

Hepatitis C

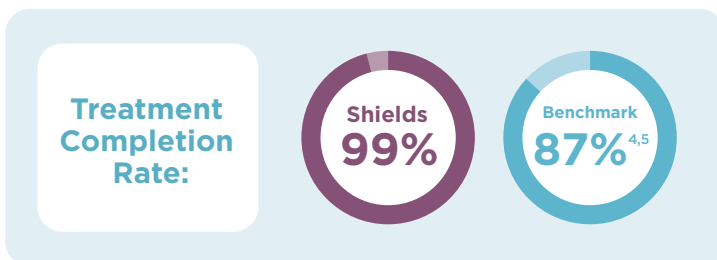
Hepatitis C is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis C virus (HCV) and is spread through contact with the blood of an infected person.

TREATMENT

HCV infection is treated with medications intended to clear the virus from the body. These antiviral medications are highly effective and cure on average 95% of patients after 8-12 weeks of treatment.^{1,2}

GOAL OF THERAPY:

The goal of treatment is to prevent the progression of the disease and to achieve sustained virologic response (SVR), a marker of the cure for Hepatitis C, meaning that the virus is no longer detectable in the blood 12 weeks after the patient completed treatment.³



51% of people living with HCV do not know they have the virus

WHY SVR MATTERS

Completing the full HCV treatment course is critical to cure the infection, eliminate the potential for transmission, improve quality of life, and avoid serious liver damage or even death. If SVR response is not achieved, getting the patient on the optimal therapy is key to preventing complications.²

SVR RATE



3 Common Barriers to the Treatment & Management of Hepatitis C

1

HCV is often asymptomatic, causing underdiagnosis and undertreatment, along with a lack of awareness about new treatments

2

Challenges adhering to treatment, follow-up appointments, and lab testing requirements

3

High medication costs and limited healthcare access

Hepatitis C

Our proven Shields model breaks down barriers to care to optimize patient outcomes.

To help patients achieve SVR, Shields Health Solutions' dedicated team of clinical pharmacists, liaisons and patient support advocates engage patients and their families to help educate, coordinate care and ensure patients receive specialty medication without significant delays.

ENGAGE

Our team engages with patients at the clinic and through telehealth appointments to educate them on the importance of therapy adherence and completing routine lab work.

INTERVENE

We provide side effect mitigation tactics, monitor for drug interactions, and analyze lab results to optimize medication therapy.

COORDINATE

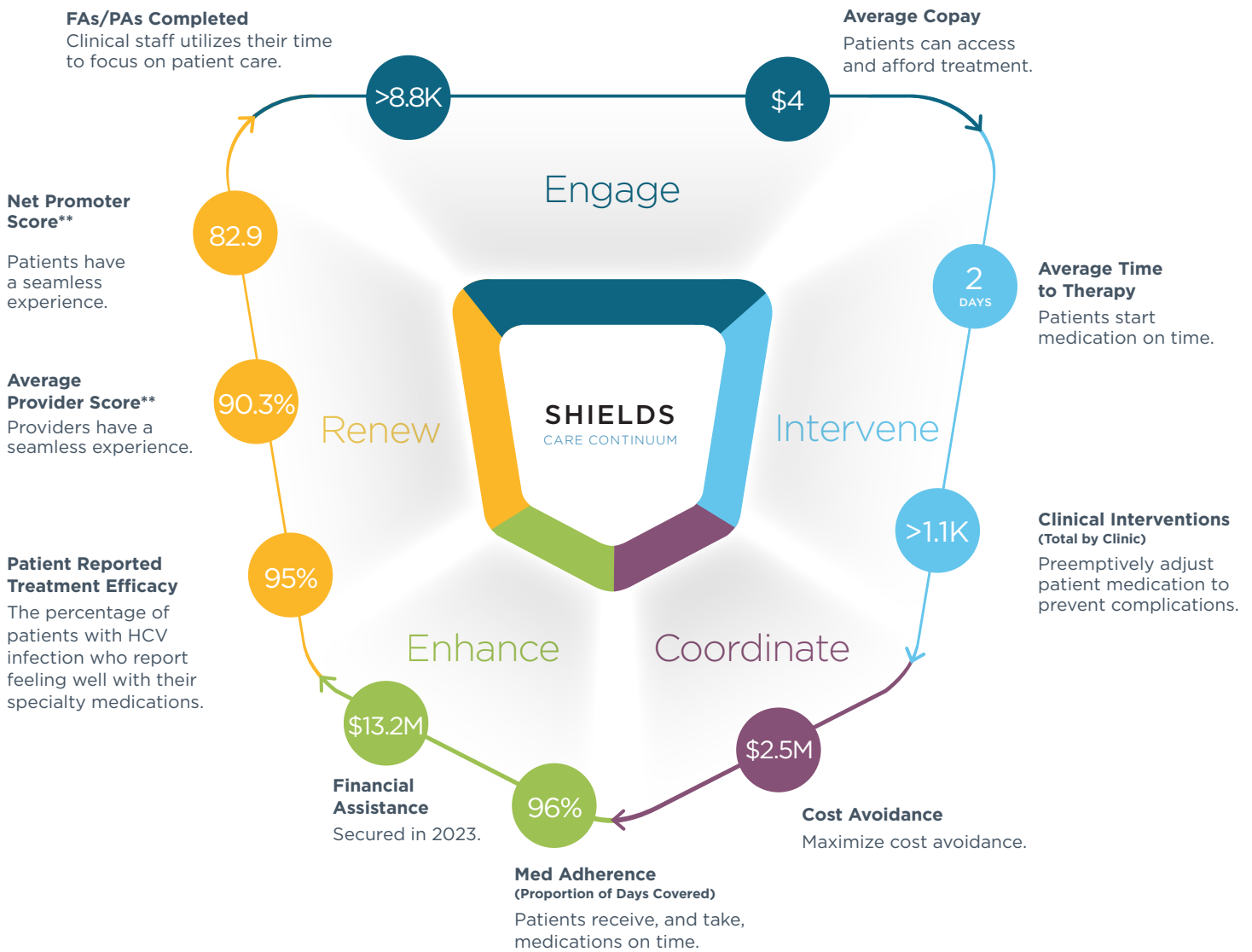
Our team investigates patient insurance benefits, completes prior authorizations and identifies financial assistance opportunities so patients and providers can focus on their health, not paperwork.

ENHANCE

Through pharmacist, liaison and other interventions, our team can enhance patient care, provide emotional support, and help educate and coordinate care.

RENEW

Our experts provide ongoing education, stressing the importance of risk-reducing behaviors to help achieve SVR upon completion of therapy.



* Shields Health Solutions Network includes data from a collective of member health systems that partner with Shields to elevate an integrated specialty pharmacy model.

**Scores have been combined from both spring and fall 2023 survey results.

¹ Hepatitis C Information. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Updated July 28, 2020. Accessed February 18, 2024 <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hcv/index.htm>

² Hepatitis C. The World Health Organization. Updated July 27, 2020. Accessed February 18, 2024 <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/hepatitis-c>

³ Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy (OIDP). Data and Trends. HHS.gov. Published April 20, 2016. <https://www.hhs.gov/hepatitis/learn-about-viral-hepatitis/data-and-trends/index.html> Accessed February 18, 2024

⁴ Bolduc, C., McCall, K., 3rd, Stickney, K., Gelinas, A., & Levesque, E. (2021). Applicability of a new specialty pharmacy-reported measure describing completion of therapy for hepatitis C. *Journal of managed care & specialty pharmacy*, 27(2), 263–267. <https://doi.org/10.18553/jmcp.2021.27.2.263>

⁵ Butt, A. A., McGinnis, K. A., Skanderson, M., & Justice, A. C. (2010). Hepatitis C treatment completion rates in routine clinical care. *Liver international : official journal of the International Association for the Study of the Liver*, 30(2), 240–250. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1478-3231.2009.02156.x>

⁶ American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases/Infectious Diseases Society of America. HCV Guidance: Recommendations for Testing, Managing, and Treating Hepatitis C (updated October 2022). Available at: www.hcvguidelines.org/evaluate/monitoring. Accessed February 31, 2024.

* All metrics are reflective of data collected in 2023.