



For Immediate Release

December 14, 2022

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Amida Care Applauds U.S. Preventive Services Task Force for Awarding Long-Acting Injectable PrEP an A Grade

(NEW YORK, NY) – Amida Care, New York’s largest Medicaid managed care Special Needs Plan serving people impacted by HIV, released the following statement from President and CEO Doug Wirth after long-acting injectable Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) received a recommendation for an A grade from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF). The recommendation means that Affordable Care Act (ACA)-approved health plans will be required to cover PrEP:

“PrEP is a game-changing medication that has proven 99 percent effective in preventing HIV transmission. If we are to eradicate AIDS once and for all, we need to increase PrEP usage among people who are HIV-negative, especially among persons placed at the highest risk for HIV—communities of color and LGBTQ+ communities, including young gay/bisexual men of color, women of color and transgender women of color. Long-acting injectable PrEP is an easier regimen to adhere to than oral tablets taken daily, and will be a preferred option for many users.

“While we continue to have important conversations in communities about the importance of PrEP, we need to make sure that everyone who can benefit from PrEP has access to it. Across the country, too many people are facing barriers in trying to access this life-saving preventive treatment.

“This recommendation from the USPSTF will ensure that ACA-approved health plans are required to offer this treatment, without cost-sharing, representing a major step in our effort to end the epidemic. We applaud the USPSTF for the expediency in which they made this recommendation, and encourage anyone who thinks they may benefit to have a conversation with their healthcare provider about PrEP.”

Amida Care Inc. is a not-for-profit health plan that specializes in providing comprehensive health coverage and coordinated care to New Yorkers with complex conditions, including HIV and behavioral health disorders, and people who are of transgender experience or homeless (regardless of HIV status). Amida Care has a wide network of

health care providers throughout New York City and is the largest Medicaid Special Needs Health Plan (SNP) in New York State. For more information, visit www.amidacareny.org.

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