The California Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis Assistance Program (PrEP-AP)


TARGET POPULATION
Individuals are eligible for PrEP-AP services if they are residents of California, HIV negative, at least 18 years of age, have an annual Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) that does not exceed 500 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) based on family size and household income, and are enrolled in the manufacturer’s assistance program, if eligible.

LOCATION
California (state-wide)

PROGRAM DESIGN
Eligible individuals apply for PrEP-AP with a certified AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)/PrEP-AP enrollment worker at an authorized enrollment site. Uninsured clients are referred to contracted clinical providers to be clinically assessed for PrEP eligibility.

ESTIMATED COST
July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019: $4,101,355

FUNDING SOURCE
Supplemental Rebate

SUMMARY
The PrEP-AP pays for: 1) PrEP related medical out-of-pocket costs for uninsured and insured individuals, and 2) for insured clients, assistance with PrEP after the manufacturer’s co-payment assistance threshold has been met. Uninsured individuals have the full cost of their PrEP drug costs paid for by the manufacturer’s Patient Assistance Program. The PrEP-AP also provides assistance with all other medications on the PrEP-AP formulary for the prevention of HIV and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) for both insured and uninsured clients.

BACKGROUND
The California Office of AIDS (OA) received statutory and budgetary authority to implement a PrEP-AP through the 2016 California Budget Act. OA pursued a phased implementation approach for the PrEP-AP. Phase 1 of the PrEP-AP went live on April 9, 2018 for the uninsured. Phase 2 of the PrEP-AP went live on June 14, 2018 and expanded coverage to insured individuals including those with Medicare.

CORE ACTIVITIES
Currently, OA leverages the existing ADAP Enrollment Site infrastructure for purposes of enrolling clients in the PrEP-AP. OA is currently working towards contracting with sites that will focus solely on enrolling clients in the PrEP-AP, to allow for broader geographic coverage. Eligible individuals apply for PrEP-AP with a certified ADAP/PrEP-AP enrollment worker at an authorized ADAP enrollment site. Uninsured clients must receive PrEP-related medical services at approved locations within the PrEP-AP Clinical Provider Network.

In order to qualify for the PrEP-AP, clients must enroll in an appropriate Gilead assistance program through Advancing Access. Insured individuals must enroll...
in Gilead’s Co-Payment Assistance program and uninsured individuals must enroll in Gilead’s Patient Assistance Program (PAP). Uninsured clients receive Truvada free of charge through the PAP. For insured clients, the PrEP-AP will provide co-payment assistance with PrEP after Gilead’s annual maximum threshold of $7,200 has been met.

**DATA**

As of February 22, 2019, 1279 clients have enrolled in the PrEP-AP, of which 928 are uninsured. Also, as of February 22, 2018, there are 151 PrEP-AP enrollment sites and 63 clinical locations that currently make up the PrEP-AP Clinical Provider Network.

**FUNDING & COST**

Funding: Supplemental Rebates  
Cost: July 1, 2018- June 30, 2019: $4,101,355

**STRENGTHS**

The PrEP-AP helps reduce HIV infection among individuals at high risk of acquiring HIV and reduces new HIV infections in California. The PrEP-AP allows for more timely HIV diagnosis, entry into care, and timely enrollment into ADAP for PrEP clients who acquire HIV.

**LIMITATIONS**

Enrollment barriers may deter clients from taking PrEP. OA is expanding the PrEP-AP Provider Network to close geographic gaps and structuring a contract with telemedicine providers to provide PrEP-AP clinical services by video and/or telephone.

Recent changes in California legislation approved through the 2018 Budget Act will expand PrEP-AP to include payment for up to 14 days of PrEP starter packs, ability to consider insured individuals as uninsured for confidentiality or safety reasons, access for individuals aged 12-17, and a manufacturer’s co-payment assistance bypass for insured clients when the individual’s insurance plan does not accept manufacturer co-payment coupon cards. OA is pursuing a phased implementation strategy to incorporate these enhancements and has worked with stakeholders to prioritize implementation. OA projects implementation of all enhancements will take place over the next few years.

**STAKEHOLDERS**

The key partners in the PrEP-AP include a PrEP Stakeholder Group, which is comprised of individuals from various agencies across California, and an Enrollment Worker Advisory Committee.

**PROGRAM CONTACT**

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