

# National Provider Identifier (NPI)

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Updated January 25, 2008

**Q: What date will Prime begin accepting Pharmacy NPIs?**

A: Prime will accept Pharmacy NPIs for claims transmissions beginning May 21, 2007.

**Q: Will Prime be able to accept both the Pharmacy NPI and the legacy NCPDP number?**

A: Yes. Prime will accept either the Pharmacy NPI or NCPDP number for a period of time for claim adjudication.

Note: When submitting NPI claims, the required value for Service Provider ID Qualifier field (202-B2) is 01 – NPI. Claims submitted with the incorrect Service Provider ID Qualifier will be rejected.

**Q: Is Prime implementing a cut-off date when only Pharmacy NPIs will be accepted for claims adjudication?**

A: Yes. Effective February 13, 2008, Prime will require that all electronic claims are submitted with a Pharmacy NPI.

Beginning February 13, 2008, claims that are submitted with an NCPDP number will reject '50 Valid Pharmacy NPI Required.'

**Q: If a claim is submitted with a Pharmacy NPI, which number will identify the pharmacy on the electronic 835 and paper remittance advice?**

A: The value that is submitted on the claim transmission (NPI or NCPDP) will be returned on the electronic 835 and paper remittance advice.

**Q: In which segment will the Pharmacy NPI appear on the 835 electronic remittance advice?**

A: The NPI will be reported back in the Provider Summary Loop 2000, TS301.

**Q: Which identifier (NCPDP or NPI) should be used for a claim reversal?**

A: For a claim reversal, use the same Service Provider ID Qualifier (field 202-B2) and Service Provider ID (field 201-B1) that were used on the originally submitted claim.

**Q: Will Prime require a Prescriber NPI on a claim submittal?**

A: Prime will continue to accept either the Prescriber NPI or DEA after May 23, 2008. However, when available, Prime prefers the Prescriber NPI as the submitted value.

**Q: Will the Prescriber DEA number be a required value for the Prescriber ID field for controlled substance prescriptions?**

A: No. NPI can be the submitted prescriber identifier for all claims, including controlled substance claims.

**Q: Will any new provider edits be implemented for NPI?**

A: No. However, if you receive NCPDP reject code 05-M/I Pharmacy Number, review your software setup to ensure that the Service provider ID (field 201-B1) matches the correct value for the Service Provider ID Qualifier (field 202-B2).

**Q: Do I need to submit my Pharmacy NPI to Prime?**

A: No. All pharmacies should report their Pharmacy NPIs directly to NCPDP. Prime interfaces with NCPDP monthly to obtain this information.

To avoid disruption, your Pharmacy NPI should be reported to NCPDP.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS continued



January 25, 2008

**Q: How can I verify that my NPI has been loaded into the NCPDP database?**

A: NCPDP has created an "NPI Checker" tool that is available on their Web site at [www.ncdp.org/npi](http://www.ncdp.org/npi).

**Q: Are there any small health plans for which Prime processes claims that will not require NPI beginning May 23, 2008?**

A: No. The Pharmacy NPI will be required for all electronic claims submitted to Prime beginning on February 13, 2008.

**Q: When will Prime publish revised Payor Specification Sheets indicating the requirements for NPI and its usage?**

A: Payor Specification Sheets have been revised and are available on our Web site at [www.primetherapeutics.com/pharmacistspayorsheets.htm](http://www.primetherapeutics.com/pharmacistspayorsheets.htm).

**Q: How do I obtain an NPI?**

A: As of February 1, 2007, NCPDP is no longer enumerating pharmacies. To apply for an NPI, visit the CMS Web site at <http://nppes.cms.hhs.gov> or call CMS at **800.465.3203**.

Note: If a pharmacy obtains their NPI directly from CMS, it is extremely important to also report the assigned Pharmacy NPI to NCPDP, as Prime Therapeutics interfaces with NCPDP on a monthly basis for pertinent pharmacy data.

**Q: If my pharmacy already has an NPI, what do I need to do to ensure my NPI is loaded into Prime's system?**

A: 1. Go to NCPDP's Web site at [www.ncdp.org](http://www.ncdp.org)

- Click on NCPDP Provider ID.
- Click on Application Form

Download the Application form, fill it out and attach a copy of your NPI notification from the Enumerator with your Pharmacy NPI. Fax all five pages to **480.767.1043**.

2. If you have already completed Step 1 above, allow NCPDP three to six weeks to process, due to high volume. Please do not send in another application or call NCPDP, as this will only delay your processing.
3. Register your NPI with your respective switching and/or software vendor.

To learn more about NPI requirements, visit the CMS Web site at [www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProidentStand](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProidentStand).

For general information about NPI, visit the NCPDP Web site at [www.ncdp.org/news\\_npi-info.asp](http://www.ncdp.org/news_npi-info.asp).

Please e-mail NPI-related questions to [npi@primetherapeutics.com](mailto:npi@primetherapeutics.com).

**REMINDER:** Each pharmacy **must** register their NPI with their respective switching and/or software vendor.