

PrEP services and approaches: It's more than just meds

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Topics to be covered

- Components of a comprehensive PrEP program
- 4 core elements: Education, Insurance/Payment, Medical, Pharmacy
- Facilitators/Barriers
- Resources

Objectives

- What is PrEP?
- Explore major elements of a comprehensive PrEP program
- Establish a basic understanding of various payer sources
- Equip you with resource tools to get the ball rolling
- Inspire

What is PrEP?

PrEP

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis

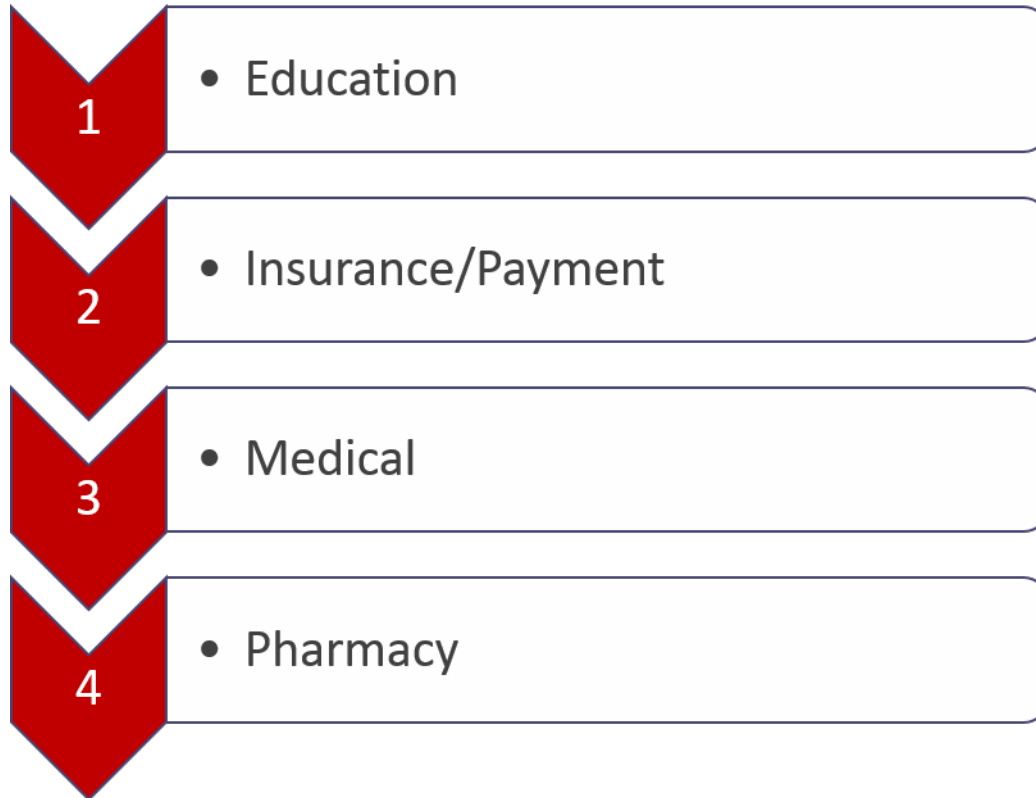
- A daily HIV prevention pill that's part of a comprehensive prevention strategy.
- Greater than 90% effective at preventing HIV.
- Does not protect against STI's or pregnancy.
- Can be prescribed by any health care provider.
- Some or all costs of the medication can be covered by insurance, Medicaid, and patient assistance programs.

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved Truvada for PrEP use in 2012.
- This medication is taken as a once-daily oral pill, which combines two medicines in one: Emtriva (also called emtricitabine or FTC) and Viread (also called tenofovir disoproxil fumarate or TDF).

Truvada works by blocking an enzyme called HIV reverse transcriptase. By blocking this enzyme, it prevents HIV from making more copies of itself in the body.

Source: <http://men.prepfacts.org/the-basics/>

What does my clinic need to establish a comprehensive PrEP program?



- Don't overthink it!
- Leverage current resources available at your clinic

Reminders

- Truvada as PrEP can be prescribed by any licensed medical provider
- HIV-negative patients do not require specialty care
- Establish realistic expectations and timeline for patients
- Assess your patients' readiness and commitment
- Assess your clinic capacity and capabilities

Reminders

Medicaid should cover Truvada and PrEP related services

David Evan's the director of research advocacy at Project Inform, told Healthline, "We are unaware of any private health insurance carrier who is not covering PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis) or PrEP. Some have prior authorization restrictions, but these hurdles can typically be gotten over. All Medicaid are obligated to cover both PEP and PrEP, though some have prior authorization restrictions-usually just confirmation of a negative HIV diagnosis."

Source: [Insurers and Medicaid Cover It. So What's Behind the Slow Adoption of Truvada PrEP?](#)

Florida Medicaid: If your patient does not qualify for Medicaid you can *still* find access points. It will require using multiple payer sources:

1. Truvada covered through Gilead Advancing Access
2. Doctor visits/labs covered on sliding fee scale and/or local STI programs

1. Education

- HIV 101 (Provider/Patient)
- PrEP 101 (Provider/Patient)
- Brochures/palm cards (Keep it simple)
- Various online resources
- Targeted culturally competent outreach to at-risk communities
- Identification of gatekeepers and existing social networks
- Ensure successful linkage to services, active follow up
- The goal is to provide enough correct information to lead them to the next step

2. Insurance/Payment

- Credentials to enroll into Medicaid & state marketplace
- Verify all costs associated with health care policy:
Premiums, medical visit, lab and medication co-pays, deductibles
- Knowledge of managed care plans accepted at your clinic
- Knowledge of patient assistance programs:

Gilead Co-Pay Card

\$3,600 for use with commercial plans (including ACA) on pharmacy co-pays and pharmacy deductibles
(No income limit)

<http://www.truvada.com/truvada-patient-assistance>

Gilead Advancing Access

Free medication covered on a 6 months basis to those who qualify (Patient may re-apply every 6 months)

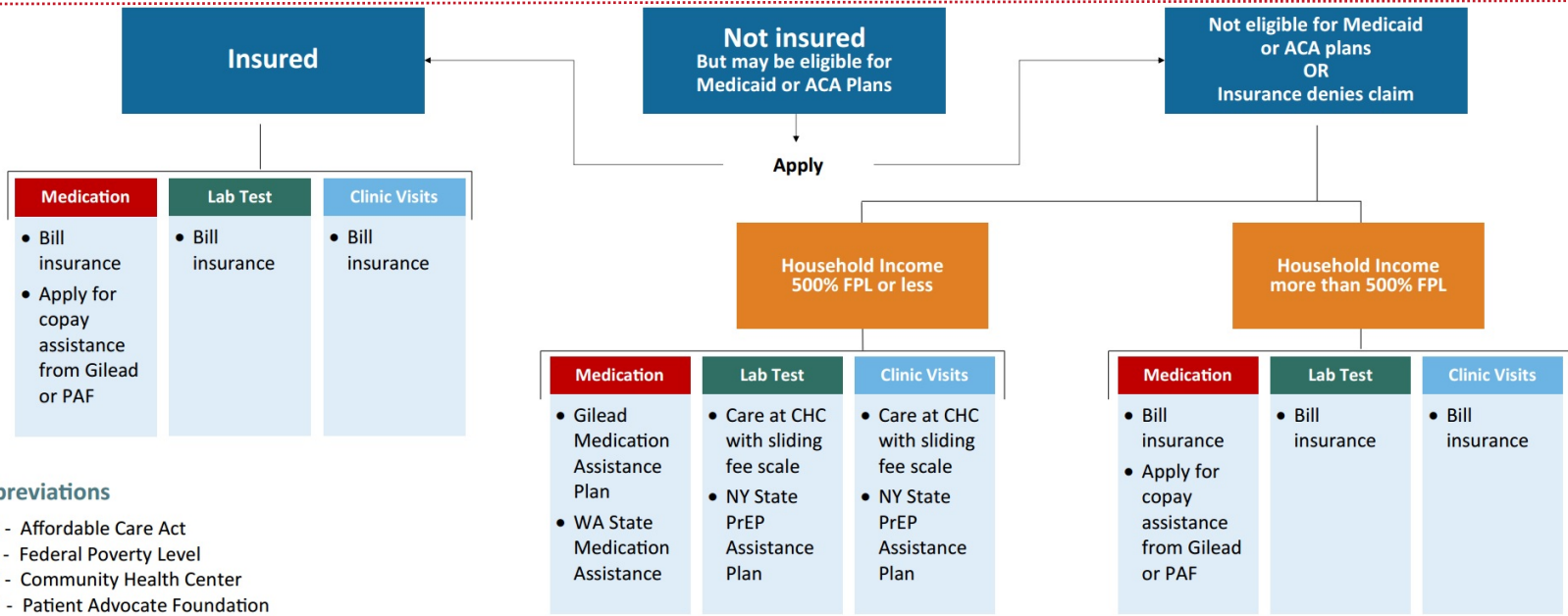
http://services.gileadhiv.com/content/pdf/gilead_enrollment_form.pdf

Patient Advocate Foundation

\$7,500 Per Year to those who qualify (as of May 2nd,2016)

<https://www.copays.org/diseases/hiv-aids-and-prevention>

Paying for PrEP



Abbreviations

ACA - Affordable Care Act
 FPL - Federal Poverty Level
 CHC - Community Health Center
 PAF - Patient Advocate Foundation

Definitions:

PrEP Daily pill to prevent HIV infection (pre-exposure prophylaxis)

Co-pay Fixed amount to be paid by insured person per prescription

Co-insurance Fixed percentage of prescription cost to be paid by insured person

Deductible Amount of health care cost (including prescriptions) that must be paid by the insured person before insurance begins to cover costs

PrEP Medication Assistance Program

(Gilead Sciences)

People eligible for this program must:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Be without insurance or have payment declined by their insurance carrier
- Be resident in the US (social security number not required)
- Have family income ≤ 500% of the federal poverty level

Once enrolled in this program:

- Medication will be sent to the provider, a pharmacy, or the patient's home
- Patients can get their medication at no charge from their provider or pharmacy for as long as they are eligible
- Eligibility must be confirmed every 6 months by the provider

PrEP Medication Assistance Program

Family Size 500% Federal Poverty Level Household Annual Income must be less than:

1	\$58,850
2	\$79,650
3	\$100,450
4	\$121,250
5	\$142,050
6	\$162,850

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/risk/prep/cdc-hiv-paying-for-prep.pdf>

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3. Medical

- There should be a medical protocol in place for prescribing PrEP that aligns with your current clinic flow
- Protocol should outline lab tests **required** for baseline/follow up:
Kidney function, STI panel, HIV test, Hep B/C, etc.
- Protocol should outline inclusion/exclusion criteria for patients
- Adjust clinic flow for increased lab/nurse visits
- Establish system for adherence support
- Psychosomatic patients
- Patients in need of behavioral health

4. Pharmacy

- Advise your pharmacy to stockpile Truvada
- Advise the pharmacy manager that you will be sending new *HIV-negative* patients
- Advise pharmacy staff that patients may be utilizing co-pay cards. Confirm that they are accepted and can be easily processed
- Keep an open line of communication with your pharmacy and staff
- Elect point people to handle PrEP Patients

Facilitators, Barriers, and Opportunities

Facilitators

- HIV/STI testing clients
- Clients who are currently in sero-discordant relationships
- Patients who exhibit health-seeking behavior
- Utilizing PrEP screeners for new and current primary care patients at your clinic

Barriers

- New skill set/training required
(Suggested solution: HR portal, online training)
- Clear funding stream for HIV prevention services
- Providers still uncomfortable prescribing Truvada
- Cultural shift

Opportunities

Resources

CDC Clinical Practice Guideline:

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/prepguidelines2014.pdf>

NASTAD's Billing and Coding Guide for HIV Prevention:

<https://www.nastad.org/resource/billing-coding-guide-hiv-prevention>

New CDC/DHAP PrEP brochures: Paying for PrEP brochure:

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/risk/prep/cdc-hiv-paying-for-prep.pdf>

PrEP medication adherence brochure:

<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/risk/prep/cdc-hiv-prep-adherence.pdf>

Project Inform PrEP Flow Chart:

http://www.projectinform.org/pdf/PrEP_Flow_Chart.pdf

Contact



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