REIMBURSEMENT POLICY STATEMENT
Marketplace

Policy Name & Number	Date Effective
Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Preventive Services-MP-PY-1450	01/01/2026
Policy Type	
REIMBURSEMENT	

Reimbursement Policies prepared by CareSource and its affiliates are intended to provide a general reference regarding billing, coding and documentation guidelines. Coding methodology, regulatory requirements, industry-standard claims editing logic, benefits design and other factors are considered in developing Reimbursement Policies.

In addition to this Policy, Reimbursement of services is subject to member benefits and eligibility on the date of service, medical necessity, adherence to plan policies and procedures, claims editing logic, provider contractual agreement, and applicable referral, authorization, notification and utilization management guidelines. Medically necessary services include, but are not limited to, those health care services or supplies that are proper and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of disease, illness, or injury and without which the patient can be expected to suffer prolonged, increased or new morbidity, impairment of function, dysfunction of a body organ or part, or significant pain and discomfort. These services meet the standards of good medical practice in the local area, are the lowest cost alternative, and are not provided mainly for the convenience of the member or provider. Medically necessary services also include those services defined in any federal or state coverage mandate, Evidence of Coverage documents, Medical Policy Statements, Provider Manuals, Member Handbooks, and/or other policies and procedures.

This Policy does not ensure an authorization or Reimbursement of services. Please refer to the plan contract (often referred to as the Evidence of Coverage) for the service(s) referenced herein. If there is a conflict between this Policy and the plan contract (i.e., Evidence of Coverage), then the plan contract (i.e., Evidence of Coverage) will be the controlling document used to make the determination. CareSource and its affiliates may use reasonable discretion in interpreting and applying this Policy to services provided in a particular case and may modify this Policy at any time.

According to the rules of Mental Health Parity Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of a behavioral health disorder will not be subject to any limitations that are less favorable than the limitations that apply to medical conditions as covered under this policy.

This policy applies to the following Marketplace(s):			
☒ **Georgia**	☒ **Indiana**	☒ **Ohio**	☒ **West Virginia**

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A. Subject

Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Preventive Services

B. Background

An estimated 1.2 million individuals in the United States are human immunodeficiency virus positive (HIV+), with an estimated 30,635 new infections in 2020. Though treatable, HIV infection is incurable and associated with significant health complications. Effective strategies to prevent HIV infection remain a key public health priority. To prevent the spread of HIV, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of antiretroviral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) in sexually active individuals who are at high risk of HIV exposure as well as individuals who use drugs intravenously. Studies have shown that PrEP significantly reduces the transmission of HIV to persons who are currently HIV-.

The Federal Patient Protection and Preventive Care Act of 2010 requires insurance plans cover preventive medicine services with a recommendation of “A” or “B” by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). The USPSTF assigns one of five letter grades (A, B, C, D, or I) which describes the strength of a recommendation and communicates its importance to providers.

- Grade A – The USPSTF recommends the service; there is high certainty that the net benefit is substantial.
- Grade B – The USPSTF recommends the service; there is high certainty that the net benefit is moderate or there is moderate certainty that the net benefit is moderate to substantial.
- Grade C – The USPSTF recommends selectively offering or providing the service to individual patients based on professional judgement and patient preferences. There is at least moderate certainty that the net benefit is small.
- Grade D – The USPSTF recommends against the service; there is moderate or high certainty that the service has no net benefit or that the harms outweigh the benefits.
- Grade I – The USPSTF concludes that the evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms of the service.

The USPSTF recommends clinicians prescribe PrEP with effective antiretroviral therapy to individuals who are at increased risk of HIV acquisition to decrease the risk of acquiring HIV infection (Grade A). To achieve the benefit of PrEP, it is important for individuals to receive counseling about antiretroviral medication adherence, safer sex practices, and regular testing for HIV and other related infections. Prior to receiving a prescription for PrEP, individuals may require counseling and laboratory testing to evaluate the need for PrEP as well as establish a baseline health status. As PrEP is only effective with medication adherence, follow-up appointments with or without laboratory testing are often necessary. As of October 1, 2023, ICD-10 code Z29.81 (encounter for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis) is available for providers to use on medical claims.

Insurance plans are not required to provide coverage for these preventive services when delivered by out-of-network providers.

C. Definitions
- **Pre-Exposure Prophyaxis (PrEP)** – Antiretroviral medication that helps prevent individuals from acquiring HIV.
- **USPSTF** – An independent, volunteer panel of national experts that makes evidence-based recommendations about clinical preventive services.

D. Policy

I. CareSource will provide PrEP and related services to members who qualify as high risk, following USPSTF guidelines for the prevention of HIV. These services are classified as preventive with no cost share. Please refer to the most recently published USPSTF guideline for clarification of high risk and current coverage recommendations.

II. Caresource covers the following without cost-sharing when associated with PreP:
   A. FDA-approved PrEP antiretroviral medications
   B. baseline and monitoring services, including
      1. HIV testing
      2. hepatitis B and C testing
      3. creatinine testing and calculated estimated creatine clearance (eCrCl) or glomerular filtration rate (eGFR)
      4. pregnancy testing (as appropriate)
      5. sexually transmitted infection (STI) screening and counseling
      6. adherence counseling
   C. office visits associated with PrEP

III. The following code set has been provided for informational purposes only. These codes may be used to identify a service as part of PrEP preventive services.
In order for a service in Section II to be identified as part of PrEP preventive services and cost sharing to be waived, providers need to follow the below coding steps:
   A. Use ICD-10 code Z29.81 on the claim, or
   B. Use ICD-10 code Z20.6 or Z11.4, and at least one of the other below codes on the claim.

ICD-10 Code	Code Description
Z11.3	Encounter for screening for infections with a predominantly sexual mode of transmission
Z11.4	Encounter for screening for human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]
Z11.59	Encounter for screening for other viral diseases
Z11.8	Encounter for screening for other infectious and parasitic diseases
Z11.9	Encounter for screening for infectious and parasitic diseases, unspecified
Z20.2	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to infections with a predominantly sexual mode of transmission
Z20.6	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to human immunodeficiency virus [HIV]
Z20.828	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases
Z20.89	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other communicable diseases

The REIMBURSEMENT Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the REIMBURSEMENT Policy Statement Policy and is approved.

Z20.9	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to unspecified communicable disease
Z29.89	Encounter for other specified prophylactic measures
Z32.00	Encounter for pregnancy test, result unknown
Z32.01	Encounter for pregnancy test, result positive
Z32.02	Encounter for pregnancy test, result negative
Z51.81	Encounter for therapeutic drug level monitoring
Z70.0	Counseling related to sexual attitude
Z70.1	Counseling related to patient's sexual behavior and orientation
Z70.3	Counseling related to combined concerns regarding sexual attitude, behavior and orientation
Z71.7	Human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] counseling
Z72.51	High risk heterosexual behavior
Z72.52	High risk homosexual behavior
Z72.53	High risk bisexual behavior
Z72.89	Other problems related to lifestyle
Z77.21	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to potentially hazardous body fluids
Z77.9	Other contact with and (suspected) exposures hazardous to health
Z79.899	Other long term (current) drug therapy
W46.0XXA	Contact with hypodermic needle, initial encounter
W46.0XXD	Contact with hypodermic needle, subsequent encounter
W46.1XXA	Contact with contaminated hypodermic needle, initial encounter
W46.1XXD	Contact with contaminated hypodermic needle, subsequent encounter

IV. Exclusions
Claims received from the emergency department would not generally qualify as PrEP preventive services.

E. State-Specific Information
NA

F. Conditions of Coverage
NA

G. Related Policies/Rules
NA

H. Review/Revision History

	DATE	ACTION
Date Issued	09/27/2023	New Policy. Approved at Committee.
Date Revised	10/09/2024 10/08/2025	Review: updated references. Approved at Committee. Review: updated references, approved at Committee.
Date Effective	01/01/2026	
Date Archived		

The REIMBURSEMENT Policy Statement detailed above has received due consideration as defined in the REIMBURSEMENT Policy Statement Policy and is approved.

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