



Chronic Condition Data Warehouse

Your source for national CMS Medicare and Medicaid research data

Medicare Part D Prescriber Characteristics Codebook

May 2017

Version 1.0

This page intentionally left blank

Revision History

Revision Date	Version Number	Description	Author(s)
05/17/2017	1.0	Initial release of Codebook for PTD Prescriber Characteristics file.	Kathy Schneider, Chris Alleman

Table of Contents

CCW_PRESCRIBER_ID	1
CREDENTIAL01	2
CREDENTIAL02	3
CREDENTIAL03	4
CREDENTIAL04	5
CREDENTIAL05	6
HCID	7
NPI	8
OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01	9
OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02	10
OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS03	11
OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04	12
PRACTICE_LOC_STATE01	13
PRACTICE_LOC_STATE02	16
PRACTICE_LOC_STATE03	19
PRACTICE_LOC_STATE04	22
PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD	25
PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC	26

CCW_PRESCRIBER_ID

LABEL: CCW-assigned Prescriber Identifier

DESCRIPTION: This variable is the CCW-assigned number that is used to uniquely identify prescribers found in the Part D Event File. The ID is specific to the CCW and not applicable to any other identification system or data source.

This field also enables linkage between the Part D Event File and the CCW Prescriber Characteristics File.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: CCW_PRSCRBR_ID

TYPE: NUM

LENGTH: 12

SOURCE: PDE and HCidea™ Prescriber Database (derived)

VALUES: Null, or any positive or negative number

COMMENT: This variable is only available 2006 - 2013. Beginning with 2014 data, the National Provider Identifier (NPI; which appears in the PDE variable called PRSCRBR_ID) is used in place of the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID within the Prescriber Characteristics File.

Researchers who received CCW data from 2006-2013 and wish to identify the HCidea-assigned provider ID (HCID) and/or NPI associated with the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID may request the "Prescriber Bridge File", which is designed for this purpose.

This variable is the CCW-assigned prescriber identifier that is populated by linking the PRSCRBR_ID from the PDE to the proprietary HCidea Prescriber Database.

HCidea has prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System, which assigns a unique NPI to each provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration (through data files known as the Controlled Substances Act Registrants), and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Using these input files, it was generally possible for CCW to identify a unique provider using an NPI, DEA number, and/or UPIN number.

This variable is populated for every PDE that could be linked to a provider in the HCidea database for that year. CCW_PRSCRBR_ID has a negative value when a conclusive link could not be found between the prescriber identification number in the source PDE data and the HCidea database.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

CREDENTIAL01

LABEL: Academic or Professional Credential 1 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: The degree or academic credential for the prescriber. This variable is one of five possible credentials or academic degrees in the source data.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: CREDENTIAL01

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 8

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)

COMMENT: This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Information regarding credentials is self-reported by the provider.

From this source data, CCW creates an array of academic or professional credentials associated with the provider during the year. We gave priority in this array to the types of credentials most likely to have prescribing privileges, the next priority was other medical credentials, and then other types of academic credentials that may have appeared in the source data. See also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

CREDENTIAL02

LABEL: Academic or Professional Credential 2 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: The degree or academic credential for the prescriber. This variable is one of five possible credentials or academic degrees in the source data.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: CREDENTIAL02

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 8

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)

COMMENT: This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Information regarding credentials is self-reported by the provider.

From this source data, CCW creates an array of academic or professional credentials associated with the provider during the year. We gave priority in this array to the types of credentials most likely to have prescribing privileges, the next priority was other medical credentials, and then other types of academic credentials that may have appeared in the source data. See also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

CREDENTIAL03

LABEL: Academic or Professional Credential 3 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: The degree or academic credential for the prescriber. This variable is one of five possible credentials or academic degrees in the source data.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: CREDENTIAL03

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 8

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)

COMMENT: This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Information regarding credentials is self-reported by the provider.

From this source data, CCW creates an array of academic or professional credentials associated with the provider during the year. We gave priority in this array to the types of credentials most likely to have prescribing privileges, the next priority was other medical credentials, and then other types of academic credentials that may have appeared in the source data. See also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

CREDENTIAL04

LABEL:	Academic or Professional Credential 4 - for Part D Prescribers
DESCRIPTION:	The degree or academic credential for the prescriber. This variable is one of five possible credentials or academic degrees in the source data.
SHORT NAME:	-
LONG NAME:	CREDENTIAL04
TYPE:	CHAR
LENGTH:	8
SOURCE:	HCidea™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	<p>This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Information regarding credentials is self-reported by the provider.</p> <p>From this source data, CCW creates an array of academic or professional credentials associated with the provider during the year. We gave priority in this array to the types of credentials most likely to have prescribing privileges, the next priority was other medical credentials, and then other types of academic credentials that may have appeared in the source data. See also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.</p>

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

CREDENTIAL05

LABEL:	Academic or Professional Credential 5 - for Part D Prescribers
DESCRIPTION:	The degree or academic credential for the prescriber. This variable is one of five possible credentials or academic degrees in the source data.
SHORT NAME:	-
LONG NAME:	CREDENTIAL05
TYPE:	CHAR
LENGTH:	8
SOURCE:	HCidea™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	<p>This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Information regarding credentials is self-reported by the provider.</p> <p>From this source data, CCW creates an array of academic or professional credentials associated with the provider during the year. We gave priority in this array to the types of credentials most likely to have prescribing privileges, the next priority was other medical credentials, and then other types of academic credentials that may have appeared in the source data. See also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.</p>

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

HCID

LABEL: HCidea Proprietary Prescriber Identifier

DESCRIPTION: This variable uniquely identifies prescribers found in the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database.

HCidea has prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System, which assigns a unique NPI to each provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration (through data files known as the Controlled Substances Act Registrants), and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Using these input files, it is generally possible to identify a unique provider using an NPI, DEA number, and/or UPIN number.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: HCID

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 10

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: Null, or any positive or negative number

COMMENT: This variable was new in 2014; beginning with 2014 Part D Prescriber Characteristics File, the NPI is used in place of the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID.

The HCID was historically used to assign the CCW-assigned prescriber identifier (CCW_PRSCRBR_ID). CCW purchased the HCidea™ Prescriber Database to enable us to roll-up various IDs in the Part D Prescription Drug Event (PDE) file to a unique prescriber. Each year, CCW used HCidea™ and cross-walked all of the identifiers in the PDE for a unique prescriber (which corresponded to a HCID) and assigned a CCW_PRSCRBR_ID to represent an individual medical practitioner. This allowed PDE records that had the same prescriber but used a combination of different identifiers to be assigned the same identifier in the CCW file. We assigned CCW_PRSCRBR_IDs on an annual basis for the universe of prescribers found in the annual PDE data.

For current years (i.e., after May 2013), a national provider identifier (NPI) will typically be associated with a single HCID.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

NPI

LABEL: Prescriber NPI Number

DESCRIPTION: The national provider identifier (NPI) number assigned to uniquely identify the physician or practitioner who prescribed the beneficiary's medication.

NPIs replaced Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) numbers as the standard prescriber identifiers in May 2013. This field also enables linkage between the Part D Event File, NPI is contained in a PDE field called the PRSCRBR_ID, and the CCW Prescriber Characteristics File.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: NPI

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 10

SOURCE: PDE and HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: -

COMMENT: This variable was new in 2014; beginning with 2014 Part D Prescriber Characteristics File, the NPI is used in place of the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID. The CCW_PRSCRBR_ID was retired after 2013. Prior to 2014 data, the NPI on the Prescription Drug Event (PDE) file was not allowed to be released, in accordance with CMS privacy rules.

Prior to 2014 data, the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database was used to uniquely identify prescribers since a variety of identifiers were allowed on the PDE. HCidea has prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System, which assigns a unique NPI to each provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration (through data files known as the Controlled Substances Act Registrants), and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). Using these input files, it is generally possible to identify a unique provider using an NPI, DEA number, and/or UPIN number.

The HCID (from the HCidea data) was historically used to assign the CCW-assigned prescriber identifier (CCW_PRSCRBR_ID). For current years, an NPI will typically be associated with a single HCID.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01

LABEL: Other Taxonomy Classification 1 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: An additional taxonomy classification different from the primary taxonomy classification.

NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes have three levels: Type, Classification, and Specialization. The Classification is obtained from the first four characters of the full Taxonomy Code and represents the provider's general specialty.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 4

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network).

Descriptions for the taxonomy classifications provided in this file are included in the descriptions for the primary taxonomy codes (see variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics File (see PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

Taxonomy codes are assigned by the National Uniform Claims Committee (NUCC). For a current list of NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes and Descriptions see the Code Sets link at <http://www.nucc.org/>.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02

LABEL: Other Taxonomy Classification 2 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: An additional taxonomy classification different from the primary taxonomy classification.

NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes have three levels: Type, Classification, and Specialization. The Classification is obtained from the first four characters of the full Taxonomy Code and represents the provider's general specialty.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 4

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network).

Descriptions for the taxonomy classifications provided in this file are included in the descriptions for the primary taxonomy codes (see variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics File (see PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

Taxonomy codes are assigned by the National Uniform Claims Committee (NUCC). For a current list of NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes and Descriptions see the Code Sets link at <http://www.nucc.org/>.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS03

LABEL: Other Taxonomy Classification 3 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: An additional taxonomy classification different from the primary taxonomy classification.

NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes have three levels: Type, Classification, and Specialization. The Classification is obtained from the first four characters of the full Taxonomy Code and represents the provider's general specialty.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS03

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 4

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network).

Descriptions for the taxonomy classifications provided in this file are included in the descriptions for the primary taxonomy codes (see variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics File (see PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

Taxonomy codes are assigned by the National Uniform Claims Committee (NUCC). For a current list of NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes and Descriptions see the Code Sets link at <http://www.nucc.org/>.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04

LABEL: Other Taxonomy Classification 4 - for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: An additional taxonomy classification different from the primary taxonomy classification.

NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes have three levels: Type, Classification, and Specialization. The Classification is obtained from the first four characters of the full Taxonomy Code and represents the provider's general specialty.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 4

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network).

Descriptions for the taxonomy classifications provided in this file are included in the descriptions for the primary taxonomy codes (see variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics File (see PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

Taxonomy codes are assigned by the National Uniform Claims Committee (NUCC). For a current list of NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes and Descriptions see the Code Sets link at <http://www.nucc.org/>.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

PRACTICE_LOC_STATE01

LABEL: Prescriber Practice Location State 1

DESCRIPTION: The state where the prescriber practices, using the standard two-character postal state code.

The CCW Prescriber Characteristics File allows for up to 5 practice location states associated with the prescriber during the year.

The number of associated states may vary from year to year.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: PRACTICE_LOC_STATE01

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 2

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: AK = Alaska

AL = Alabama

AR = Arkansas

AZ = Arizona

CA = California

CO = Colorado

CT = Connecticut

DC = District of Columbia

DE = Delaware

FL = Florida

GA = Georgia

HI = Hawaii

IA = Iowa

ID = Idaho

IL = Illinois

IN = Indiana

KS = Kansas
KY = Kentucky
LA = Louisiana
MA = Massachusetts
MD = Maryland
ME = Maine
MI = Michigan
MN = Minnesota
MO = Missouri
MS = Mississippi
MT = Montana
NC = North Carolina
ND = North Dakota
NE = Nebraska
NH = New Hampshire
NJ = New Jersey
NM = New Mexico
NV = Nevada
NY = New York
OH = Ohio
OK = Oklahoma
OR = Oregon
PA = Pennsylvania
PR = Puerto Rico
RI = Rhode Island
SC = South Carolina
SD = South Dakota
TN = Tennessee

TX = Texas

UT = Utah

VA = Virginia

VI = Virgin Islands

VT = Vermont

WA = Washington

WI = Wisconsin

WV = West Virginia

WY = Wyoming

XX = Unknown

Null/missing = Unable to link PDE prescriber to HCidea™ Prescriber Database

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

PRACTICE_LOC_STATE02

LABEL: Prescriber Practice Location State 2

DESCRIPTION: The 2nd state where the prescriber practices, using the standard two-character postal state code.

The CCW Prescriber Characteristics File allows for up to 5 practice location states associated with the prescriber during the year.

The number of associated states may vary from year to year.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: PRACTICE_LOC_STATE02

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 2

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: AK = Alaska

AL = Alabama

AR = Arkansas

AZ = Arizona

CA = California

CO = Colorado

CT = Connecticut

DC = District of Columbia

DE = Delaware

FL = Florida

GA = Georgia

HI = Hawaii

IA = Iowa

ID = Idaho

IL = Illinois

IN = Indiana

KS = Kansas
KY = Kentucky
LA = Louisiana
MA = Massachusetts
MD = Maryland
ME = Maine
MI = Michigan
MN = Minnesota
MO = Missouri
MS = Mississippi
MT = Montana
NC = North Carolina
ND = North Dakota
NE = Nebraska
NH = New Hampshire
NJ = New Jersey
NM = New Mexico
NV = Nevada
NY = New York
OH = Ohio
OK = Oklahoma
OR = Oregon
PA = Pennsylvania
PR = Puerto Rico
RI = Rhode Island
SC = South Carolina
SD = South Dakota
TN = Tennessee

TX = Texas

UT = Utah

VA = Virginia

VI = Virgin Islands

VT = Vermont

WA = Washington

WI = Wisconsin

WV = West Virginia

WY = Wyoming

XX = Unknown

Null/missing = Unable to link PDE prescriber to HCidea™ Prescriber Database

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

PRACTICE_LOC_STATE03

LABEL: Prescriber Practice Location State 3

DESCRIPTION: The 3rd state where the prescriber practices, using the standard two-character postal state code.

The CCW Prescriber Characteristics File allows for up to 5 practice location states associated with the prescriber during the year.

The number of associated states may vary from year to year.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: PRACTICE_LOC_STATE03

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 2

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: AK = Alaska

AL = Alabama

AR = Arkansas

AZ = Arizona

CA = California

CO = Colorado

CT = Connecticut

DC = District of Columbia

DE = Delaware

FL = Florida

GA = Georgia

HI = Hawaii

IA = Iowa

ID = Idaho

IL = Illinois

IN = Indiana

KS = Kansas
KY = Kentucky
LA = Louisiana
MA = Massachusetts
MD = Maryland
ME = Maine
MI = Michigan
MN = Minnesota
MO = Missouri
MS = Mississippi
MT = Montana
NC = North Carolina
ND = North Dakota
NE = Nebraska
NH = New Hampshire
NJ = New Jersey
NM = New Mexico
NV = Nevada
NY = New York
OH = Ohio
OK = Oklahoma
OR = Oregon
PA = Pennsylvania
PR = Puerto Rico
RI = Rhode Island
SC = South Carolina
SD = South Dakota
TN = Tennessee

TX = Texas

UT = Utah

VA = Virginia

VI = Virgin Islands

VT = Vermont

WA = Washington

WI = Wisconsin

WV = West Virginia

WY = Wyoming

XX = Unknown

Null/missing = Unable to link PDE prescriber to HCidea™ Prescriber Database

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

PRACTICE_LOC_STATE04

LABEL: Prescriber Practice Location State 4

DESCRIPTION: The 4th state where the prescriber practices, using the standard two-character postal state code.

The CCW Prescriber Characteristics File allows for up to 5 practice location states associated with the prescriber during the year.

The number of associated states may vary from year to year.

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: PRACTICE_LOC_STATE04

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 2

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: AK = Alaska

AL = Alabama

AR = Arkansas

AZ = Arizona

CA = California

CO = Colorado

CT = Connecticut

DC = District of Columbia

DE = Delaware

FL = Florida

GA = Georgia

HI = Hawaii

IA = Iowa

ID = Idaho

IL = Illinois

IN = Indiana

KS = Kansas
KY = Kentucky
LA = Louisiana
MA = Massachusetts
MD = Maryland
ME = Maine
MI = Michigan
MN = Minnesota
MO = Missouri
MS = Mississippi
MT = Montana
NC = North Carolina
ND = North Dakota
NE = Nebraska
NH = New Hampshire
NJ = New Jersey
NM = New Mexico
NV = Nevada
NY = New York
OH = Ohio
OK = Oklahoma
OR = Oregon
PA = Pennsylvania
PR = Puerto Rico
RI = Rhode Island
SC = South Carolina
SD = South Dakota
TN = Tennessee

TX = Texas

UT = Utah

VA = Virginia

VI = Virgin Islands

VT = Vermont

WA = Washington

WI = Wisconsin

WV = West Virginia

WY = Wyoming

XX = Unknown

Null/missing = Unable to link PDE prescriber to HCidea™ Prescriber Database

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD

LABEL: Primary Taxonomy Code for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: This is the taxonomy code for the prescriber. This field allows researchers to better understand the type of provider who prescribed the medication (e.g., by knowing the type of provider and his/her specialty).

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 10

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R00000X)

COMMENT: The Part D Prescriber Characteristics File is populated by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). This variable is the primary taxonomy code listed for the prescriber in the NPPES directory.

This variable corresponds with the TAXONOMY_DESC variable, which provides the description of the taxonomy code number. There are up to four additional taxonomy groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics File (see OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

Taxonomy codes are assigned by the National Uniform Claims Committee (NUCC). For a current list of NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes and Descriptions see the Code Sets link at <http://www.nucc.org/>.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)

PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC

LABEL: Primary Taxonomy Code Description for Part D Prescribers

DESCRIPTION: This is the description of the taxonomy code for the prescriber. This field allows researchers to better understand the type of provider who prescribed the medication (e.g., by knowing the type of provider and his/her specialty).

SHORT NAME: -

LONG NAME: PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC

TYPE: CHAR

LENGTH: 250

SOURCE: HCidea™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R00000X= Internal Medicine)

COMMENT: We populated this variable in the Part D Prescriber Characteristics File by linking to the proprietary HCidea™ Prescriber Database. HCidea obtains prescriber information from a variety of data sources, including the NPPES directory (which has each unique NPI that has been assigned to a provider), the Drug Enforcement Administration, and SureScripts (a nationwide e-prescribing network). This variable is the primary taxonomy code listed for the prescriber in the NPPES directory.

This variable corresponds with the PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD variable, which provides the taxonomy code number associated with this description. There are up to four additional taxonomy groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics File (see OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04), which can be identified using this description variable.

Taxonomy codes are assigned by the National Uniform Claims Committee (NUCC). For a current list of NUCC Provider Taxonomy Codes and Descriptions see the Code Sets link at <http://www.nucc.org/>.

[^ Back to TOC ^](#)