Modernize Your Supply Chain to Improve Patient Safety and Reduce Costs

Adopt GS1 Standards for Your Organization

The U.S. healthcare industry is changing rapidly, and organizations like yours are being challenged to improve patient safety and quality of care while lowering costs, increasing efficiencies, and adapting to new legislation, reform, and regulations. The adoption and use of GS1 Standards will help your organization address current needs and better prepare you for future challenges by enabling more effective information systems for electronic record management, physician order entry, recall processes, reporting, and analytics. That’s why it’s so important that you allocate the proper resources and invest in GS1 Standards today.

GS1 Standards are unique identification numbers for products and locations that provide the link between the product or location and the information pertaining to it. The GS1 System of Standards generates visibility throughout the supply chain by enabling organizations to identify, capture, and share consistent information. The earlier your organization starts using GS1 Standards, the earlier you will start reaping the many benefits. Think of the implementation process as an investment in your organization’s future—and know that GS1 US® is here to help you along the way.

Clear Benefits for Providers

GS1 Standards will help your organization focus on providing quality care. The visibility that GS1 Standards enable can enhance management of the Electronic Health Record (EHR), improve the patient charge process, enhance equipment and instrument tracking, and help your organization support outcome-based medicine and comparative effectiveness. The use of GS1 Standards also plays an important part in reducing preventable medication and medical errors.

Invest in Your Future

By adopting and implementing GS1 Standards in your organization, your team will take an active role in the transformation of the U.S. healthcare system, meeting the goals of patient safety while making your supply chain more efficient. The use of GS1 Standards will help your organization solve a number of challenges, and every organization in the healthcare supply chain has a role in standards implementation. Support in the adoption and use of GS1 Standards is available from GS1 US, so have your organization talk to our organization.

GS1 Standards for Healthcare:

- $2 to $5 billion potential annual savings to be gained in supply chain efficiencies across industry¹
- 2,600+ U.S. healthcare organizations are using GS1 Standards²
- Major GPOs representing spend of over $100 billion have endorsed GS1 Standards³
- 380,000+ healthcare locations are identified with GS1 Standards⁴
- 1.4 million primary device identifiers use GS1 Standards in the GUDID⁵

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2. Retrieved from GS1 US GTIN Readiness Scorecards (Self-reported by industry members).
4. Retrieved from GS1 US GLN Readiness Scorecards (Self-reported by industry members).
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Can you survive the storm?

Regulation and Risk Management
- Increased tax on medical devices
- Recall process is difficult to optimize
- U.S. FDA Unique Device Identification (UDI) regulation
- Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA)

Operational Efficiency
- Cash flow issues
- Inaccurate pricing
- Monitoring expiration dates of inventory
- Difficulty in capturing patient charges
- Need to re-label products
- Difficulty in asset and instrument tracking

Safety and Quality of Care
- Preventable errors
- Non-value added tasks
- Getting the right product to the right patient
- Managing Electronic Health Records (EHRs)
- Manual records and requests

What can I do to modernize my supply chain?
Engage with your suppliers to discuss their implementation plan for U.S. FDA Unique Device Identification (UDI) regulation; obtain a schedule/timeline for rollout for the medical devices purchased by your organization; and establish when you can expect the UDI identifier, barcode, and data to be available for the products you purchase. You can also contact your IT vendors to confirm that your Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), Point of Care (POC), and EHR systems can capture and accept unique device identifiers (UDIs).

To access education, tools, and resources to assist in implementing standards in your organization, visit www.gs1us.org/healthcare.

Yes You Can—With Standards-Based Solutions

Product Identification
- Case
  - SSCC
- Pharmaceutical
  - GTIN
- Medical Device
  - GTIN

Location Identification
- Store Room
  - GLN
- Patient Room
  - GLN

Products are delivered with barcodes encoding GTINs (and any additional data)

Product barcodes are scanned for receiving and distribution

Barcode on patient wristband and barcode on unit dose package are scanned

Visibility

Interoperability

Efficiency

Safety
### Safety and Quality of Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Standards-Based Solutions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preventable errors</td>
<td>GS1 product identifiers facilitate bedside verification and point-of-care scanning, which decreases the number of preventable medication/medical errors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-value added tasks</td>
<td>Patients and families choose providers based on quality of care. The use of GS1 Standards helps streamline operational processes, so your team can focus on delivering the best patient care.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Getting the right product to the right patient</td>
<td>GS1 Standards enable the accurate identification of products, facilitating caregivers’ efforts to ensure that the right product is available for patient care at the time it is needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing Electronic Health Records (EHRs)</td>
<td>The use of product and location identifiers helps ensure accurate treatment documentation and future interpretation of that information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manual records and requests</td>
<td>Reducing the number of hand-written orders, instructions, etc. by clinicians and other hospital staff and replacing this with automatic data capture reduces errors and allows for communication between automated order entry and supply chain systems, improving accuracy and increasing efficiency.</td>
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### Operational Efficiency

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<tr>
<td>Cash flow issues</td>
<td>GS1 Standards streamline chargeback and rebate processing, reducing the amount of money sitting in unresolved sales accounts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inaccurate pricing</td>
<td>Use of standardized location and product identifiers helps ensure that hospitals receive correct contract prices on products ordered and received.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitoring expiration dates of inventory</td>
<td>Use of product identifiers in association with secondary information (such as lot, expiration date, and/or serial number) facilitates better inventory management.</td>
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<td>Difficulty in capturing patient charges</td>
<td>Use of standardized product identifiers tied to a given patient simplifies the patient charge capture process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need to re-label products</td>
<td>Reducing the number of hand-written orders, instructions, etc. by clinicians and other hospital staff and replacing this with automatic data capture reduces errors and allows for communication between automated order entry and supply chain systems, improving accuracy and increasing efficiency.</td>
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<td>Difficulty in asset and instrument tracking</td>
<td>Use of standardized product and location identifiers in conjunction with auto ID technology greatly reduces the incidence of missing equipment and/or expense of purchasing or renting equipment, while facilitating better instrument tracking and maintenance.</td>
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### Regulation and Risk Management

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<td>Increased tax on medical devices</td>
<td>Increased efficiency across the supply chain, made possible by using GS1 Standards, will help offset the cost of recent medical device taxes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recall process is difficult to optimize</td>
<td>Use of standardized product and location identifiers enables a more efficient product recall process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. FDA Unique Identification (UDI) regulation(^1)</td>
<td>Use of standardized product identifiers prepares systems to support U.S. FDA UDI requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Supply Chain Security Act (DSCSA)(^2)</td>
<td>Use of GS1 Standards prepares systems to support upcoming traceability requirements.</td>
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\(^1\) For information about the rule, see the U.S. FDA Unique Device Identification System.
\(^2\) For information about the act, see the 2013 Drug Supply Chain Security Act.