The APCD contains some duplicate pharmacy claims, records that were submitted for the same prescription, either by different submitters or by the same submitter in different files. To avoid double counting prescriptions, it is advisable to remove these duplicates. Note that some level of apparent duplication is in fact real, that is, sometimes the same drug may be dispensed twice to the same individual on the same day. Removing all duplicates will also remove these real events. At this time, the size of the artificial duplication is so much larger, it seems better to remove all than remove none.

The steps to identify duplicates are outlined below.

1. Remove the File ID value identified in the Release Notes.
2. Before duplicates can be identified, reversals must be combined with original scripts
   1. To combine originals and reversals, use the following logic:
      1. Where these fields have the same value:
         1. PC910\_MHDO\_MEMBERID
         2. PC032\_FDATE
         3. PC026\_NDC
         4. PC001\_SUBMITTER
         5. PC913\_PHARMID
         6. PC920\_DEA\_PRVIDN
      2. Sum the value of these fields:
         1. PC033\_QTY
         2. PC034\_DAYS
         3. PC036\_TPAY
         4. PC037\_INGRED
         5. PC038\_POSTAGE
         6. PC039\_DISPFEE
         7. PC040\_COPAY
         8. PC041\_COINS
         9. PC042\_DED
      3. To retain the latest paid date, keep the maximum value of PC017\_PDATE
   2. If a script is completely reversed, that is, the net quantity dispensed and days supply are both zero, it generally means the patient did not pick up the script. Many users remove these records from processing.
3. After reversals have been processed, candidates for removal due to artificial duplication can be identified where the following fields have the same value across 2 records:
   1. PC910\_MHDO\_MEMBERID
   2. PC032\_FDATE
   3. PC026\_NDC
   4. PC033\_QTY
   5. PC034\_DAYS
   6. Note that the value of PC017\_PDATE, PC913\_PHARMID, and PC920\_DEA\_PRVIDN may be different on the duplicate records. These fields vary based on the submitter.
4. The choice of how to handle duplicates is up to the user. It is recommended that one of each pair be removed from processing to avoid double counting.