# NEW FILE FORMAT FOR REPORTING TO CURES

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Contents

1. Introduction

   Beginning August 1, 2024,[*] dispensers will be required to report dispensations to the Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System (CURES) using version 4.2B of the American Society for Automation in Pharmacy (ASAP) format. Presently, California dispensation data is reported using the ASAP version 4.1 format. This format change will improve data quality by offering more data fields and clarifying certain other data fields.

   Dispensers submit this data electronically to the DOJ's CURES via the data collection vendor, Bamboo Health. Starting on August 1, 2024,[*] submissions that do not conform to the requirements of the ASAP version 4.2B format will be rejected by Bamboo Health.

2. Should files be submitted in the ASAP version 4.2B format before August 1, 2024?

   • No. Data should not be submitted in the ASAP version 4.2B format until August 1, 2024.[*]

3. Does this change apply to all methods of data submission (files submitted to Bamboo Health via SFTP (Secure File Transfer Protocol), files uploaded to Bamboo's PMP Clearinghouse portal, and data submitted to Bamboo Health online using the Universal Claim Form (UCF))?

   • Yes. Files submitted electronically to Bamboo Health via SFTP and files uploaded to Bamboo Health's Clearinghouse portal need to be in the ASAP version 4.2B format beginning August 1, 2024.[*]

   • Beginning August 1, 2024,[*] the fields on Bamboo Health's PMP Clearinghouse UCF website will also reflect the ASAP version 4.2B format changes for California dispensation data reporting.

4. In the ASAP version 4.2B format, where should the Pharmacy Permit Number/License Number be reported?

   • In the ASAP version 4.2B format, the Pharmacy Permit/License Number should be reported in PHA13. While in the ASAP 4.1 format the Pharmacy Permit/License Number is reported in PHA11, new field PHA13 in ASAP version 4.2B format is designated as the Pharmacy Permit Number/License Number and PHA11 is an optional field for reporting Contact Name.

---

[*] Date may be subject to change to a later date. CURES data submitters will be provided advance notice of such change.

5. Are there fields that moved location within the record in the ASAP version 4.2B format?

- Yes. The following fields are renamed or moved in the ASAP version 4.2B format.

**DSP18, RxNorm Product Qualifier:**

  - In the ASAP version 4.2B format, DSP18 is RxNorm Product Qualifier (optional field).

  - In the ASAP version 4.1 format, DSP18 is RxNorm Code (optional field).

**DSP19, RxNorm Code**

  - In the ASAP version 4.2B format, DSP19 is RxNorm Code (optional field).

  - In the ASAP version 4.1 format, DSP19 is Electronic Prescription Reference Number (optional field).

**DSP20, Electronic Prescription Reference Number**

  - In the ASAP version 4.2B format, DSP20 is Electronic Prescription Reference Number (optional field).

  - In the ASAP version 4.1 format, DSP20 does not exist.

6. Are there fields in the ASAP version 4.2B format that do not exist in the ASAP version 4.1 format?

- Yes. There are fields in the ASAP version 4.2B format that do not exist in the ASAP version 4.1 format. Some of these fields in the ASAP version 4.2B format are situationally required (required in some cases), some are optional, but none are required for all dispensations.

  1. The following fields in the ASAP version 4.2B format do not exist in the ASAP version 4.1 format and are **situationally required** in the ASAP version 4.2B format:

     a. PHA13, Pharmacy Permit Number/License Number, is required if the dispenser is a Pharmacy.

     b. DSP22, Quantity Prescribed, is required if the dispensation being reported is a partial fill (i.e. Partial Fill Indicator (DSP13) is equal to a value in the range 01-99).

  2. The following fields in the ASAP version 4.2B format do not exist in the ASAP version 4.1 format and are **optional** in the ASAP version 4.2B format:

     **DSP Segment (Required Segment)**

     a. DSP21, Electronic Prescription Order Number (optional field)

b.  DSP23, Rx SIG (optional field)

c.  DSP24, Treatment Type (optional field)

d.  DSP25, Diagnosis Code (optional field)

**PRE Segment (Required Segment)**

a.  PRE08, Prescriber Phone Number (optional field)

b.  PRE09, XDEA (optional field)

c.  PRE10, Jurisdiction or State Issuing Prescriber License Number (optional field)

**AIR Segment (Optional Segment)**

a.  AIR11, Dropping Off/Picking Up Identifier Qualifier (optional field)

7.  What fields are required or situationally required in the ASAP version 4.2B format but optional in the ASAP version 4.1 format?

- The following two fields are **required** in the ASAP version 4.2B format. They are optional in the ASAP version 4.1 format.

    a.  PAT20, Species Code

    b.  DSP17, Date Sold

- The following fields are **situationally required** in the ASAP version 4.2B format. They are optional in the ASAP version 4.1 format.

    a.  PHA01, National Provider Identifier (NPI), is required if the dispenser is a pharmacy.

    b.  PAT23, Name of Animal, is required if Species Code (PAT20) is equal to 02 (Veterinary Patient).

8.  What fields are optional in the ASAP version 4.2B format but required or situationally required in the ASAP version 4.1 format?

- The following fields are optional in the ASAP version 4.2B format. They are required or situationally required in the ASAP version 4.1 format.

    a.  PHA11, Contact Name

b. DSP11, Drug Dosage Units Code

c. CDI05, Compound Drug Dosage Units Code

9. What new code values are available for use in the ASAP version 4.2B format?

- The following fields have new code values that are available for use in the ASAP version 4.2B format.

    a. PAT02 (Patient) ID Qualifier (optional field)
    b. PAT05 Additional Patient ID Qualifier (optional field)
    c. AIR04 ID Qualifier of Person Dropping Off or Picking Up Rx (optional field)

    New code values are:
    04, Permanent Resident Card (Green Card)
    09, Vendor Specific (such as Appriss Health, Experian, LexisNexis)
    10, Veterinary Patient Microchip Number

    d. DSP12, Transmission Form of Rx Origin Code (required field):

    New code value is:
    06, Transferred/Forwarded Rx

10. Are there fields that require different code values in the ASAP version 4.2B format than are required in the ASAP version 4.1 format?

- Yes. Please note the following changes that are applicable in the ASAP version 4.2B format:

    a. TH01, Version/Release Number (required):

    New value is "4.2B"

    b. DSP13, Partial Fill Indicator:

    In the ASAP version 4.2B format, the values for DSP13 (Partial Fill Indicator) **are redefined. The values are:**

    **00** = Not a Partial Fill

    **01 through 99** = The dispensation is a partial fill, and the value in the field indicates which partial fill is being reported. For example, 01 is the first partial fill, 02 is the second partial fill, 03 is the third partial fill, etc.

c. In ASAP version 4.2B format, the caret ^ is designated as a new 'escape character':

    i. Use the caret ^ as the escape character preceding any instance where the separator or terminator character is part of the submitted text string.

    ii. Do not use the caret ^ as the separator character because it is designated as the escape character.

    iii. Do not use the caret ^ as the terminator character because it is designated as the escape character.

## 11. Where can additional information about these changes and the data submission process be found?

- Please see the section titled "New Data Submission Format on August 1, 2024" on the California Attorney General's CURES website (https://oag.ca.gov/cures). This section contains a link to a CURES publication titled Description of ASAP 4.2B Changes, which describes the changes for reporting data to CURES using the ASAP version 4.2B format.

- In addition, Bamboo Health's Data Submission Guide for Dispensers CA CURES Prescription Monitoring Program (for the ASAP version 4.2B format) will be available on Bamboo Health's PMP Clearinghouse Support Center website (Data Submission Guide for Dispensers – PMP Clearinghouse Support Center (zendesk.com) prior to August 1, 2024.[*]

- The 2020 ASAP Version 4.2B Standard for Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs is also available for purchase from the American Society for Automation in Pharmacy. Their website is: https://asapnet.org/.

- For general information on the current data reporting process, visit the CURES public website at https://oag.ca.gov/cures. See the section titled "Controlled Substance Data Reporting."

- For more information the process for submitting data to Bamboo Health, please contact Bamboo Health at (855)-502-0999 or submit a ticket at https://pmpclearinghouse.zendesk.com/hc/en-us.

- For questions regarding these FAQs, please contact the CURES Program at cures@doj.ca.gov or (916) 210-3187.

---

[*] Date may be subject to change to a later date. CURES data submitters will be provided advance notice of such change.