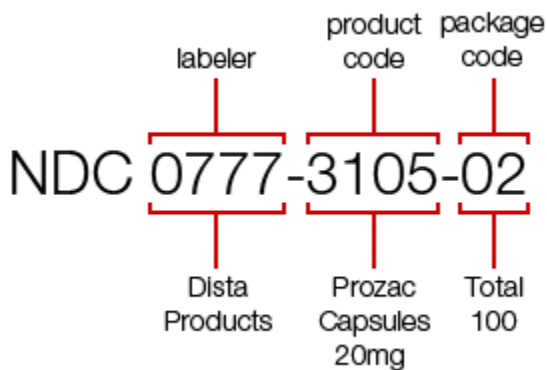


National Drug Codes

What is a National Drug Code (NDC)?

The NDC, or National Drug Code, is a unique 10-digit, 3-segment number. It is a universal product identifier for human drugs in the United States. The code is present on all nonprescription (OTC) and prescription medication packages and inserts in the US. The 3 segments of the NDC identify the labeler, the product, and the commercial package size. The first set of numbers in the NDC identifies the labeler (manufacturer, repackager, or distributor). The second set of numbers is the product code, which identifies the specific strength, dosage form (i.e, capsule, tablet, liquid) and formulation of a drug for a specific manufacturer. Finally, the third set is the package code, which identifies package sizes and types. The labeler code is assigned by the FDA, while the product and package code are assigned by the labeler.

Example NDC



For example, the NDC for a 100-count bottle of Prozac 20 mg is 0777-3105-02. The first segment of numbers identifies the labeler. In this case, the labeler code "00777" is for Dista Products Company, the labeler of Prozac. The second segment, the product code, identifies the specific strength, dosage form (i.e, capsule, tablet, liquid) and formulation of a drug for a specific manufacturer. In our case, "3105" identifies that this dosage form is a capsule. The third segment is the package code, and it identifies package sizes and types. The package code "02" for this bottle of Prozac identifies that 100 capsules are in the bottle. The FDA maintains a searchable database of all NDC codes on their website.

Ref: [US Food and Drug Administration](#)

How to Locate the NDC code on a package or vial

The areas circled in red on the two labels shown below are examples of where to find the NDC on a package or vial and what it looks like. The NDC found on the label of the drug being used to treat the patient is the NDC that should be used to bill the claim. If the NDC is displayed in a 10 digit format it must be converted into an 11 digit format for billing. Conversion instructions can be found below.



National Drug Code (NDC) Conversion Table

Converting NDCs from 10-digits to 11 digits.

Proper billing of a National Drug Code (NDC) requires an 11-digit number in a 5-4-2 format. If a drug's NDC does not follow this format, then zeroes must be inserted at the beginning of the appropriate section of the number, as shown in the table below.

NOTE: Do not use hyphens when entering the actual data in your claim.

Converting NDCs from 10-digits to 11-digits					
10-Digit Format on Package	10-Digit Format on Example	11-Digit Format	11-Digit Format Example	Actual 10-digit NDC Example	11-Digit Conversion of Example
4-4-2	9999-9999-99	5-4-2	<u>0</u> 9999-9999-99	0002-7597-01	<u>0</u> 0002-7597-01
5-3-2	99999-999-99	5-4-2	99999- <u>0</u> 999-99	50242-040-62	50242- <u>0</u> 040-62
5-4-1	99999-9999-9	5-4-2	99999-9999- <u>09</u>	60575-4112-1	60575-4112- <u>01</u>