

## NCPDP Introduces dataQ™

Some of you are old enough to remember when NCPDP assumed responsibility for the enumeration of pharmacies and the pharmacy NABP number became the NCPDP Provider ID number. Shortly after that, our members developed a need to obtain information on the pharmacies NCPDP had enumerated and the NCPDP Pharmacy Database was born.

For decades, the NCPDP Pharmacy Database has provided enhanced information on pharmacies to aid in electronic claims processing and payment. Over the years, the uses of the NCPDP Pharmacy Database have increased to where today it is licensed to more than PBMs and payers. Manufacturers subscribe for rebate processing and to send out product and recall information to pharmacies. Informatics companies subscribe for research and other uses. State and federal agencies including CMS subscribe for various applications including utilization review, fraud and abuse monitoring and prescription drug event data validation. And, new uses and delivery methods such as web services are emerging as a result of new applications in eprescribing and personal health records.

Subscription fees received from licensing the NCPDP Pharmacy Database support the standards development efforts of our members and keep the cost of meetings, conferencing and NCPDP educational opportunities affordable to members. Your organization, NCPDP is strong and vital in part due to subscribers.

Now that industry has transitioned to the NPI, interest in the NCPDP Pharmacy Database has increased significantly. The National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) does not provide most the data provided by NCPDP such as information on relationships and affiliations, and the need for an up-to-date NCPDP Provider ID to NPI crosswalk is great. Many potential subscribers ask for new delivery methods and custom information. As a result, NCPDP has undergone a clean paper redesign of the database and provided accessibility and new product solutions that meet 21st century needs.

Along with a new design comes a new name. NCPDP will be rolling out dataQ™ by NCPDP, "the trusted source for intelligent pharmacy data" to subscribers this summer. Developed in partnership with ChainDrugStore.net, dataQ™ is a web-based system that allows authorized users in independent pharmacies, chains and pharmacy administration organizations such as third party contracting organizations the ability to update information online using nothing more than a web browser.

Authorized users logon to [www.NCPDPonline.org](http://www.NCPDPonline.org) and maintain their own data, while at the same time knowing that data entered via the web tool will be subject to the same data validation and verification processes NCPDP Pharmacy Data Services staff always provides, plus more - such as address validation. Sophisticated, data

level routing logic obtains the right approvals for every change, yet enhances both the timeliness and quality of the information in dataQ™. The four initial NCPDP dataQ™ products will be available to subscribers at [www.NCPDPdataQ.org](http://www.NCPDPdataQ.org). Current subscribers can obtain access to their current monthly or weekly files (the dataQ v2.1 standard file) and there are new delivery options other than the current (and outdated) "FTP push" and email. For those that previously have requested single state or regional files, or only long term care pharmacies, dataQ Custom allows subscribers to create unique output files tailored to their data needs. dataQ OnDemand is a web-based tool that allows subscribers to create a customized report by entering "select" and "sort" criteria and choosing what fields to report. Users instantly view, or download the report in various formats and the report criteria may be saved for future use. dataQ™ WebConnect helps with problem solving by providing real-time access to pharmacy records in the live data asset using a quick, easy to use lookup tool and eliminating time consuming phone calls.

Stop by the NCPDP dataQ booth at the NCPDP Annual Conference to get a sneak peak before we go live. NCPDP holds tremendous pride in the quality of our databases and we are constantly striving to improve them. You will be truly impressed by all of the solutions dataQ™ offers.

