



PRESS RELEASE

Based on the experience of the global medical device and pharmaceutical industries, in June 2020 the GS1 Healthcare Global Trade Item Number® (GTIN®) Allocation Rules were updated with the aim to improve their use in regulation, supply chain and point of care applications. To assist in understanding and applying the changes, GS1 has created a number of informative and interactive tools available for all stakeholders.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 30 June 2020. GS1 Healthcare has developed and promoted global industry standards to prevent medical errors, combat counterfeit products and improve supply chain efficiencies throughout the global healthcare industry.

The **Healthcare GTIN® Allocation Rules** help industry make consistent decisions about how to manage the unique identification of trade items, therefore contributing to improved supply chain efficiency and patient safety. The unique identification of trade items is critical to maintaining operational efficiencies that business partners rely on to exchange information about products in consistent ways, as well as ensuring the smooth operations of global supply chains, while supporting the implementation of various regulatory requirements across the globe. The communication of unique identification changes between trading partners is also essential to ensure the right product is made available when needed.

Since the development of the original Healthcare allocation rules over a decade ago, new regulations, new business processes and new requirements have triggered the need for clarifications of the Healthcare GTIN® Allocation Rules. Release 10.0 was therefore published after ratification of the updates in the identification of items and in the broader implementation of GS1 standards in the healthcare industry rules. This revision will streamline the use of the rules, and help companies better understand situations where healthcare specific rules apply.

These rules have been developed in accordance with the GS1 Global Standards Management Process (GSMP) and are considered a part of the GS1 system of standards.

All the Healthcare GTIN® Allocation Rules and the three guiding principles need to be taken into consideration when making the final decision about allocating GTINs® to healthcare products.

- **Read the Healthcare GTIN® Allocation Rules online**

The full **GTIN® Allocation Rules for the Healthcare sector Release 10.0** can now be found online and in a user-friendly format on the GS1 Healthcare website at www.gs1.org/standards/gs1-healthcare-gtin-allocation-rules-standard. This document provides clear rules for the allocation of the Global Trade Item Number (GTIN®) to healthcare products.

- **Use the interactive Decision Support Tool**

To further assist stakeholders in understanding when to change a GTIN® used within open supply chains, GS1 has created the GS1 Healthcare GTIN® Allocation Rules Decision Support Tool. Discover more about the Decision Support Tool at <http://www.gs1.org/1/hcgtinrules/en/>

The Healthcare team is happy to help you with any questions and support you need.

Please contact us at healthcare@gs1.org

GS1 Healthcare Contact

Pedro (Pete) Álvarez

Senior Director, Identification and Master Data, Healthcare

T: +1 609 557 4547

E: peter.alvarez@gs1.org

About GS1 - GS1 is a neutral, not-for-profit organisation that develops and maintains the most widely used global standards for efficient business communication. We are best known for the barcode, named by the BBC as one of “the 50 things that made the world economy”. GS1 standards improve the efficiency, safety and visibility of supply chains across physical and digital channels in 25 sectors. Our scale and reach – local Member Organisations in 114 countries, 1.5 million user companies and 6 billion transactions every day – help ensure that GS1 standards create a common language that supports systems and processes across the globe.

Find out more at www.gs1.org

About GS1 Healthcare -

The development and implementation of our healthcare standards is led by the industry experts who use them. Our healthcare user groups are open to pharmaceutical and medical devices manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors, group purchasing organisations, hospitals, pharmacies, logistics providers, governmental and regulatory bodies, and trade associations. Our mission is to increase patient safety, supply chain security and efficiency, traceability and accurate data synchronisation in healthcare.

Follow us on Twitter: @GS1Healthcare

View the GS1 Healthcare website: www.gs1.org/industries/healthcare

About Global Trade Item Number® (GTIN®)

The Global Trade Item Number® (GTIN®) provides a global standard by identifying any trade item that may be priced, or ordered, or invoiced at any point in the supply chain upon which there is a need to retrieve pre-defined information.

Find out more about GTIN® at <http://www.gs1.org/standards/id-keys/gtin>

