

HIV/HCV Co-Infection Watch: October 2020



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

Findings

The following is a summary of the key findings for October 2020:

- **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, 44 have expanded their HCV coverage to include the Direct-Acting Antiviral (DAA) regimens that serve as the current Standard of Care (SOC) for Hepatitis C treatment. 3 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.

- **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 and the District of Columbia offer Expanded Coverage. A state-by-state PDL breakdown of coverage is included in Figure 13, with accompanying drug-specific maps in Figures 14 – 24.

- **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.). 47 States and Territories currently have Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) in place, regardless of the legality. 50 states and the District of Columbia have expanded access to Naloxone to avert opioid drug overdoses. 50 states and the District of Columbia have Good Samaritan laws or statutes that provide some level of protection for those rendering emergency services during drug overdoses. 38 states make reporting to Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) mandatory, requiring physicians and/or pharmacists to report prescriptions written or filled to a state agency for monitoring. 40 states have Opioid-Specific Doctor Shopping Laws preventing patients from attempting to receive multiple prescriptions from numerous physicians, and/or from withholding information in order to receive prescriptions. 40 states mandate a Physical Exam Requirement in order for patients to receive a prescription for opioid drugs. 27 states have in place an ID Requirement mandating that people filling opioid prescriptions present a state-issued ID prior to receiving their prescription. 45 states require prescribing physicians to attend mandatory and continuing opioid prescribing education sessions. 44 states 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 28 – 36.

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	N	N	X
Alaska	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Arizona	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	X
Arkansas	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	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	N	N	X
Connecticut	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	X
Delaware	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Florida	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	X
Georgia	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	X
Hawaii	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X
Idaho	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Illinois	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Indiana	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X
Iowa	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Kansas	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Kentucky	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Louisiana	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X
Maine	Y	Y	Y	N	N	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
Maryland	Y	Y	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	N	N	X
Minnesota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Mississippi	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	X
Missouri	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	X
Montana	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	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	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	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	X
North Carolina	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	X
North Dakota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Ohio	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Oklahoma	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	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	N	N	X
South Carolina	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	X
South Dakota	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X
Tennessee	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Texas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X
Utah	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Vermont	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Virginia	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	X
Washington	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
West Virginia	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	X
Wisconsin	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	X
Wyoming	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	X
Washington, DC	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
												X
Fed. St. Micronesia	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Guam	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Palau	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X
Puerto Rico	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
U.S. Virgin Islands	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	X

AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

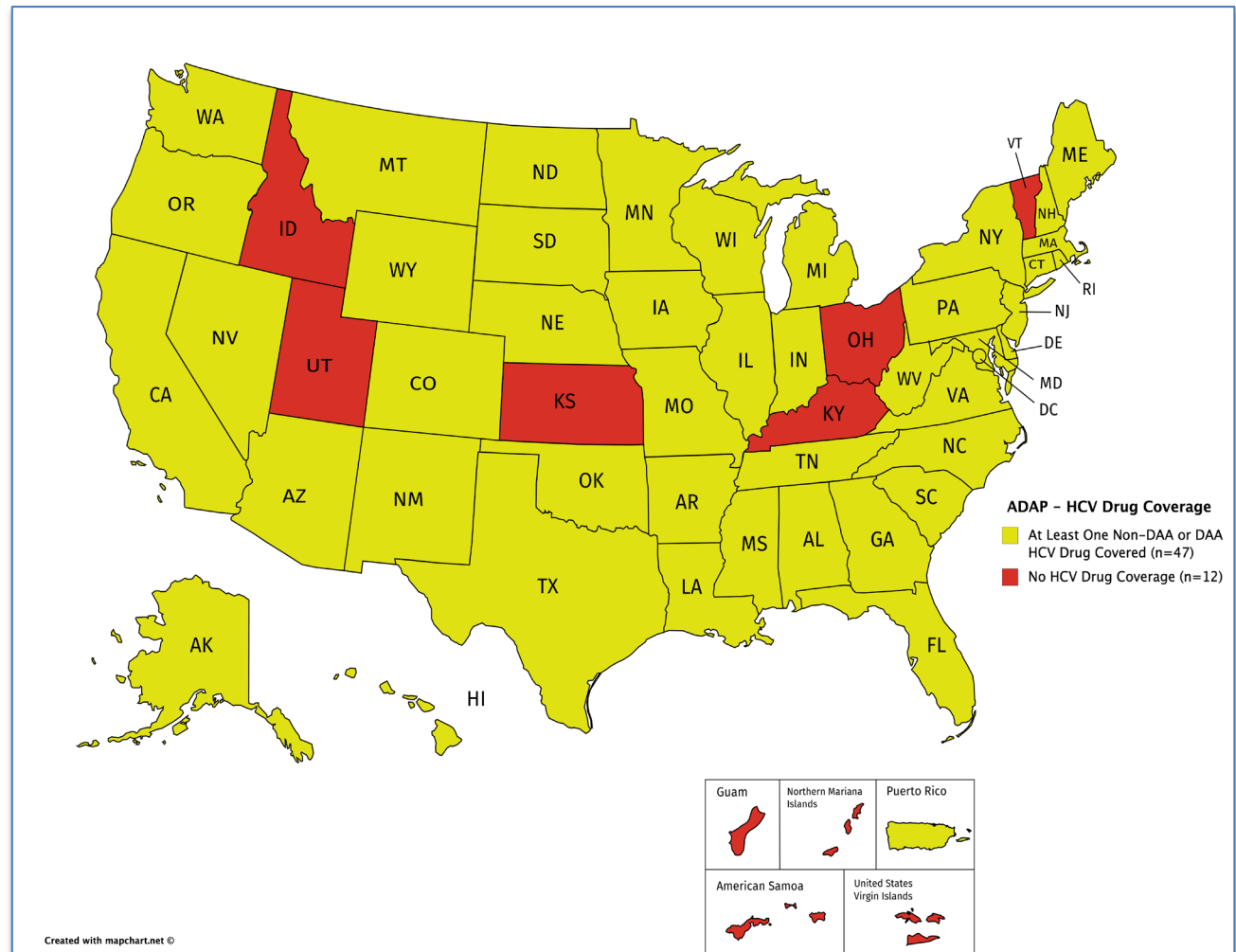
There are currently **46** AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) that cover some form of HCV drug therapies as part of their approved drug formularies. To learn more about ADAPs or their approved drug formularies, please visit <http://adap.directory>.

Figure 2.

Basic Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Basic Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

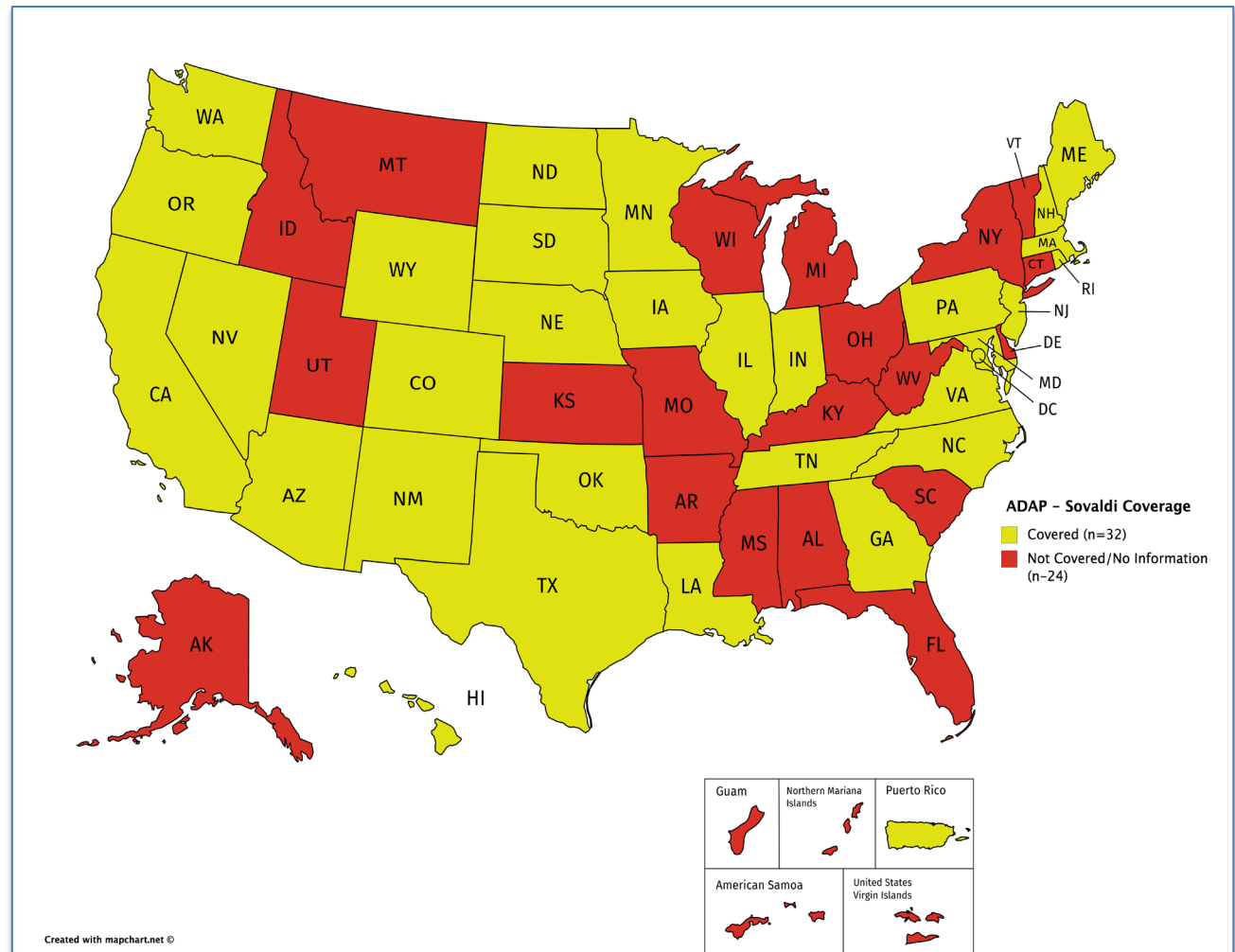
Sovaldi Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 3.

Sovaldi Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

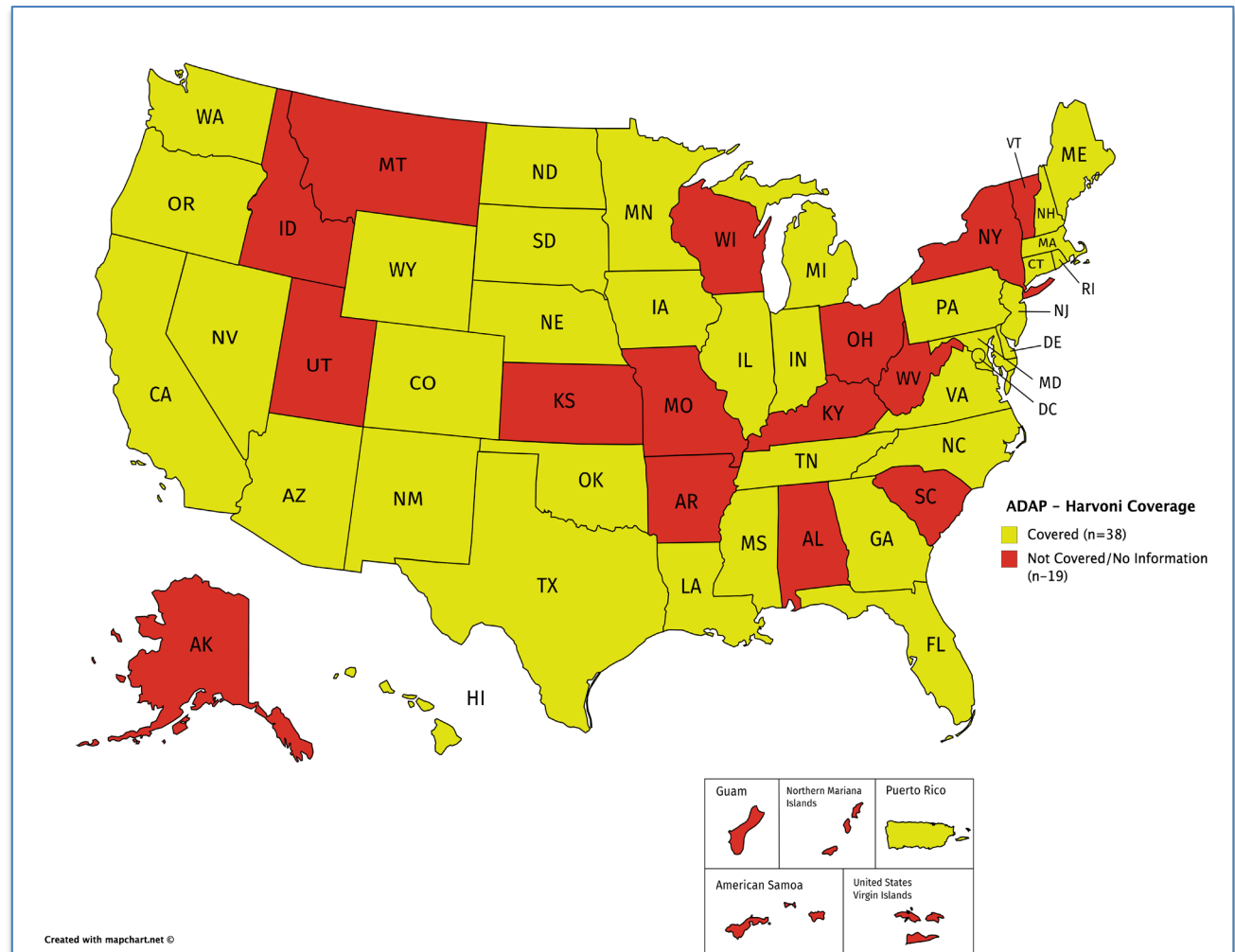
Harvoni Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 4.

Harvoni Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

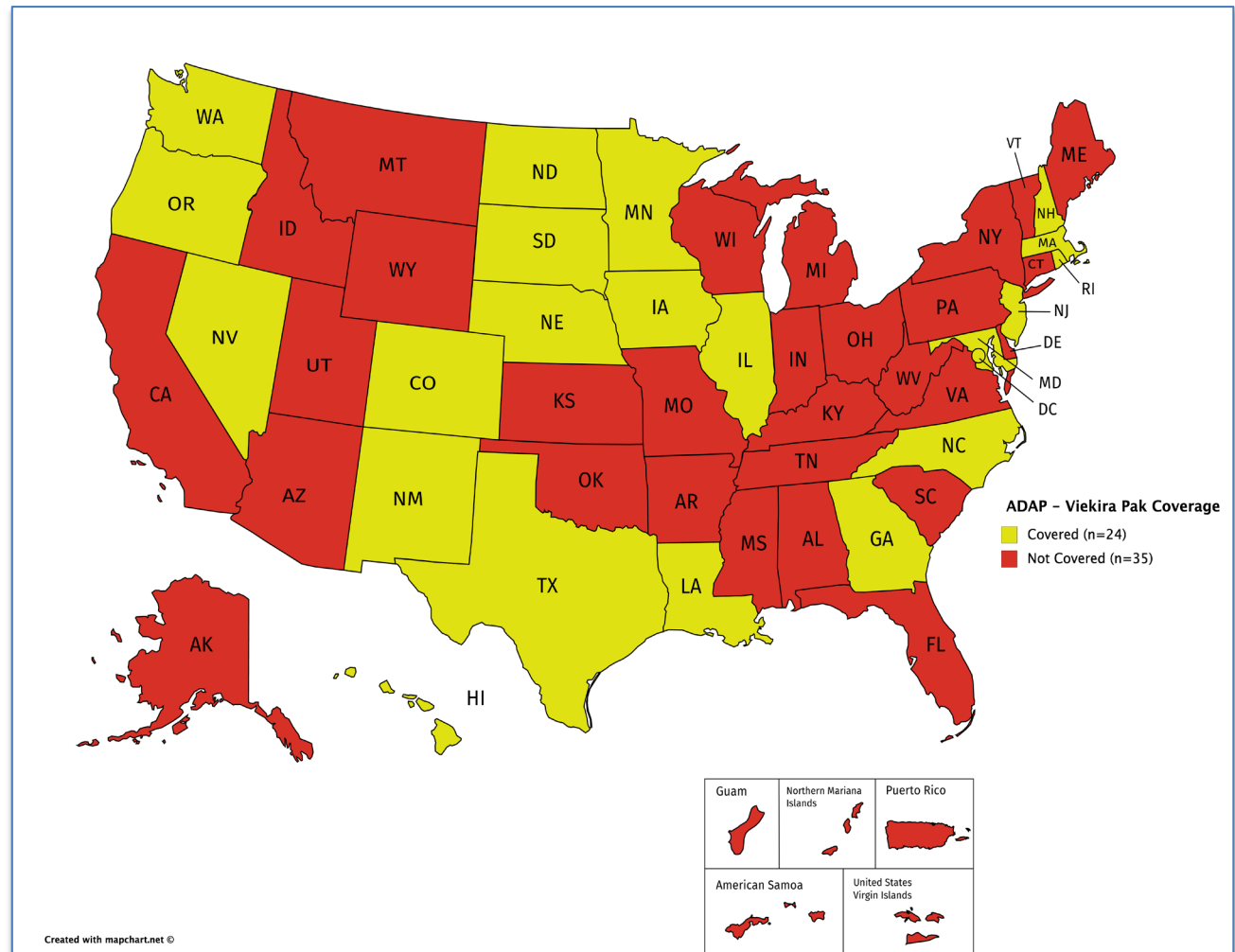
Viekira Pak Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 5.

Viekira Pak Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

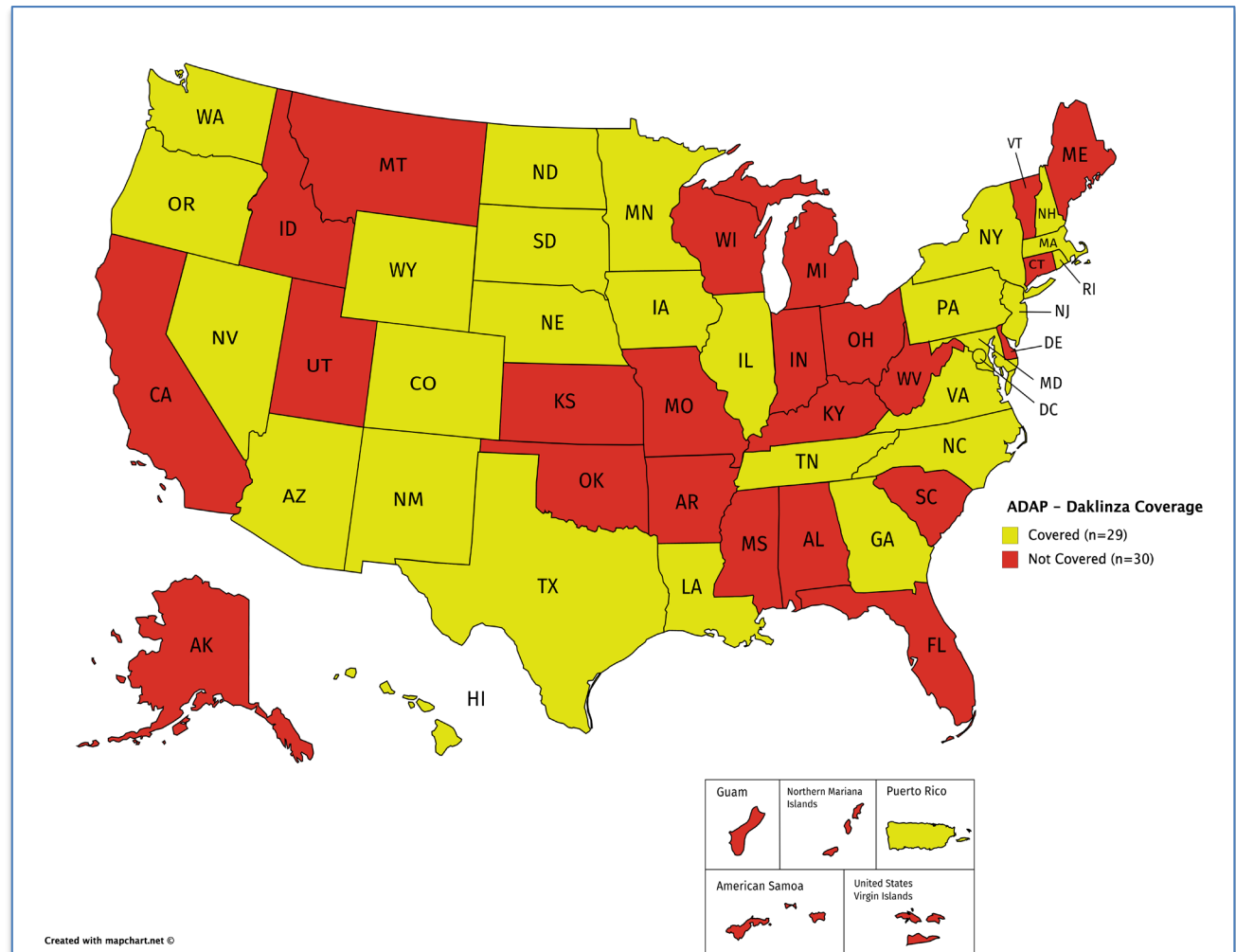
Daklinza Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 6.

Daklinza Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

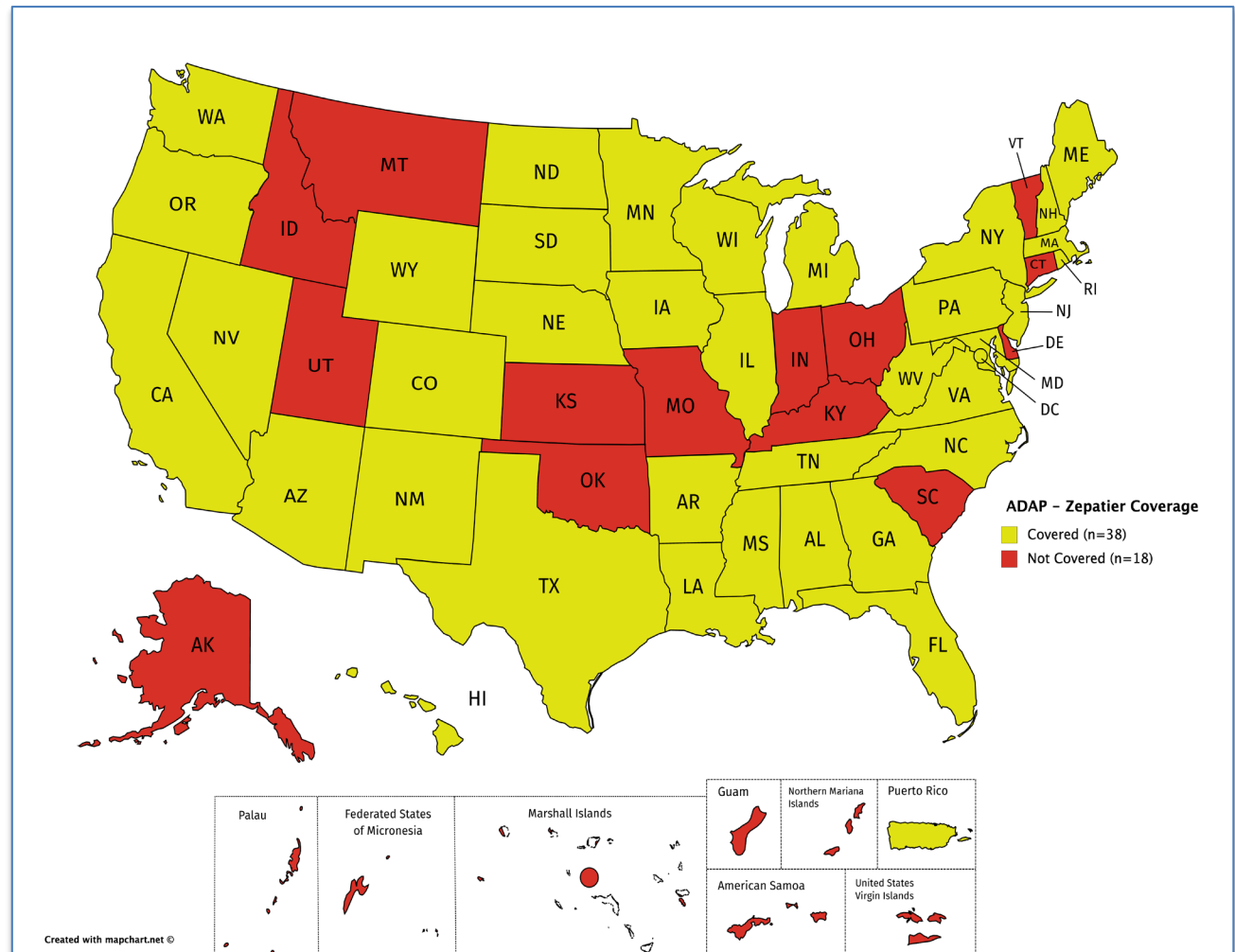
Zepatier Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 7.

Zepatier Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

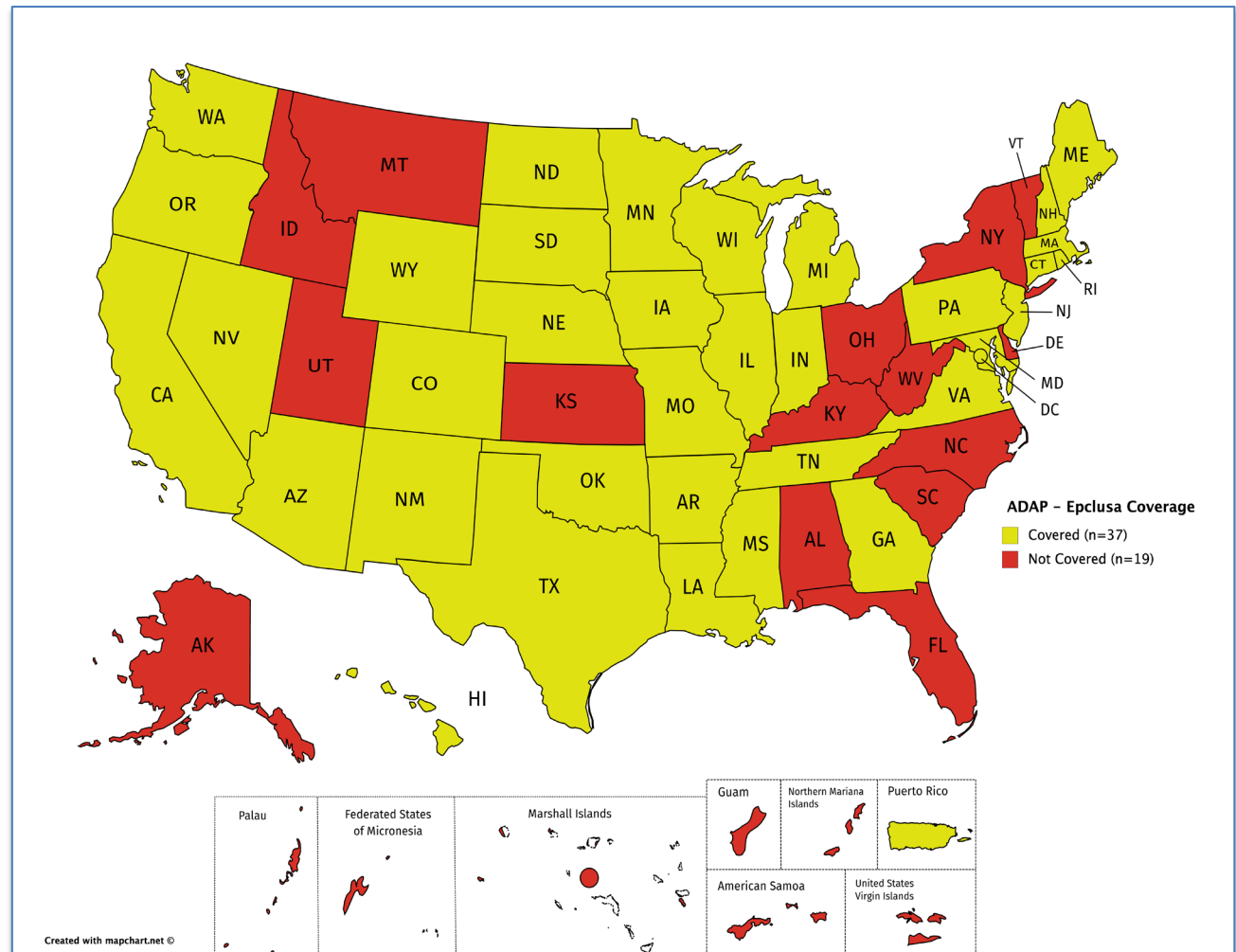
Epclusa Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 8.

Epclusa Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

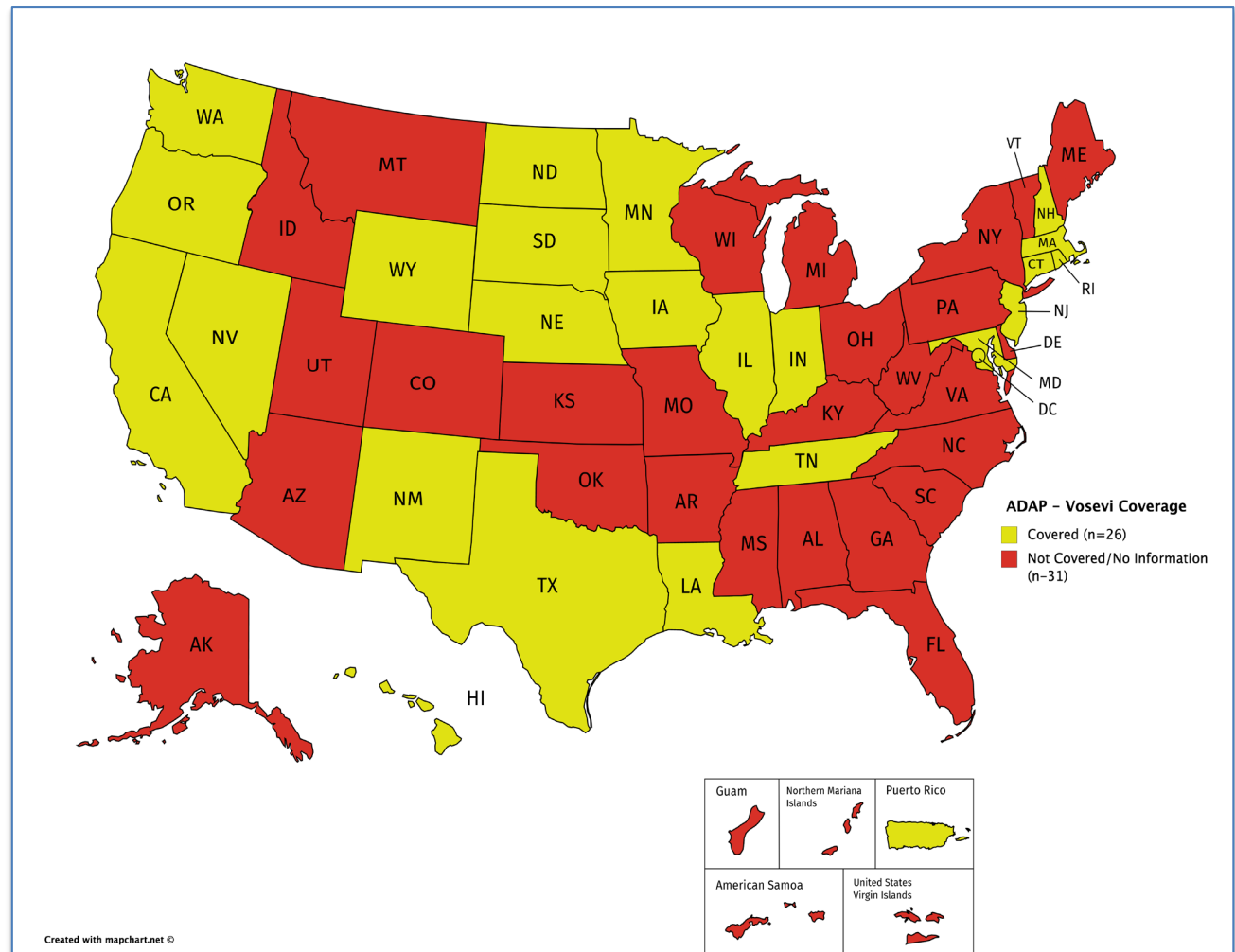
Vosevi Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 9.

Vosevi Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

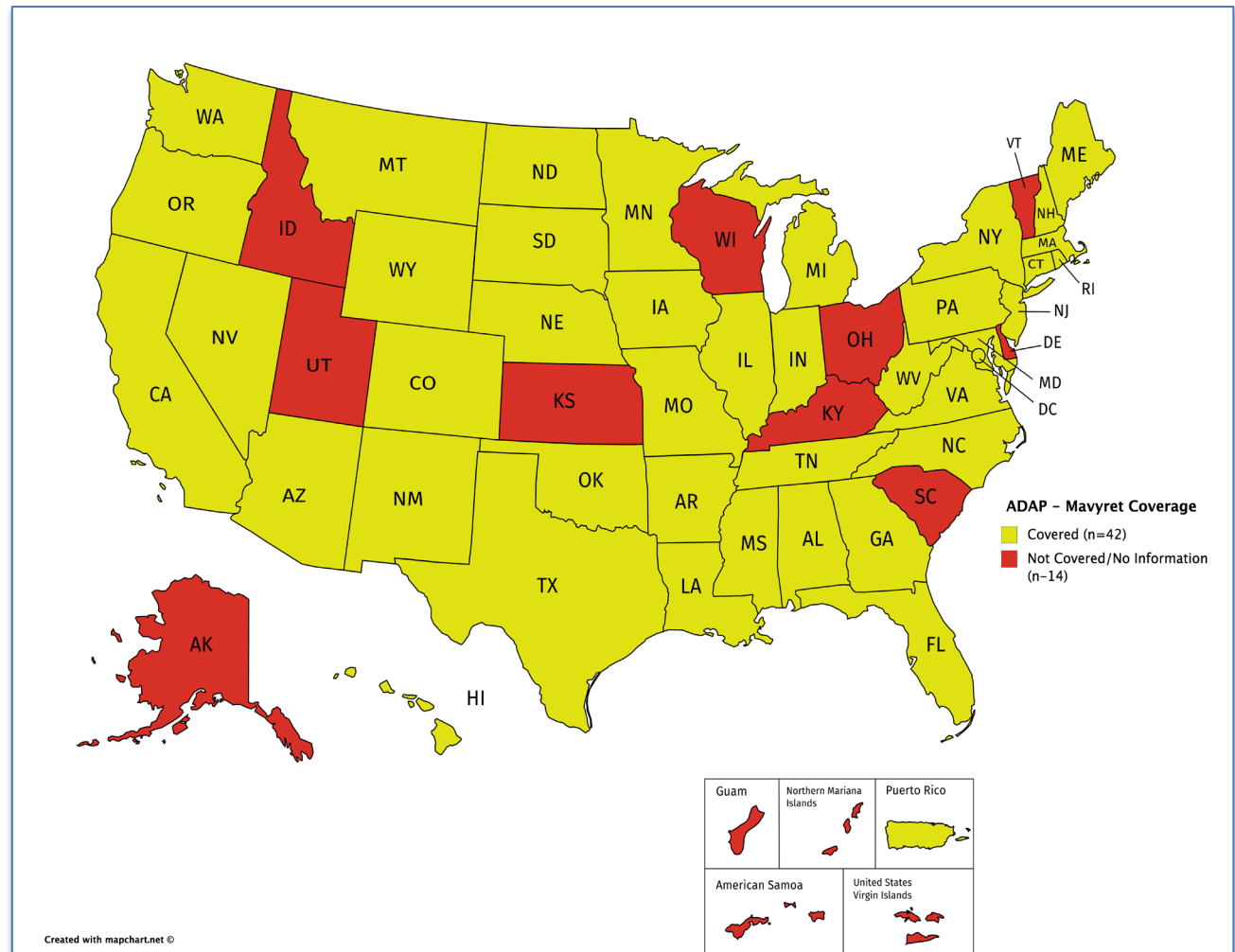
Mavyret Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 10.

Mavyret Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

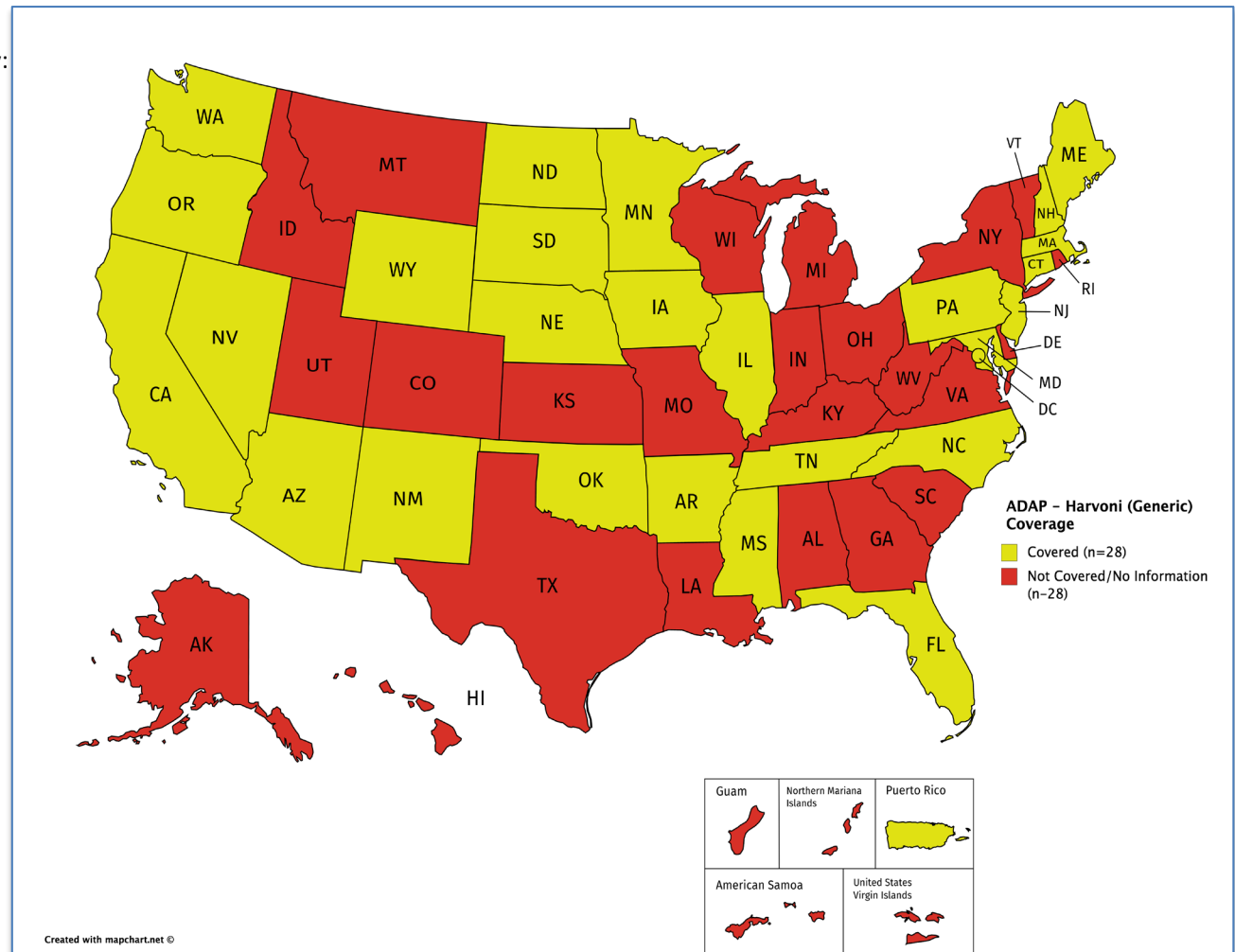
Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 11.

Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map Key:

Lime Green: Coverage

Red: No Coverage



AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs) & HCV Treatments

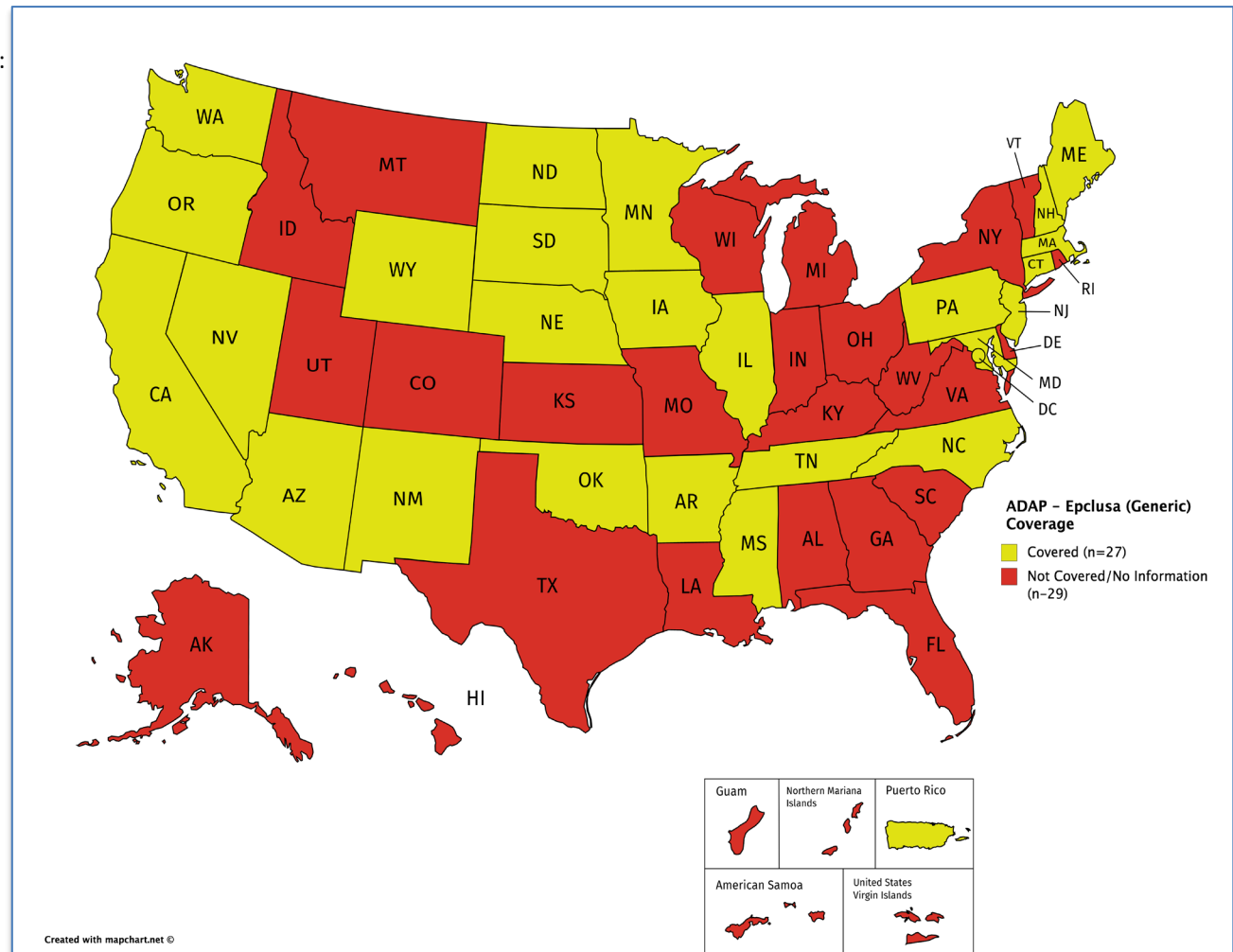
Epclusa *Generic* Coverage Map
October 2020

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 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 October 15, 2020.

October 2020 Updates:

- No updates

October 2020 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, Sovaldi, Ribavirin, Zepatier, 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*	N	Y*	X
Arkansas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	X
California	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	X
Colorado	Y	Y	Y*	Y	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Connecticut	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	N	X
Delaware	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	X
Florida	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	N	Y*	X
Georgia	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	N	X
Hawaii	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	X
Idaho	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	X
Illinois	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	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*	N	N	X
Kentucky	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	X
Louisiana	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	X
Maine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	N	N	X

Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

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

State	Basic	Sovaldi	Harvoni	Viekira Pak	Daklinza	Zepatier	Eplusa	Vosevi	Mavyret	Harvoni <i>Generic</i>	Eplusa <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*	Y*	Y*	X
Michigan	Y	Y	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	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	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y	X
Nevada	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	X
New Hampshire	Y	Y	Y*	N	N	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	Y	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*	Y	Y*	X
North Dakota	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	Y	Y	X
Ohio	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y*	Y	Y*	X
Oklahoma	Y	Y*	Y*	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	Y*	X
Oregon	Y	N	N	N	N	N	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*	Y	Y	X
South Carolina	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N	N	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*	N	N	X
Washington, DC	Y	Y	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

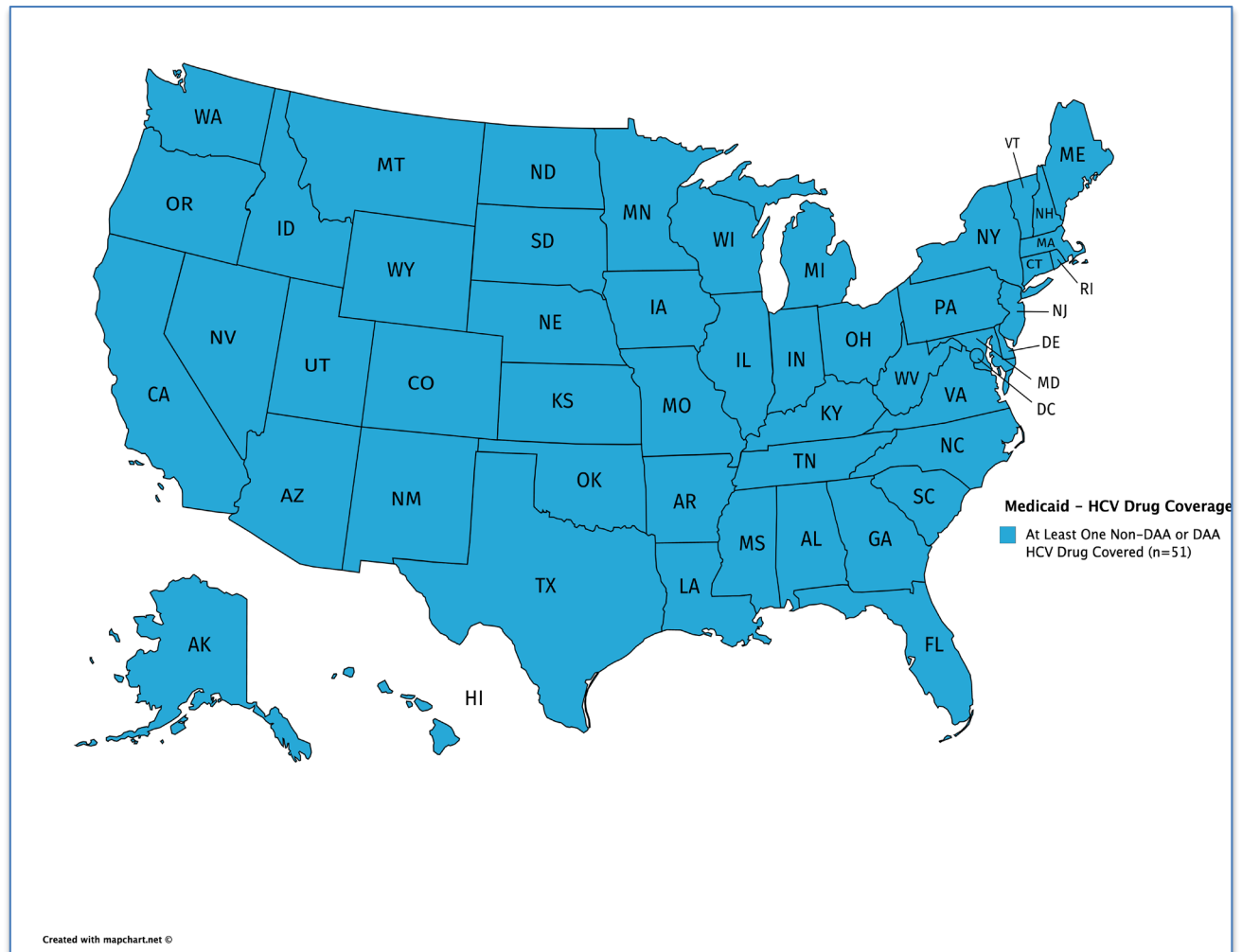
There are currently 51 Medicaid programs that cover some form of HCV-related drug therapies as part of their Preferred Drug Lists. To learn more about Medicaid or their Preferred Drug Lists, please visit <http://medicaiddirectors.org>.

Figure 14.

Basic Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



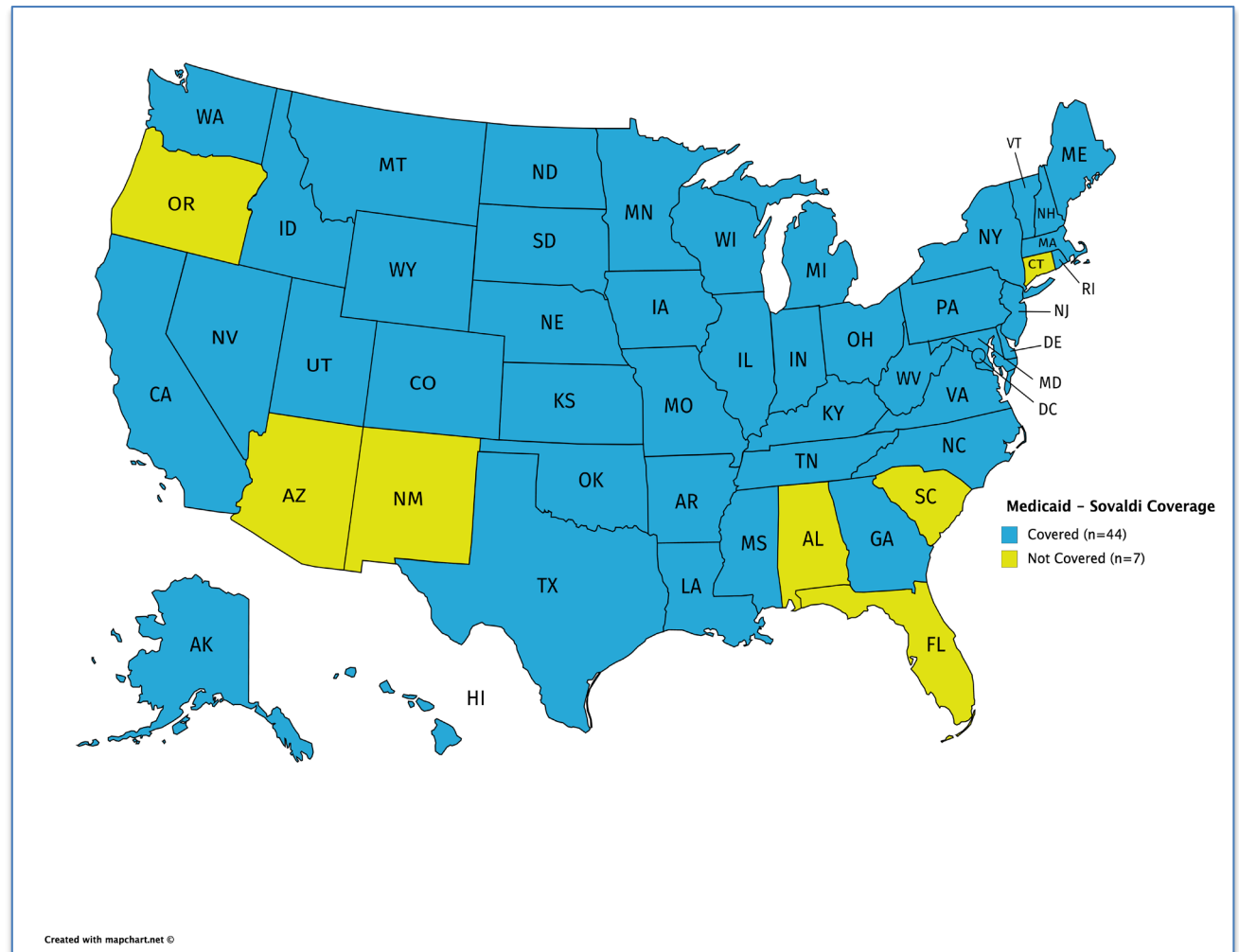
Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Sovaldi Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 15.

Sovaldi Coverage Map Key:

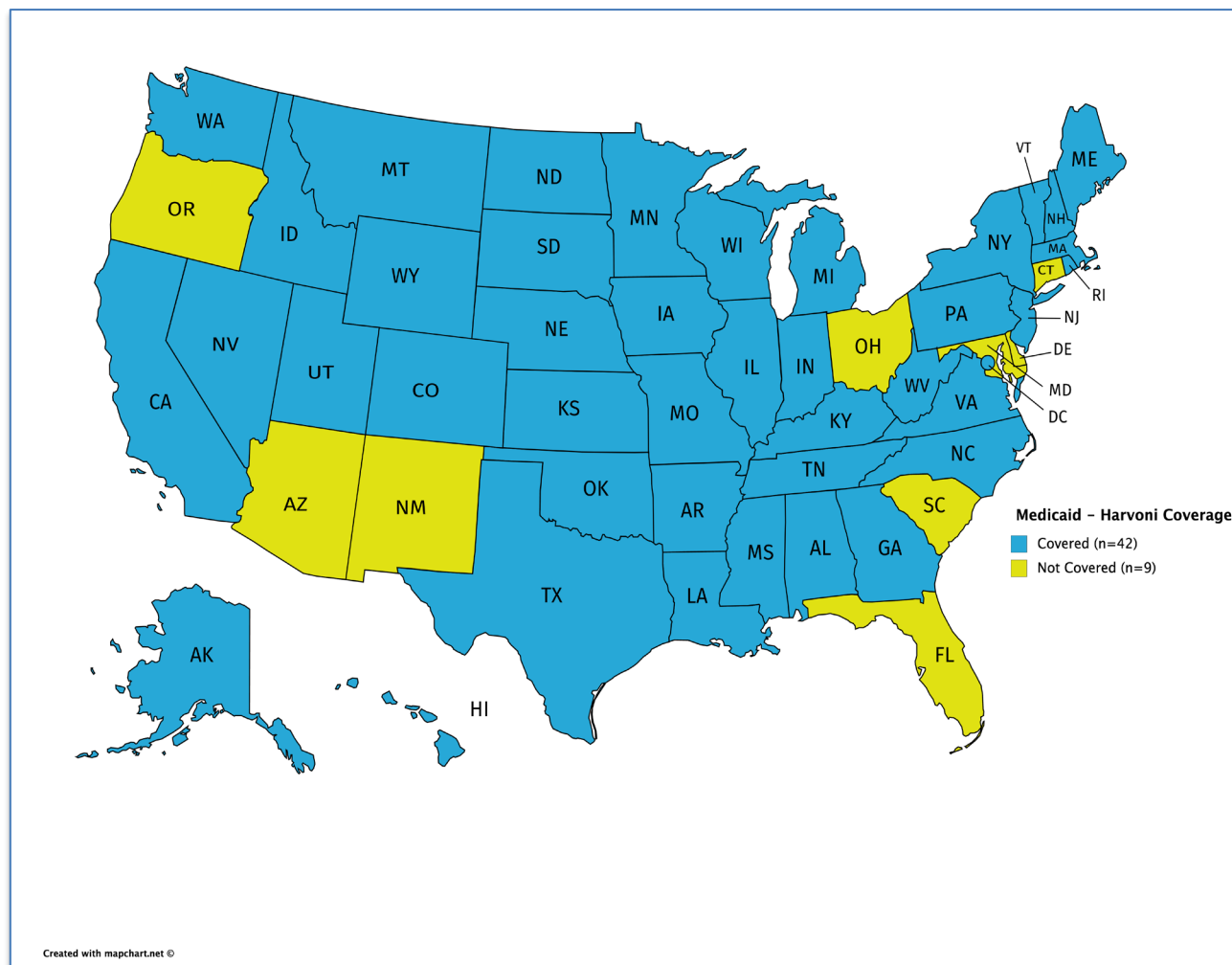
Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



Harvoni Coverage Map
October 2020

Harvoni Coverage Map Key:

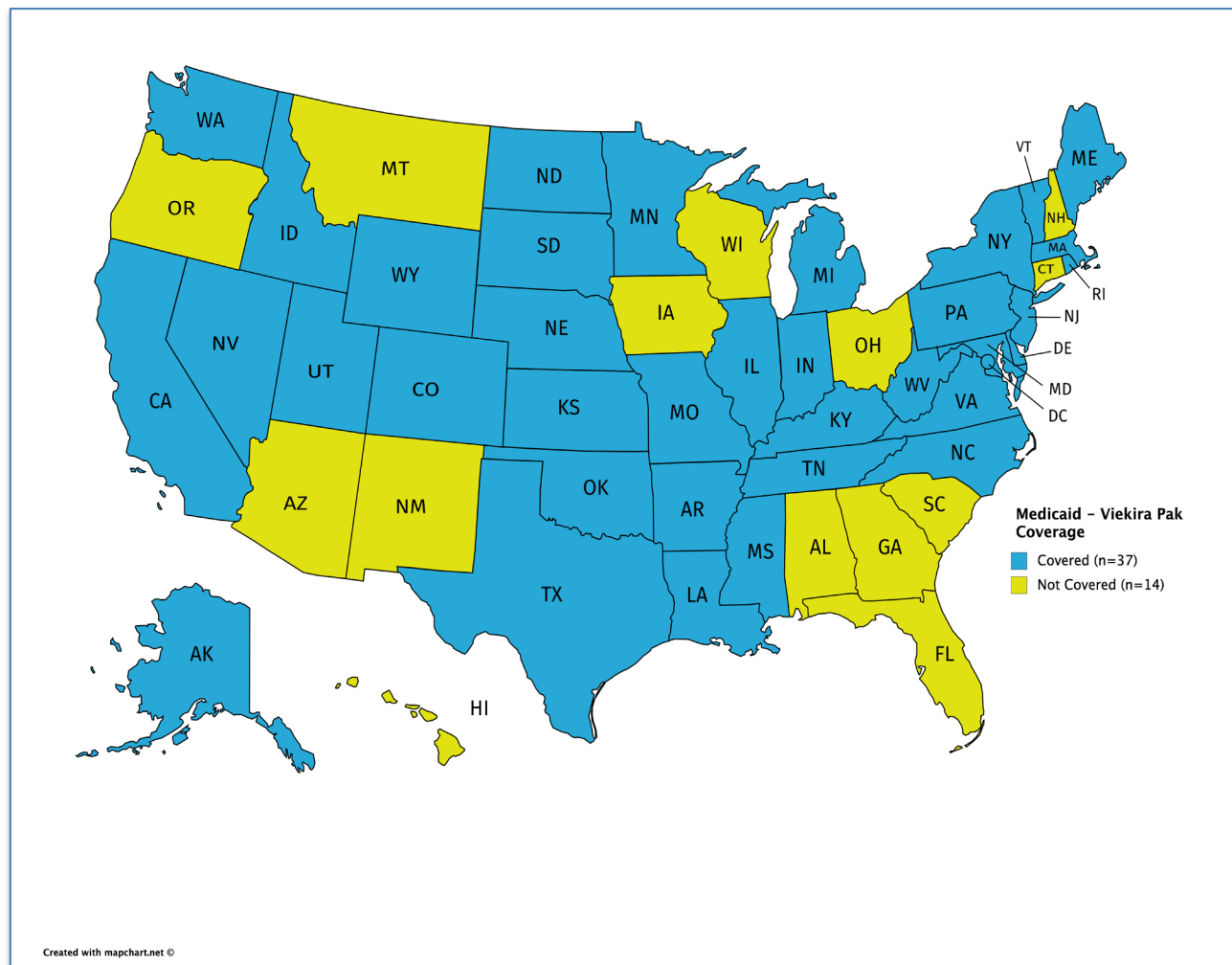
Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



Viekira Pak Coverage Map October 2020

Viekira Pak Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



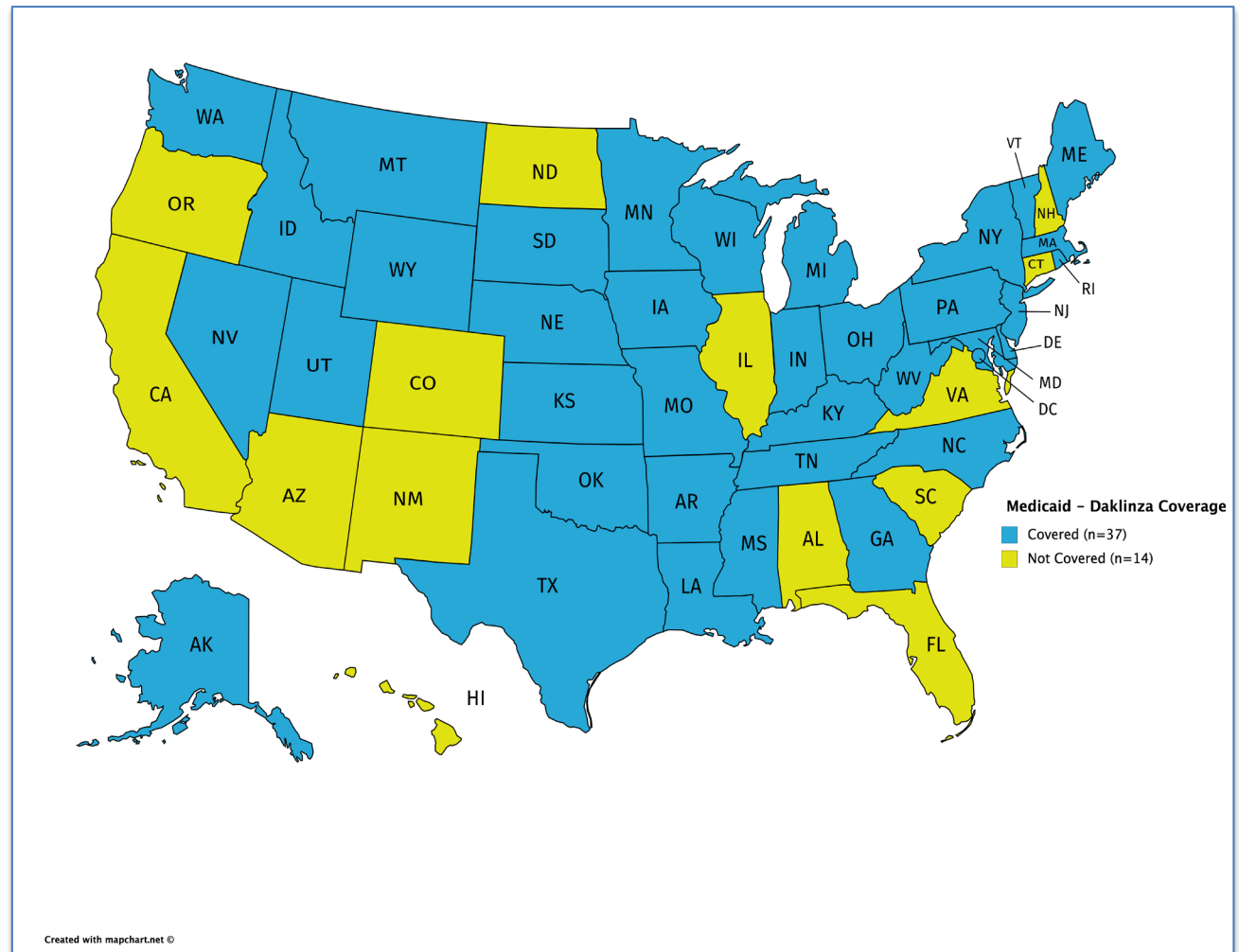
Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Daklinza Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 18.

Daklinza Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



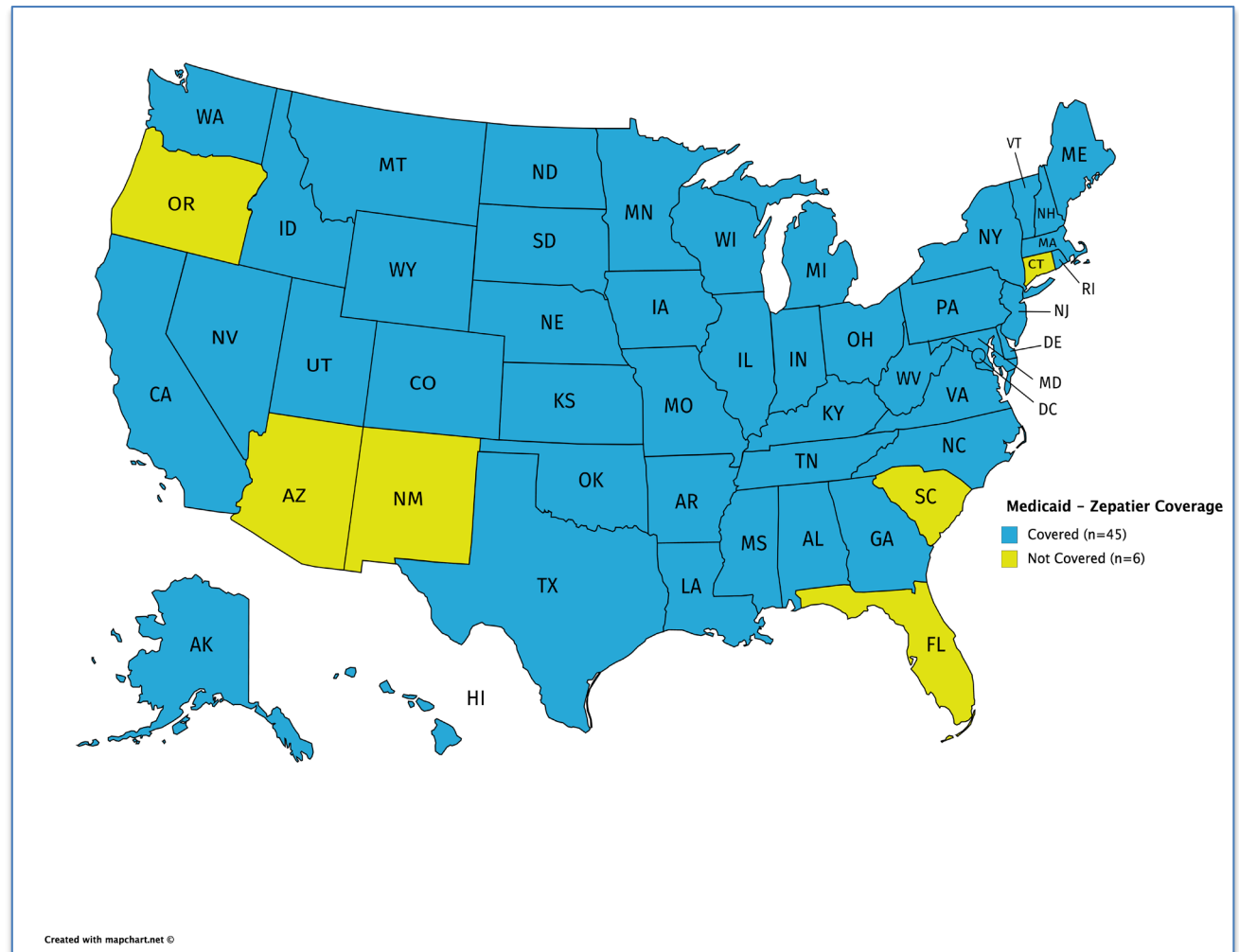
Zepatier Coverage Map October 2020

Figure 19.

Zepatier Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered

Yellow: Not Covered



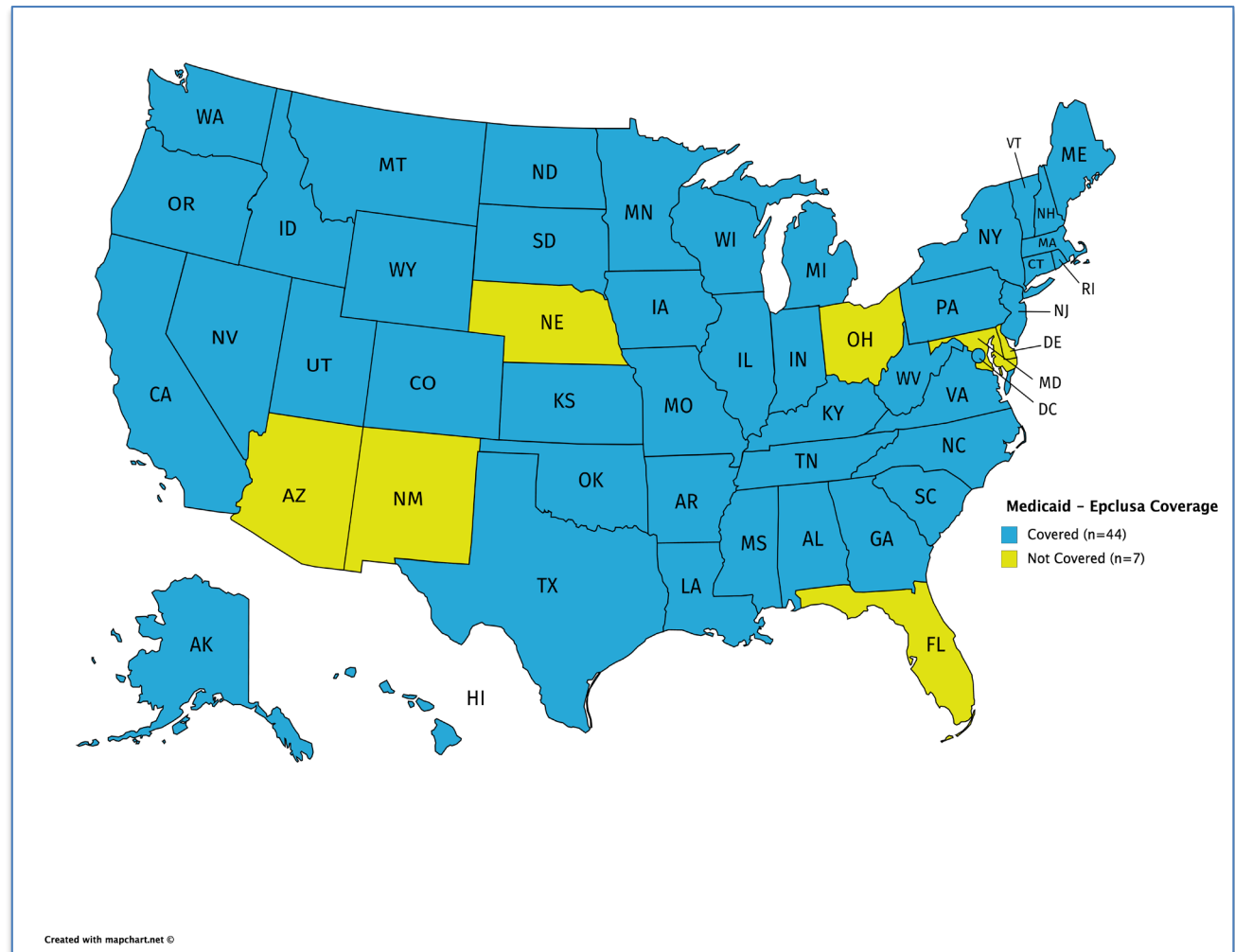
Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Epclusa Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 20.

Epclusa Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



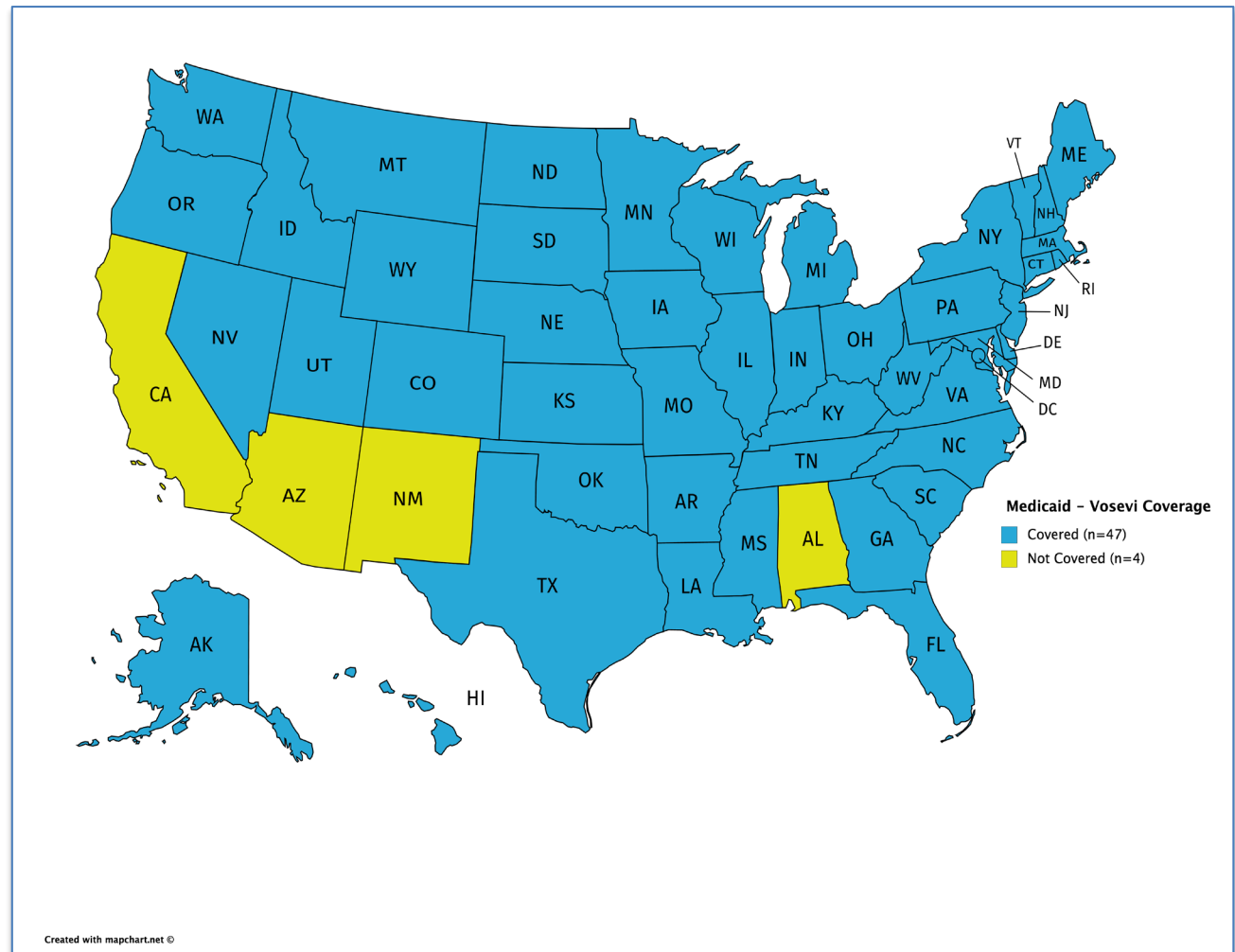
Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Vosevi Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 21.

Vosevi Coverage Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



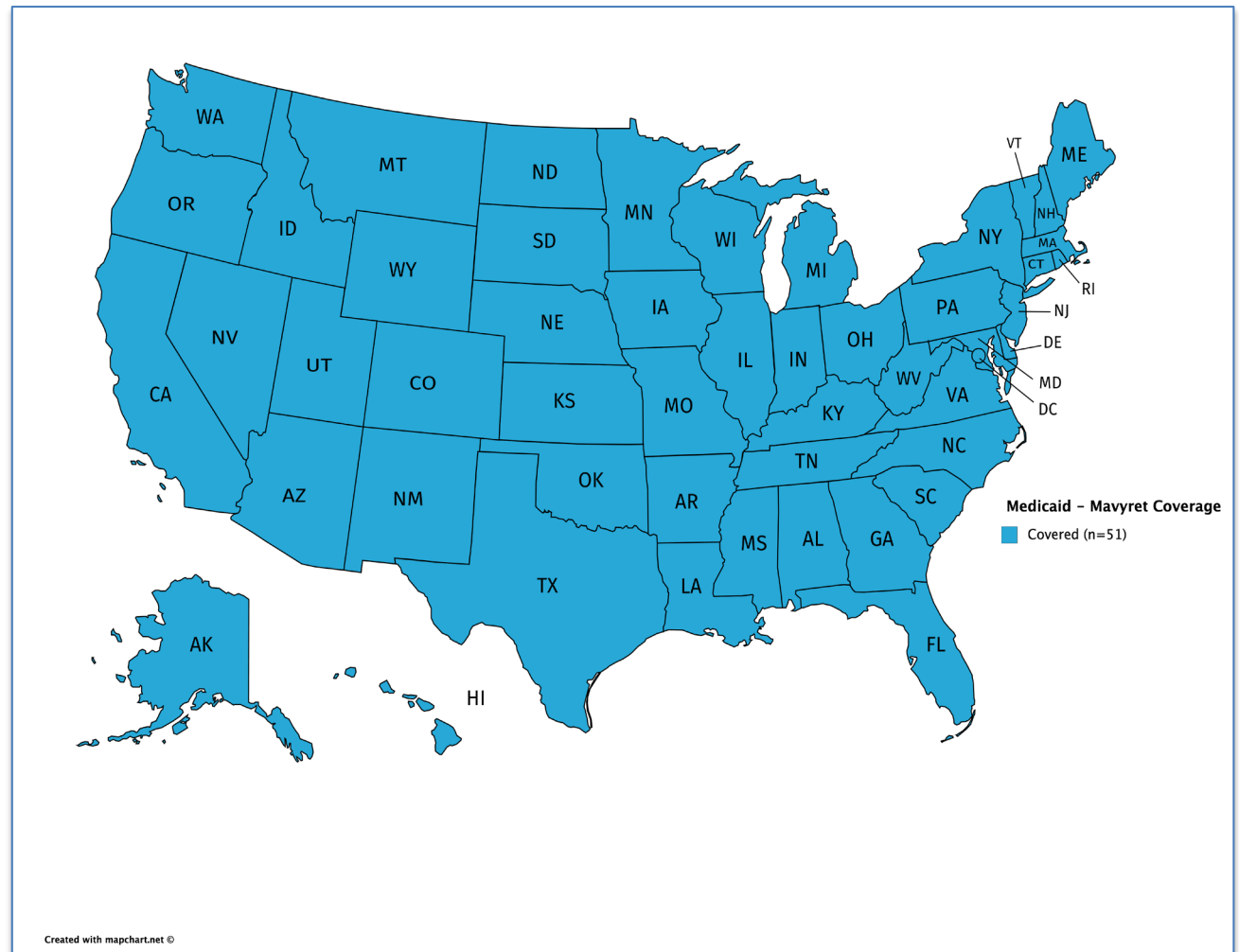
Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Mavyret Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 22.

Mavyret Coverage Map Key:

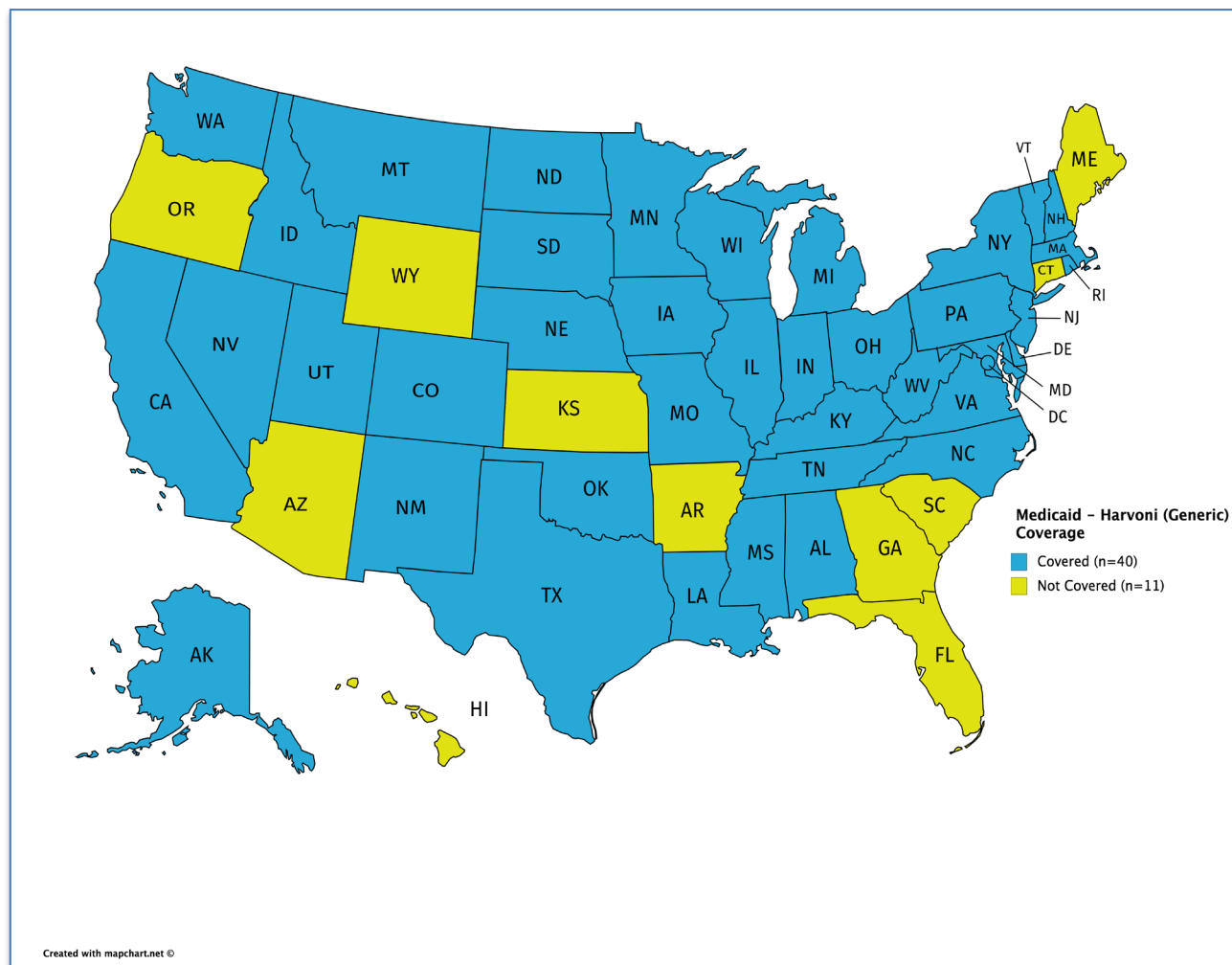
Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



Harvoni *Generic* Coverage Map
October 2020

Harvoni *Generic* Map Key:

Light Blue: Covered
Yellow: Not Covered



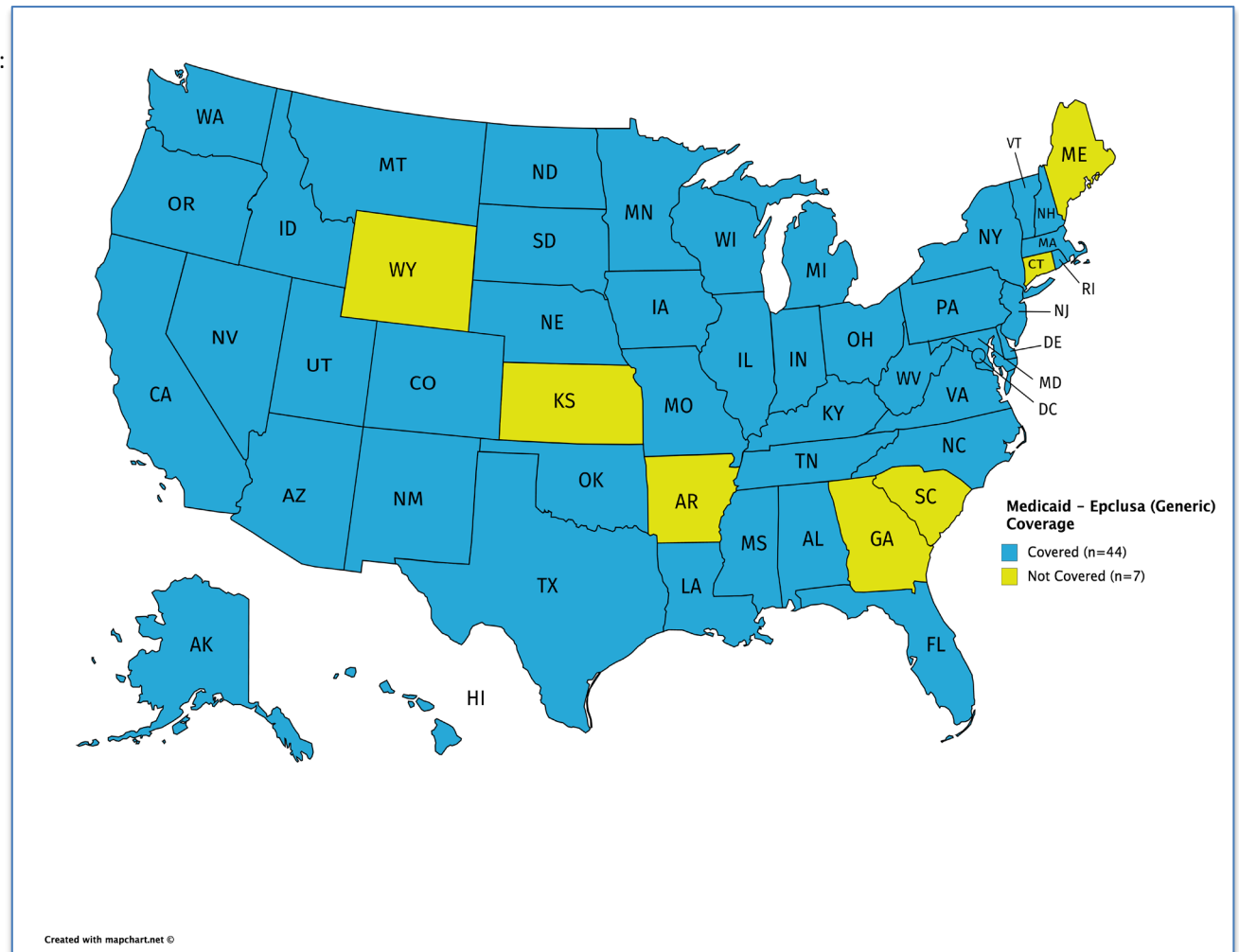
Medicaid Programs & HCV Treatments

Epclusa *Generic* Coverage Map
October 2020

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).

October 2020 Updates:

- DC has removed the Fibrosis Score Prior Authorization requirement effective January 2021
- NY has removed Prior Authorization requirements, entirely, from its Medicaid program for Hepatitis C

October 2020 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; (3) **Western Sky Community Care**
 - Ohio – Ohio has a Unified Medicaid Formulary that applies to all MCOs
- 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
 - Epclusa: 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
 - Epclusa: 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 \pm 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 \pm RBV or Sovaldi + RBV \pm 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 \pm RBV or Sovaldi + RBV \pm 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)
 - 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 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
 - Epclusa: 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
 - Epclusa: 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 Services Programs (SSPs) 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 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.

- **Medicaid 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	N	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	Y
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	N	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	N
Georgia – GA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hawaii – HI	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
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	N
Iowa – IA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Kansas – KS	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y
Kentucky – KY	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Louisiana – LA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Maine – ME	Y	Y	Y	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	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Mississippi – MS	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Missouri – MO	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y
Montana – MT	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	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	N	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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
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	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
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	N	Y	Y	Y	Y
Washington – WA	Y	Y	Y	N	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	N	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

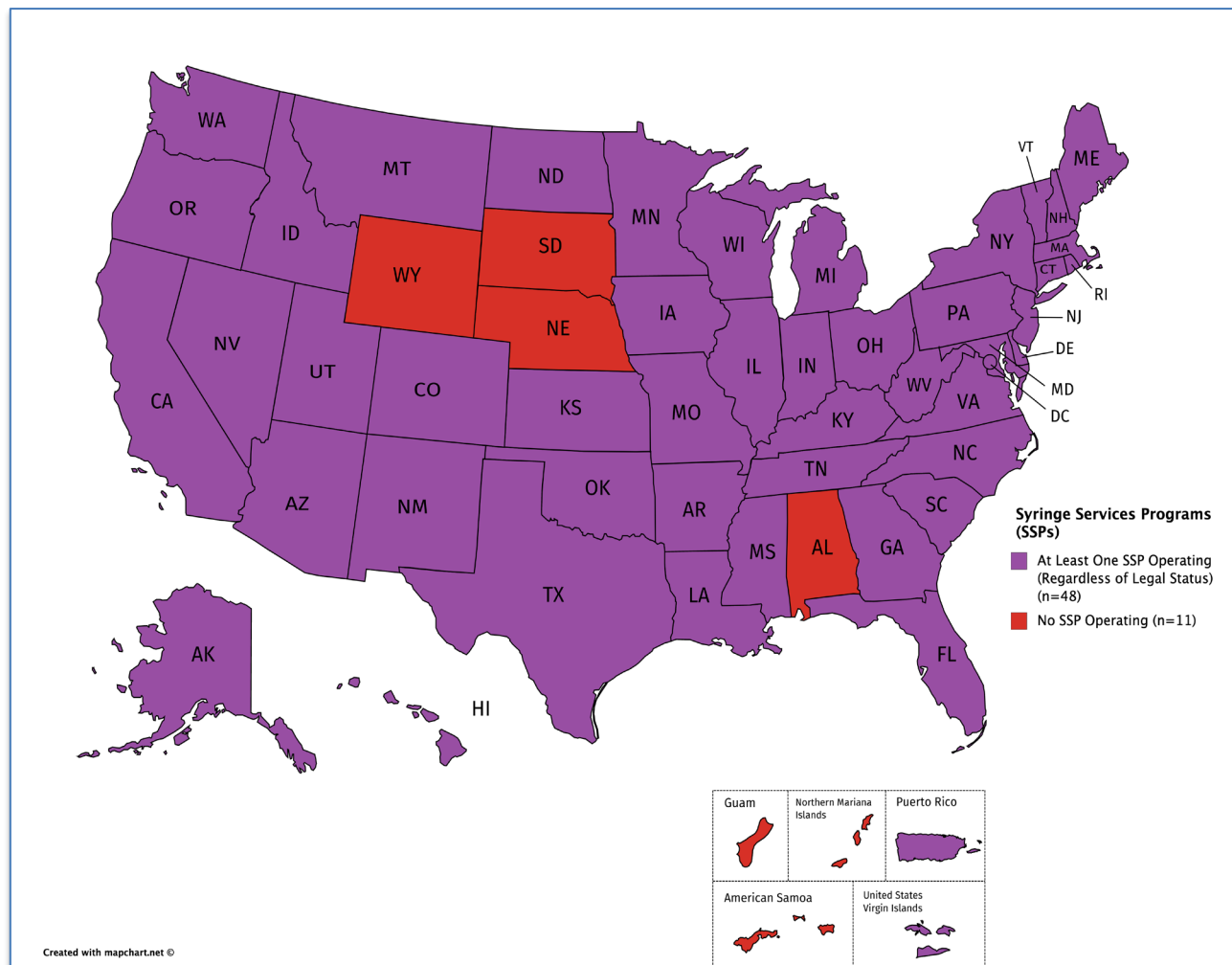
Syringe Exchange Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 28.

Syringe Exchange Map Key:

Purple: Syringe Exchange(s)

Red: No Syringe Exchange(s)



Harm Reduction Programs

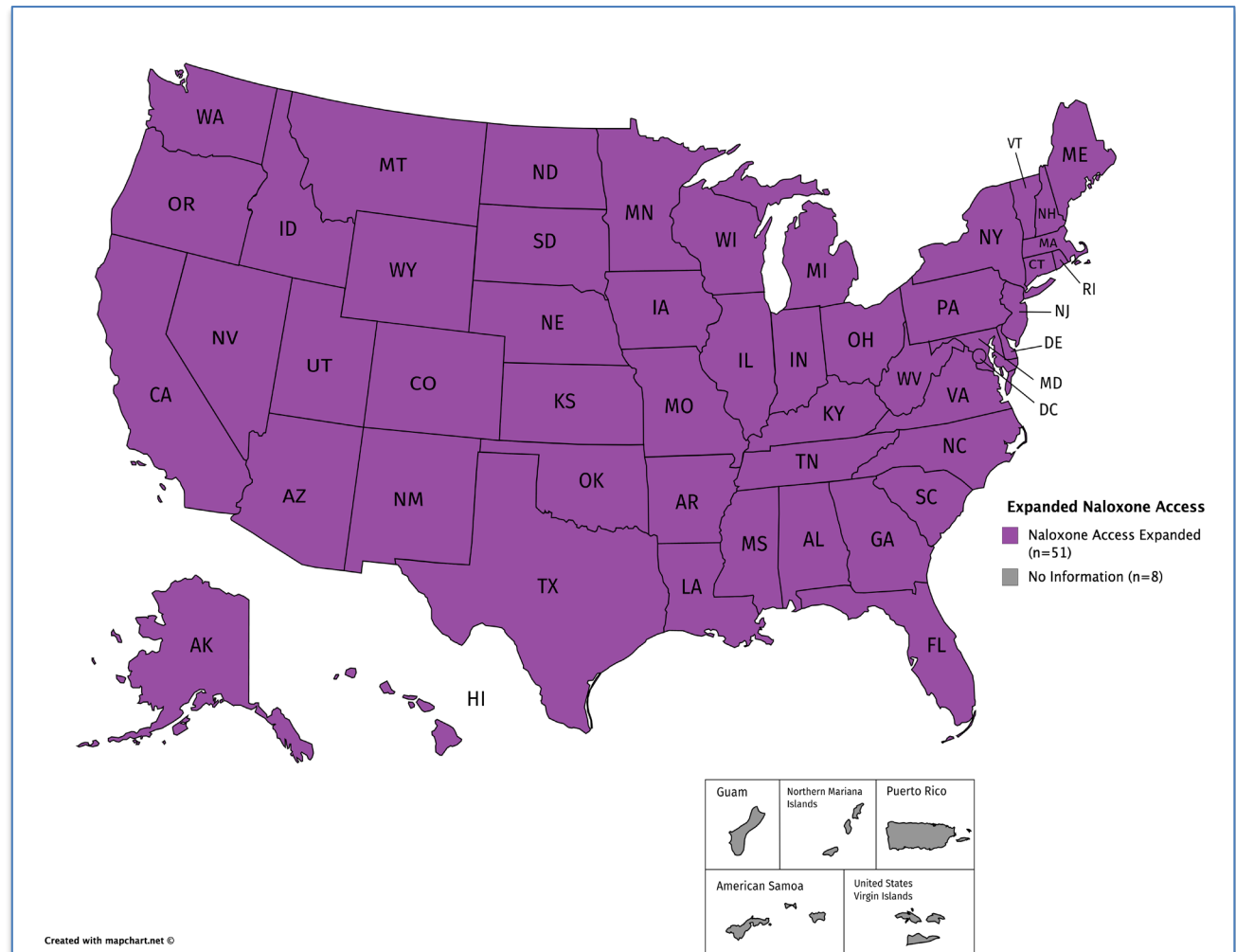
Expanded Naloxone Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 29.

Expanded Naloxone Map Key:

Purple: Expanded Naloxone

Red: Restricted Naloxone



Harm Reduction Programs

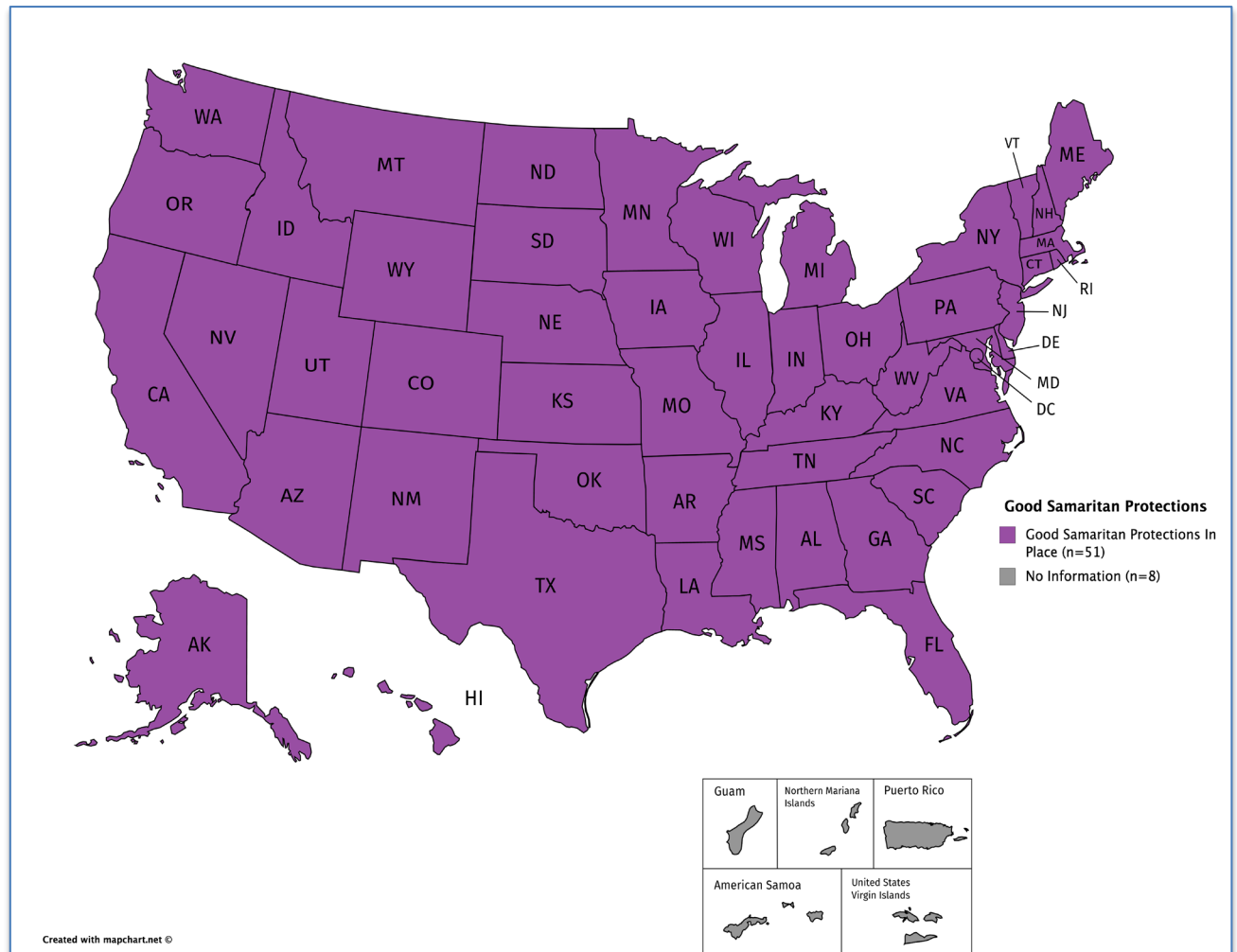
Good Samaritan Laws Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 30.

Good Samaritan Laws Map Key:

Purple: Good Samaritan Laws

Red: No Good Samaritan Laws



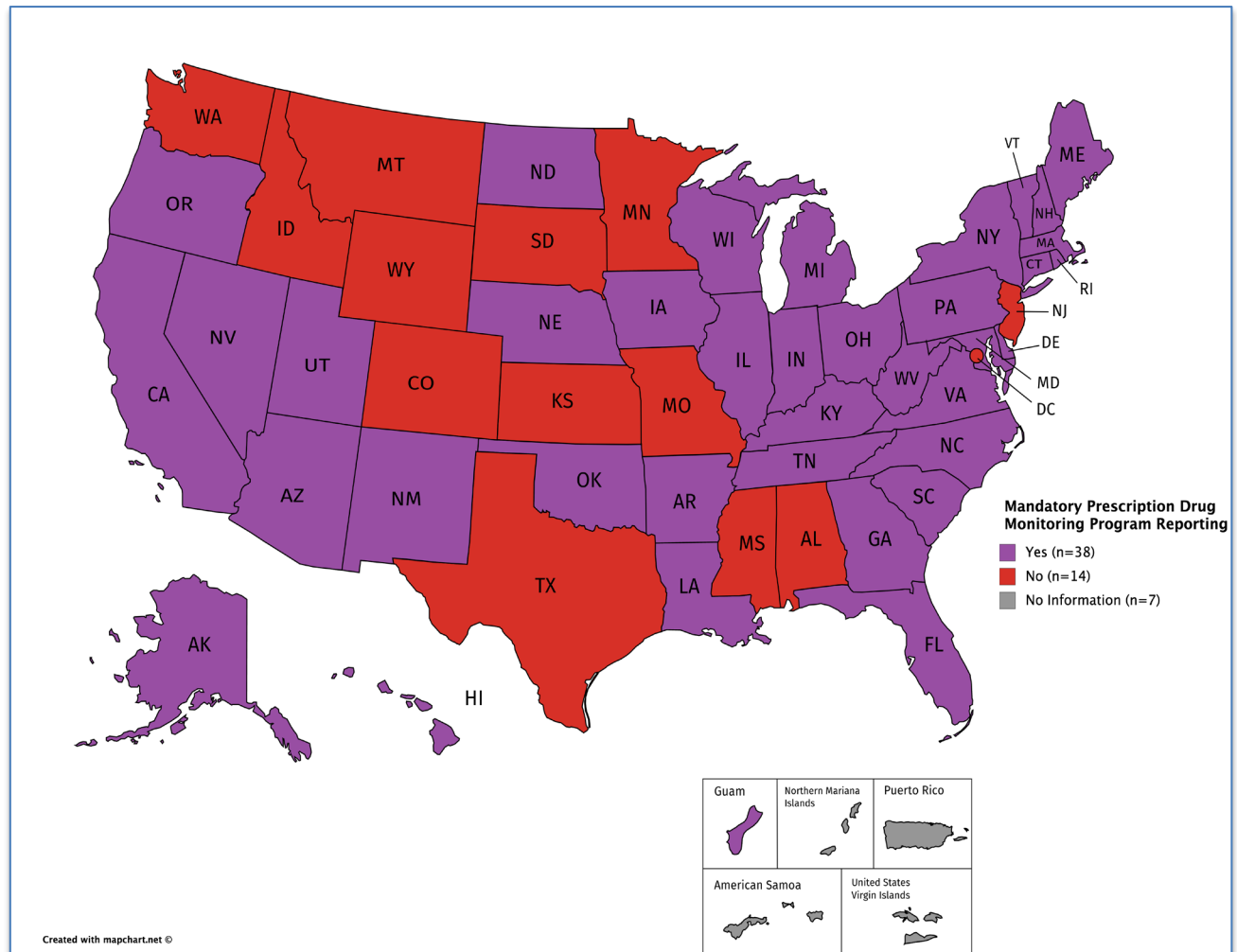
Harm Reduction Programs

Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs) Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 31.

PDMPs Map Key:

Purple: Mandatory PDMPs
Red: No Mandatory PDMPs



Harm Reduction Programs

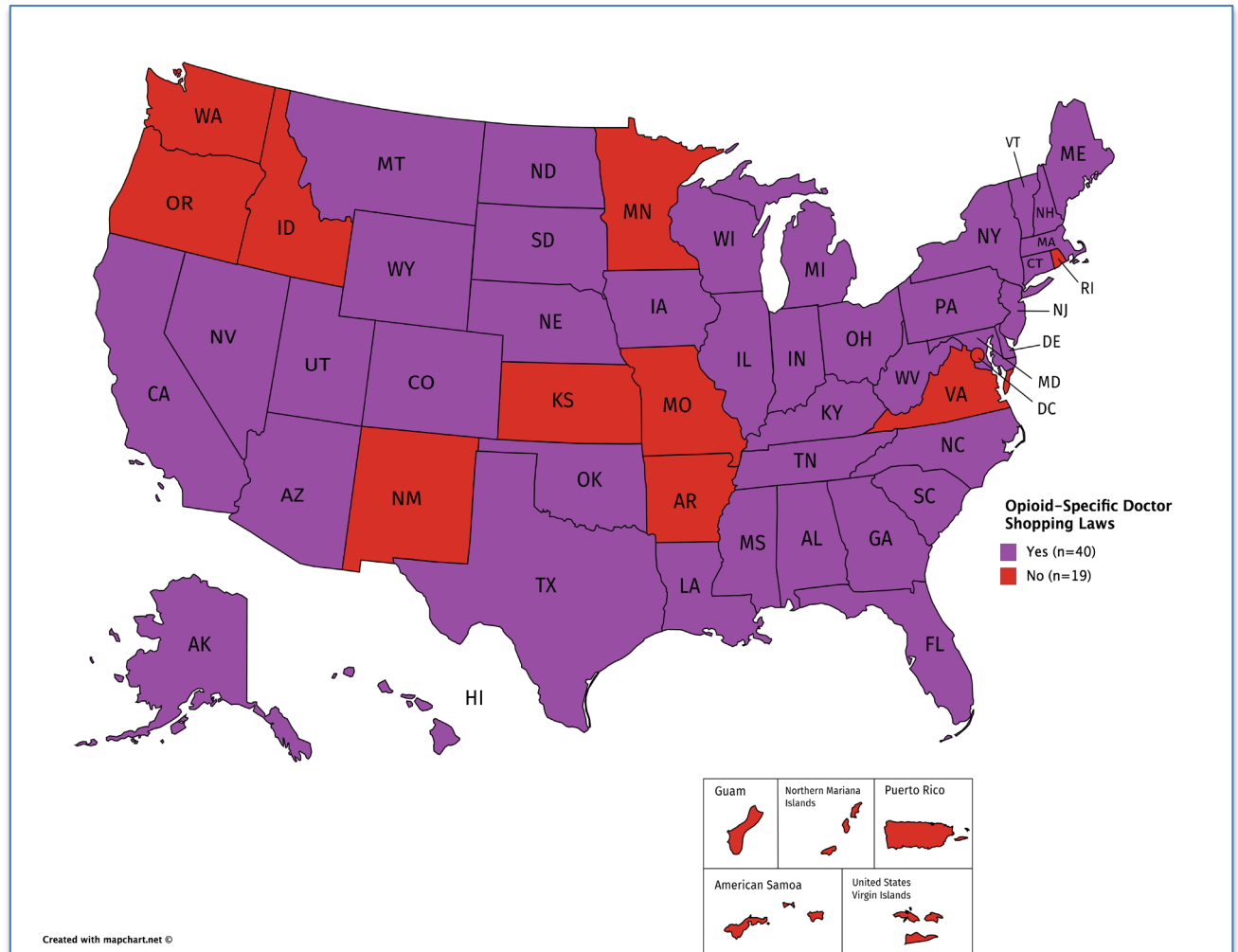
Doctor Shopping Laws Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 32.

Doctor Shopping Laws Map Key:

Purple: Doctor Shopping Laws

Red: No Doctor Shopping Laws



Harm Reduction Programs

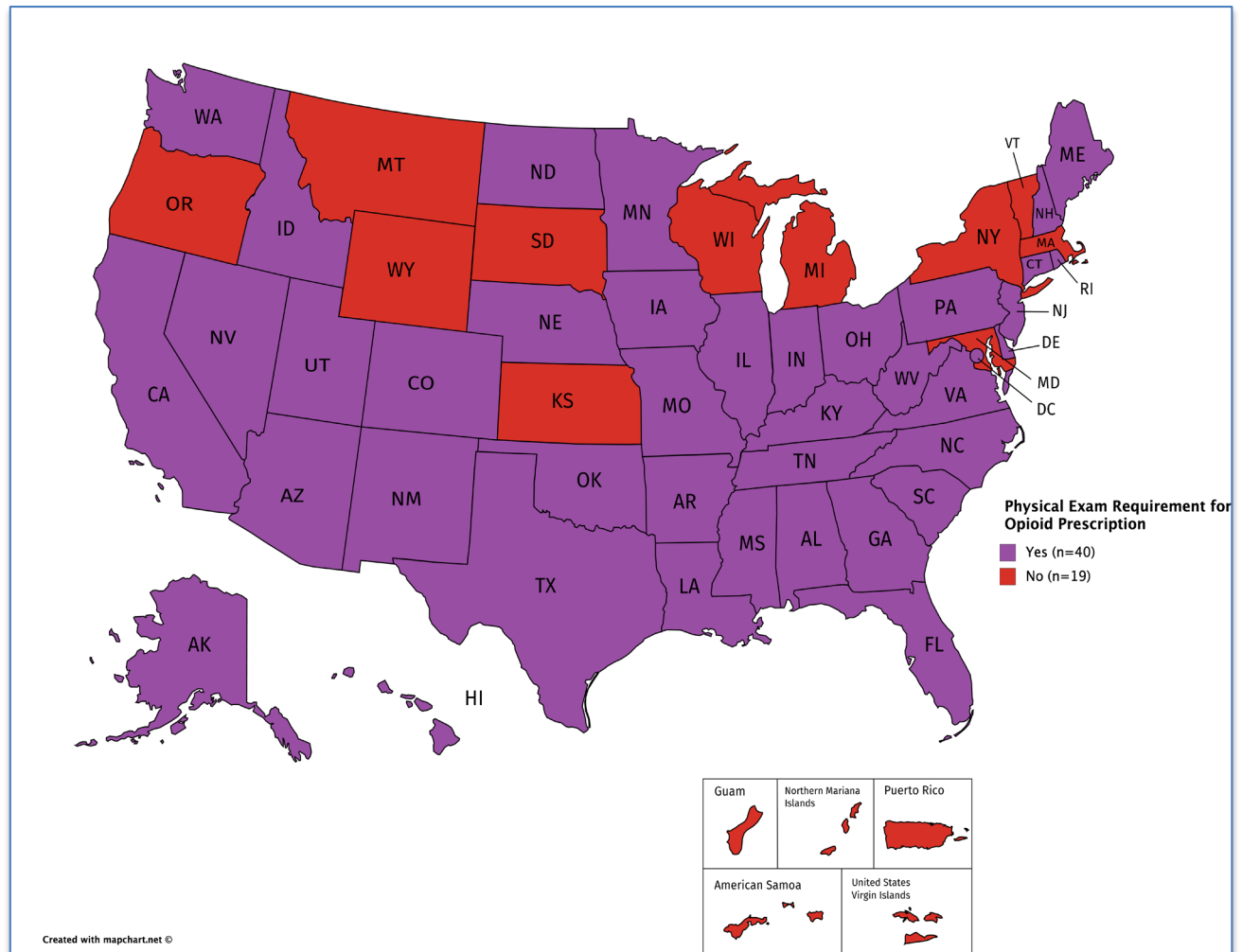
Physical Exam Required Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 33.

Physical Exam Required Map Key:

Purple: Physical Exam Required

Red: No Physical Exam Required



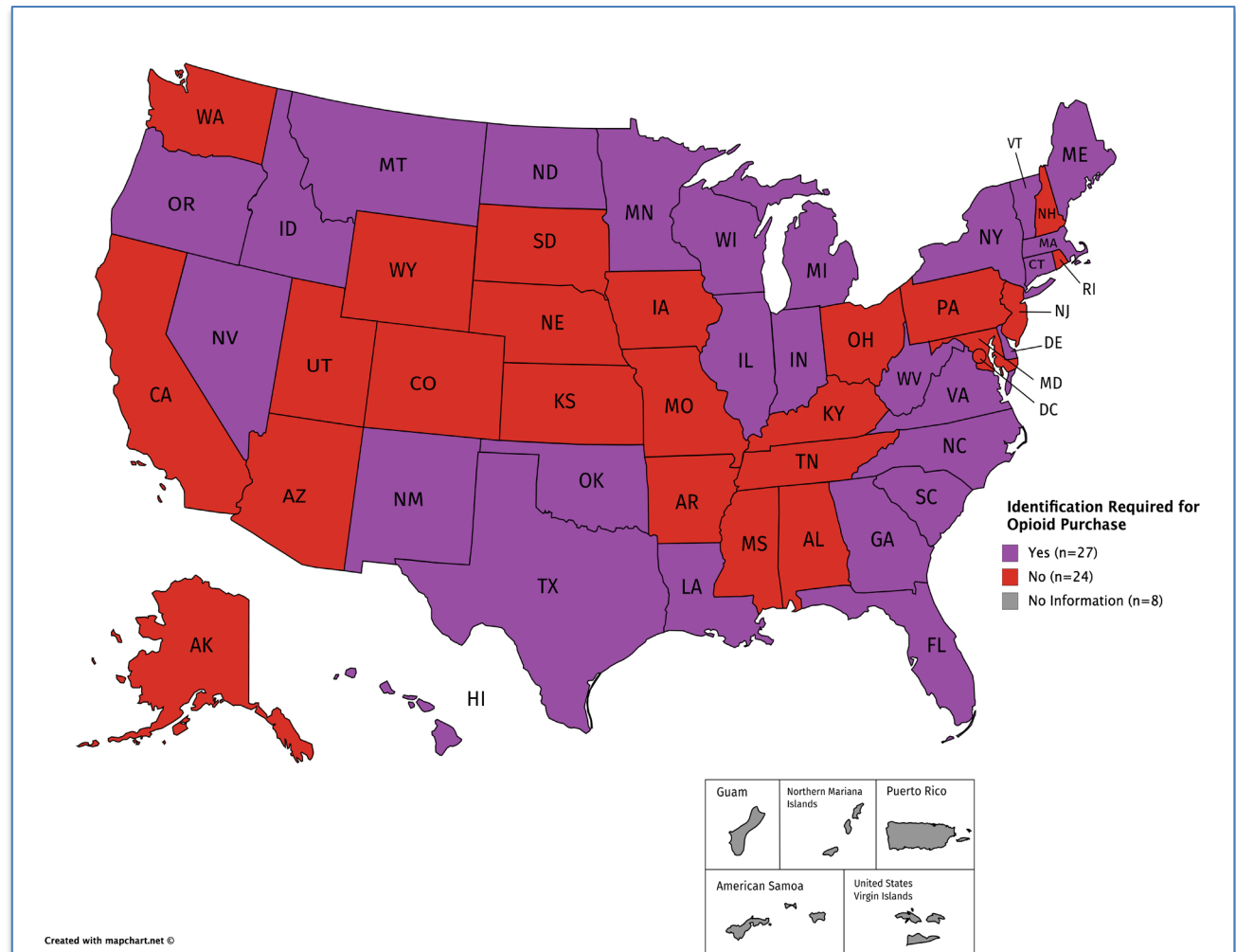
Harm Reduction Programs

I.D. Required Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 34.

I.D. Requirement Map Key:

Purple: I.D. Required
Red: No I.D. Required

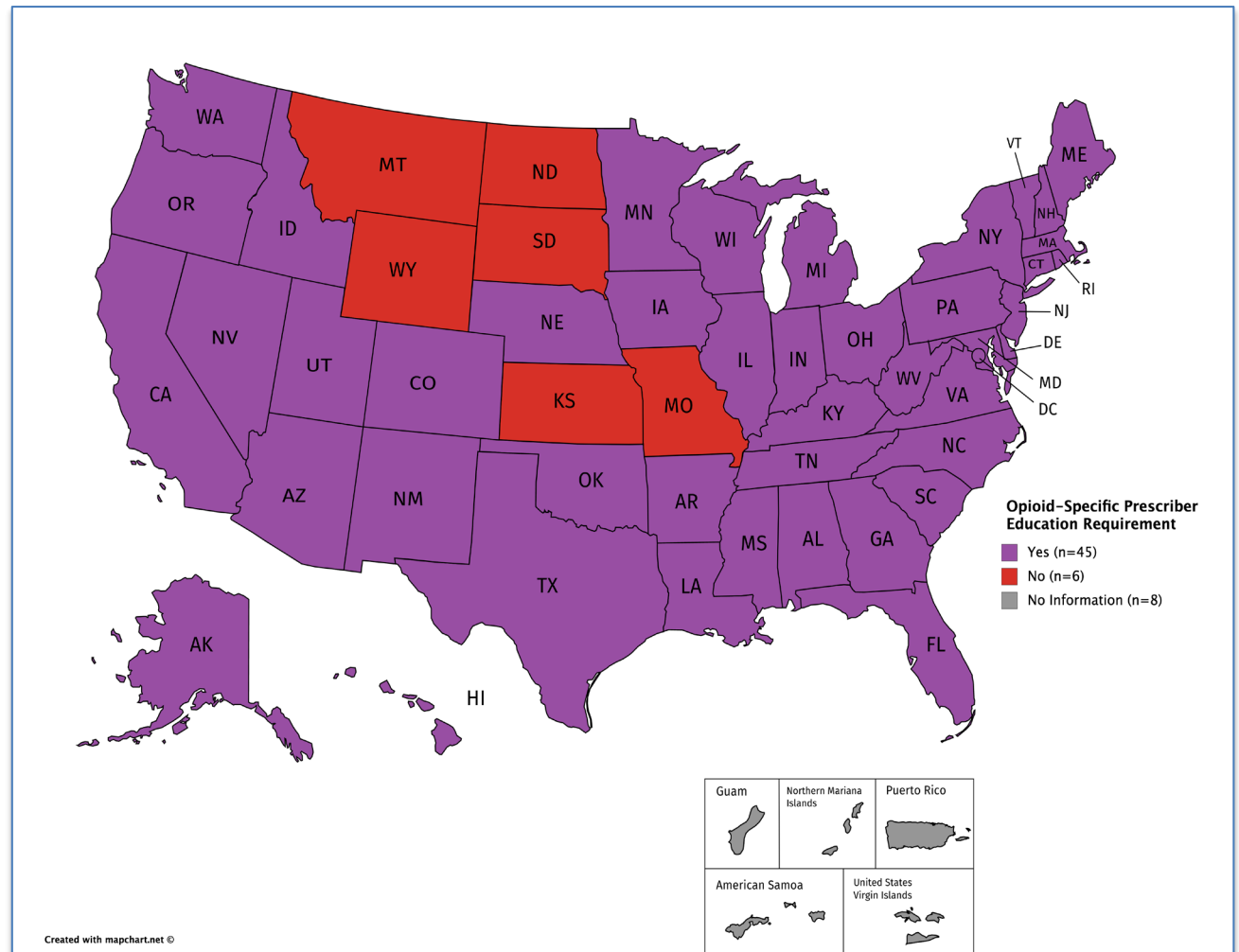


Harm Reduction Programs

Prescriber Education Required Coverage Map
October 2020

Figure 35.

Prescriber Ed Required Map Key:
Purple: Prescriber Ed Required
Red: No Prescriber Ed Required



Harm Reduction Programs

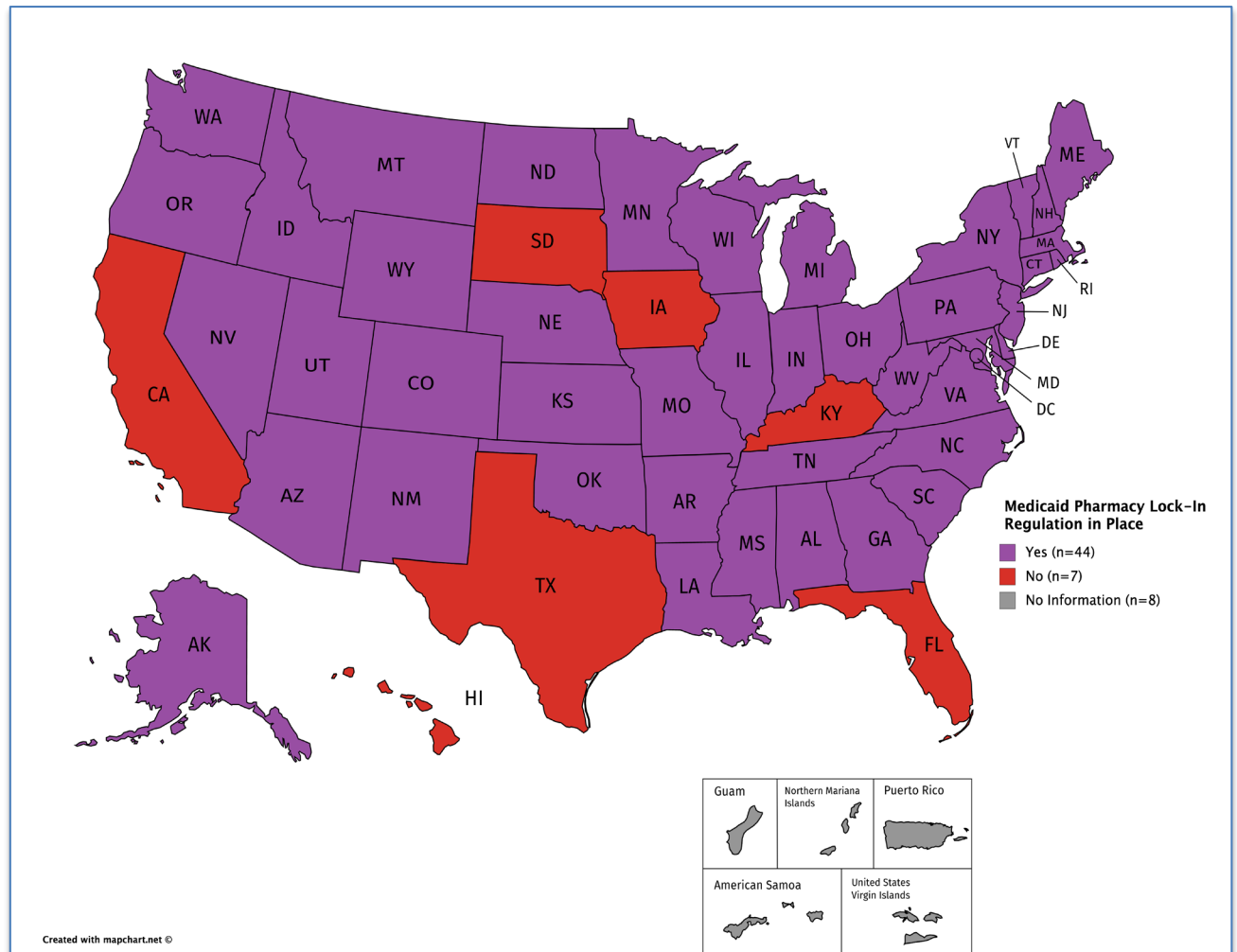
Lock-In Program Coverage Map
October 2020

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.

October 2020 Updates:

- No updates

October 2020 Notes:

- The following state has pending legislation that would legalize state-sponsored Syringe Exchanges – **FL, 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

National Districts

Regional Trends Con't.

National Trends

HIV – New Diagnoses (2018 Preliminary National Rate – 11.4):

- The national rate of new HIV infections continues to decline, year over year. That said, specific populations continue to see increases in new HIV diagnoses:
 - Transgender Americans
 - Men who have Sex with Men (MSM), particularly Hispanic/Latino MSM aged 25-34
 - People Who Inject Drugs (PWID), particularly White Americans aged 20-39 living in the American South
- PWID represent a growing number of new HIV infections in certain jurisdictions where Substance Use Disorder rates are high. Nationally, only 6.6% of new HIV diagnoses were attributed to Injection Drug Use (IDU), in 2018. Regionally, however, those percentages are much higher. An excellent example of this is the state of West Virginia:
 - In 2018 – the year used for the above statistics – there were 87 new HIV diagnoses in the state; of those, 39 (44.8%) were related to IDU. That trend continued to increase, in 2019 – of the 146 newly identified cases of HIV, 91 (62.3%) were related to IDU – and again, in 2020 (to date) – of the 90 newly identified cases, 62 (68.8%).
 - This trend among PWID is not reserved for HIV, but extends to Hepatitis A, B, and C

HBV (2017 National Rate – 1.1):

- The national rate of new HBV infections decreased by 0.1 to 1.0 in 2018, as the number of new diagnoses fell from 3,409 to 3,322. However, certain populations bear higher risks of infection:
 - American Indian/Alaska Natives, Blacks, and Hispanic populations all saw increases in new infections in 2018
 - Americans aged 30-39
 - PWID
- While White Americans has a rate of 1.0 in 2018, that number decreased from 1.1 in 2017. American Indians/Alaska Natives, on the other hand, saw an increase in new infection rates from 0.7 in 2017 to 0.9 in 2018. In both of these populations, IDU is one of the leading risk factors, where as IDU is decreasing among Black and Hispanic populations, despite a slight uptick in infection rates among the latter, from 0.3 in 2017, to 0.4 in 2018.
- IDU was listed as the primary risk factor in 37% of the cases in which IDU data was collected

Regional Trends Con't.

National Trends

HCV – New Diagnoses (2017 National Rate – 1.0):

- Rates of new HCV diagnoses increased in 2018, particularly in people aged 20-39, which is consistent with the age groups most impacted by the nation's opioid crisis. The following specific populations are most at risk:
 - American Indians/Alaska Natives
 - Americans aged 20-39
 - People Who Inject Drugs
- American Indians/Alaska Natives saw a dramatic increase in new infection rates, from 2.9 in 2017, to 3.6 in 2018. This is likely a result of IDU within that population. IDU accounted for 72% of new HCV infections, in 2018, with the majority of new infections occurring in people aged 20-39

Latest News

Latest News

- **Medicine Nobel honors three scientists for discoveries on hepatitis C virus**

The Nobel Committee has awarded this year's Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for the discovery of the hepatitis C virus, one of the most common causes of liver cancer. The prize was given to Harvey Alter of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH); Michael Houghton of the University of Alberta, Edmonton; and Charles Rice of Rockefeller University (Vogel, 2020).

- **Many People on Medicaid and Prisoners Still Lack Access to Hepatitis C Treatment**

People who rely on Medicaid and prisoners in some states are still being denied treatment for hepatitis C because they do not yet have advanced liver disease or because they use alcohol or drugs, according to recent reports.

Over years or decades, chronic hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection can lead to serious liver complications, including cirrhosis, liver cancer and the need for a liver transplant.

Because of the challenges of the old therapy, treatment was often restricted to people who had already progressed to advanced liver disease and those who were being managed by a liver disease specialist and was withheld from those who continued to use, or had recently stopped using, alcohol or recreational drugs.

Today, treatment guidelines recommend that all people with acute or chronic HCV infection should receive treatment, except for those who have a short life expectancy for other reasons. Studies have shown high cure rates for people who use drugs and have demonstrated that treatment can be successfully managed by primary care providers. But DAA drugs are expensive, and many people still do not have access to them.

Last month, a group of Medicaid recipients filed a class action lawsuit alleging that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission is restricting coverage of hepatitis C treatment to those who have already developed severe liver damage. The plaintiffs claim that the restriction violates the federal Medicaid Act and is not consistent with current standards of care (Highleyman, 2020).).

Latest News Con't.

- **Cost-Effectiveness of Universal and Targeted Hepatitis C Screening**

Hepatitis C virus (HCV) screening for injection drug users in the United States may be a cost-effective intervention to combat HCV infections and could potentially decrease the risk of untreated HCV infection and liver-related mortality, according to data from a simulated economic evaluation published in JAMA Network Open.

Investigators used a decision-analytic Markov model of the natural history and progression of HCV to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of HCV screening programs. They compared screening programs that target people who inject drugs (PWID) with universal screening of US adults aged 18 years and older. The outcomes were measured in quality-adjusted-life-years (QALY).

Results of a 10,000 Monte Carlo microsimulation trial comparing a baseline of men and women aged 40 years and PWID drugs in the United States revealed that screening and treatment for HCV were estimated to increase total costs by \$10,457 per person and increase QALYs by 0.23, or approximately 3 months. This would lead to an incremental cost-effectiveness ratio of \$45,465 per QALY. Universal screening and treatment were estimated to increase total costs by \$2845 per person and increase QALYs by 0.01, resulting in an incremental cost-effectiveness ratio of \$291,277 per QALY (van Paridon, 2020).

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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.

Marcus also serves as the West Virginia Policy Coordinator for the Community Education Group. He is also a Guest Blog Contributor for the ADAP Advocacy Association.

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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