

Pharmacy Characteristics Data Dictionary

Variable Sequence	Short SAS Name	Long SAS Name	Variable Label	Data Type	Data Length	Description <sup>1</sup>	Possible Values	Value Description <sup>1</sup>	Notes
1	CCWPHID	CCW_PHARMACY_ID	CCW Pharmacy ID			CCW-assigned pharmacy identifier used to link PDE data from a given year to the Pharmacy Characteristics Lookup Table for that year.		If the Service Provider ID on the PDE cannot be linked with the pharmacy data, then the CCW Pharmacy ID on that PDE will be blank.	
2	STATE_CD	PHYSICAL_LOCATION_STATE_CODE	Physical Location State Code			The standard two-byte alpha postal state code.			
3	OPEN_DT	PHYSICAL_LOCATION_OPEN_DATE	Physical Location Store Open Date			The date the store opened as reported by the pharmacy to NCPDP.			
4	CLOSE_DT	PHYSICAL_LOCATION_CLOSE_DATE	Physical Location Store Closure Date			The last day of business for the store as reported to NCPDP. This date may be in years before or after the current year.			
5	DSPCLASS	DISPENSER_CLASS	Dispenser Class Code			The class code associated with this provider. The Dispenser Class Code is self-designated and is not related to taxonomy codes.	00	No longer used for new provider entries. Existing values will be converted over time.	
							01	Independent pharmacy defined as 1-3 pharmacies under common ownership.	
							02	Chain Pharmacy defined as a part of a group of four or more pharmacies under common ownership. Pharmacies may or may not share the same Federal Tax ID number.	
							03	No longer used. Values converted to "07" (Alternate Dispensing Site) with the Dispensing Type Code used to clarify the type of entity.	
							04	No longer used. Values converted to "07" (Alternate Dispensing Site) with the Dispensing Type Code used to clarify the type of entity.	
							05	Franchise pharmacy defined as an independently owned pharmacy that has signed a franchise agreement with a franchisor wherein the franchisee receives services such as training, marketing, and other support from the franchisor in exchange for a franchise fee to the franchisor. A franchisee often includes the franchisor's name as part of the store name.	
							06	Government pharmacy defined as a pharmacy under the jurisdiction of federal, state, county or city government or the Indian Health Service. This includes military pharmacies within or outside the United States.	
							07	Alternate dispensing site defined as a pharmacy or dispensing site that does not fit into the four classes above. This includes mail service pharmacies, institutional and hospital pharmacies, most clinic pharmacies, rural health facilities, etc.	
6	DSPTYPE1	PRIMARY_DISPENSER_TYPE	Primary Dispenser Type Code			This field contains the provider's primary dispenser type code. NCPDP requires all providers to specify a primary dispenser type.	00	No longer allowed for new provider entries. Existing value "00" entries will be converted over time by NCPDP.	
							01	Community/Retail Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy where pharmacists store, prepare, and dispense medicinal preparations and/or prescriptions for a local patient population in accordance with federal and state law; counsel patients and caregivers (sometimes independent of the dispensing process); administer vaccinations; and provide other professional services associated with pharmaceutical care such as health screenings, consultative services with other health care providers, collaborative practice, disease state management, and education classes. Associated taxonomy code is "3336C0003X".	
							02	No longer used. Value "02" converted to "01" by NCPDP.	
							03	No longer used. Value "03" converted to "01" by NCPDP.	
							04	Long Term Care Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy that dispenses medicinal preparations delivered to patients residing within an intermediate or skilled nursing facility, including intermediate care facilities for mentally retarded, hospice, assisted living facilities, group homes, and other forms of congregate living arrangements. Associated with taxonomy code "3336L0003X".	

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							05	Mail order pharmacy defined as a pharmacy where pharmacists compound or dispense prescriptions or other medications in accordance with federal and state law, using common carriers to deliver the medications to patient or their caregivers. Mail order pharmacies counsel patients and caregivers (sometimes independent of the dispensing process) through telephone or email contact and provide other professional services associated with pharmaceutical care appropriate to the setting. Mail order pharmacies are licensed as a Mail Order Pharmacy in the state where they are located and may also be licensed or registered as nonresident pharmacies in other states. Associated with taxonomy code "3336M0002X".	
							06	Home Infusion Therapy Provider defined as a pharmacy-based, decentralized patient care organization with expertise in USP 797-compliant sterile drug compounding that provides care to patients with acute or chronic conditions generally pertaining to parenteral administration of drugs, biologics and nutritional formulae administered through catheters and/or needles in home and alternate sites. Extensive professional pharmacy services, care coordination, infusion nursing services, supplies and equipment are provided to optimize efficacy and compliance. Associated with taxonomy code "3336H0001X".	
							07	Non-pharmacy dispensing site defined as a site other than a pharmacy that dispenses medicinal preparations under the supervision of a physician to patients for self-administration. (e.g. physician offices, ER, Urgent Care Centers, Rural Health Facilities, etc.) Associated with taxonomy code "332900000X".	
							08	Indian Health Service/Tribal/Urban Indian Health (I/T/U) Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy operated by the Indian Health Service, an Indian tribe or tribal organization, or an urban Indian organization, all of which are defined in Section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, 25 U.S.C. 1603. Associated with taxonomy code "332800000X".	
							09	Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Pharmacy defined as any place under VA jurisdiction where drugs are dispensed and Pharmaceutical Care is provided to enrolled Veterans, by licensed pharmacists. The Pharmacy is reviewed by JCAHO, utilizes the VA hospital's DEA number, and has a designated NCPDP number. VA facility pharmacies include Inpatient (Institutional), Outpatient, Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacies, Research, AddictionTreatment Centers, Long Term Care and Community Based Outpatient Clinics Pharmacies. The VA Pharmacy Benefits Management – Strategic Healthcare Group has oversight for professional and practice activities of VA Pharmacies. Each pharmacy is under the direct supervision of a U.S. or U.S. territory licensed pharmacist, and has staffing to meet its designated scope of service. Associated with taxonomy code "3332100000X".	
							10	No longer used. Value "10" converted to "11" by NCPDP.	
							11	Institutional pharmacy defined as a pharmacy in a hospital (inpatient) or institution used by pharmacists for the compounding and delivery of medicinal preparations to be administered to the patient by nursing or other authorized personnel. Institutional Pharmacies also counsel patients and caregivers; administer vaccinations; and provide other professional services associated with pharmaceutical care such as health screenings, consultative services with other health care providers, collaborative practice, disease state management, and education classes. Associated with taxonomy code "3336I0012X".	
							12	Managed Care Organization (MCO) Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy owned by an MCO used by pharmacists for the compounding and dispensing of medicinal preparations to that MCO's covered members only. Associated with taxonomy code "3336M0003X".	
							13	DME defined as a supplier of medical equipment such as respirators, wheelchairs, home dialysis systems, or monitoring systems, that are prescribed by a physician for a patient's use. Associated with taxonomy code "332B00000X".	

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							14	Clinic Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy in a clinic, emergency room or hospital (outpatient) that dispenses medications to patients for self-administration under the supervision of a pharmacist. Associated with taxonomy code "3336C0002X".	
							15	Specialty Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy that dispenses generally low volume and high cost medicinal preparations to patients who are undergoing intensive therapies for illnesses that are generally chronic, complex and potentially life threatening. Often these therapies require specialized delivery and administration. Associated with taxonomy code "3336S0011X".	
							16	Nuclear Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy dedicated to the compounding and dispensing of radioactive materials for use in nuclear imaging and nuclear medical procedures. Associated with taxonomy code "3336N0007X".	
							17	Military/US Coast Guard Pharmacy defined as a Department of Defense (DoD) or U.S. Coast Guard entity whose primary function is to store, prepare and dispense pharmaceuticals and other associated items to Uniformed Services beneficiaries. These pharmacies may be associated with a DoD or U.S. Coast Guard clinic, DoD Hospital or freestanding. Usually associated with outpatient services. Associated with taxonomy code "332000000X".	
							18	Compounding Pharmacy defined as a pharmacy that specializes in the preparation of components into a drug preparation as the result of a Practitioner's Prescription Drug Order or initiative based on the Practitioner/Patient/Pharmacist relationship in the course of professional practice. A compounding pharmacy utilizes specialized equipment and specially designed facilities necessary to meet the legal and quality requirements of its scope of compounding practice.	
7	TXNMYCD1	PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CODE	Partial County Indicator			The taxonomy code associated with the primary dispenser type code.		See value descriptions for Primary Dispenser Types for the mapping of Taxonomy Code to Dispenser Type.	
8	DSPTYPE2	SECONDARY_DISPENSER_TYPE	Secondary Dispenser Type Code			This field contains the provider's secondary dispenser type code. Providers are not required by NCPDP to specify a secondary dispenser type.		See the value descriptions for Primary Dispenser Type.	
9	TXNMYCD2	SECONDARY_TAXONOMY_CODE				The taxonomy code associated with the secondary dispenser type code.		See value descriptions for Primary Dispenser Types for the mapping of Taxonomy Code to Dispenser Type.	
10	DSPTYPE3	TERTIARY_DISPENSER_TYPE	Tertiary Dispenser Type Code			This field contains the provider's tertiary dispenser type code. Providers are not required by NCPDP to specify a tertiary dispenser type.		See the value descriptions for Primary Dispenser Type.	
11	TXNMYCD3	TERTIARY_TAXONOMY_CODE				The taxonomy code associated with the tertiary dispenser type code.		See value descriptions for Primary Dispenser Types for the mapping of Taxonomy Code to Dispenser Type.	
12	RLTSHIPID	RELATIONSHIP_ID	Encrypted Relationship ID			An encrypted NCPDP identifier for a chain or franchise organization that the pharmacy has a relationship with.			
13	RLTFRMDT	RELATIONSHIP_FROM_DT	Relationship From Date			The start date of the pharmacy's relationship with a chain or franchise as reported to NCPDP.			
14	RLTTHRDT	RELATIONSHIP_THRU_DT	Relationship Through Date			The end date of the pharmacy's relationship with a chain or franchise as reported to NCPDP.			
15	RLT_TYPE	RELATIONSHIP_TYPE	Relationship Type			Indicates whether or not the pharmacy has a chain or franchise relationship with another entity.	01	Chain: A group of providers operating under a single banner and having common ownership.	
							02	Franchise: A provider which has entered into an agreement with a franchiser entitling the latter to the use of a complete business package, common identification and having all the elements necessary to enable him or her to run it on an ongoing basis.	
							03	The provider has no chain or franchise relationships.	

<sup>1</sup>: Source of most variable descriptions and value descriptions is DATAQ™ Pharmacy Database File Standard, Implementation Guide Version 2.1, August 2008, National Council for Prescription Drug Programs