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CODEBOOK:

Medicare Part D Prescriber Characteristics

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Revision Log

Date	Changed by	Revisions	Version
April 2021	K. Schneider D. Happe	Migrated codebook to the 2020 document template	1.1
May 2017	K. Schneider C. Alleman	Initial release of codebook for PTD Prescriber Characteristics file	1.0

Tips on Navigating the Codebook

This document is a detailed codebook that describes each variable in the Medicare Part D Prescriber Characteristics research files. Because the files have many variables, we have included several ways for users to quickly find the information they need:

- A complete listing of all variables in the files, in alphabetical order based on their SAS variable names.
- Individual entries for each variable that contain a short description of the variable, the possible values for the variable, and, in many cases, notes that discuss how the variable was constructed and should be used.

We have included hyperlinks throughout the codebook to make it easier for analysts to navigate between the table of contents and the detailed entries for the individual variables:

- Clicking on any variable name in the Table of Contents will take you to the detailed description for that variable.
- From the detailed description for any individual variable, clicking on the [^Back to TOC^](#) link after each variable description will take you back to the Table of Contents.

Table of Contents

This section of the codebook contains a list of all variables in alphabetical order based on the SAS variable name.

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Variable Details

This section of the codebook contains one entry for each variable in the Medicare Part D Prescriber Characteristics file. Each entry contains variable details to facilitate understanding and use of the variables.

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 HCIda™ 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 HCIda-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 HCIda Prescriber Database.

HCIda 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 HCIda 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 HCIda database.

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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:	HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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. Reference also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

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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:	HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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. Reference also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

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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:	HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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. Reference also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

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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:	HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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. Reference also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

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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:	HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database
VALUES:	(e.g., MD, DO, RN, DPM)
COMMENT:	This variable is populated by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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. Reference also CREDENTIAL02 through CREDENTIAL05. The number of credentials for a prescriber may vary from year to year.

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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.

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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 HCIda™ 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 HCIda™ Prescriber Database was used to uniquely identify prescribers since a variety of identifiers were allowed on the PDE. HCIda 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 HCIda 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.

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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: HCIda™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCIda™ Prescriber Database. HCIda 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 (reference variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics file (reference PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

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

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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: HCIda™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCIda™ Prescriber Database. HCIda 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 (reference variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics file (reference PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

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

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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: HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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 (reference variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics file (reference PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

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

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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: HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R)

COMMENT: We populated this variable for the CCW_PRSCRBR_ID by linking to the proprietary HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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 (reference variable called PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_DESC). There are up to four additional taxonomy classification groupings for the prescriber in the Prescriber Characteristics file (reference PRIMARY_TAXONOMY_CD, and OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS02 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

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

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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 five 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: HCIda™ Prescriber Database

VALUES:

AK = Alaska	ND = North Dakota
AL = Alabama	NE = Nebraska
AR = Arkansas	NH = New Hampshire
AZ = Arizona	NJ = New Jersey
CA = California	NM = New Mexico
CO = Colorado	NV = Nevada
CT = Connecticut	NY = New York
DC = District of Columbia	OH = Ohio
DE = Delaware	OK = Oklahoma
FL = Florida	OR = Oregon
GA = Georgia	PA = Pennsylvania
HI = Hawaii	PR = Puerto Rico
IA = Iowa	RI = Rhode Island
ID = Idaho	SC = South Carolina
IL = Illinois	SD = South Dakota
IN = Indiana	TN = Tennessee
KS = Kansas	TX = Texas
KY = Kentucky	UT = Utah
LA = Louisiana	VA = Virginia
MA = Massachusetts	VI = Virgin Islands
MD = Maryland	VT = Vermont
ME = Maine	WA = Washington
MI = Michigan	WI = Wisconsin
MN = Minnesota	WV = West Virginia
MO = Missouri	WY = Wyoming
MS = Mississippi	XX = Unknown
MT = Montana	
NC = North Carolina	

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

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

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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 five 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: HCIda™ Prescriber Database

VALUES:

AK = Alaska	ND = North Dakota
AL = Alabama	NE = Nebraska
AR = Arkansas	NH = New Hampshire
AZ = Arizona	NJ = New Jersey
CA = California	NM = New Mexico
CO = Colorado	NV = Nevada
CT = Connecticut	NY = New York
DC = District of Columbia	OH = Ohio
DE = Delaware	OK = Oklahoma
FL = Florida	OR = Oregon
GA = Georgia	PA = Pennsylvania
HI = Hawaii	PR = Puerto Rico
IA = Iowa	RI = Rhode Island
ID = Idaho	SC = South Carolina
IL = Illinois	SD = South Dakota
IN = Indiana	TN = Tennessee
KS = Kansas	TX = Texas
KY = Kentucky	UT = Utah
LA = Louisiana	VA = Virginia
MA = Massachusetts	VI = Virgin Islands
MD = Maryland	VT = Vermont
ME = Maine	WA = Washington
MI = Michigan	WI = Wisconsin
MN = Minnesota	WV = West Virginia
MO = Missouri	WY = Wyoming
MS = Mississippi	XX = Unknown
MT = Montana	
NC = North Carolina	

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

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

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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 five 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	ND = North Dakota
AL = Alabama	NE = Nebraska
AR = Arkansas	NH = New Hampshire
AZ = Arizona	NJ = New Jersey
CA = California	NM = New Mexico
CO = Colorado	NV = Nevada
CT = Connecticut	NY = New York
DC = District of Columbia	OH = Ohio
DE = Delaware	OK = Oklahoma
FL = Florida	OR = Oregon
GA = Georgia	PA = Pennsylvania
HI = Hawaii	PR = Puerto Rico
IA = Iowa	RI = Rhode Island
ID = Idaho	SC = South Carolina
IL = Illinois	SD = South Dakota
IN = Indiana	TN = Tennessee
KS = Kansas	TX = Texas
KY = Kentucky	UT = Utah
LA = Louisiana	VA = Virginia
MA = Massachusetts	VI = Virgin Islands
MD = Maryland	VT = Vermont
ME = Maine	WA = Washington
MI = Michigan	WI = Wisconsin
MN = Minnesota	WV = West Virginia
MO = Missouri	WY = Wyoming
MS = Mississippi	XX = Unknown
MT = Montana	
NC = North Carolina	

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

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

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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 five 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	ND = North Dakota
AL = Alabama	NE = Nebraska
AR = Arkansas	NH = New Hampshire
AZ = Arizona	NJ = New Jersey
CA = California	NM = New Mexico
CO = Colorado	NV = Nevada
CT = Connecticut	NY = New York
DC = District of Columbia	OH = Ohio
DE = Delaware	OK = Oklahoma
FL = Florida	OR = Oregon
GA = Georgia	PA = Pennsylvania
HI = Hawaii	PR = Puerto Rico
IA = Iowa	RI = Rhode Island
ID = Idaho	SC = South Carolina
IL = Illinois	SD = South Dakota
IN = Indiana	TN = Tennessee
KS = Kansas	TX = Texas
KY = Kentucky	UT = Utah
LA = Louisiana	VA = Virginia
MA = Massachusetts	VI = Virgin Islands
MD = Maryland	VT = Vermont
ME = Maine	WA = Washington
MI = Michigan	WI = Wisconsin
MN = Minnesota	WV = West Virginia
MO = Missouri	WY = Wyoming
MS = Mississippi	XX = Unknown
MT = Montana	
NC = North Carolina	

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

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

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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: HCIda™ Prescriber Database

VALUES: (e.g., 207R00000X)

COMMENT: The Part D Prescriber Characteristics file is populated by linking to the proprietary HCIda™ Prescriber Database. HCIda 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 (reference OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04).

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

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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: HCIdesa™ 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 HCIdesa™ Prescriber Database. HCIdesa 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 (reference OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS01 through OTHER_TAXONOMY_CLASS04), which can be identified using this description variable.

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

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