# Dispense as Written (DAW) Codes

[DAW Codes](#_Toc207361385)

[Related Documents](#_Toc207361386)

**Description:** Provides a list of various Dispense as Written codes and descriptions of each that should only be discussed with the Retail Pharmacies.

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| DAW Codes |

There is **NO** need to discuss any DAW codes with anyone other than a retail pharmacy. These codes are for **pharmacy information only**.

DAW codes are applied to a prescription received from a prescriber to determine how a medication could or should be dispensed. Refer to [Examples](#Examples).

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| **DAW Code** | **DAW Description** |
| **0** | **Substitution Allowed –** No product selection indicated, or product selection is not an issue. For example, a prescription written for a single source brand or a generic product. |
| **1** | **Substitution Not Allowed by Prescriber -** This code must be used when the Prescriber indicates, in a manner specified by applicable law that the product is to be Dispensed As Written. (Prescriber wants member to take the prescribed medication only.) |
| **2** | **Substitution Allowed - Patient Requested Product Dispensed -** This code must be used when the Prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by applicable law, that generic substitution is permitted for the Multi-Source Brand and the Member requests the brand name product instead of the generic allowed by prescriber |
| **3** | **Substitution Allowed - Pharmacist Selected Product Dispensed -** This code must be used when the Prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by applicable law, that generic substitution is permitted, and the pharmacist determines that the brand name product should be dispensed.  This can occur when the Prescriber writes the prescription using either the brand or generic name or the product is available from multiple sources. |
| **4** | **Substitution Allowed - Generic Drug Not in Stock -** This code must be used when the Prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by applicable law, that generic substitution is permitted and the brand product is dispensed when a currently marketed generic is not stocked in the Pharmacy.   This situation exists due to the buying habits of the pharmacist, not because of the unavailability of the generic product in the marketplace. |
| **5** | **Substitution Allowed - Brand Drug Dispensed as Generic -** This code must be used when the Prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by applicable law, that generic substitution is permitted, and the pharmacist is utilizing the brand product as the generic entity. Review the CIF to verify DAW 5 is authorized by the client and refer to [Branded Generics (059091)](https://thesource.cvshealth.com/nuxeo/thesource/#!/view?docid=e4b59eca-33ba-4e5c-bb8f-e54669906f71) as needed.   * DAW 5 Branded Generics are ONLY available at Caremark Mail Order.   Do not instruct the Member to have a physician write “DAW 5” on the prescription because this may cause a delay in dispensing. This is not DAW commonly known to a Doctor’s office but rather something a pharmacy adds onto the script. The main goal would be that the doctor doesn’t specify in anyway brand name only on the script. |
| **6** | **Override** |
| **7** | **Substitution Not Allowed - Brand Drug Mandated by Law -** This code must be used when the Prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by applicable law, that generic substitution is permitted, but applicable law or regulation prohibits the substitution of a brand product even though generic versions of the product may be available in the marketplace. |
| **8** | **Substitution Allowed - Generic Drug Not Available in the Marketplace -** This code is used when the Prescriber has indicated, in a manner specified by applicable law, that generic substitution is permitted and the brand product is dispensed since the generic is not currently manufactured, distributed, or is temporarily unavailable. |
| **9** | **OTHER -** Applied whenClientsplans use the CVS Caremarkstandard formulary, when plans requiring Brand to be dispensed and there is a generic available but not added to the plans formulary except for states that have mandatory generic substitution laws.  This code is typically listed as other to represent another scenario not found with codes 0-8. The DAW 9 will represent “other”; drugs that are categorized as brand but will be coded to process at the generic coinsurance.  Refer to [Commercial as Tier 1 Preferred (DAW 9) (049768)](https://thesource.cvshealth.com/nuxeo/thesource/#!/view?docid=294e5d29-e781-4b76-b80a-4623740b9913) for more info. |

**Examples:**

* A prescription in PeopleSafe has a DAW1 applied to it. This basically means the prescriber wants that prescription to be filled with the prescribed medication and no substitutes. This could be a brand or a generic medication. (**Example:** Prescribed Lipitor and will dispense Lipitor.)
* A prescription in PeopleSafe has a DAW2 applied to it. This basically means the prescriber is allowing a generic substitution of the prescribed medication, but the member is requesting brand name be filled regardless of how the prescriber wrote the script.
* For a prescription with DAW0 that is more so the default when no specific option is specified for the Medication. As for the rest of the DAW options, they are all done at the pharmacy end whenever said case is applicable.

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| Related Documents |

[DAW (Dispense as Written) and RBP (Reference Based Pricing) Cost Difference (078542)](https://thesource.cvshealth.com/nuxeo/thesource/#!/view?docid=4c9d2243-5841-45c0-b2ec-805023c6cbcf)

[Branded Generics (059091)](https://thesource.cvshealth.com/nuxeo/thesource/#!/view?docid=e4b59eca-33ba-4e5c-bb8f-e54669906f71)

[Log Activity and Capture Activity Codes (005164)](https://thesource.cvshealth.com/nuxeo/thesource/#!/view?docid=bdac0c67-5fee-47ba-a3aa-aab84900cf78)

[Customer Care Abbreviations, Definitions, and Terms (017428)](https://thesource.cvshealth.com/nuxeo/thesource/#!/view?docid=c1f1028b-e42c-4b4f-a4cf-cc0b42c91606)

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