



Safer, more efficient care starts with a simple scan

Today's healthcare industry faces growing pressures as the number of patients accelerates and regulatory demands continue to emerge. All healthcare stakeholders are being challenged to eliminate errors in patient care while executing highly effective and efficient processes to control increasing costs.

Healthcare providers are especially strained to do more, better and with less. In response, they are collaborating with partners to extend the use of GS1 standards beyond the supply chain to the patient bedside for improved patient care, outcomes and safety.

GS1 standards are enabling healthcare providers to uniquely and automatically identify products, patients, caregivers, assets and locations for transparent processes across the healthcare value chain. GS1 standards provide a global common language—identification, barcodes and data sharing—so that all stakeholders can work together seamlessly. They provide yet another example of how technology can support medical practices.

In this reference book, learn about the tangible benefits of using GS1 standards throughout hospital and healthcare environments: Clinical staff can now spend more time with patients in their care, using data that is more accurate and complete. The automation of processes reduces human error and ensures the right product is available for the right patient at the right time. There are significant reductions in stock with automated stock management, faster order fulfilment with more efficient warehouse operations and full transparency with automated prescription processes. Mobile assets are easily tracked for cost savings and a government traceability system has been put in place in some countries to combat counterfeits. Electronic order-to-cash processes are streamlined and patients are waiting much less time for procedures.

It's clear: The use of GS1 standards needs to become a strategic priority for hospitals worldwide. They have come to realise that with the simple scan of a barcode, they can build a better and safer environment for clinicians, staff and patients alike. We're at the start of a critical, yet exciting journey!

Learn more about these stories or tell us *your* implementation story. Contact Tania Snioch at Tania.snioch@gs1.org or Anouk Chavel at anouk.chavel@gs1.org. For your nearest GS1 Member Organisation, go to www.gs1.org/contact.