



**For Immediate Release**

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**Amida Care Applauds U.S. Preventive Services Task Force for Giving ‘Grade A’ Recommendation to Three Medications Used for PrEP**

(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 three medications (Truvada, Descovy and cabotegravir) used for pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) were given a ‘grade A’ recommendation from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF):

“PrEP is a game-changing medication that has proven 99 percent effective in preventing HIV transmission. Increasing PrEP 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—is vital to our efforts to end the epidemic.

“While we continue to have 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, including stigma, lack of awareness and cost, in trying to access this life-saving preventive treatment.

“This recommendation from the USPSTF will ensure that more people at the highest risk for HIV have access to essential preventative services without high co-pays. The inclusion of cabotegravir, an injectable given every two months, provides a much needed option for those who have difficulty taking pills daily. We applaud the USPSTF for making 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](http://www.amidacareny.org).

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