

North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program Quarterly News

Published Quarterly by Health Information Designs, Inc.

Volume 1, Number 2
Fall 2005

Welcome to the 2nd edition of the “North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program Quarterly News”, a pharmacy newsletter presented by the North Dakota Department of Human Services, and published by Health Information Designs, Inc. This newsletter will be published as part of a continuing effort to keep the Medicaid provider community informed of important changes in the North Dakota Medicaid Pharmacy Program.

The North Dakota Department of Human Services has contracted with Health Information Designs, Inc. (HID) to review and process the prior authorizations (PA’s) for medications. This process began February 1, 2005. A current list of medications requiring a PA, as well as the forms and criteria, can be found on the web at www.hidndmedicaid.com, or you may call HID at (334) 502-3262 to receive this information by fax.

In this issue, we will illustrate how the PA program has been successful at making the pharmacy program more cost-effective without sacrificing the overall quality of care for ND Medicaid participants. After you review the newsletter, we hope you will agree that the PA process is a very worthwhile part of the ND Medicaid pharmacy program.

The North Dakota Pharmacy Program team appreciates your comments and suggestions regarding this newsletter. To suggest topics for inclusion, or to make comments, please contact Health Information Designs, Inc. at (334) 502-3262, or toll free at 1-800-225-6998, or email us at info@hidinc.com



Helpful Numbers

| | |
|---|--------------|
| PA Help Desk | 866-773-0695 |
| To fax PAs | 866-254-0761 |
| To report adverse reactions (via Med Watch) | 800-FDA-1088 |

| Inside this issue: | Page |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Welcome | 1 |
| Helpful Numbers | 1 |
| Cox II Recipient Count Per Month | 2 |
| Cox II Cost Per Month | 2 |
| PPI Total Cost Per Month | 3 |
| Antihistamine Total Cost Per Month | 3 |
| Health Information Designs, Inc. | 4 |

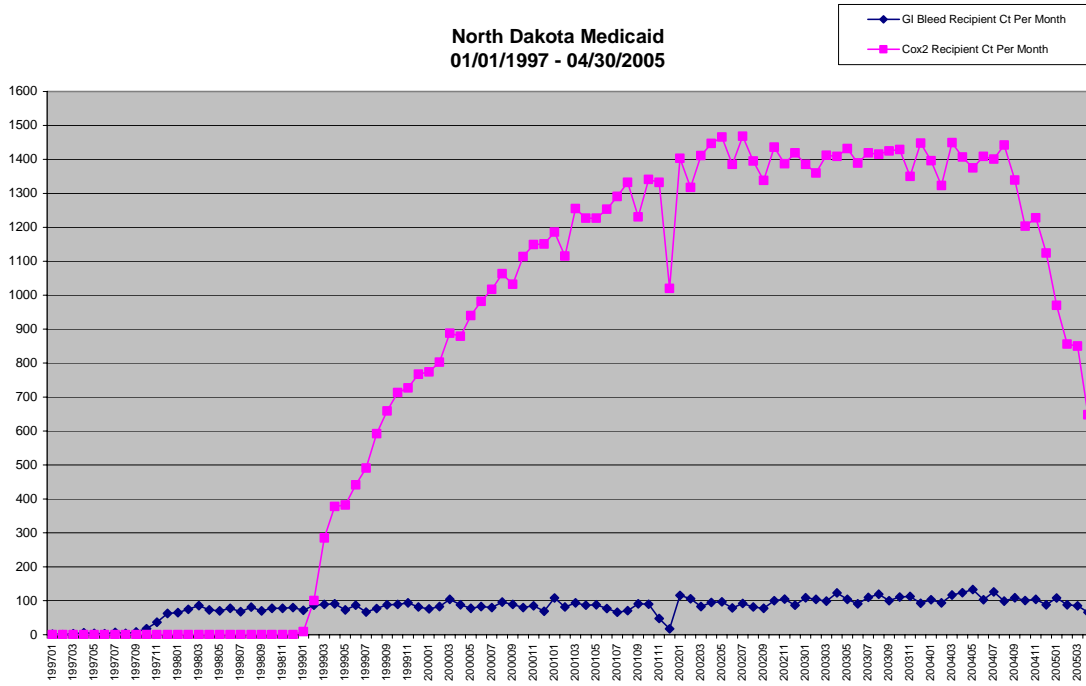
Visit HID’s North Dakota Department of Human Services Prior Authorization Webpage, www.hidndmedicaid.com

COX-II/GI Bleed

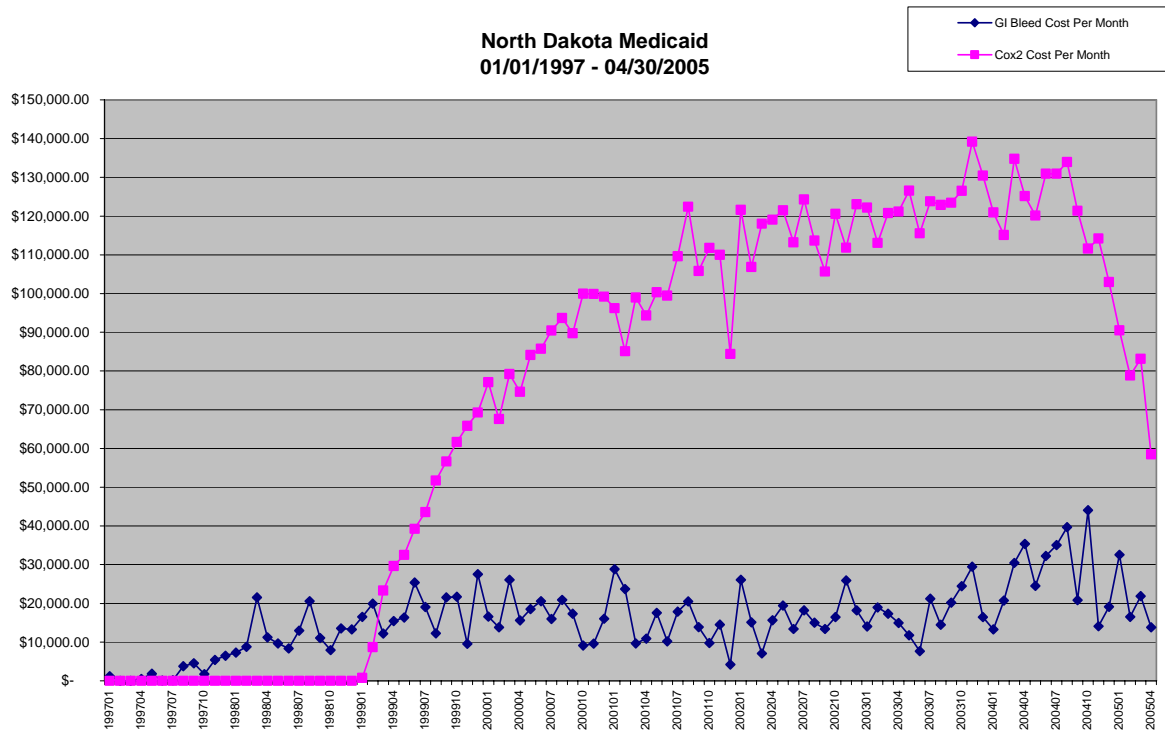
The first graph shows GI Bleed Recipient Counts and COX-II Recipient Counts from January 1997 – April 2005. The next graph shows GI Bleed Recipient Cost Per Month and COX-II Recipient Cost Per Month for the same time period. This data was collected to see if there was a decrease in GI bleeds once COX-II's became available.

PA on COX-II's started March 2005.

**North Dakota Medicaid
01/01/1997 - 04/30/2005**



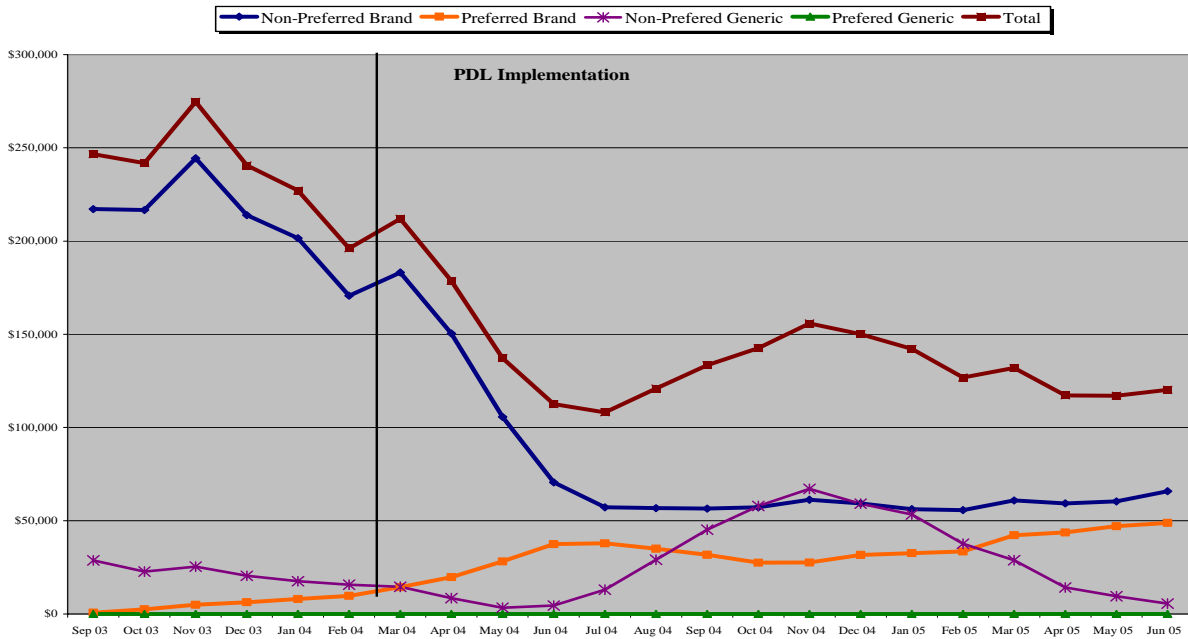
**North Dakota Medicaid
01/01/1997 - 04/30/2005**



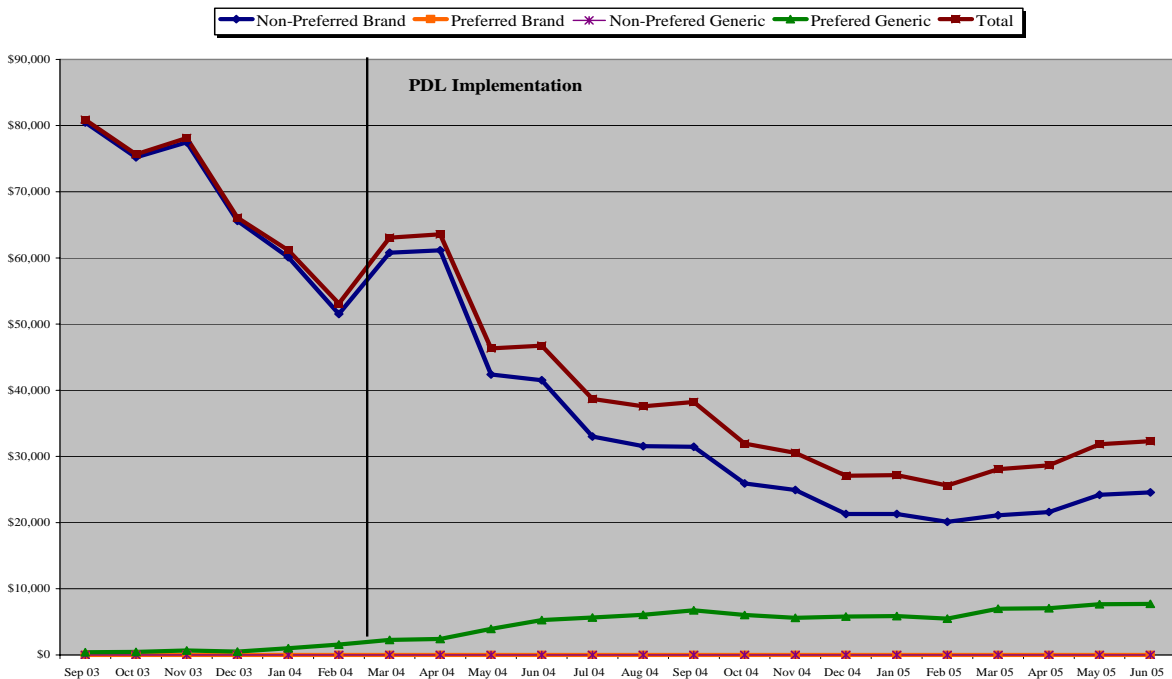
Proton Pump Inhibitors and Antihistamines

Below are graphs depicting Total Drug Cost by Month to North Dakota Medicaid for the drug classes Proton Pump Inhibitors and Antihistamines. Both classes were implemented into the Prior Authorization process in March of 2004. Both classes have shown considerably lower drug costs since PA implementation.

**Proton Pump Inhibitors
Total Drug Costs by Month**



**Antihistamine
Total Drug Costs by Month**





Health Information Designs, Inc., (HID) is the most experienced and qualified provider of drug utilization review and pharmacy benefit management services in the country. We specialize in helping our clients promote clinically appropriate and cost effective prescribing, dispensing and utilization of prescription drugs.

For 29 years, HID has worked to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of health care through clinically rational use of prescription medication. Our clients include public and private health care plans throughout the U.S. with a combined total of over 11 million covered lives.

Health Information Designs, Inc. was founded in 1976 and is incorporated as a C Corporation in the State of Delaware. HID's initial mission was to market drug utilization review (DUR) services nationally and since its founding has provided DUR services for clients in approximately two-thirds of the United States. HID was sold to Value Health, Inc. in 1987 and in turn was sold to Health Data, Inc. in 1997. HID's headquarters were in Fairfax, Virginia, before being moved to Auburn, Alabama, in January of 2000.



1550 Pumphrey Ave.
Auburn, AL 36832
Tel: 800-748-0130
Fax: 800-748-0116

| |
|-----------------|
| PRST STD |
| U.S. Postage |