

Pharmacy Rate Process for the April 2008 MCPF/October 2008 Rate Update

- MCPF is downloaded
- Raw File is then processed by programmer
- Miscellaneous Drugs are deleted
- Processed file is downloaded with NDC, Name, Dose Form, Drug Strength, and Unit Price (The Unit Price from the April 2008 rate update forward will be the median AWP price)
- Processed file is reviewed by analyst
- A comparison of the unit price of the current file to the last rate update file is conducted
- If the percent change is greater than the overall rate increase percentage- look at the source MCPF for each rate update to identify the reason for the large variance.
- If the change in price to this file is due to an anomaly in the MCPF, the unit price should be changed accordingly in the planned rate table
- Compile the final rate update to include: NDC, Description, Dose Form, Drug Strength, and Unit Price. The file is to be sorted by unit price.
- Ensure there are no blanks in the description field. If there are, go back to the last rate file and look up the drug by the NDC. Replace any of the descriptions found in the last rate update.
- TPOCS will not take any drugs with a blank description. If there is an NDC with a blank description, it will need to be removed from the rate file or TPOCS should be instructed to delete it prior to rollout.
- The file is emailed to TPOCS and CHCS.
- CHCS will send back a variance file which should be spot checked for any NDCs we may have missed in our variance processing. January 2008 rate update was checked by identifying the number of scripts for each of the line items identified by CHCS. The file was sorted by script count and the NDCs were spot checked for any errors in the source file or the rate file itself.
- Any updates to the file are coordinated with project manager and government client and sent back to CHCS and TPOCS. Obtain a Special Software Release # from CHCS and include in the pharmacy update teleconferences.
- There are several coordination steps that must occur during this process:
 - TMA Pharmacy Community
 - Resource Management Steering Committee (Policy memo/ Information Paper)
 - UBO Advisory Working Group
 - TMA Pharmacy Operations Directorate
 - Irene O’Gara from DoDEA
 - UBO Teleconferences for the MTFs
 - UBO Newsletter Article
 - Update of the Pharmacy Price Estimating Tool