

Clinical Guidelines for HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis

New York is currently pursuing a ground-breaking effort to end the AIDS epidemic by the end of 2020. The three pillars of this effort are: 1) expanding access to PrEP, 2) providing HIV testing as a part of routine health care for all persons aged 13 and older, and, 3) ensuring access to life-saving medication for people living with HIV. If you would like to learn more about this effort, please visit health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/ending_the_epidemic.

MVP Health Care® (MVP) is reviewing clinical guidelines for HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) from the New York State Department of Health. HIV PrEP is highly effective at preventing HIV among adults and adolescents. The FDA has now approved two effective and distinct co-formulated antiviral agents for the prevention of HIV acquisition in adults and adolescents. MVP has an important role to play in supporting access to PrEP when it is clinically indicated. This communication highlights three important new developments:

USPSTF Affords PrEP the A Grade: In June of 2019, the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) issued its recommendations regarding HIV PrEP. To review the recommendations, go to mvphealthcare.com/PQIR, select *Infectious Disease*, then *Clinical Guidelines*, then *Recommendations for HIV Screening and PrEP for HIV: Grade A*. Under the Affordable Care Act, preventive services that received an “A grade” are to be provided to patients, when indicated, without cost. On July 23, 2019, the NYS Department of Financial Services issued an update that outlines the responsibility of New York State fully insured health insurance plans to begin covering PrEP without cost no later than January 1, 2020. Please review the **Supplement No. 1 to Insurance Circular Letter No. 21** by visiting dfs.ny.gov, then selecting *Industry Guidelines*, then *Circular Letters* for more information.

Updated Clinical Guidelines: The New York State HIV Clinical Guidelines Program has issued updated clinical guidelines regarding PrEP. The following elements of the updated guidelines will serve to make PrEP easier for individuals to use and easier for clinicians to prescribe and manage.

These updated guidelines:

- Allow for greater individualization of PrEP, including greater flexibility regarding follow-up medical appointments and how and where follow-up lab work can be completed
- Include the addition of a second FDA-approved PrEP medication
- Provide guidance for same day initiation of PrEP
- Provide guidance for on-demand PrEP dosing for cis-gender males
- Include new, simple tools for taking a sexual history and managing PrEP

The complete guidelines are available at hivguidelines.org/prep-for-prevention.

Fact Sheet: NYS Medicaid Coverage for PrEP: A Fact Sheet has been created with details of Medicaid Coverage for PrEP and PrEP-related services such as HIV testing and STI screening. Because high rates of HIV are seen among people of transgender experience, this Fact Sheet also reviews Medicaid coverage of gender affirming medications. To review the fact sheet, go to mvphealthcare.com/PQIR, select *Infectious Disease*, then *Clinical Guidelines*, then *NYS Medicaid Coverage for HIV PrEP Related Services*.