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A Policy E-Brief from:
AfPA Health Policy Council
**Patient Access to
Hepatitis C Cures**



STATE ACTIVITY

Some states have imposed rationing techniques to help limit costs of hepatitis C cures.

- 42 state Medicaid systems limit payment in some way
- 2/3 of states restrict who may prescribe the hepatitis C cure
- 1/3 of states require that a specialist write the prescription
- Approximately 3/4 of states allow access only when liver damage has resulted in fibrosis or cirrhosis
- About 1/4 of states restrict access based on HIV status*

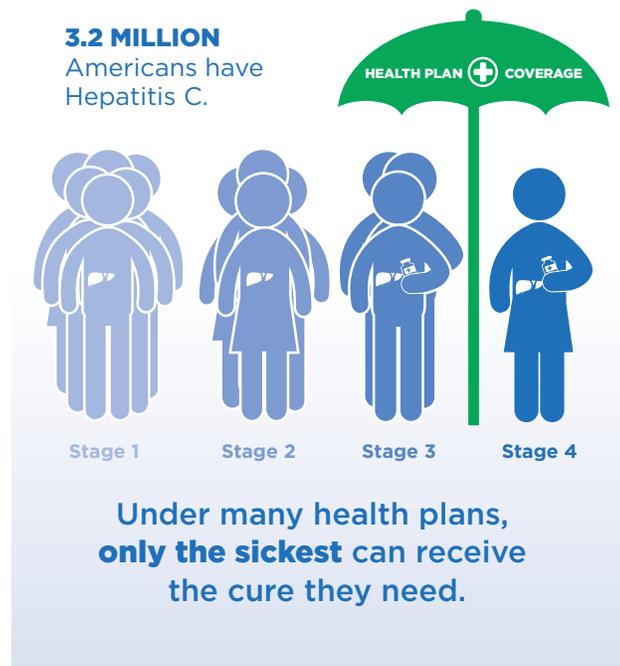


*Annals of Internal Medicine, "Restrictions for Medicaid Reimbursement of Sofosbuvir for the Treatment of Hepatitis C Virus Infection in the United States," June 30, 2015.

AfPA
Alliance for Patient Access

A promising new class of therapies could reduce hepatitis C, now rampant, to a rare disease in the coming years. For the 3 million Americans suffering from hepatitis C, new therapies offer an exciting promise: a cure for the chronic disease, which often results in cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer.

But these medications' high price tags have sparked heated debate. And as state and federal governments struggle to balance the limits of their budget with the needs of their patient population, hepatitis patients are fighting for access – with varied success.



IMPROVING PATIENT ACCESS TO HEPATITIS C CURES



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AS COST DEBATE PERSISTS, HEPATITIS C PATIENTS GO UNTREATED



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