

Executive Summary: Health Impact Review of SB 5551

Concerning Medicaid coverage for HIV antiviral drugs (2022 Legislative Session)

Evidence indicates that SB 5551 would likely improve availability of certain HIV antiviral drugs by removing prior authorization barriers, which may increase availability of, use of, and adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART); improve health outcomes; and reduce inequities for people living with HIV enrolled in Apple Health.

BILL INFORMATION

Sponsors: Randall, Lias, Billig, Das, Dhingra, Frockt, Keiser, Lovelett, Lovick, Mullet, Nguyen, Pedersen, Saldaña, Stanford, Trudeau, Wilson, C.

Summary of Bill:

- Requires Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) to provide Apple Health coverage for all U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved HIV antiviral drugs without prior authorization beginning January 1, 2023.
- Requires managed care health systems initiating or renewing a contract with HCA to administer a Medicaid Managed Care Plan to provide this coverage.

HEALTH IMPACT REVIEW

Summary of Findings:

This Health Impact Review found the following evidence for provisions in SB 5551:

- **Informed assumption** that requiring HCA to provide Apple Health coverage for all FDA-approved HIV antiviral drugs without prior authorization would improve availability of certain HIV antiviral drugs by removing prior authorization barriers. This assumption is based on information from the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute, the HIV Medication Access Workgroup, and key informants.
- **A fair amount of evidence** that improving availability of certain HIV antiviral drugs, specifically single-tablet regimens (STRs), by removing prior authorization barriers would likely increase availability of, use of, and adherence to ART for some people enrolled in Apple Health.
- **Very strong evidence** that adherent use of ART would improve health outcomes for people living with HIV and prevent transmission to others.
- **A fair amount of evidence** that improving health outcomes would decrease inequities for people living with HIV by insurance status.

FULL REVIEW

For review methods, logic model, strength-of-evidence analyses, and citations of empirical evidence refer to the full Health Impact Review at

<https://sboh.wa.gov/Portals/7/Doc/HealthImpactReviews/HIR-2022-02-SB5551.pdf>

For more information:
Phone: (360) 628-6823
Email: hir@sboh.wa.gov
sboh.wa.gov/hir

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