

What types of drugs are included on the NADAC file? National Drug Codes (NDCs) and descriptions for prescription and non-prescription drug products are included on the NADAC file. The NDCs will be from labelers who are actively participating in the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program. The labeler's NDCs must be listed in the CMS Drug Data Reporting for Medicaid (DDR) system to be included in the NADAC file. The rebating labeler active status and effective dates are obtained directly from the CMS Drug Manufacturer Contact Information file which is published quarterly and updated with interim additions and terminations.

Will NADAC rates be available for all covered outpatient drugs? The NADAC file currently contains rates for approximately 24,000 NDCs. When a NADAC is not available for the submitted NDC, the lesser of WAC + 0% or SMAC will be applied.

Will specialty drugs be included in the NADAC file? In accordance with the definition of 'retail community pharmacy' as defined in section 2503, a) (4) of the Affordable Care Act, retail community pharmacy does not include a pharmacy that dispenses prescription medications to patients primarily through the mail. Therefore, specialty drugs only available from specialty pharmacies who distribute these drugs primarily through the mail will not have a NADAC. Conversely, specialty drugs that are available from retail community pharmacies may have a NADAC, to the extent that cost observations are available for such drugs. Specialty drugs without a NADAC will be reimbursed at the lesser of WAC + 0% or SMAC.

Will the calculations for GDR change? The calculations for GDR are not changing and will continue to be based on the pharmacy's paid claims for generics and preferred brands. The GDR will continue to be updated quarterly and continue to exclude diabetic supplies.

How will the changes to a NADAC based reimbursement methodology impact the pharmacy provider payment? The average reimbursement amount per claim, in the aggregate, will be approximately 3% less under the proposed NADAC based reimbursement methodology than the current reimbursement methodology. There will be minimum impact to those pharmacies whose GDR is greater than 85%.

How are drugs classified for purposes of setting rates? Each NDC on the NADAC file will be designated as "B" for brand, "G" for generic, "B-BIO" for biosimilars or "B-ANDA" for brand drugs approved under an Abbreviated New Drug Application. These designations appear on the NADAC file and specify whether the NDC will receive the brand or generic NADAC rate.

Why are corresponding generic NADAC rates available for multiple source brand drugs? For multiple source drugs with a brand drug NADAC, a corresponding generic drug NADAC will be listed when available.

Will each NADAC rate have an effective date? Each NADAC rate will have an associated effective date. For every NADAC rate change, a new effective date will be established. The NADAC effective date processes are intentionally designed to eliminate overlapping date segments for any specific NDC. **Effective dates for NADAC rate updates resulting from help desk inquiries are not backdated. The effective date of the updated rate will align with the date on which that updated rate is first published.** The NADAC methodology document provides additional detail with regard to the policy for establishing rate effective dates.

Where can the NADAC file be found? The updated NADAC file will be posted to the CMS Retail Price Survey website on a weekly basis in a Microsoft Excel format. The new file will be a full replacement file and the previous files are maintained on the website under “Archive Files”. The NADAC pricing files are available through the following link:
<http://www.medicaid.gov/Medicaid-CHIP-Program-Information/By-Topics/Benefits/Prescription-Drugs/Pharmacy-Pricing.html>

What other documentation is available to assist with the NADAC file? In addition to the NADAC rate files, NADAC data field definitions, webinar presentations and the NADAC methodology document, CMS will also publish a comprehensive week to week file comparison and associated data definitions that identify changes and general reasons for updates to existing NADAC rates. This comparison is intended to assist in identifying rate changes and provide the primary reason for the change. All NADAC related documents can be found on the CMS Retail Price Survey website located at:

<http://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid-chip-program-information/by-topics/benefits/prescription-drugs/survey-of-retail-prices.html>

Is there a help desk available for answering questions regarding the NADAC? Myers and Stauffer LC, the contractor for the Retail Price Survey, will operate the NADAC help desk. The operating hours for the help desk are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 8 PM EST and contact information is included below.

Toll-free phone: (855) 457-5264
Electronic mail: survey@mslcrps.com
Facsimile: (844) 860-0236

Pharmacies are able to contact the help desk for any questions related to the NADAC survey process or if they have questions or concerns with a specific NADAC rate, such as those related to recent large price increases or drug shortages.