

**NCPDP SUBJECTS AND DESCRIPTIONS
FOR LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY MONITORING**

SUBJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION
Health Care Privacy: Prescriber Data	Measures related to the sale of physician prescribing data by pharmacists to pharmaceutical data vendors.
Health Information Technology:All Payer Claims Database & Cost Transparency	Measures related to the creation of an all payer claims database (APCD), and for a process by which health insurers submit claims or payment data to a specified entity.
Health Information Technology:Health Information Exchanges	Measures addressing the electronic transmission of health related data among facilities, health information organizations, and government agencies.
Health Information Technology:Telehealth – Telemedicine	Provisions related to the practice of medicine from a distance, including, but not limited to, the types of technology permitted, required disclosures and consent, and insurer coverage of telemedicine.
Health Information Technology:Telehealth – Telepharmacy	Requirements related to e-prescribing and remote dispensing.
Health Insurance:Coverage Mandates – Drugs	Measures addressing requirements for health insurers to provide coverage for drugs. This subject does not capture measures that impact public health coverage options.
Health Insurance:Drug Cards	The registration of third-party operators of prescription drug card programs and guidelines governing their practices, particularly regarding the information that must be included on these cards and the marketing of these products. This subject does not capture measures that impact public health coverage options.
Health Insurance:Prior Authorization	Measures addressing prior authorization for health services. Related subjects not captured here include Pharmaceutical Prior Authorization, Step Therapy, Formularies/PDLs, and Utilization Review. This subject exclusively covers electronic prior authorization.
Health Insurance:Provider Mandates – Pharmacists	Measures requiring health insurers to cover services performed by pharmacists. This subject does not capture measures that impact public health coverage options.
Pharma Access:340B Program	Measures related to access and participation in the 340B Program, such as inventory management, program administration, or requiring certain populations to use the program.
Pharma Access:Drug Substitution	Guidelines, requirements, and procedures for drug substitution, the role of pharmacists in dispensing therapeutically equivalent drugs or generic drugs, and exceptions for specific drugs that should not be substituted.

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Health Insurance: Coverage Mandates – Drugs	Measures addressing requirements for health insurers to provide coverage for drugs. This subject does not capture measures that impact public health coverage options.
Health Insurance: Drug Cards	The registration of third-party operators of prescription drug card programs and guidelines governing their practices, particularly regarding the information that must be included on these cards and the marketing of these products. This subject does not capture measures that impact public health coverage options.
Health Insurance: Prior Authorization	Measures addressing prior authorization for health services. Related subjects not captured here include Pharmaceutical Prior Authorization, Step Therapy, Formularies/PDLs, and Utilization Review. This subject exclusively covers electronic prior authorization.
Health Insurance: Provider Mandates – Pharmacists	Measures requiring health insurers to cover services performed by pharmacists. This subject does not capture measures that impact public health coverage options.
Pharma Access: 340B Program	Measures related to access and participation in the 340B Program, such as inventory management, program administration, or requiring certain populations to use the program.
Pharma Access: Formularies/PDLs	Requirements for the administration of drug formularies, such as how formulary information is disclosed, developed, or updated.

<p>Pharma Access:Immunization/Vaccine Administration</p>	<p>Requirements related to the administration of vaccines/immunizations. Relevant issues include, but are not limited to, private and public programs for vulnerable populations, the legality of requirements by private employers, liability issues, emergency preparedness issues, measures related to which providers may administer vaccines/immunizations, and manufacturing/distribution/storage requirements.</p>
<p>Pharma Access:Internet/Mail Order Pharmacy</p>	<p>Compliance and licensure issues for internet/mail order pharmacies.</p>
<p>Pharma Controlled Substances:Opioid Treatment</p>	<p>Guidelines for access to opioid treatment programs, their implementation, and impacts on other substance abuse services.</p>
<p>Pharma Access:Internet/Mail Order Pharmacy</p>	<p>Compliance and licensure issues for internet/mail order pharmacies.</p>

SUBJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION
Pharma Controlled Substances:Pain Clinics and Pain Management	Measures addressing the implementation of pain management programs and compliance for facilities, providers, and patients of pain clinics, as well as measures related to guidelines for, and access to, pain management treatments and services. This includes, but is not limited to: measures impacting opioids broadly, such as prescription limits, guidelines for marketing, and packaging requirements; alternative treatments for chronic pain; and the use of non-opioid directives.
Pharma Controlled Substances:Prescription Monitoring Programs	The implementation and regulation of prescription monitoring programs, including, but not limited to, how data is reported, who a mandated reporter is, and who may access the data.
Pharma Distribution:Drug Returns/Reuse	Measures that address drug return/reuse programs and how they assure the safety, purity, and freshness of the products. This subject also includes requirements for patients and pharmacists who are part of the verification and distribution process, as well as cancer drug repository programs.
Pharma Distribution:Pharmacy	Compliance and licensing issues for pharmacies, including scope of practice issues for a pharmacy, such as pharmacist counseling, medication therapy management, drug labeling, or handling of controlled substances. This subject includes pharmacies in a variety of settings, including retail storefronts, hospitals, clinics, or extended care facilities.
Pharma Distribution:Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)	Pharmaceutical distribution as it relates to pharmacy benefits managers, which include mail-order pharmacies, customer contracts for processing prescriptions, and negotiations with pharmacies or drug makers.
Pharma Payment & Reimbursement:Audits	Health care programs (Medicare, 340B programs, etc.) and pharmacy audits, as they relate to prescription drug benefits and services. Audits may include assessments of the Pharmacy Benefits Manager vendor.
Pharma Payment & Reimbursement:Pharmaceutical Pricing/Costs/Reporting	Measures related to prescription drug pricing, reporting, or disclosure, as well as efforts to establish maximum prices or define “excessive pricing.” This subject applies to both private and public insurance policies. Examples include, but are not limited to, efforts to ban or to define specialty tiers, limits on out-of-pocket expenses, and capping or limiting coinsurance and drug copayments.

SUBJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION
Pharma Payment & Reimbursement:Prior Authorization	Requirements for drug prior authorization, including Medicaid, state employee/retiree health programs, state drug assistance programs, senior drug programs, and disease management programs. This subject also includes insurer restrictions on medications, known as step therapy or fail first requirements.
Pharma Payment & Reimbursement:Workers Comp Pharmacy Benefits	Measures addressing workers' compensation pharmacy/prescription drug benefits, including pain medications, pharmacy networks, pharmacy reimbursements, and fee schedules.
Pharma Products:Biosimilars/Biologics	Guidelines addressing pharmaceutical biosimilars/biologics issues relating to drug substitution and formulary management.
Pharma Products:Specialty Pharmaceuticals	Compliance and licensing guidelines that impact specialty pharmacies and drugs.
Scope of Practice & Licensing:General	Measures addressing licensing issues that are applicable to all professions and occupations. This includes, but is not limited to: oversight; supervision; "least restrictive" regulatory activity; comprehensive review of occupational and professional licensing boards; and changes to rulemaking procedures.
Scope of Practice & Licensing:Pharmacist	The extent of, and limits on, actions and procedures a pharmacist may perform, and requirements for acquiring or maintaining a professional license. Actions and procedures include, but are not limited to, diagnosis; care determinations or recommendations; treatment of health conditions; medical procedures; ordering medical exams and tests; procedures affecting human anatomy (function, structure, and body manipulations); collaborative practice arrangements; and practice protocols. Licensing issues include, but are not limited to, continuing education; practitioner certification; accreditation; tests for state license compliance; and mandated reporting.

SUBJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION
<p>Scope of Practice & Licensing:Pharmacist Technician</p>	<p>The extent of, and limits on, actions and procedures a pharmacist technician may perform, and requirements for acquiring or maintaining a professional license. Actions and procedures include, but are not limited to diagnosis; care determinations or recommendations; treatment of health conditions; medical procedures; ordering medical exams and tests; procedures affecting human anatomy (function, structure, and body manipulations); collaborative practice arrangements; and practice protocols. Licensing issues include, but are not limited to, continuing education; practitioner certification; accreditation; tests for state license compliance; and mandated reporting.</p>
<p>Scope of Practice & Licensing:Prescriptive Authority</p>	<p>Measures that address the ability of any health care professional to write a prescription. Examples include, but are not limited to, prescribing controlled substances, administering women’s health products, or administering vaccines.</p>
<p>Taxes:Prescription Drugs</p>	<p>Tax issues addressing prescription drugs, including credits and sales tax exemptions.</p>