

PrEP RESOURCE GUIDE

san diego



The purpose of this list is to offer guidance for getting a prescription for Truvada® as pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). It does not guarantee coverage. Verify that your insurance is accepted *BEFORE SCHEDULING AN APPOINTMENT* with a doctor. You can do this by contacting the scheduling/registration line at the clinic you wish to attend *OR* your insurance company. Either can provide more detailed information about your insurance coverage and costs associated with being on PrEP.

This list is made available by the UC San Diego AntiViral Research Center and California HIV/AIDS Research Program and is current as of March 2017 (please note the information below is subject to change).

For local resources on PrEP, visit www.prepsandiego.com or www.prepstudy.org.

Physician Name	Medical Group	Contact Info	Insurance Taken
Dr. Joseph Caperna 2333 1 st Avenue #104 San Diego, CA 92101	Private	(619) 795-1975	PPO (Anthem Blue-Cross, Blue-Shield, Cigna, Humana, Health-Net) and some HMOs (call to confirm); Medicare or Medi-Medi
Family Health Centers of SD (Hillcrest, North Park, etc.) Drs. Kenneth Griffiths, Jill Blumenthal, Mike Schmerber, et al.	Family Health Centers of SD	(619) 515-2300	Call for insurances accepted
Dr. Miguel Goicoechea 9898 Genesee Ave, 6th Floor La Jolla, CA 92037	Scripps Clinic	(858) 824-5484 Specialist - ID Dept	Most insurance plans taken; call to confirm

MORE PROVIDERS LISTED ON NEXT PAGE

Physician Name	Medical Group	Contact Info	Insurance Taken
Dr. Shawn Harrity 4910 Directors Place San Diego, CA 92121 <i>Sorrento Valley</i>	UC San Diego Health System Sorrento Valley	New patient # (800) 926-8273 Existing patient # (858) 249-5400	Requires referral from PCP; does not accept Community Health Group or Care1st, Molina only if HMO is UCSD; some private insurances
Dr. Robert Houghton 1855 1 st Avenue Suite 200B San Diego, CA 92101	Private	(619) 233-4044	PPO (Anthem Blue-Cross, Blue-Shield, Cigna, Humana, Health-Net); accepts Medicare; will not accept EPO, Covered CA nor HMO (unless through Mercy Physicians as PCP)
Dr. Aimee Lopes 2020 Genesee Ave, San Diego, CA 92123	Sharp Rees-Stealy	(858) 499-2710 Primary Care Provider <i>*Does not accept new primary care patients, but will override this for PrEP patient*</i>	Most insurance plans accepted; call to confirm
Dr. Sheldon Morris 9333 Genesee Avenue Suite 200 La Jolla, CA 92121	UC San Diego Health System La Jolla	New patient # (800) 926-8273 Existing patient # (858) 657-8600	Requires referral from PCP; please call for insurance plans accepted
Night Clinic @ Hillcrest Family Health Center 4094 4 th Avenue San Diego, CA	Hillcrest Family Health Center (Family Health Centers of SD)	<i>Request PrEP appointment:</i> (619) 876-4462 5:00-9:00pm, Mon-Thurs Insurance help: Luis Salazar x3671	Sliding scale available for uninsured; accepts Medi-Cal (e.g. Molina, Community Health Group, Care1st); call to confirm other insurances accepted
San Ysidro Health Center Southeast: King Chavez Health Center, 950. S Euclid Avenue, San Diego 92114 Mon. – Fri. 8:00 AM to 5 PM San Ysidro: San Ysidro Health Center, 4004 Beyer Boulevard San Ysidro, CA 92173 Mon. – Fri. 8:00 AM to 7:30 PM Saturday 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM	San Ysidro Health Center	General Line: (619) 662-4100 Call Bill Grimes for PrEP appointments at King Chavez, 8-5pm, direct line is (619) 662-4127 Call Juan Delgado for PrEP appointments at San Ysidro: (619) 662-4100 x2053	Sliding scale available for uninsured (ID, proof of income and application required). Medi-Cal (Molina & Community Health Group), Medicare as well as other insurances are accepted. Verify insurance is accepted when contacting the clinic's scheduling line.
Dr. David Shamblaw 2970 5th Ave #140 San Diego, CA 92103	La Playa Medical	(619) 260-3456	Most PPOs and Medicare accepted; no HMO, covered California or Medi-Cal
UCSD Student Health Services 9500 Gilman Drive La Jolla, CA 92093 (University Center Bldg. 999)	UCSD Student Health Services	Appointment: (858) 534-8089 Main Line: (858) 534-3300	UC SHIP (requires pre- approval process that can take a few weeks)

MORE PROVIDERS LISTED ON NEXT PAGE

Physician Name	Medical Group	Contact Info	Insurance Taken
VA Medical Center PCP will refer patient to Infectious Disease provider	VA Medical Center	3350 La Jolla Village Drive San Diego, CA 92161 (858) 552-8585	VA insurance
Vista Community Clinic - Grapevine Dr. Cynthia Clark 134 Grapevine Road Vista, CA 92083	Vista Community Clinic	HIV & PrEP case managers can help answer general PrEP questions re: cost, insurance, etc. and starting PrEP process Hunt Group @ (760) 631- 5000 ext. 7000 or 7777	Medi-Cal and Medi-Cal Managed Care, Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and Medicare Managed Care; CMS: County Medical Service; Covered California exchange plans through Anthem Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Health Net and Molina AIM, Blue Cross EPO, Blue Shield; Tri-Care, Community Health Group, Greater Tri- Cities Independent Practice Association (IPA), Molina, Care 1 st , Workers Compensation, private insurances (<i>although an out- of-network provider for many HMO and PPO insurances</i>)
Dr. Gary Woodall 2970 5th Ave #140 San Diego, CA 92103	La Playa Medical	(619) 260-3456	Most PPOs and Medicare, Mercy Medical HMO, Covered California's Blue Shield HMO; no EPO
Dr. Maile Young 4168 Front Street 3 rd Floor San Diego, CA 92103	UC San Diego Health System - Hillcrest (Medical Offices South)	New patient # (800) 926-8273 Existing patient # (619) 543-3995 M, W, F @ Owen Clinic	Requires referral from PCP; please call to confirm types of insurance taken; does accept Medi-Cal, including MCOs
Drs. Adam Zweig and Chris Holt 3940 4th Ave., Suite 140 San Diego, CA 92103	AIDS Healthcare Foundation	(619) 516-8931 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8:30am–5:30pm Wednesday 11am-8pm	Medicare and Medi-Cal (verify if MCOs are eligible); no private insurance HMOs, call to verify other types; uninsured and HMO patients are charged \$95/visit

Kaiser Permanente

Call 1-877-236-0333 and schedule initial appointment with PCP:

- PCP conducts initial screening and refers appropriate PrEP candidates to the Infectious Disease Division
- Patient is seen by Rachel Toman, RN or an ID physician if RN Toman is not available for PrEP intake
- Patient also meets with an HIV/ID pharmacist (Leia or Andy) and the PrEP Coordinator (Danny Vasquez)

GETTING INSURANCE

Are you uninsured? Do you wish to change your current Covered CA plan?

Open enrollment begins Nov. 1, 2016, and continues through Jan. 31, 2017. Apply by Dec. 15 for coverage to begin on Jan 1. If you apply later, your coverage will begin later, but as long as you meet the Jan. 31 enrollment deadline, you will avoid owing a [tax penalty](#) for being uninsured. Others with [special qualifying life events](#) can enroll at any time of the year. [Medi-Cal](#) enrollment is also year-round. Medi-Cal and Covered California use the same application. After you enter your information, you will find out whether you qualify for Medi-Cal or Covered California.

Visit www.CoveredCA.com to investigate your options.

Would you like support in choosing a plan that works for you?

Certified Enrollment Workers are available at several locations throughout California. To find a Certified Enrollment Worker near you, visit <https://www.coveredca.com/enrollment-assistance/>, scroll to the bottom of this webpage, and click on "Find an Enrollment Counselor" to find a counselor closest to you.

Examples of local enrollment sites are listed below:

San Diego LGBT Community Center
3909 Centre Street, San Diego, CA, 92103
619-692-2077, ext. 213 (Sarah)
bbarnes@thecentersd.org

Family Health Centers of San Diego:
Enrollment support available at all FHCS locations
619-515-2363

San Ysidro Health Center
678 3rd Avenue, Chula Vista, CA, 91910
619-600-3000
ACAinfo@syhc.org

You can apply for Medi-Cal *at any time* if your annual income is less than 15,900/year!

Medi-Cal covers PrEP! If you have Medi-Cal, make sure your pharmacist bills the state directly and NOT your Medi-Cal MCO (Managed Care Organization), as PrEP is considered a "Carved Out" medication.

If your employer-based insurance plan does not cover PrEP, explore whether you have alternative plan options during open enrollment. Contact your HR department to find out when open enrollment occurs for your organization. If there is no alternative option within your organization, you can switch to a Covered CA plan but there are many items to consider first: <https://www.healthcare.gov/have-job-based-coverage/options/>. See enclosed information regarding prior authorizations.

PAYING FOR PREP

If your insurance offers some coverage but you have a co-pay:

Gilead Advancing Access® Co-pay Program - <https://www.gileadadvancingaccess.com/copay-coupon-card> or call **1-877-505-6986**

- Intended for those with insurance but with high co-pays or deductibles; no income requirement to qualify.
- For Truvada®, maximum benefit is \$3600 per calendar year to be used towards any co-pay or deductible, as well as maximum 390 day supply per year.
- Many mail order pharmacies will not accept this card, but a person can request a direct member reimbursement from Gilead.
- Card is not valid for prescriptions eligible to be reimbursed in whole or part, by Medicare, Medicaid, any other federal or state-funded healthcare benefit program, by private plans, or other health or pharmacy benefit programs, which reimburse you for the entire cost of your prescriptions drugs.
- Program currently extended to December 31, 2017.

If your monthly, out-of-pocket cost is being quoted at approximately \$1400/month for PrEP:

This may mean that you have not met your deductible, your insurance company does not cover PrEP, or that prior authorization is required.

- **What is a deductible?**
 - The amount you pay for health care services before your health insurance begins to pay.
- **What is prior authorization?**
 - Prior authorization means that a request must be submitted and *approved* in advance before your insurance company will pay for a medication.
- **How do I know if I need a prior authorization?**
 - Contact your insurance company or pharmacist to find out.
- **How do I get prior authorization?**
 - Your prescriber must request the prior authorization. Your pharmacist can support you in coordinating with the prescribing office and checking on the status of your authorization.
- **Does prior authorization guarantee that my Truvada® will be approved?**
 - No. Even if you do everything right, the insurance company may still refuse to cover your medicine. In the end, the insurance company is the one making the decision.
 - Gilead personnel will partner with you to contact your insurance company in order to help you understand/navigate your coverage through the Medication Assistance Program line **1-855-330-5479**.
- **What do I do if prior authorization does not work?** There is hope. If you have exhausted all avenues listed above, and the cost of accessing PrEP is still too high, Gilead may be able to help.

If none of the above options work:

Truvada® for PrEP Medication Assistance Program:

- Must not have insurance or have an insurance that does not cover Truvada®.
- Application required including documenting proof of residency, proof of income, prescriber info, prescription and HIPAA.
- Must also make less than 500% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Applying for Medi-Cal is encouraged (if applicable); will cover 90 days of medication during Medi-Cal application process. If Medi-Cal is denied or not yet approved after 90 days, access will be extended to 6 months or more.
- Call **1-855-330-5479**, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. EST.

Special Exception

If all of the listed options have been exhausted without success, a written request for a “special exception” can be submitted as a part of an “appeals process.” *This letter can be submitted with the Medication Assistance Program application and should include:*

- A description of why you need assistance and amount of time that assistance is needed.
- A list of all monthly expenses (no expense is too small).
- Whether or not you are currently on PrEP and if so, how has it been covered? Important to note whether you are coming off of a Gilead study.
- List other medications you are taking, how they are being paid for, generic vs. name brand.
- Maximum approval for a special exception is 6 months, after which you must re-apply. Special exceptions are not intended to be a sustainable solution. Explore an insurance option that works for you.

PHARMACIES

The following are just a few of the local pharmacies that will assist you in applying for Gilead's Truvada® for PrEP Medication Assistance Program and/or explore other methods to help cover the cost of PrEP:

- **AHF Pharmacy** (<http://ahfpharmacy.org>): Call (619) 574-9700 and ask for Brandon or Christian.
- **Hillcrest Pharmacy** (<http://hillcrestpharmacy.com>): Call (619) 260-1010 and ask for Ivy Rooney.

NOTE: This is NOT a guarantee your cost for PrEP will be covered.

THIS RESOURCE GUIDE IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING:



UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
AntiViral Research Center