



Hepatitis B Treatment

Paying for Hepatitis B Treatment

Introduction

Are you uninsured? If you do have health coverage, are your prescription co-pays or other co-insurance costs prohibitively expensive? Or does your plan come with high medication deductibles that you can't afford? Help may be available from pharmaceutical companies and other organizations in the form of co-pay programs and patient assistance programs (PAPs).

In recent years, the Fair Pricing Coalition (FPC) has been working closely with the pharmaceutical industry to streamline access to co-pay programs and PAPs for people living with viral hepatitis. The FPC has negotiated co-pay programs with virtually every major hepatitis drug manufacturer. Below is a list of co-pay and patient assistance programs for hepatitis B, including contact information for these programs. Different pharmaceutical company programs have different eligibility criteria based on the federal poverty level (FPL). Eligibility for this year is based on last year's income. The figure is adjusted based on family or household size. A complete table is [available here](#). Unless otherwise stated, companies ask for verification of income, usually in the form of a federal income tax return. Companies also generally consider household income, meaning that a married couple filing joint taxes will be judged on their combined income. People who file individual tax returns will only have their individual income considered.

If you are told you are ineligible for assistance, this does not mean there is no chance for you; you can always appeal to have the decision reversed or see if you are eligible for alternative financial assistance.

Co-pay Programs and PAP Programs

Co-pay programs offer assistance to people with private insurance, reducing the co-payments or coinsurance costs required to obtain hepatitis B drugs at the pharmacy. Many of these programs are not available for those enrolled in Medicare, Medicaid, or other government-based prescription plan.

Patient assistance programs (PAPs) offer free hepatitis B drugs to lower-income people who are uninsured or underinsured, and who do not qualify for insurance programs such as Medicaid or Medicare.

If you are ineligible for co-pay or patient assistance funds because you have Medicare, Medicaid or another government-based prescription plan, and cannot afford your prescription(s), ask the pharmaceutical company to refer you to a patient advocacy organization (some are listed below).

Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS)

Drugs covered: Baraclude (entecavir)

Contact Information: 855-898-0267 or www.baraclude.bmscustomerconnect.com/Co-pay

Program Details: Offers co-pay assistance and free drug programs for those meeting eligibility requirements.

Genentech/Roche

Drugs covered: Pegasys (peginterferon alfa-2a)

Contact Information: 888-941-3331 or www.genentech-access.com/pegasys/patients

Program Details: Offers co-pay assistance and free drug programs for those meeting eligibility requirements.

Gilead Sciences

Drugs covered: Hepsera (adefovir dipivoxil), Vemlidy, Viread (tenofovir)

Contact Information: Vemlidy www.vemlidy.com; co-pay for Viread 877-627-0415 or www.viread.com
PAP for Hepsera or Viread 800-226-2056 or www.gilead.com/us_advancing_access

Program Details: Viread: Offers co-pay assistance for those meeting eligibility requirements; Hepsera or Viread: Offers free drug programs for those meeting eligibility requirements. Vemlidy: Contact company.

GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)

Drugs covered: Epivir-HBV (lamivudine)

Contact Information: Co-pay, coupons and free trial offers www.activatethecard.com/gsk/welcome.html
and www.gskforyou.com

PAP: Bridges to Access 866-728-4368 or www.bridgestoaccess.com; GSK Access for those with Medicare Part D 866-518-4357 or www.gsk-access.com

Program Details: Offers co-pay assistance, free drug programs, coupons and free trial offers for those meeting eligibility requirements.

Merck

Drugs covered: Intron A (interferon alfa-2b)

Contact Information: Merck Access Program 855-257-3932 or www.merckaccessprogram.com/hcp/intron-a

Program Details: Offers co-pay assistance and free drug programs for those meeting eligibility requirements.

Other Patient Advocacy Programs

In addition to pharmaceutical patient assistance and co-pay programs, patient advocacy programs may help you find affordable medication and navigate other issues relating to access to care.

Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA)

Contact Information: 888-477-2669 or www.pparx.org

Program Details: The Partnership for Prescription Assistance helps qualifying patients without prescription drug coverage get the medicines they need by matching them with the right assistance programs.

Patient Access Network Foundation (PAN)

Contact Information: 866-316-PANF (866-316-7263) or www.panfoundation.org

Program Details: The Patient Access Network Foundation offers help to people with chronic or life-threatening illnesses for whom cost limits access to medical treatments.

Patient Advocate Foundation

Contact Information: 800-532-5274 or www.patientadvocate.org

Program Details: Patient Advocate Foundation provides assistance to patients who are seeking access to care.

HBV-HIV Coinfection

To find patient assistance and co-pay programs if you are coinfecting with HBV and HIV, additional help is available at: [HIV Drug Assistance Programs](#).

The information on this page is based on a document originally produced by the Fair Pricing Coalition, an ad hoc group of activists who advocate with the pharmaceutical industry regarding the price and patient access to HIV and viral hepatitis drugs. For more information, please visit www.fairpricingcoalition.org.

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