



**Healthcare Acronym Dictionary
2021 – 2022 Edition**

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NCPDP brings diverse stakeholders together to advance information technology solutions that improve patient care while establishing a more cost-effective healthcare system. As an ANSI-accredited standards organization, we create and promote standards for electronic healthcare transactions through a consensus-building process.

NCPDP members participating in that process include payers, providers, prescribers, pharmacists, pharmacy benefit managers, consultants, pharmaceutical manufacturers, database management organizations, information management professionals, technology vendors, drug wholesalers, physician services organizations, industry professional societies, service organizations, and government agencies.

NCPDP invites all stakeholder groups to collaborate with us. In addition to gaining a voice in the consensus process and valuable networking, our members have access to all NCPDP standards. Other member resources include educational programs, database products and legislative tracking tools.

Learn more at www.ncdp.org



VISION

Lead the industry in healthcare standards and solutions for the common good.

PURPOSE

To standardize the exchange of healthcare information to improve outcomes.

CORE VALUES

Collaboration

Inclusiveness

Integrity & Ethical Behavior

Leadership

Innovation





OUR PRODUCTS & SERVICES



Pharmacy Credentialing Resource



Pharmacy Database



Powered by Experian Health UIM
& NCPDP Standards™



Visit www.ncdp.org/products for more information on our data products and services.

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A**4Rx**

RxIIN/RxPCN/RxGroup/RxID

AAC

Average Acquisition Cost/
Average Allowable Cost

AACP

American Association of
Colleges of Pharmacy

AAFP

American Academy of Family
Physicians

AAHSA

American Association of
Homes and Services for the
Aging

AAM

Association for Accessible
Medications

AAP

American Academy of
Pediatrics

AAPPO

American Association of
Preferred Provider
Organizations

AAPS

American Association of
Pharmaceutical Scientists

ABN

Advance Beneficiary Notice

ACA

Affordable Care Act (PPACA)/
American College of
Apothecaries

ACO

Accountable Care
Organization

ACOEM

American College of
Occupational and
Environmental Medicine

ACPE

Accreditation Council for
Pharmacy Education

ACR

American College of
Radiology

ADA

American Dental Association

ADAP

AIDS Drug Assistance
Program

ADE

Adverse Drug Event

AHA

American Hospital
Association

AHC

Accountable Health
Communities

AHCA

American Health Care
Association

AHIMA

American Health Information
Management Association

AHIP

America's Health Insurance Plans

AHRQ

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

AIHP

American Institute of the History of Pharmacy

AIIM

Association for Information and Image Management

AJHP

American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy

AMA

American Medical Association

AMCP

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy

AMDA

American Medical Directors Association

AMDIS

Association of Medical Directors of Information Systems

AMGA

American Medical Group Association

AMIA

American Medical Informatics Association

ANDA

Abbreviated New Drug Application

ANSI

American National Standards Institute

AOA

American Osteopathic Association

APhA

American Pharmacists Association

API

Application Programming Interface

ASAP

American Society for Automation in Pharmacy

ASC X12

Accredited Standards Committee X12

ASCII

American Standard Code for Information Interchange

ASCP

American Society of Consultant Pharmacists

ASHP

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists

ASPR

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response

A**ASTM**

American Society of Testing and Materials

B**ATM**

Asynchronous Transfer Mode

C**AWP**

Any Willing Provider/Average Wholesale Price

BAE

Best Available Evidence

BCBSA

Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

BCRC

Benefits Coordination and Recovery Center

BER

Brand Effective Rate

BHP

Basic Health Plan

BI

Benefits Inquiry/Benefits Investigation/Business Intelligence

BIN

Bank Identifier Number

BLA

Biologics License Application

BLR

Beneficiary Level Report

BOP

Boards of Pharmacy

BPCI

Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009

BPP

Benefit and Payment Parameters

BPS

Bits per Second

BSR

Board of Standards Review (ANSI)

BTC

Behind The Counter

BU

Billing Unit

BUS

NCPDP Billing Unit Standard

BV

Benefits Verification

CAB

Community Advisory Board

CAHs

Critical Access Hospitals

CAM

Complimentary and Alternative Medicine

CAQH

Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare

CARA

Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act

CARC

Claim Adjustment Reason Code

CBCP

Common Business Communications Protocol

CBO

Congressional Budget Office

CBT

Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

CCD

Continuity of Care Document

CCD+

Corporate Credit or Deposit Entry with Addenda Record (CCD+)

C-CDA

Consolidated Clinical Document Architecture

CCDS

Common Clinical Data Set

CCHIT

Certification Commission for Health Information Technology

CDA

Clinical Document Architecture

CDC

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDER

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (FDA)

CDMA

Chain Drug Marketing Association

CDS

Clinical Decision Support

CEFACT

United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

CER

Comparative Effectiveness Research

CGMP

Current Good Manufacturing Practice

CHIN

Community Health Information Network

CHIP

Children's Health Insurance Program

CHIPS

Clearing House Interbank Payments System

CHMIS

Community Health Management Information Systems

CHN

Cooperative Healthcare Networks

CHP

Controlling Health Plan

C**CHPA**

Consumer Healthcare Products Association

D**CIU**

Claims Investigative Unit

CLASS

Claims Acquisition and Submission System

CLIA

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments

CMMI

Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation

CMR

Comprehensive Medical Review

CMS

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

COB

Coordination of Benefits

CORE (CAQH)

Committee on Operating Rules for Information Exchange

CPF

Community Pharmacy Foundation

CPI

Consumer Price Index/CMS Center for Program Integrity

CPOE

Computerized Physician Order Entry

CPRI

Computer-based Patient Records Institute, Inc.

CPS

Characters per Second

CPT

Current Procedural Terminology

CQM

Clinical Quality Measures

CRS

Change Request System

CSA

Canadian Standards Association/Controlled Substances Act

CSG

Council of State Governments

CWF

Common Working File

DataQ

NCPDP Pharmacy Database

DAW

Dispense as Written

DDR

CMS Drug Data Reporting

DEA

Drug Enforcement Administration

DERF

Data Element Request Form

DES

Data Encryption Standard

DESI

Drug Efficacy Study
Implementation

DHS

Department of Homeland
Security

DIR

Direct and Indirect
Remuneration

DISA

Data Interchange Standards
Association, Inc.

DMB

Data Maintenance Ballot

DME

Durable Medical Equipment

DMERC

Durable Medical Equipment
Regional Carriers

DMR

Direct Member
Reimbursement

DOD

Department of Defense

DRA

Deficit Reduction Act

DRR

Drug Regimen Review

DSA

Data Sharing Agreement

DSCSA

Drug Supply Chain Security
Act

DSHEA

Dietary Supplement Health
and Education Act

DSM

Disease State Management

DSMO

Designated Standards
Maintenance Organization

DSTU

Draft Standard for Trial Use

DTA

Digital Therapeutics Alliance

DTTU

Draft Transaction for Trial
Use

DTx

Digital Therapeutics

DUE

Drug Use Evaluation

DUR

Drug Use Review/Drug
Utilization Review

EBCDIC

Extended Binary Coded
Decimal Interchange Code

EC

eCommerce

E**ECL**

External Code List

ECRS

Electronic Correspondence Referral System

ED

Emergency Department

EDI

Electronic Data Interchange

EDIFACT

Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce, & Transportation

EFT

Electronic Funds Transfer

EGWP

Employer Group Waiver Plan

EHB

Essential Health Benefits

eHI

eHealth Initiative

EHI

Electronic Health Information

EHNAC

Electronic Healthcare Network Accreditation Commission

EHP

Essential Health Benefits Package

EHR

Electronic Health Record

EMC

Electronic Medical Claims

EMR

Electronic Medical Record

EOB

Explanation of Benefits

EP

Eligible Provider

ePA

Electronic Prior Authorization

EPAP

Emergency Prescription Assistance Program

EPCIS

Electronic Product Code Information Services

EPCS

Electronic Prescribing of Controlled Substances

EPO

Exclusive Provider Organization

ERA

Electronic Remittance Advice

eRx

Electronic Prescribing

ESRD

End Stage Renal Disease

EUA

Emergency Use Authorization

FA

Functional Acknowledgment

FARs

Federal Acquisition
Regulations

FASB

Financial Accounting
Standards Board

FDA

Food and Drug
Administration

FDASIA

Food and Drug
Administration Safety and
Administration Act

FEMA

Federal Emergency
Management Agency

FFP

Federal Financial
Participation

FFS

Fee-For-Service

FHIR

Fast Healthcare
Interoperability Resources

FIPS

Federal Information
Processing Standards

FIR

Financial Information
Reporting (NCPDP Standard)

FMI

Food Marketing Institute

FOIA

Freedom of Information Act

FQHC

Federally Qualified Health
Center

FR

Final Rule or Federal Register

FROI

First Report of Injury

FSA

Flexible Spending Account

FUL

Federal Upper Limit

GAAP

Generally Accepted
Accounting Principles

GAAS

Generally Accepted Auditing
Standards

GAO

General Accounting Office

GDUFA

Generic Drug User Fee Act

GER

Generic Effective Rate

GLN

Global Location Number

GMP

Good Manufacturing
Processes

GOSIP

Government Open Systems
Interconnection Profile

G**GPhA**

See AAM

H**GPI**

Generic Product Identifier

GPO

Group Purchasing
Organization

GS1 (Global)

Formerly known as European
Article Numbering (EAN)
Association

GS1-US

US Affiliate of GS1 Formerly
known as Uniform Code
Council

GSA

General Services
Administration

GTIN

Global Trade Item Number

GUIDID

Global Unique Device
Identification Database

HCidea

NCPDP Prescriber Database

HCP

Healthcare Provider

HCPCS

Healthcare Common
Procedure Coding System

HDMA

Healthcare Distribution
Management Association

HEDIC

Health Electronic Data
Interchange Corporation

HEDIS

Healthcare Effectiveness Data
and Information Set

HHS

Department of Health and
Human Services

HIAA

Health Insurance Association
of America

HIBCC

Health Industry Business
Communications Council

HICN

Health Insurance Claim
Number (HICN)

HIDA

Health Industry Distributors
Association

HIE

Health Information Exchange

HIMSS

Healthcare Information and
Management Systems
Society

HIN

Health Industry Number

HIPAA

Health Insurance Portability
and Accountability Act of
1996

HIS

Hospital Information System

HISB

Healthcare Informatics Standards Board

HIT

Health Information Technology

HITECH

Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health

HITPC

Health IT Policy Committee

HITSC

Health IT Standards Committee

HITSP

Healthcare Information Technology Standards Panel

HL7

Health Level 7

HMO

Health Maintenance Organization

HPID

Health Plan Identifier

HPMS

Health Plan Management System

HRA

Health Reimbursement Account

HRP

High-Risk Pool

HRSA

Health Resources and Services Administration (U.S.)

HSA

Health Savings Account

HSC

Health Standards Collaborative

HSCA

Healthcare Supply Chain Association

HTTP

Hypertext Transfer Protocol

HTTPS

Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure

IAIABC

International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions

ICD

International Classification of Diseases

ICF

Intermediate Care Facility

IEDI

Interactive Electronic Data Interchange

IEEE

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

I**IFPW**

International Federation of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers

J**IFR**

Interim Final Rule

IHN

Integrated Health Network

IHS

Indian Health Service

IHTSDO

International Health Terminology Standards Development Organisation

IID

Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities

IIN

Issuer Identification Number

INCITS

InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards

INDA

Investigational New Drug Application

INN

International Nonproprietary Name

IoT

Internet of Things

IP

Internet Protocol

IPA

Independent Practice Association

IPG

Interoperability Proving Ground

IPMS

Interpersonal Messaging System

ISDN

Integrated Services Digital Network

ISMP

Institute for Safe Medication Practices

ISO

International Standards Organization

ISP

Internet Service Provider

ITU-T

International Telecommunication Union, Standardization Sector

JCALs

Joint Computer-Aided Acquisition and Logistics System

JCPP

Joint Commission of Pharmacy Practitioners

JEDI

Joint Electronic Data Interchange

JSON

JavaScript Object Notation

JWT

JSON Web Token

LAN

Local Area Network

LDD

Limited Distribution Drug

LEIE

List of Excluded Individuals/
Entities

LIS

Low Income Subsidy

LOC

Level Of Care

LOE

Level of Effort

LRC

Longitudinal Redundancy
Check

LTC

Long Term Care

LTCPA

Long Term Care Pharmacy
Alliance

LTPAC

Long Term and Post Acute
Care

MA

Medicare Advantage

MAC

Maximum Allowable Cost

MAGI

Modified Adjusted Gross
Income

MAO

Managed Advantage
Organization

MA-PD

Medicare Advantage
Prescription Drug Plan

MARx

Medicare Advantage
Prescription Drug System

MBD

Medicare Beneficiary
Database

MBI

Medicare Beneficiary ID

MDRI

Medicaid Drug Rebate
Initiative

MDRP

Medicaid Drug Rebate
Program

MDUFA

Medical Device User Fee
Amendments

MED

Medicare Exclusion
Database/Morphine
Equivalent Dosing

MEDPAC

Medicare Payment Advisory
Commission

M**MGMA**

Medical Group Management Association

N**MIME**

Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions

MMA

Medicare Modernization Act

MME

Morphine Milligram Equivalents

MMIS

Medicaid Management Information Systems

MMP

Medicare-Medicaid Plan

MOU

Memorandum of Understanding

MPR

Medication Possession Ratio

MSA

Medical Savings Account/
Medicare Set-Aside

MSP

Medicare Secondary Payer

MSSP

Medicare Shared Savings Program

MTM

Medication Therapy Management

MTUS

Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule

MU

Meaningful Use

NAAC

Net Average Allowable Cost

NABP

National Association of Boards of Pharmacy

NACDS

National Association of Chain Drug Stores

NACHA

National Automated Clearinghouse Association

NADAC

National Average Drug Acquisition Cost

NADONA/LTC

National Association of Directors of Nursing Administrators in Long Term Care

NAIC

National Association of Insurance Commissioners

NAMD

National Association of Medicaid Directors

NASL

National Association for the Support of Long Term Care

NASPA

National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations

NAW

National Association of Wholesale-Distributors

NCCI

National Council on Compensation Insurance/
National Correct Coding Initiative

NCHS

National Center for Health Statistics (*U.S.*)

NCI

National Cancer Institute

NCPA

National Community Pharmacists Association

NCPDP

National Council for Prescription Drug Programs

NCPDP SNIP

NCPDP Strategic National Implementation Process

NCPO

National Conference of Pharmaceutical Organizations

NCQA

National Committee for Quality Assurance

NCSL

National Conference of State Legislatures

NCVHS

National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics

NDA

New Drug Application

NDC

National Drug Code

NDEDIC

National Dental EDI Council

NGA

National Governors Association

NGHP

Non Group Health Plan

NHRIC

National Health Related Items Code

NIH

National Institutes of Health (*U.S.*)

NIST

National Institute of Standards and Technology

NLM

National Library of Medicine

NMEH

National Medicaid EDI HIPAA

NMHCC

National Managed Health Care Congress

N**NPA**

National Pharmacists Association

O**NPC**

National Pharmaceutical Council

NPI

National Provider Identifier

NPOR

Non Plan of Record

NPPES

National Plan and Provider Enumeration Systems

NPRM

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

NTFHR

National Task Force on Healthcare Reform

NUBC

National Uniform Billing Committee

NUCC

National Uniform Claim Committee

OASIS

Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information

OBRA-90

Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act

OCC

Other Coverage Code (NCPDP Data Element)

ODG

Official Disability Guidelines

OEID

Other Entity Identifier

OESS

Office of eHealth Standards and Services

OFR

Office of the Federal Register

OGC

Office of General Counsel

OHI

Other Health Insurance

OIG

Office of Inspector General

OLTP

Online Transaction Processing

OMB

Office of Management and Budget

OMG

Object Management Group

ONC

Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology

ONC-ACBs

ONC-Authorized Certification Bodies

**ONDCP**

Office of National Drug Control Policy

OOP

Out-of-Pocket

ORDUR

Online Realtime Drug Utilization Review

OSI

Open Systems Interconnection

OTC

Over the Counter

OUD

Opioid Use Disorder

P&T

Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee

PA

Prior Authorization

PAC

Predictive Acquisition Cost

PAP

Patient Assistance Program

PBM

Prescription/Pharmacy Benefit Manager

PCIP

Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plan

PCMA

Pharmaceutical Care Management Association

PCMH

Patient Centered Medical Homes

PCUG

MA-PD Plan Communication User Guide

PDC

Portion of Days Covered

PDE

Prescription Drug Event (file)

PDMA

Prescription Drug Marketing Act

PDMP

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

PDP

Prescription Drug Plan

PDUFA

Prescription Drug User Fee Act

PFSS

Private Fee-For-Service

PHI

Protected Health Information

PHITC

Pharmacy HIT Collaborative

PHO

Physician Hospital Organization

PHR

Personal Health Record

P**PhRMA**

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America

Q**PHS**

Public Health Service

PI

Product Identifier

PIHP

Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan

PIN

Personal Identification Number

PLRO

Patient Liability Reduction Due to Other Payer Amount

PoPC

Principles of Proper Conduct

POR

Plan of Record

POS

Point of Sale/Point of Service

PPA

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

PPACA

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

PPI

Producer Price Index

PPO

Preferred Provider Organization

PPS

Professional Pharmacy Services/Prospective Payment System

PPSN

Public Packet Switched Network

PQA

Pharmacy Quality Alliance

PQAS

Prior Quarter Adjustment Statement

PRB

Procedures Review Board

PRO

Patient Reported Outcomes

PSAO

Pharmacy Services Administration Organization

PSTN

Public Switched Telephone Network

PTCB

Pharmacy Technician Certification Board

QA

Quality Assurance

QHP

Qualified Health Plan

QUIC

Quantity Unit Information Communication

RARC

Remittance Advice Reason Code

RCM

Revenue Cycle Management

REMS

Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies

resQ

NCPDP Pharmacy Credentialing Resource

REST

Representational State Transfer

RESTful

An API or other web service which complies with the REST architecture

RFID

Radio Frequency Identification

RHC

Rural Health Clinic

RO

Regional Office

ROSI

Reconciliation of State Invoice

RPM

Remote Patient Monitoring

RRB

Railroad Retirement Board

RTB

Real-Time Benefits

RTBT

Real-Time Benefit Tool

RTDS

Recommended Transaction Data Sets

RTPB

Real-Time Prescription Benefit

RTS

Refill Too Soon/Return To Stock

S&I Framework

Standards and Interoperability Framework (ONC)

SADP

Stand Alone Dental Plans

SAG

Stakeholder Action Group

SAM

System for Award Management

SAP

State Assistance Programs

SCC

Submission Clarification Code (NCPDP Data Element)

SCO

Standards Charter Organization

S**SCOTUS**

Supreme Court of the United States

SDLC

Synchronous Data Link Control

SDO

Standards Development Organization

SDOH

Social Determinants of Health

Senate HELP Committee

Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions Committee

SHOP

Small Business Health Option Program

Sig

Abbreviation for “signatura;” physician’s directions

SMA

State Medicaid Agencies

SME

Subject Matter Expert

SMHP

State Medicaid Health Information Technology Plan

SNA

System Network Architecture

SNOMED CT

Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine – Clinical Terms

SNP

Special Needs Plan

SNS

Strategic National Stockpile

SOAP

Simple Object Access Protocol

SOP

Standard Operating Procedures

SPAP

State Pharmacy Assistance Program

SPL

Structured Product Labeling

SSI

Supplemental Security Income

SSN

Social Security Number

SSO

Standard Setting Organization

STC

Submission Type Code (NCPDP data element)

STU

Standard for Trial Use

SUPPORT Act

Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act

SWP

Suggested Wholesale Price

T3POS

Transaction Processing
Protocol for Point of Sale

TAG

Technical Advisory Group

TIME

The Individual Member
Excellence (Award)

TIN

Tax Identification Number

TLS

Transport Layer Security

TP

Trading Partner

TPA

Third Party Administrator/
Trading Partner Agreement

TPSP

Third Party Service Provider

TrOOP

True Out of Pocket

TSTS

Transaction Switching and
Transport Service

UCC

Universal Code Council (*see*
GS1-US)

UCF

Universal Claim Form

UCFTF

Uniform Claim Form Task
Force

UCR

Usual, Customary, and
Reasonable

UDI

Unique Device Identifier

UMS

Universal Medication
Schedule

UN/EDIFACT

United Nations Electronic
Data Interchange for
Administration, Commerce,
and Transportation

UNID

Unique National Identifier

UNSM

United Nations Standard
Message

UOM

Unit of Measure

UPC

Uniform Product Code

UPI

Universal Patient Identifier

UPIN

Unique Physician
Identification Number

URAC

Utilization Review
Accreditation Commission

U**URI**

Uniform Resource Identifier

V**URO**

Utilization Review
Organization

W**USAN**

United States Adopted
Names

X**Y****USCDI**

U.S. Core Data for
Interoperability

USHIK

United States Health
Information Knowledgebase

USP

United States Pharmacopeial
Convention

VA

Department of Veterans
Affairs

VAN

Value Added Network

VDSA

Voluntary Data Sharing
Agreement

VHA

Veterans Health
Administration

VSAC

Value Set Authority Center

W3C

World Wide Web
Consortium

WAC

Wholesale Acquisition Cost

WCRI

Workers' Compensation
Research Institute

WEDI

Work Group for Electronic
Data Interchange

WSDL

Web Services Description
Language

XML

Extensible Markup Language

XSD

XML Schema Definition

YTD

Year to Date

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