginia responded to our request for testing information
- Of the seven responding states:
  - All but Florida have made HIV testing compulsory upon intake, with DE and MD using an Opt-In delivery model and VA and DC using an Opt-Out delivery model. Florida requires compulsory HIV testing during reentry, only
  - Only Florida lists HBV testing compulsory upon intake, using an Opt-In delivery model
  - Only FL and SC have made HCV testing compulsory upon intake, with Florida using an Opt-In delivery model and South Carolina using an Opt-Out delivery model. Delaware currently does not require HCV testing, but is building the capacity to begin compulsory Opt-Out HCV testing in the near future



# Latest News

# Latest News

- **An Increase in Hepatitis A Virus Infections in the United States, 2013-2018**

From 2016 to 2018, the incidence of hepatitis A infection in the United States increased by 294% compared with 2013 to 2015 as a result of outbreaks associated with contaminated food items, among men who have sex with men, and primarily among persons who report drug use or homelessness, according to a report published in the MMWR Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (Schad, 2019).

- **American Adults with HBV, HCV Infection Largely Unaware**

Adults in the US who have an hepatitis B (HBV) or hepatitis C (HCV) infection are often completely unaware, according to a new study.

An analysis of nearly 15,000 adult participants, including serologic data, showed that up to 1 half of virus-infected persons have never received a diagnosis from their physician. Investigators, led by Norah Terrault, MD, Chief of Gastroenterology & Hepatology at the USC Keck School of Medicine, noted the findings evidence the real-practice effects of a largely asymptomatic disease such as viral hepatitis.

The team surveyed 14,745 participants, all at least 20 years old, via complete serologic analyses from 2013-2016. Detection of serum HBsAg and anti-HCV, respectively, defined HBV and HCV infections. The key yes-or-no question for participants was: “Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that you have hepatitis B or C?”

Of the participants, 68 had HBV (.7%), and of those, only 32% reported awareness. In addition, 211 participants had HCV (1.8%), and of those, only 49% reported awareness. Among HBV-infected persons who knew of their infection, 28% sought treatment, and among HCV-infected persons who knew of their infection, only 45% reported treatment, with 59% of treated patients still sustaining a virologic response. Mean patients age for those with HBV was 49 years, and 53 years for those with HCV (P= .18) (Genn, 2019).

# Latest News Con't.

- **Scientists discover how Hepatitis C “ghosts” our immune system**

Scientists from Trinity College Dublin have discovered how the highly infectious and sometimes deadly Hepatitis C virus (HCV) “ghosts” our immune system and remains undiagnosed in many people. They report their findings today in the international FASEB journal.

HCV’s main route of transmission is via infected blood but over the past 40 years it has accidentally been given to many patients across the world via infected blood products. The virus replicates particularly well in the liver, and the damage it causes makes it a leading cause of liver disease worldwide.

Even though HCV can be deadly, initial infection is rarely accompanied by any obvious clinical symptoms for reasons that have – until now – remained unknown. As a result, it often goes undiagnosed for the first 6-12 months following infection.

Under normal circumstances, our cells communicate with each other with molecules called cytokines, which work by activating specific cascades of other molecules within our cells called signalling pathways. These cytokines and their signalling pathways trigger the expression of hundreds of molecules within our cells to increase inflammation and anti-viral activity. This immune response is capable of killing and clearing the viral infection for our cells and bodies.

The Trinity scientists found that HCV “ghosts” our immune response, by triggering our own SOCS regulators; a specific part of the virus is responsible for increasing a specific SOCS molecule – in both liver and immune cells (Trinity College Dublin, 2019).

# Contact

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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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