

DRG Assignment Service

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1. DRGGROUPERS.COM MANUAL

Looking for more information about DRGs, groupers in general, or our grouper product line in particular? Download our complete manual / catalog / reference as a PDF: drgman.pdf . Available soon as a paperback book.

2. DRG ASSIGNMENT SERVICE (DAS)

If you want DRGs assigned to some records and you don't want to buy, install and run the software yourself, then our DRG Assignment Service (DAS) might be just what you are looking for.

The DAS works like this: you send us your dataset with some information about the file format and the record format. With that information, our software can find the data elements used in assigning DRGs. We run your dataset through our grouper and return the results to you along with a DRG summary report which gives you an overview of your dataset's DRG profile: a frequency distribution of DRGs assigned and errors encountered.

An additional advantage of the DAS is that we can automatically infer the appropriate DRG version to use if your dataset contains a discharge date. So if your data spans versions, you don't have to buy additional masks files.

In order to keep things simple all the way around, we offer this service as a flat fee by number of records in the input. If you can provide your data in any of the formats listed below, then you qualify for the flat fee schedule below. If not, it is likely that we can still help you, but you would have to contact us for a custom price quote.

3. PRODUCTS & PRICES

DRG Assignment Service			
Product	Description	Price	Buy
1-4,999 Recs	For "small" data sets of less than 5,000 input records	\$200	N/A
5,000-9,999 Recs	For "medium" data sets of up to 9,999 input records	\$300	N/A

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DRG Assignment Service

10,000-99,999 Recs	For "large" data sets of up to 99,999 input records	\$500	N/A
100,000-499,999 Recs	For "jumbo" data sets of up to 499,999 input records	\$1000	N/A
500,000+ Recs	For half a million input records or more	Negotiated	
N/A			

4. EXPECTED TURN-AROUND TIME

We usually transmit results (either via email, ftp or US mail) within 3 business days.

5. SUPPORTED INPUT FORMATS

- **Microsoft Access database, either Access 97 or Access 2000;**
- **ASCII or EBCDIC text file with one record per line (either variable-width fields with a separator or fixed-width fields are ok);**
- **SQL INSERT statements in a text file (either ASCII or EBCDIC);**
- **MySQL database dump.**

6. SPECIFY A VERSION OR "AUTO DETECT"

As part of the standard DAS, we offer two processing options: either we will use any supported DRG version on all your records or we will use the discharge date (which must be included in your dataset) to determine which federal DRG version was in use at the time of discharge and then use that version. Other methodologies for determining what version to use are possible, but would fall under the category of custom set-up programming and would require a custom quote.

7. HOW TO PICK A VERSION

US Federal (aka CMS or HCFA) DRG versions are released in October of every year. Version 3 (the first version we support) was released in October of 1985. So if you are using calendar years, 1/1/2001 - 9/30/2001 would be covered by version 18 and 10/1/2001 through 9/30/2002 would be covered by version 19. And so on.

8. RETURN VALUES

- **Grouper Return Code (what error, if any, arose during grouping);**
- **DRG Version used to group the record;**
- **DRG Number assigned the record;**
- **Major Diagnostic Category (MDC) of the assigned DRG;**
- **The resource consumption weight of the assigned DRG;**
- **The official description of the assigned DRG.**

9. RETURN OPTIONS

1. **At the beginning of the output dataset;**
2. **At the end of the output dataset;**
3. **As contiguous fields starting at a given field number;**
4. **As separate records with the same ID as the grouped input record (assuming that the input record has an ID field and that you have told us which field to use as the ID).**

10. GET A PRICE QUOTE

Tell us about your data set and your desired processing options and we will give you a price quote. If you prefer, you may send us a fax to (203) 481-4898, containing the same information as the form below. If you are comfortable making your request on-line, please fill in the form and submit it. *(If you are reading the PDF version of this document, then please consider copying the form and pasting it into a email or printing it out and faxing it or mailing it.)*

If you don't get an email acknowledgement from us within 2 business days, there may have been some technical problem so please let us know at grouper@drggrouper.com .