



**NCPDP**  
**SCRIPT Standard V2017071**  
**Exam Study Guide**

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## Introduction

This study guide is designed to prepare professionals for the NCPDP SCRIPT/Specialized Standard V2017071 certification exam. This certification exam will test the knowledge of the NCPDP SCRIPT/Specialized Standard V2017071, including NCPDP XML-based transactions used in electronic prescribing. Further, this standard provides general development and implementation guidelines for those who wish to provide business functionality of NCPDP XML-based transactions to their clients.

## Benefits

NCPDP's certifications are designed to help professionals achieve and showcase industry-recognized levels of proficiency and mastery of specific NCPDP standards. The NCPDP Certification Program provides members and qualifying non-members an opportunity to obtain a distinguished certification based on their ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the accurate and effective implementation of NCPDP standards.

NCPDP is a nationally recognized leader in creating numerous industry standards for the implementation of healthcare information exchange. Upon successful completion of the specified certification exam, the examinee's certificate will state which standard exam was successfully passed, e.g. NSC-II (NCPDP SCRIPT Certified). Certifications will be awarded by NCPDP and will enhance standing and provide credibility in the industry among peers. The NCPDP standard certifications can only be obtained through NCPDP and are not available through a secondary resource.

## Preparing for the Exam

NCPDP understands that the documentation utilized to implement the standard is voluminous and typically takes implementers some time to fully comprehend the content. This study guide is meant to offer examinees direction on key areas to study but not limit the scope to just the study guide content. Keep in mind, the SCRIPT Standard V2017071 certification exam encompasses all NCPDP SCRIPT Standard V2017071 documentation, as listed here:

- Web enabled Data Dictionary, 201707
- Web enabled External Code List, 201707
- SCRIPT Implementation Guide, V2017071
- [SCRIPT Implementation Recommendations document](#)
  - Updated every quarter
- XML Files, V2017071
- XML Standard, V2017071
- V2017071 SCRIPT Standard Examples Guide
- Specialized Standard Implementation Guide, V2017071

- V2017071 Specialized Standard Examples Guide

Exam questions were pulled from this documentation and sorted into topic areas. The following table lists the topic areas and percentages of questions delivered in each topic area. See Exam Objectives section for subtopics.

Topic Area	% of Exam
General	6.72%
Content	35.30%
Process	31.93%
Best Practices	5.04%
Long Term Care	7.56%
Format/Structure	13.45%

### Transactions

For convenience, the transactions included in the certification exam are explicitly listed here. See NCPDP SCRIPT/Specialized/XML Standard documentation for complete details.

Cancel Prescription Request	Prescription Transfer Request
Cancel Prescription Response	Prescription Transfer Response
Census	Prior Authorization Request
Clinical Information Request	Prior Authorization Response
Clinical Information Response	Prior Authorization Initiation Request
Drug Administration	Prior Authorization Initiation Response
Error	Prior Authorization Appeal Request
Get Message	Prior Authorization Appeal Response
Medication History Request	Prior Authorization Cancel Request
Medication History Response	Prior Authorization Cancel Response
New Prescription	REMS Initiation Request
New Prescription Request	REMS Initiation Response
New Prescription Response Denied	REMS Request
Password Change	REMS Response
Prescription Change Request	Renewal Prescription Request
Prescription Change Response	Renewal Prescription Response
Prescription Fill Indicator Change	Resupply
Prescription Fill Status Notification	Status
Prescription Transfer Confirm	Verify

### Important! Study Methods

Examinees should consider spending extended study time on areas where least experienced and sections related to Content or Process since these are areas of major emphasis in the exam. For example, please review information found in the following sections of the SCRIPT Standard Implementation Guide thoroughly:

- 5. Transactions

- 7. Structure Quick Reference
- 8. Specific Elements Discussion
- 10. Specific RxTransfer Element Discussion
- 11. Digital Signature Information
- 13. Frequently Asked Questions

Please review the following sections for the Specialized Standard Implementation Guide thoroughly:

- 4.2 Census
- 6. Specific Elements Discussion

The following study methods are recommended:

- (1) Use the Exam Objectives (section below) as a starting point on a study approach.
- (2) Study the NCPDP SCRIPT Standard documentation, and use them in preparing for the examination.
- (3) This is not an examination of your current job; it covers the entire NCPDP SCRIPT/Specialized/XML Standard.

**NOTE:** Be sure to get the benefit of those with experience and knowledge in areas where you are least experienced!

## [Taking the Exam](#)

The following information contains pertinent details about the exam itself, how to take it, and receive test results.

- The exam consists of two parts of approximately 59-60 questions each
  - Multiple Choice, Multiple Selection, True/False
- The exam will be taken in two parts and the time allotted for completion is 90 minutes
- Passing Grade: 75%
- Exams are administered via computer, not on paper
  - **NOTE: You must provide your own computer**
- This exam can be taken in any of the following three ways:
  - NCPDP Proctored Exam at Quarterly NCPDP Work Group Meetings (February, May, August, November)
  - Online Proctored Exam
- After exam completion, your score will be immediately displayed on your screen. Within two weeks of successfully passing the exam, your Official Certificate of Completion will be mailed to you. If you do NOT pass the exam, you may retake it at any time.

## Exam Objectives

<b>General</b>	<b>% of exam: 6.72%</b>
<i>Task: Demonstrate a broad understanding of the history, development, and use of the NCPDP SCRIPT Standard V2017071 and related documentation.</i>	
1. Why was the SCRIPT Standard designed?	
2. Which versions of the supporting documentation to the SCRIPT Standard should be utilized?	
3. Which Federal regulations name the SCRIPT Standard?	
4. Detailed understanding of the SCRIPT Standard conventions	
<b>Content</b>	<b>% of exam: 35.30%</b>
<i>Task: Demonstrate a global understanding of the standard's "infrastructure" as related to data elements, message types, and intended message purposes.</i>	
1. Detailed information about the Patient and Prescriber sections of the SCRIPT Standard	
2. Authentication Parameters	
3. Transaction Types	
4. Transaction Requirements	
5. Data and Terminology Sets	
6. Identifiers	
<b>Process</b>	<b>% of exam: 31.93%</b>
<i>Task: Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the requirements for the use of ePrescribing message types and why they were developed.</i>	
1. Prescription transmission	
2. Requirements for the various ePrescribing message types	
3. Compound Prescriptions	
4. What entities or stakeholders are integral parts of the prescription transaction process?	
5. Transaction Types	
6. Transaction Requirements	
7. Data and Terminology Sets	
8. Functionality	
<b>Best Practices</b>	<b>% of exam: 5.04%</b>
<i>Task: Demonstrate a broad understanding of the industry best practices in successful utilization and implementation of the various transactions, related segments, and fields within SCRIPT Standard V2017071.</i>	
1. Transaction Types	
2. Transaction Requirements	
3. Data Elements	
4. Medication Element Groups	
5. Free Text Fields	
6. Observation Element Group	
<b>Long Term Care</b>	<b>% of exam: 7.56%</b>
<i>Task: Demonstrate how specific transaction types can be applied in the Long Term Care setting for the unique needs encountered in that environment.</i>	
1. Controlled Substance Prescribing and Dispensing	
2. Resupply Transactions	

3. Census Transactions	
4. Transaction Requirements	
5. Differences between Retail & Long Term Care patient	
6. Differences between Retail & Long Term Care NewRx	
<b>Format/Structure</b>	<b>% of exam: 13.45%</b>
<i>Task: Demonstrate an understanding of the field attributes for the various message types, including restrictions and requirements for the data elements.</i>	
1. Mandatory Element Groups	
2. Drug Fields	
3. Transaction Types	
4. Field Length	
5. Alpha/Numeric Fields	

## Sample Questions

The following three questions are examples of what will be seen on the SCRIPT Standard/Specialized V2017071 Certification Exam. The exam consists of three question types: multiple choice, multiple selection, and true/false. Answers are provided separately.

### **Multiple Choice**

1. The effective date of the prescription in the New Prescription transaction should be sent as follows:
  - A. MedicationPrescribed/EffectiveDate
  - B. MedicationPrescribed/Note
  - C. MedicationPrescribed/OtherMedicationDate with a qualifier of EffectiveDate
  - D. MedicationPrescribed/EffectiveDate has been removed from V2017071 therefore this data cannot be transmitted
  
2. This transaction is a request from the prescriber to the payer to cancel a Prior Authorization Request.
  - A. Cancel Prescription Request
  - B. Prior Authorization Cancel Request
  - C. Prior Authorization Cancel Appeal Request
  - D. Prescription Renewal Request

### **Multiple Selection**

1. Which of the following elements are optional in Census transactions? Select all that apply.
  - A. Prescriber
  - B. Facility
  - C. Diagnosis
  - D. Patient

2. A Medication History Request can be responded to synchronously with \_\_\_\_\_. Select all that apply.

- A. Medication History Response
- B. Prescription Fill Status Notification
- C. Status
- D. Error

**True/False**

1. A Renewal Prescription Request should NEVER be directly responded to with a New Prescription

- A. True
- B. False

2. Prescription Fill Status Notification transaction contains both reason codes to notify the prescriber and/or facility that generic substitution or therapeutic interchange of a prescribed medication has occurred.

- A. True
- B. False

**See the answer key on the next page.**

**Answer Key (answers are highlighted)**

**Multiple Choice**

**Question 1**

- A. MedicationPrescribed/EffectiveDate
- B. MedicationPrescribed/Note
- C. MedicationPrescribed/OtherMedicationDate with a qualifier of EffectiveDate**
- D. MedicationPrescribed/EffectiveDate has been removed from v2017071 therefore this data cannot be transmitted

**Question 2**

- A. Cancel Prescription Request
- B. Prior Authorization Cancel Request**
- C. Prior Authorization Cancel Appeal Request
- D. Prescription Renewal Request

**Multiple Selection**

**Question 1**

- A. Prescriber**
- B. Facility
- C. Diagnosis**
- D. Patient

**Question 2**

- A. Medication History Response**
- B. Prescription Fill Status Notification
- C. Status**
- D. Error**

**True/False**

**Question 1**

- A. True**
- B. False

**Question 2**

- A. True**
- B. False