MERATIVE MARKETSCAN® RESEARCH DATABASES

Dental Database User Guide

Data Year 2022 Edition

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Introduction

The Merative MarketScan® Dental Database is a standalone product that corresponds with and is linkable to a given year and version of the Merative MarketScan Commercial Database and the MarketScan Medicare Database. Eighteen years of Dental Database tables have been created: 2005 through 2022.

The present user guide and corresponding data dictionary cover dental data only. The MarketScan medical, pharmacy, and enrollment components of the database are listed below.

- **Inpatient Admissions Table (I)** summarizes information about a hospital admission.
- **Inpatient Services Table (S)** contains information about services rendered during an inpatient stay.
- **Outpatient Claims/Encounters (O)** contains data about services rendered in a doctor's office, hospital outpatient facility, or other outpatient facility.
- **Facility Header Table (F)** contains the inpatient and outpatient facility header records. These records offer up to nine diagnoses and six procedure codes.
- **Outpatient Prescription Drug Table (D)** contains outpatient prescription drug claims.
- **Annual Enrollment (A)** provides a single record for each covered life, showing enrollment start and end dates and demographic and plan information.
- **Enrollment Detail (T)** provides a single record for each covered life for each month of enrollment, showing demographic and plan information.
- **Merative™ Micromedex® RED BOOK® Supplement** contains RED BOOK variables licensed by Merative for detailed drug information that can be linked to the MarketScan Research Databases.

Please refer to the *MarketScan Commercial/Medicare Database User Guide* for more information about these database files.

Overview of tables

Dental Database tables

The Dental Database consists of three table types:

- → Dental Enrollment Annual Summary (A)
- → Dental Enrollment Detail (T)
- → Dental Claims (N)

Each table has been divided into a Commercial segment (DNCE) and a Medicare segment (DNMC). It should be noted that the distinction is somewhat artificial, because Medicare does not cover routine dental care; rather, it correlates with each individual's primary medical coverage.

Enrollment tables (A, T)

The annual (A) and detailed (T) Enrollment Tables contain person-level enrollment records with demographic and plan information on users and non-users of services.

The dental enrollment tables indicate dental coverage. Presence in the dental enrollment tables does not imply anything about medical coverage. A variable in the dental tables (DENTINMS) indicates whether the member is also present in the MarketScan commercial databases for the year. MarketScan enrollment data indicate medical coverage for individuals who are represented in both databases. However, dental enrollment periods may be different than MarketScan medical enrollment periods, because these benefits cover different periods of time for the same individual.

The Annual Enrollment Summary Table contains a single record per person per year. The annual summary contains monthly arrays of variables such as indicators of enrollment (yes/no), days enrolled, data type, and plan type for each month of the year. There are also variables indicating the number of months during the year with enrollment and the total annual enrollment days.

The Enrollment Detail Table contains one record of enrollment per person per month for an individual enrollee, regardless of whether any demographic values have changed from the previous month.

Dental claims table (N)

The Claims Table contains data from claims submitted by: (1) dental providers for reimbursement from the patient's dental plan, or (2) dental encounter data if the patient was enrolled in a capitated dental plan. Each record represents a specific service provided to the patient.

Interpretation of certain MarketScan variables in the Dental Database

Several standard MarketScan variables may have slightly different meanings in the Dental Database than in MarketScan medical claims data.

Data Type (DATATYP)

This variable should be used only to distinguish between the Commercial segment and the Medicare segment of the Dental Database. The segment assignment is based on age—or on the combination of age, employee relationship, and employee status—in the same way it is defined in the MarketScan commercial data. The differences between the DATATYP values for the Commercial segment (1 or 2) and between the DATATYP values for the Medicare segment (3 or 4) may not be applicable because the differences in value within a database segment are based on medical plan type, and medical plan type may not be relevant within the Dental Database. See the Plan Type section below.

Plan Type (PLANTYP)

This variable indicates the medical plan type. It is mapped in the Dental Database using the medical plan type map from the corresponding MarketScan commercial database. A non-missing value of this variable should not be interpreted to mean that the member is present in MarketScan commercial data with that type of medical plan.

Cohort Drug Indicator (RX)

This variable indicates whether drug claims may be available in the MarketScan commercial databases. If the member is not in the corresponding MarketScan database (DENTINMS = 0), then RX has been set to missing.

Physician Specialty Coding Flag (PHYFLAG)

This variable indicates whether detailed provider type (STDPROV) values are available in the MarketScan commercial databases. If the member is not in the corresponding MarketScan database (DENTINMS = 0), then PHYFLAG has been set to missing.

Coverage Indicator for Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MHSACOVG)

This variable indicates whether mental health and substance abuse claims are captured for this member in the MarketScan commercial databases. If the member is not in the corresponding MarketScan database (DENTINMS = 0), then MHSACOVG has been set to missing.

File-linking guidelines

The Dental Database contains health plan enrollment identifiers that should be used to link the data to the medical claims, pharmacy claims, and health plan enrollment in the Commercial and Medicare databases. Specifically, an enrollee identification number (ENROLID) has been assigned to each employee and covered dependent in the databases. For more information about enrollment identifiers, refer to the *MarketScan Commercial/Medicare Database User Guide and Data Dictionary*.

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