

**To:** AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana Providers

**Date:** April 16, 2021

**Subject:** Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Screening and Pharmaceutical Treatment Initiative Refresher

**Summary: Refresher information provided regarding HCV Screening and Pharmaceutical Treatment**

As of **April 2020**, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends universal Hepatitis C screening at least once in a lifetime for **all adults aged 18 and older**, as well as screening all pregnant women during each pregnancy.

Hepatitis C testing, regardless of age, for people with recognized conditions or exposures is recommended. For a complete list of these recognized conditions or exposures, please refer to the [CDC's ABCs for Health Professionals](#).

Routine periodic testing is also recommended for people with ongoing risk factors and any person who requests Hepatitis C testing.

Click to view the CDC's [recommended testing sequence for identifying current hepatitis c virus infection](#) and also the [recommended interpretation of test results and further actions](#).

**What do you need to know?** The approved pharmaceutical treatment is **Epclusa**.

Healthy Louisiana enrollees have access to safe and effective treatment for Hepatitis C. The authorized generic (AG) to which they have access is Epclusa<sup>®</sup>, which has proven effective in curing 95% of persons living with HCV (LDH, 2019a). Epclusa is the preferred direct-acting antiviral (DAA) and **does not require prior authorization** unlike other available treatment regimens.

For more information regarding Epclusa, please view the [Epclusa prescribing information](#) here.

Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). Hepatitis C. <http://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/page/1012> [4 November 2019a].

Louisiana Medicaid. Authorization Criteria for Hepatitis C DAA Agents for Medicaid July 2019.

Louisiana Office of Public Health (LA OPH). Epidemiologic Profile of Hepatitis C Virus Infection in Louisiana – 2015.

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

**Missed an alert?**

You can find a complete listing of provider alerts on the [Provider Newsletters and Updates](#) page of our website.

**Where can I find more information on COVID-19?**

AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana has updated its website to streamline communications and important notifications about COVID-19. Please visit <http://amerihealthcaritasla.com/covid-19> for update-to-date information for both providers and members, including frequently asked questions, cancellations and postponements, and important provider alerts from AmeriHealth Caritas Louisiana and the Louisiana Department of Health.