



# Billing for Neulasta® (pegfilgrastim) Using National Drug Codes

## Background on National Drug Codes (NDCs)

By federal regulation, National Drug Codes are composed of 10-digit numbers for manufactured drug products. The NDC is classified by three numeric fields of information:

1. A **labeler code** assigned by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that identifies the manufacturer or labeler of the product
2. A **product code** assigned by the labeler that identifies the product, its dosage form, and its dosage strength
3. A **package code** assigned by the labeler that identifies the trade package size

Originally, the FDA assigned 4-digit labeler identification codes for NDCs. As additional manufacturers applied for NDC labeler codes, the numeric labeler identification was reformatted to a 5-digit numeric value, thus modifying the NDC, for certain drugs, to an 11-digit number.

The 11-digit NDC<sup>1</sup> is now considered the universal NDC designed for billing via electronic data interchange (ie, it is recognized, understood, and easily processed by all parties). Therefore, any 10-digit package NDCs must be zero-filled (a zero must be added in the appropriate location) to create an 11-digit NDC number for billing based on a 5-4-2 NDC format (ie, 5-digit labeler code, 4-digit product code, and 2-digit package size).

## Neulasta® NDC for Billing and Claims Processing

The NDC for Neulasta® is frequently transmitted in electronic data interchange for payment processing systems and consists of the 5-digit labeler code.

Amgen's NDC for Neulasta® is in a 5-3-2 format (ie, 5-digit labeler code, 3-digit product code, and 2-digit package size) and must be modified to be in compliance with the 5-4-2 universal NDC format. Therefore, a lead zero must be added (zero-filled) to the Neulasta® NDC product identification numeric fields to comply with the universal (5-4-2 format) 11-digit NDC format for billing.

In the example below, the 10-digit NDC is depicted in its three component fields for packaging purposes:

**Example:**      **NDC 55513-190-01**      **Single-dose syringe<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Endorsed by American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Healthcare Informatics Standards Board.

<sup>2</sup> Neulasta® is supplied in a preservative-free solution containing 6 mg (0.6 mL) of pegfilgrastim (10 mg/mL) in a single-dose syringe with a 27-gauge, 1/2-inch needle with an UltraSafe® Needle Guard.



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### NDC Component Parts

Labeler Identification (Amgen)	Product Identification (Neulasta®)	Package Size Identification (1 syringe/pack)
55513	190	01 <b>10-digit package NDC</b>
55513	<b>0190</b>	01 <b>11-digit NDC FOR BILLING</b>

### Neulasta® NDC Converted to the Universal Billing Format

The 11-digit NDC to be used for billing Neulasta® (with the zero-filled digit bolded) is:

NDC 55513-**0190**-01



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