



Maine AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Policy

Background:

The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act was created in 1990, by the US Congress, in response to the unmet medical needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. The CARE Act reaches people with the greatest need, and with the least access to necessary medical care. The federal CARE Act funds address many areas of health including primary medical care, case management, and other support services. Title II of the CARE Act provides funding to every state to enable HIV care, a portion of which funds the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

In the State of Maine, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) provides Mainers access to the prescription medication needed to manage and treat HIV. Maine's ADAP provides assistance in the form of prescription medication purchase, as well as payment assistance to cover the costs of health insurance premiums, deductibles, and prescription co-pays.

Maine ADAP Policy Overview:

1. The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) offers prescription medication assistance to eligible Mainers living with HIV.
2. There are five (5) eligibility requirements for ADAP assistance, including HIV diagnosis and income level.
3. The ADAP pays for HIV-related medications as listed on the ADAP Formulary, and helps defray the costs for some health insurance programs.
4. To receive assistance, the ADAP Application and ADAP Release of Information form must be completed. For continued assistance, the ADAP Recertification form must be submitted every six (6) months.

1.

All About ADAP:

What is ADAP? What does it do?

- The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is a federally funded program, operating at the state level, which ensures access to the prescription medications needed to manage and treat HIV.
- The ADAP assists clients to access the prescription medications deemed necessary to manage and treat HIV, and to prevent and treat illnesses that develop as a result of a suppressed immune system, or are commonly associated with HIV (e.g. Opportunistic Infections).
- The ADAP is designated as a 'payer of last resort'. The ADAP works with clients, and their health care teams, to identify the most comprehensive health insurance programs available to them. The ADAP then works with the health insurance programs to defray the costs to clients. (see point 3)
- Individuals who are not eligible for any insurance program will receive their HIV-related medications, as listed on the ADAP Formulary, at no cost to them.
- The AIDS Drug Assistance Program recommends that all ADAP clients work with a care team to secure comprehensive health insurance, not simply assistance with prescription medications. The ADAP assists Doctors, Nurse Practitioners, Case Managers and clients to remain informed of health insurance options available, in Maine, for people living with HIV.

2. **ADAP Eligibility:**

Can I use the ADAP? What are the criteria?

- The ADAP is available to all eligible clients. Eligibility is based on five (5) requirements:
 - (1) A documented HIV status;
 - (2) Residence in the state of Maine;
 - (3) Income below ADAP limit, set as a percentage of the annual Federal Poverty Level (%FPL);
 - (4) Client has applied for all other eligible health insurance programs; and
 - (5) Completion of the ADAP Application, and the ADAP Release of Information.
- Income guidelines for the ADAP are set annually, in April. For 2008, Mainers living with HIV are eligible for the ADAP if they earn \$4,255 per month or less (+\$132 for each additional family member).
- If the applicant is deemed eligible for other health insurance programs, the ADAP office will contact the client, and their Doctor, Nurse Practitioner, or Case Manager in order to assist with further applications.

3. **ADAP Assists in Many Ways:**

What will I get from the ADAP? Is it worth it to join?

- The ADAP covers the costs of medications needed to treat HIV, and related illnesses. The medications that the ADAP covers are listed on the ADAP Formulary. A current ADAP Formulary is available from your Case Manager or the ADAP office.
- If an ADAP client has no access to health insurance, the ADAP will cover 100% of the costs of their HIV-related medications, and will assist the client to find access to a more comprehensive health insurance.
- If an ADAP client has MaineCare, the ADAP will cover 100% of the costs of their monthly premium, 100% of their HIV-related prescription co-pays, and 70% of the costs of other prescription co-pays.
 - See the ADAP's MaineCare Supplemental Assistance Program Policy for more information.
- If an ADAP client has Medicare, they will be required to join a Part-D Prescription Drug Plan. The ADAP will cover 100% of the costs of their monthly premium, deductible and HIV-related prescription costs.
 - See the Medicare Part-D Supplemental Assistance Program Policy for more information.
- If an ADAP client has Private Insurance, the ADAP will cover 100% of the costs of eligible monthly premiums, pay up to \$20 for HIV-related prescription co-pays, and contribute towards the yearly prescription deductible. The ADAP will pay 100% of the costs of HIV-related prescriptions that are not covered by the insurance company.
 - See the Private Insurance Assistance Program Policy for more information.

4. **Getting Assistance is Easy:**

How do I apply to the ADAP? When does my help start? What else will I need to do?

- Mainers living with HIV can apply to the ADAP for assistance accessing their HIV-related medications.
- The ADAP Application must be completed by the client, and their Doctor, Nurse Practitioner, or Case Manager. The (1) ADAP Application form, along with the (2) Release of Information form must be returned to the ADAP office.
- With all information submitted, applications can usually be processed within one business day.
- ADAP assistance begins once the application has been processed. Clients will be sent an ADAP membership card that must be presented at the pharmacy to insure efficient billing.
- In order to best serve clients, ADAP clients are **REQUIRED** to inform the ADAP of changes in income level, address, phone number, care team or access to health insurance programs.
- ADAP clients are **REQUIRED** to submit Recertification forms (distributed by mail) to the ADAP office every six (6) months.

For more information about the ADAP, ask your Case Manager, or Call ADAP. Amy Nunan ~ 287-5551