



Medi-Cal Rx

# Reminder: Medi-Cal Rx Pharmacy Claim Reimbursement

July 31, 2025

## Background

As announced in the alert titled [Now Active: NCPDP Field 426-DQ Usual and Customary Charge Requirement](#), pharmacy providers submitting claims to Medi-Cal Rx with a date of service (DOS) on or after July 18, 2025, are required to include their Usual and Customary (U&C) charge in NCPDP Field 426-DQ (Usual and Customary Charge).

## What Pharmacy Providers Need to Know

Medi-Cal Rx will reimburse claims for outpatient drugs (including over-the-counter [OTC] drugs and physician administered drugs [PADs]) at the lower of the following amounts:

- The Gross Amount Due (GAD); **OR**
- The pharmacy's U&C charge for claims with a DOS on or after July 18, 2025; **OR**
- The maximum Medi-Cal Rx reimbursement allowed amount: The drug's ingredient cost, plus a professional dispensing fee of either \$10.05 or \$13.20.
  - The drug's ingredient cost is equal to the lowest of the following:
    - National Average Drug Acquisition Cost (NADAC), or when no NADAC is available, the Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC); **OR**
    - Federal Upper Limit (FUL); **OR**
    - Maximum Allowable Ingredient Cost (MAIC).

Refer to the following example:

- Submitted GAD amount = \$7.50
- Submitted U&C dollar amount = \$5.00
- Maximum Medi-Cal Rx reimbursement allowed amount = \$14.20
- Reimbursed amount = \$5.00

Because the U&C dollar amount (\$5.00) is less than the GAD amount (\$7.50) and the maximum Medi-Cal Rx reimbursement allowed amount (\$14.20), the claim will be reimbursed at the lower amount, which is the \$5.00 submitted U&C amount.

## 340B Drug Price Program

As stated in the alert titled [Reminder: 340B Drug Price Program](#), the 340B Drug Pricing Program (340B Program) is a federal program that requires drug manufacturers to provide outpatient drugs to eligible health care organizations and covered entities at significantly reduced prices.

Pharmacy claims with a DOS on or after July 18, 2025, must include a dollar amount equal to the Actual Acquisition Cost (AAC) plus the applicable professional dispensing fee in the GAD field, as well as the U&C Charge field, to avoid claim denial.

## What Pharmacy Providers Need to Do

Pharmacy providers should refer to the following resources to ensure proper and accurate reimbursement:

- Consult the [Medi-Cal Rx NCPDP Payer Specification Sheet](#) for additional information regarding fields required for pharmacy claim submission.
- Refer to the *Reimbursement* section and subsections in the [Medi-Cal Rx Provider Manual](#) for additional information about the Medi-Cal Rx reimbursement methodology.

## Contact Information

You can call the Medi-Cal Rx Customer Service Center (CSC) at 1-800-977-2273, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year.

For other questions, email Medi-Cal Rx Education & Outreach at [MediCalRxEducationOutreach@primetherapeutics.com](mailto:MediCalRxEducationOutreach@primetherapeutics.com).