



The AIDS Institute

**ACA Coverage
of Preventive Services:
Focus on HIV Testing**

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Coverage of Preventive Services Under ACA

- USPSTF and Grading
- Coverage by each payer
 - Medicare
 - Private Insurance
 - Medicaid

US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)

- Sponsored by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) at the HHS
- Leading independent panel of private-sector experts in prevention and primary care
- “Conducts rigorous, impartial assessments” of evidence for effectiveness of clinical preventive services, including screening, counseling, and preventive medications
- Key to coverage determinations, particularly in health reform implementation

USPSTF Grades

Grade	Definition	Suggestions for Practice
A	USPSTF recommends the service. There is a high certainty that the net benefit is substantial.	Offer or provide this service.
B	USPSTF recommends the service. There is a high certainty that the net benefit is moderate or there is a moderate certainty that the net benefit is moderate to substantial.	Offer or provide this service.
C	USPSTF recommends against routinely providing the service. There may be considerations that support providing the service in an individual patient. There is at least moderate certainty that the net benefit is small. <i>(Previously no recommendation for/against).</i>	Offer or provide this service only if other considerations support offering or providing the service to an individual patient.
D	USPSTF recommends against the service. There is no moderate or high certainty that the service has no net benefit or that the harms outweigh the benefits.	Discourage the use of this service.
I Statement	USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms of the service. Evidence is lacking, of poor quality, or conflicting, and the balance of benefits and harms cannot be determined.	Read the clinical considerations of the USPSTF Recommendation Statement. If the service is offered, patients should understand the uncertainty about the balance of benefits and harms.

USPSTF & Routine HIV Screening

- USPSTF revised its recommendation for routine HIV testing (April 2013)
- Previously, the “A” grade applied only to those “at increased risk” for HIV and to pregnant women
 - “A” grade for those aged 15-65
 - “A” grade for those “at increased risk” for HIV under age 15 and over age 65
 - Reaffirmed “A” grade for pregnant women

USPSTF Grade A & B Recommendations

(Partial List)

- Alcohol misuse counseling
- Blood pressure screening
- Cervical cancer screening
- Chlamydial infection screening*
- Cholesterol abnormalities*
- Colorectal cancer screening*
- Depression screening
- Gonorrhea screening*
- Healthy diet counseling*
- Hepatitis B & C screening*
- HIV Screening
- STI counseling*
- Syphilis screening*
- Tobacco counseling & screening

* For “at risk” or certain sub-populations only
(e.g. pregnant women, 50+)



Case Study: HIV Screening Coverage by Payer

Medicare and Health Reform

- Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA)
 - Medicare covers A & B preventive services after a coverage determination
 - As a result of the ACA, no cost sharing
 - Currently covers HIV screening at old grade, for pregnant women and those “at increased risk”
 - After a coverage determination, can cover routine
 - Testing Reimbursement workgroup has requested Secretary to begin coverage determination

Private Insurance and Health Reform

- Under the ACA most plans required to cover A & B Services, without cost-sharing (Began September 2010)
 - Grandfathered plans exempt
 - Applies to plans inside and outside of the marketplace
 - Therefore, plans must currently cover “at risk” and pregnant women
 - Beginning the new plan year starting on or after April 30, 2014 (one year after the new USPSTF recommendation), plans will be required to cover routine HIV screening

Private Insurance and Health Reform

- Under ACA, non-grandfathered plans also required to cover a set of “Women’s Preventative Services” defined by the Secretary without cost-sharing.
 - Annual HIV screening and counseling for sexually active women one of eight preventive services identified by Secretary
 - Others include:
 - HPV screening
 - Counseling for sexually transmitted infections
 - Screening and counseling for interpersonal and domestic violence

Traditional Medicaid

- Must cover medically necessary HIV testing under Social Security Act
- State decision to cover routine testing
- According to a Kaiser Family Foundation survey (as of October 2010)
 - 23 states cover routine screening
 - 24 states cover “medically necessary” screening
 - 4 states did not respond

Traditional Medicaid

- ACA incentivizes states to cover USPSTF “A” & “B” services (incl. routine testing)
 - 1% increase in federal match for cost of covering all “A” & “B” and other preventive services
 - Began January 1, 2013

Medicaid Expansion

- Expanded Medicaid plans (Alternative Benchmark Plans) beginning January 1, 2014
 - Required to cover all “A” and “B” grade services
 - Plus Women’s Preventive Services
 - No cost sharing

Summary/Next Steps

- ACA has improved access to reimbursable HIV testing and other preventive services across all payers
- USPSTF grades are critical to coverage
- Coverage varies by payer and state
 - State advocacy needed for Traditional Medicaid beneficiaries
- Availability of coverage does not automatically translate into usage
 - Need for education, outreach, and routinizing preventative care
 - Entities must develop tools for billing

Prevention 5 RESULTS

Where can I find provider information?

Many tools are available to help you search, compare, and assess providers, hospitals, and other care facilities so you can make better decisions.

 Tweet 14  Like 13  Email

What are my breastfeeding benefits?

The health care law requires most health insurance plans to provide breastfeeding equipment and counseling for pregnant and nursing women

 Tweet 3  Like 9  Email

Can I get dental coverage in the Marketplace?

In the Health Insurance Marketplace, you generally can get dental coverage as part of a health plan or by itself through a separate, stand-alone dental plan.

 Tweet 1  Like 2  Email

What are my preventive care benefits?

Most health plans must cover a set of preventive services like shots and screening tests at no cost to you. This includes Marketplace private insurance plans.

 Tweet 138  Like 62  Email

How does the Affordable Care Act help people like me?

If you need coverage, you can use the Marketplace. If you have coverage, you gain new protections. If you don't have coverage, you may have to pay a fee.

 Tweet 12  Like 43  Email

Resources

- USPSTF: <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/uspstfix.htm>
 - A & B services: <http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspsabrecs.htm>
 - HIV Screening: <http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf/uspshivi.htm>
- Kaiser Family Foundation Report on Medicaid coverage of HIV screening by state: <http://www.kff.org/hivaids/upload/8286.pdf>
- Medicare Preventative Services: <http://www.healthcare.gov/law/features/65-older/medicare-preventive-services/index.html>
- The AIDS Institute's HIV Testing Coverage Guide: <http://bit.ly/178MNY4>
- Healthcare.gov Prevention Section: <https://www.healthcare.gov/prevention/>



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THANK YOU

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