

Aetna picks Gilead Sciences hepatitis C drugs over AbbVie's

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Insurer Aetna has made new hepatitis C drugs from Gilead Sciences Inc. preferred treatments for customers with the liver-destroying virus.

Aetna Inc. says it's reached a deal with Gilead bringing discounts for Sovaldi and Harvoni, which have list prices of about \$84,000 and \$94,000, respectively, for a course of treatment.

Aetna's decision follows moves by two huge prescription benefit managers, Express Scripts and CVS, to wring big [discounts](#) from makers of a [new generation](#) of hepatitis C medicines that cure nearly all patients, in as little as eight weeks.

Viekira Pak, AbbVie Inc.'s combo treatment, was launched last month at a list price of about \$83,300.

Aetna's deal affects customers who get their [health care coverage](#) from an employer or a health care exchange, or just over 10.8 million people.

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