



MONTANA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS NOTICE

May 31, 2022

Pharmacy Providers

Effective June 1, 2022

2022 Average Acquisition Cost (AAC) Survey

In accordance with Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 37.86.1106 (b), the Department requests surveyed pharmacies enrolled in Montana Healthcare Programs Outpatient Prescription Drug Program to participate in a survey of acquisition cost data for prescription and non-prescription medications dispensed to Montana Healthcare Program members. This survey will be used to update AAC rates for outpatient drugs. Pharmacy participation is essential. It is pharmacies' best opportunity to ensure the AAC Program is fair and equitable to their business.

To enhance the experience with this survey, Mercer (the Department's contractor) is introducing a new secure survey portal. This portal, *MercerRx Passage*, will streamline the collection of drug acquisition files, update pharmacy contact information, and minimize administrative effort to participate in the survey. Mercer will provide step-by-step instructions to pharmacies, separate from this notice.

This survey will be open for participation **June 1, 2022 through June 10, 2022**. Pharmacies should receive an email with a link to the survey on **June 1, 2022**.

For this survey, please provide the below information in an electronic spreadsheet file (Microsoft® Excel® format is preferred) of all wholesaler, distributor, or manufacturer invoices for all purchases for the month of **May 2022**.

In most cases, pharmacy wholesalers will be able to compile this information and may provide the files directly to Mercer. An example of how the data should be provided is outlined below:

Pharmacy NPI	Purchase Date	NDC	Item Description	Package Size	Unit of Measure	Package Price	Net Quantity Filled (Number of Packages Delivered)	Extended Price (Package Price Multiplied by Net Quantity Filled)
12345678910	05/XX/2022	12345678910 (no dashes or spaces)	Drug Name Strength	Quantity Within Package – 100, 90 etc.	ml, gm, ea, etc.	\$XX.XX	10, 20, etc.	\$XX.XX

Note: The purchase date for each NDC is required on the invoices submitted. If pharmacies are having trouble with the above, please reach out to the wholesaler to ensure the proper fields generate.

Contact Information

If you have questions, please contact Dani Feist, Pharmacy Program Officer, at (406) 444-2738 or Shannon Sexauer, Medicaid Pharmacist, at (406) 444-5951.

If you have questions regarding the updated survey process, contact Mercer at mercerrxpassage@mercer.com.