



Optimizing Health by Advancing the Quality of Medication Use

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## **PQA National Drug Code Subscription FAQs**

### **What is PQA's National Drug Code (NDC) subscription offering?**

PQA offers monthly NDC updates *in addition* to our biannual updates in February and July. PQA prepares these monthly lists using our comprehensive methodology and a rigorous internal QA process.

### **How will the new monthly NDC subscription be valuable to my organization?**

The monthly lists allow for more accurate ongoing monitoring and quality improvement initiatives throughout the year. The monthly updates include the addition of new drugs that come to market as well as any new NDCs for existing drugs.

### **How and when will I get the monthly lists?**

The lists are released the second Friday of each month and distributed automatically by email or through your file transfer protocol (FTP) site, depending on your preference.

### **What data sources does PQA use to compile and update the NDC lists?**

The following data sources are used to identify NDCs:

- [Food and Drug Administration's \(FDA's\) Comprehensive NDC Structured Product Labeling \(SPL\) Data Elements \(NSDE\)](#)
- [FDA's SPL on the DailyMed website](#)
- Medi-Span
- First DataBank (FDB)

### **How much will this cost, in addition to a yearly licensing fee?**

A license is required for the monthly subscription and the fee for the subscription is in addition to the base license royalty. The annual fee varies, depending on type of license agreement. If you are an existing licensee and would like to know the annual fee for the monthly NDC updates, please contact [MeasureUse@PQAalliance.org](mailto:MeasureUse@PQAalliance.org).

### **How do I get a monthly NDC subscription?**

If you do not have a current license, please complete the [Measure Use and License Request Form](#). If you are an existing licensee or still have additional questions, please contact [MeasureUse@PQAalliance.org](mailto:MeasureUse@PQAalliance.org).

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