



The Global Language of Business

# The basics of identification and barcoding for traceability

## GS1 AIDC Standards in Healthcare

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African GS1 Healthcare Conference 2018  
Breakout Panel II @ 14:15 – 15:45hrs - Wednesday 09 May 2018  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



# Your Panelists



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GS1 Global Office



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Senior Manager  
Business Technology  
Pfizer



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Head Global Business  
Processes  
Abbott



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# GS1 AIDC Standards in Healthcare

## The basics

Chuck Biss - Senior Director, AIDC Healthcare - GS1 Global Office

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# Automatic Identification & Data Capture (AIDC)



“Automatic Identification and Data Capture (AIDC) refers to the methods of **automatically identifying** objects, **collecting data** about them, and **entering that data** directly into computer systems (i.e., without human involvement).”

*Wikipedia, 2009*



# GS1 standards framework



## Identify

### Globally unique identification keys

Companies, Products, Locations, Patients, Providers, Assets, Logistics, Documents, Services, Shipments, Consignments



## Capture

### Automatic data capture

Barcodes and EPC-enabled RFID

...the  
AIDC  
"bits"...

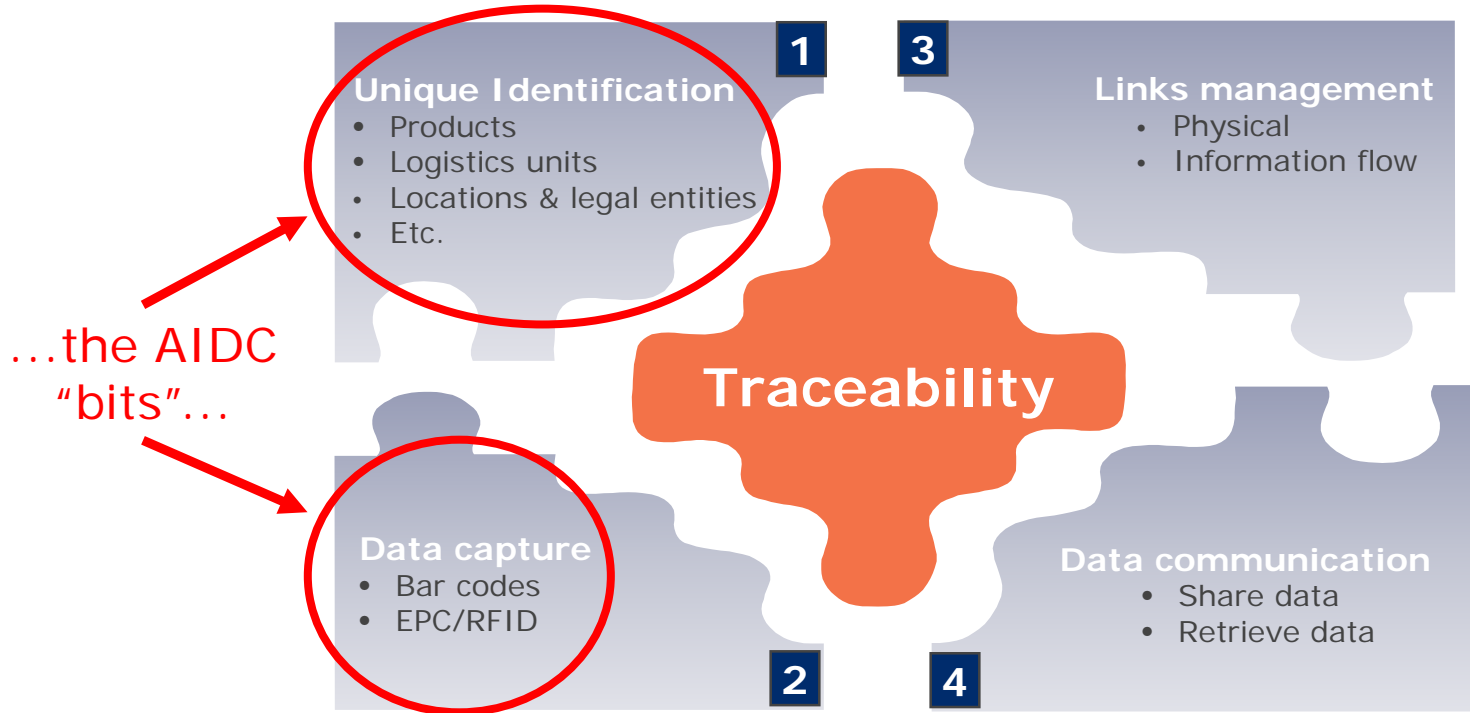


## Share

### Exchange of patient care & business critical information

Master Data, Transactional Data, Traceability & Event Data and Digital Content

# Part of the traceability “building blocks”...





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# GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Identification "Keys"

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# Foundation of the GS1 System...



## ...the GS1 Identification **Keys**

Provides access to information held in computer files – Information about company/location, package, product, price, shipment, assets etc.

GS1 Identification **Key**:  
12345678901234





# GS1 Identification Keys...



Item identifier = **GTIN**

Global Trade Item Number



Logistics unit identifier = **SSCC**

Serial Shipping Container Code



Location identifier = **GLN**

Global Location Number



Service relation identifier = **GSRN**

Global Service Relation Number

- Unique
- Non-significant
- International
- Secure
- Foundational

...and there are more ...



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## GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Identification "Keys" - GTIN (Global Trade Item Number)

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# GTIN – Global Trade Item Number...



Used on **any item** upon which there is a need to **retrieve pre-defined information** that may be **priced, ordered, or invoiced** at any point in any supply chain.



The base for unique item identification... GTIN is an umbrella term for all GS1 “trade item” identification numbers. A Global Trade Item Number may use the GTIN-8, GTIN-12, GTIN-13, or GTIN-14 numbering structure.

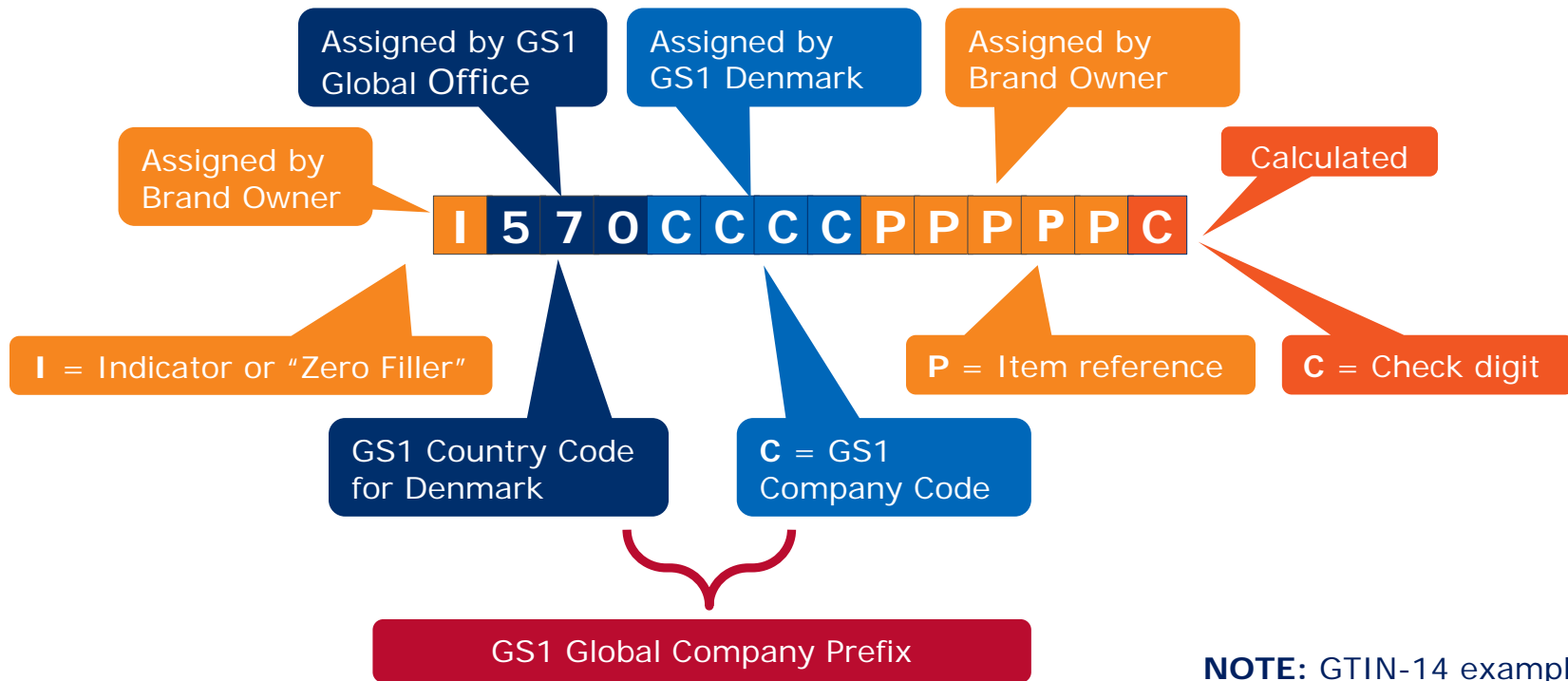
# GTIN Terminology & structure...



	GS1 Application Identifier	Global Trade Item Number (GTIN)													
		GS1-8 Prefix or GS1 Company Prefix							Item reference						
(GTIN-8)	0 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>5</sub>	N <sub>6</sub>	N <sub>7</sub>	N <sub>8</sub>
(GTIN-12)	0 1	0	0	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>5</sub>	N <sub>6</sub>	N <sub>7</sub>	N <sub>8</sub>	N <sub>9</sub>	N <sub>10</sub>	N <sub>11</sub>	N <sub>12</sub>
(GTIN-13)	0 1	0	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>5</sub>	N <sub>6</sub>	N <sub>7</sub>	N <sub>8</sub>	N <sub>9</sub>	N <sub>10</sub>	N <sub>11</sub>	N <sub>12</sub>	N <sub>13</sub>
(GTIN-14)	0 1	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>5</sub>	N <sub>6</sub>	N <sub>7</sub>	N <sub>8</sub>	N <sub>9</sub>	N <sub>10</sub>	N <sub>11</sub>	N <sub>12</sub>	N <sub>13</sub>	N <sub>14</sub>

The GTIN-14 Data Structure is used for grouping of items. The Indicator Digit (the “N<sub>1</sub>”) has a value of 1 to 8 and allows for the identification of eight packaging levels. The 9 has a special application for Variable Measure. The Indicators have no inherent meaning. These digits do not have to be used in sequential order, and some may not be used at all. The holder of the Company Prefix determines their use. By definition... if it has 14-digits and starts with a “0” it is not a GTIN-14... it is a GTIN-8, -12, or -13 in a 14-digit format with a “Filler” digit “0”

# Anatomy of a GTIN... an example

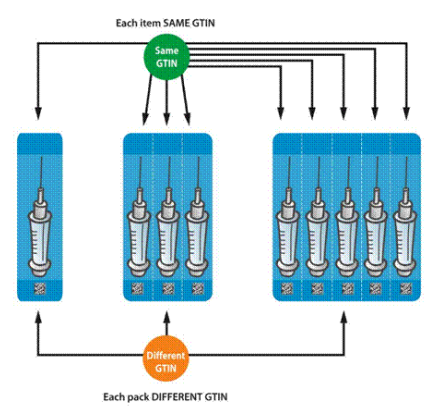


# GTIN allocation rules in brief...



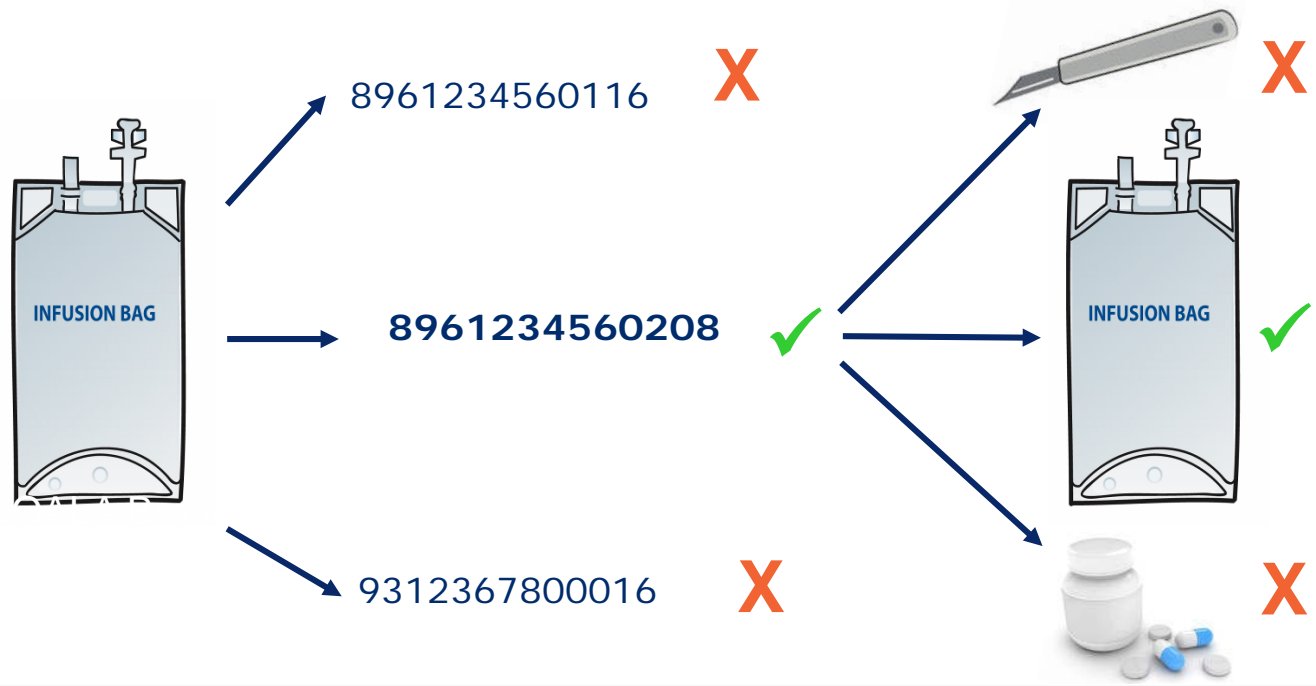
**Brand owners (the manufacturer) allocate GTIN's** based on standardised allocation rules, for example:

- 1 GTIN = 1 product
- 1 product = 1 GTIN
- Different GTIN for each packaging level
  - Example - Change GTIN when pack of 20 becomes pack of 25
- Add language, same GTIN
- Change language, new GTIN
- Country of manufacturing changes... GTIN does not need to change when manufactured to the same specifications
- **Never re-allocate a GTIN to another product !**



# GTIN allocation a "1 to 1" relationship...

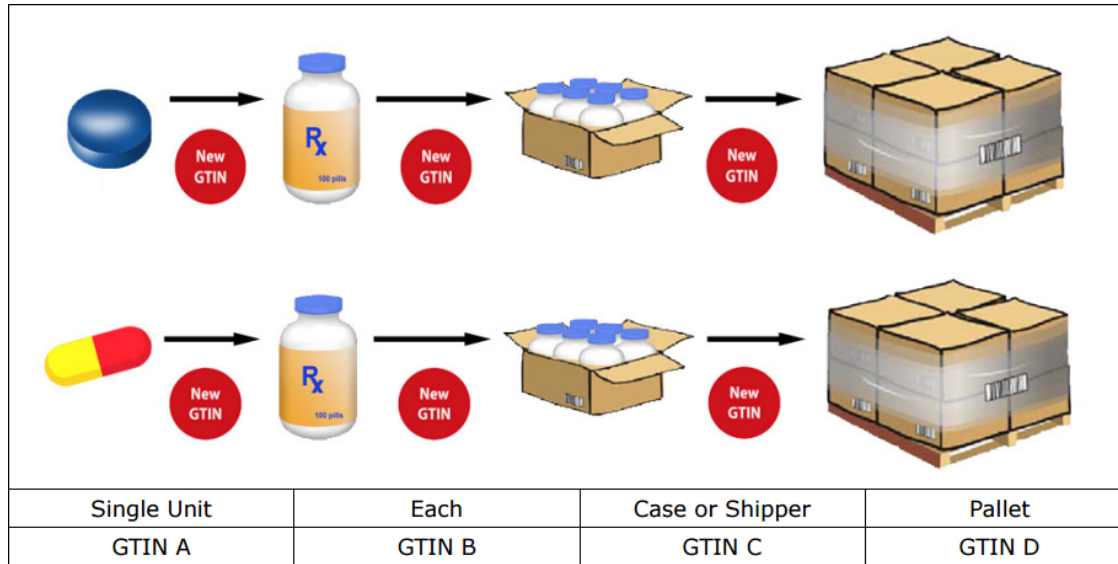
1 Product to 1 GTIN / 1 GTIN to 1 product



# GTIN allocation in a hierarchy...



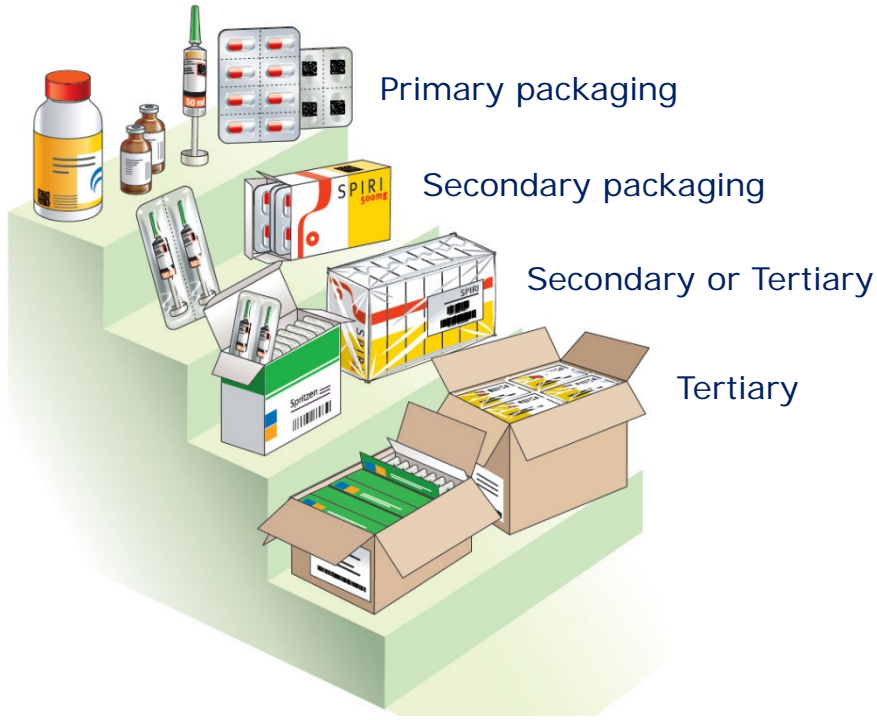
## Example of Typical Pharmaceutical Hierarchy Levels



**NOTE:** Depending upon the particular “Single Unit” the “GTIN A” in this example could be an assigned but “unmarked” GTIN.



# Packaging levels... definitions & roles...



Healthcare primary packaging - The first level of packaging for the product marked with an AIDC data carrier either on the packaging or on a label affixed to the packaging. For non-sterile packaging, the first level of packaging can be the packaging in direct contact with the product. For sterile packaging, the first level of packaging can be any combination of the sterile packaging system, May consist of a single item or group of items for a single therapy such as a kit. For packaging configurations that include a retail consumer trade item, primary packaging is a packaging level below the retail consumer trade item.

Healthcare secondary packaging - A level of packaging marked with an AIDC carrier that may contain one or more primary packages or a group of primary packages containing a single item.

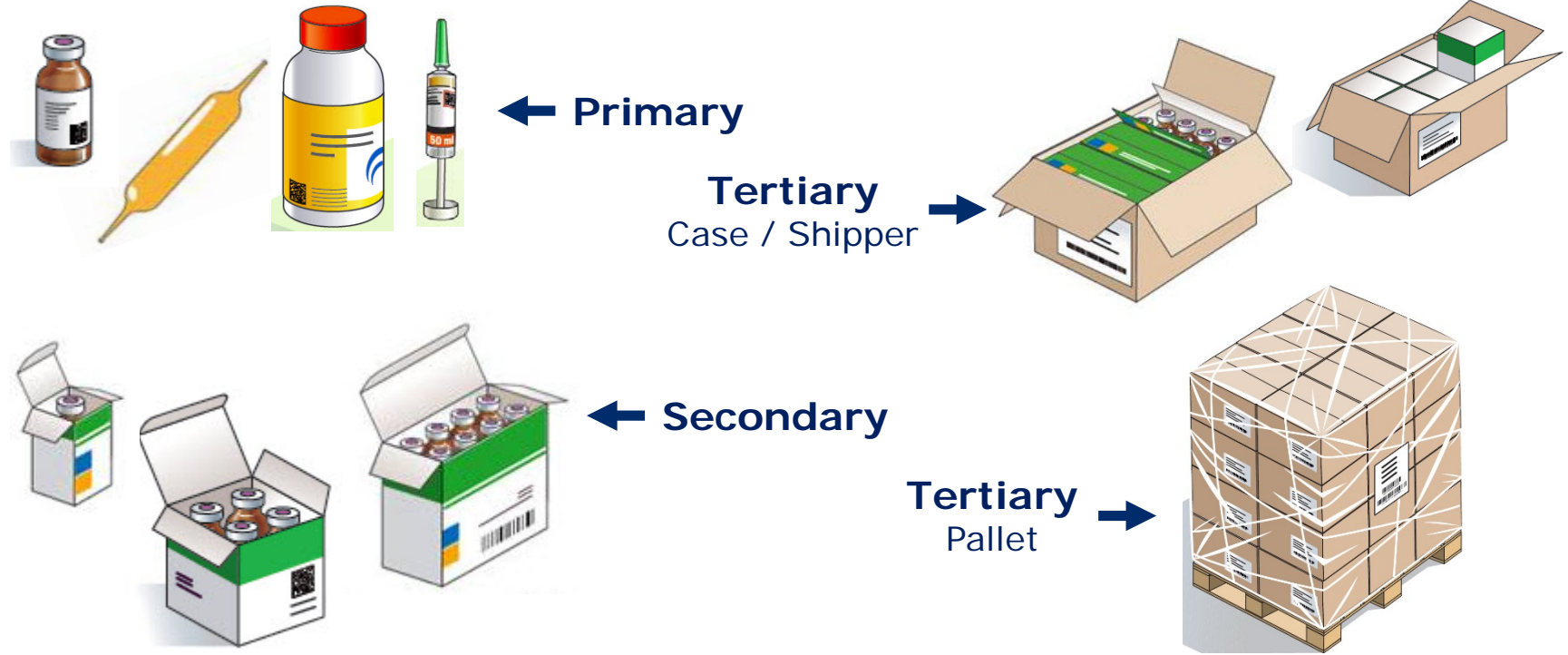
Notes:

[1] The above are GS1 General Specifications definitions.

[2] "Primary packaging" is usually also the "unit of use".

[3] As shown here "Tertiary" refers to "Trade Items" only and not "Logistic Units". (See the GS1 General Specifications for more detail.)

# Packaging level examples...



# Reuse of a healthcare GTIN...



8961234560208

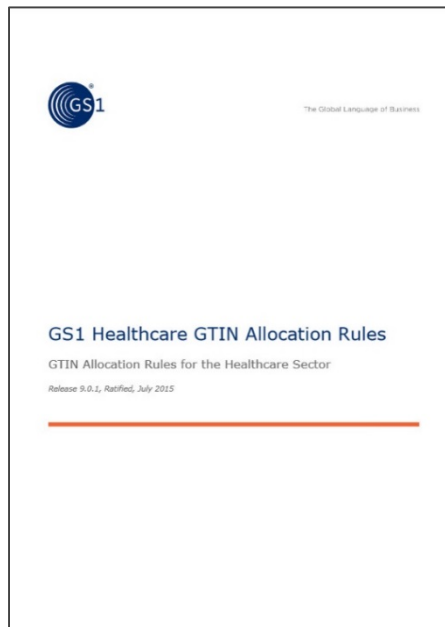


8961234560208



**Not allowed in  
healthcare**

Healthcare re-use of GTINs is not allowed at all



## GTIN assignment in Healthcare

- A guide to GS1 ID Key assignment... the GS1 GTIN Allocation Rules presented in Healthcare related terms with Healthcare specific examples – Available online at: [http://www.gs1.org/docs/gsmg/healthcare/GS1\\_Healthcare\\_GTIN\\_Allocation\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.gs1.org/docs/gsmg/healthcare/GS1_Healthcare_GTIN_Allocation_Rules.pdf)
- Translated in many other languages



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# GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Application Identifiers

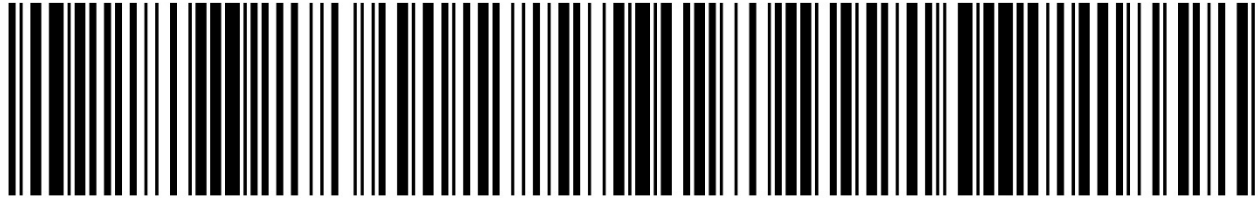
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# A need to capture the GTIN & more...



## GS1-128 Barcode



(01)19506000117843(17)141120(10)NYFUL01(21)192837



GTIN-14

(01)19506000117843

(17)141120

(10)NYFUL01

(21)192837

Expiry Date

Batch Number

Serial Number

A GS1 Application Identifier (AI) is an element string that carries dynamic or “production identification” data that... in conjunction with the GS1 “Key”... they provide more granular information about the items identified at the point of data acquisition (scanning).

## GS1 DataMatrix Barcode



# GS1 Application Identifiers (AIs)...



The GS1 Gen Specs include 100+ “AI’s” for various use cases & sectors

..however **relying on Master Data as well as limiting & staging** the Application Identifiers **commonly used** in Healthcare helps:

- ...to reduce implementation complexity
- ...maximize use of existing systems
- ...potentially minimize cost implications

<b>01</b>	GTIN (Global Trade Item Number) – 14 digit numeric
<b>10</b>	Batch / Lot – up to 20 characters, alphanumeric
<b>17</b>	Expiry Date – 6 digit numeric, YYMMDD format
<b>21</b>	Serial Number – up to 20 characters, alphanumeric

**Note** – Other than certain efficiency recommendations within the GS1 General Specifications, the order of AI’s is *not significant and should not be mandated*.

**Note** – GTIN and serial number makes a product truly unique – serial numbers can be repeated with other GTIN’s. Randomisation is today state of the art although not part of GS1 Gen Specs.

# Why standardize on as few as possible...



- The barcode grows larger when too much data is included...
- With local variances costs increase beyond those already necessary for changing packaging lines...
- Increased complexity for manufacturers in managing “multi-market” or special packaging...
- When local rules are not globally aligned, it becomes an additional burden for any **exporting** and well as **importing** manufacturer...
- ...and when looking at serialization...



# Item identification: **Serialization**



GTIN plus Serial Number (a.k.a. **Serialized GTIN** or **SGTIN**) is a context-dependent feature of the GTIN that is used to identify a specific instance of a product or service identified by a GTIN. It is the “concatenation” of Application Identifiers AI(**01**), GTIN, and AI(**21**), Serial Number:

e.g. **01**09312345000005**21**01B2C3

AI(21) “Serial Number” is alphanumeric and 20 characters maximum

Though the addition of a serial number to the encoded data for a Secondary package in the pharmaceutical sector is becoming more common it is at present a “future goal” for the Primary package level.



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## GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Identification "Keys" – SSCC (Serial Shipping Container Code)

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# Serial Shipping Container Code (SSCC)



18 digits

SSCC 393123450000000013



(00) 393123450000000013

SSCC Application Identifier (00)

- The SSCC identifies **logistics units**. This key is comprised of an extension digit, the GS1 Company Prefix, serial reference, and check digit.
- Provides a link between the physical logistic unit and information about that logistic unit communicated between trading partners using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).
- The SSCC is assigned for the life of the logistic unit and is a mandatory element of the GS1 Logistic Label.

GS1 Application Identifier	SSCC (Serial Shipping Container Code)																	
	Extension digit	GS1 Company Prefix										Serial reference					Check digit	
0 0	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>3</sub>	N <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>5</sub>	N <sub>6</sub>	N <sub>7</sub>	N <sub>8</sub>	N <sub>9</sub>	N <sub>10</sub>	N <sub>11</sub>	N <sub>12</sub>	N <sub>13</sub>	N <sub>14</sub>	N <sub>15</sub>	N <sub>16</sub>	N <sub>17</sub>	N <sub>18</sub>

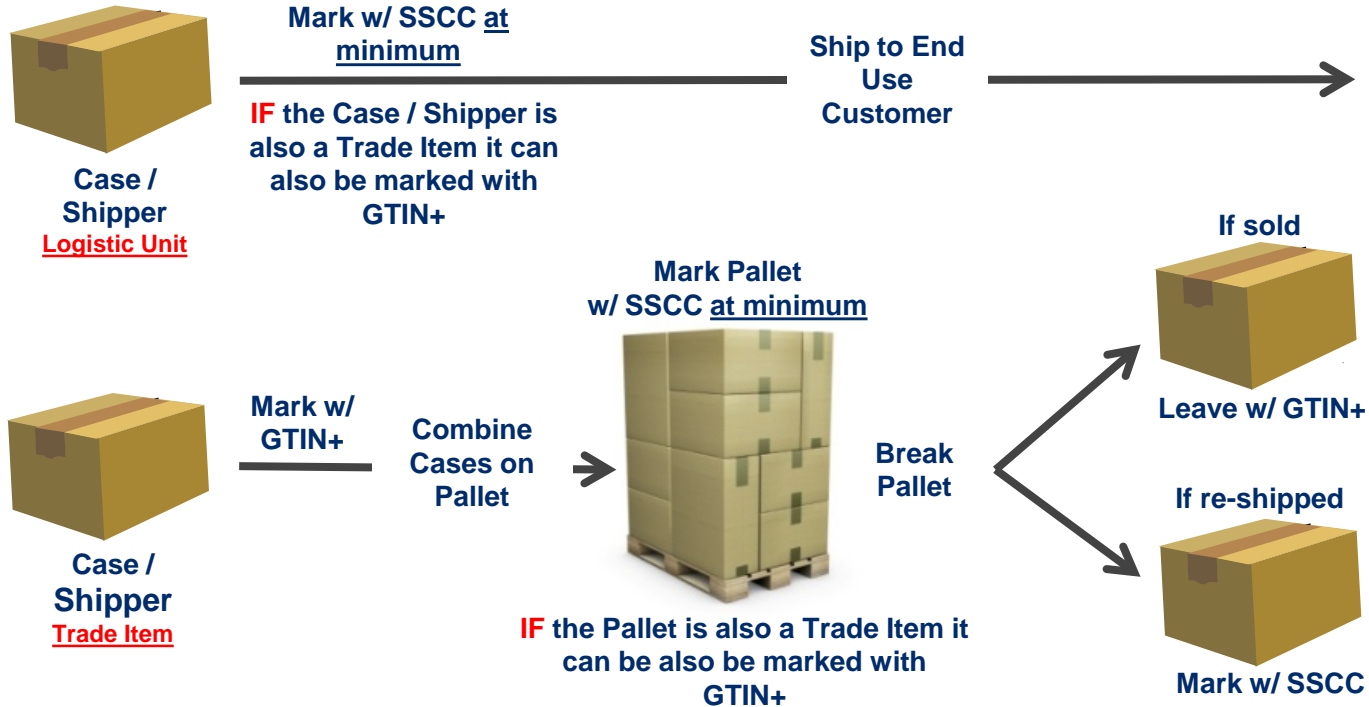
# So... do I use GTIN and/or SSCC...



## First Question – Is it a “Trade Item” or “Logistic Unit”?

- **Trade items:** Any item (product or service) upon which there is a need to retrieve pre-defined information and that may be **priced or ordered or invoiced** at any point in the supply chain
  - Identify and mark with a GTIN / GTIN+
- **Logistic units:** An item of any composition established for **transport and/or storage** which needs to be managed through the supply chain
  - Identify and mark with at least an SSCC
  - **IF** also a Trade Item it can also have GTIN / GTIN+

# So... do I use GTIN and/or SSCC...





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## GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Identification "Keys" - GLN (Global Location Number)

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# What is a GLN?



The **Global Location Number** is designed to improve the efficiency of communication with trading partners and add value to the trading partners involved, as well as to consumers.

GLNs can be used to identify a:

- Legal entity
- Function
- Physical location
- Digital location



GS1 Application Identifier	GS1 Company Prefix	Location reference	Check digit
4 1 4	N <sub>1</sub> N <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> N <sub>5</sub> N <sub>6</sub> N <sub>7</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	N <sub>9</sub> N <sub>10</sub> N <sub>11</sub> N <sub>12</sub>	N <sub>13</sub>

# Global Location Number



## Example: GLN Use GS1 Application Identifiers

- AI (410): Ship to - Deliver to GLN
- AI (411): Bill to - Invoice to GLN
- AI (412): Purchase from GLN
- AI (413): Ship for - Deliver for - Forward to GLN
- AI (414): GLN of a physical location
- AI (415): GLN of Number of the Invoicing Party



GS1-128 Symbol encoding a GLN using AI (414) Identification of a Physical Location





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# GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Data carriers

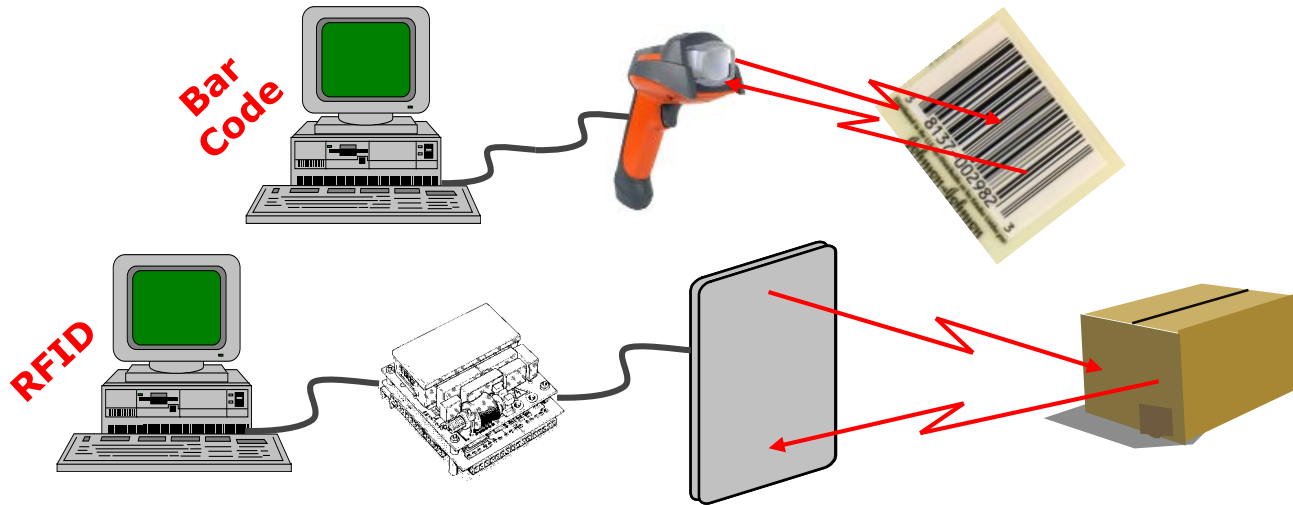
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# GS1 AIDC Data Carriers...



GS1's ISO compliant machine-readable **Data Carriers** for use with the product (via packaging, label or DPM... Direct Part Marking) containing the Product ID – 1D / Linear & 2D / Matrix bar code symbols, RFID.



**NOTE:** Though “any” approved machine-readable Data Carrier is applicable... GS1 Healthcare members have agreed to focus at this time on the use of bar code technology before considering other data carriers...

# Healthcare – Data / Data Carrier needs...



Expiry Date, Lot,  
and/or Serial Number



Small space



Direct part marking



Additional data & variable data  
at high production rates



Non-retail channels

**And  
more...**

# GS1 Data Carriers...

...chosen to support item serialization...



5 012345 678900

**EAN/UPC**



(01)00012345678905(21)12345678

**GS1 DataBar**



(01)00012345678905



(00) 0 0123456 123456789 6

**GS1-128**



(00) 0 0123456 123456789 6  
(02) 5 0123456 78901 7 (37) 0000288 (02) 5 0123456 11111 5 (37) 000046

**GS1 Composite Component**



(01) 00012345678905

**GS1 DataMatrix**



**GS1 QR Code**

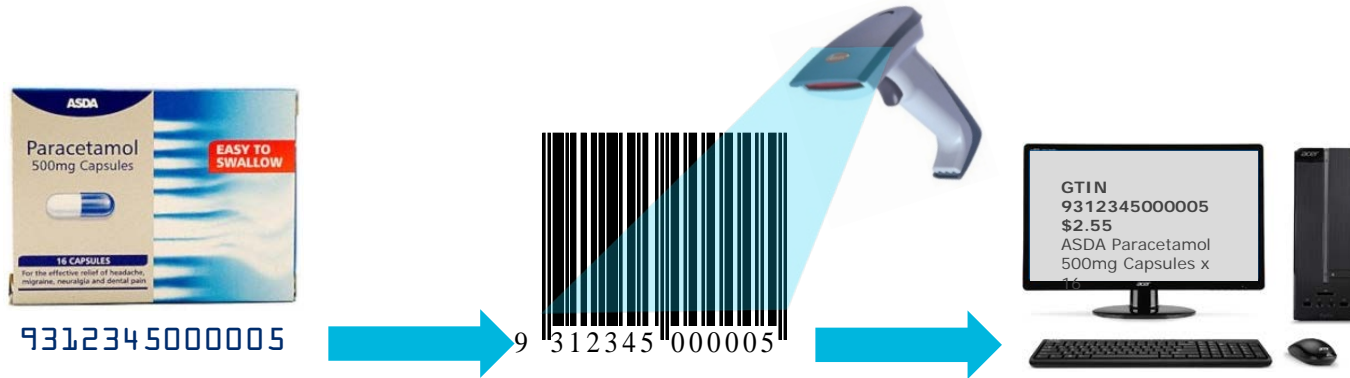


00012345678905

**ITF-14**

**NOTE:** In Healthcare GS1 QR Code is not endorsed for Trade Item related marking.

# “Mechanics” of reading barcodes...



- A barcode is a “data carrier” that has the GS1 ID number encoded within as a **key** to the **information** about a product
- The GS1 data carrier is a **graphical representation** of the GS1 ID key used to **automatically capture** data and access information and data through a database in a computer system
- **NOTE THAT** camera-based bar code scanners are needed in Healthcare for 2D Data Carriers such as GS1 DataMatrix AND are a GS1 Healthcare Leadership Team recommendation!!

# "Mechanics" of reading barcodes...



**ENCODED (In) – User dependent:**

<FNC1>**01**10857674002017**17**141120**10**NYFUL01<GS>**21**192837

**DECODED (Out) – Scanner dependent:**

]d201108576740020171714112010NYFUL01<GS>21192837

**PROCESSING:**

01108576740020171714112010NYFUL0121192837

??

**01**10857674002017    **17**141120    **10**NYFUL01    **21**192837  
10857674002017    20 Nov 2014    NYFUL01    192837

**ERP  
Entries**

GTIN:

BATCH/LOT:

EXPIRATION:

SERIAL:

# Mobile phones...



JOURNAL OF MEDICAL INTERNET RESEARCH Bell et al

## Original Paper Feasibility and Limitations of Vaccine Two-Dimensional Barcoding Using Mobile Devices

Carveron Bell<sup>1</sup> BSc, Talina Gonzalez<sup>2</sup> BEng, Katherine M Addison<sup>3</sup> BSc, Rossana Wilson<sup>4,5</sup> MD, MSc, FRCPC  
<sup>1</sup>Ottawa Hospital Research Institute, Clinical Epidemiology Program, Ottawa, ON, Canada  
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**Abstract**  
**Background:** Two-dimensional (2D) barcoding has the potential to enhance documentation of vaccine encounters at the point of care. However, this is currently limited to smartphones equipped with dedicated barcode scanners and compatible record systems. Mobile devices may present a cost-effective alternative to leverage 2D vaccine vial barcodes and improve vaccine product-specific information available to digital health records.  
**Objective:** Mobile devices have the potential to capture product-specific information from 2D vaccine vial barcodes. We sought to evaluate the feasibility, performance, and potential limitations of scanning 2D barcodes on vaccine vials using 4 different mobile phones.  
**Methods:** A unique barcode scanning app was developed for Android and iOS operating systems. The impact of 4 variables on the scan success rate, time accuracy, and time to scan were evaluated: barcode size, curvature, fading, and ambient lighting conditions. The experimenters performed 4 trials (10 times each, amounting to a total of 2160 barcode scan attempts).  
**Results:** Of the 1832 successful scans performed in this evaluation, zero produced incorrect data. Five-millimeter barcodes were the slowest to scan, although only by 0.5 seconds on average. Barcodes with up to 50% fading had a 100% success rate, but success rate deteriorated beyond 60% fading. Curved barcodes took longer to scan compared with flat, but success rate deterioration was only observed at a vial diameter of 10 mm. Light conditions did not affect success rate or scan time between 500 lux and 20 lux. Conditions below 20 lux impeded the device's ability to scan successfully. Variability in scan time was observed across devices in all trials performed.  
**Conclusions:** 2D vaccine barcoding is possible using mobile devices and is successful under the majority of conditions assessed. Manufacturers utilizing 2D barcodes should take into consideration the impact of device and user scan success rates. Future studies should evaluate the effect of mobile barcoding on workflow and vaccine administration acceptance.  
*J Med Internet Res 2016 | 18(10):e1416 | doi:10.1186/jmir.2016.18.10*

Use of smartphones for scanning is increasing as their performance... and that of any associated apps... also increases...

**Results:** Of the 1832 successful scans performed in this evaluation, zero produced incorrect data. Five-millimeter barcodes were the slowest to scan, although only by 0.5 seconds on average. Barcodes with up to 50% fading had a 100% success rate out success rate deteriorated beyond 60% fading. Curved barcodes took longer to scan compared with flat, but success rate deterioration was only observed at a vial diameter of 10 mm. Light conditions did not affect success rate or scan time between 500 lux and 20 lux. Conditions below 20 lux impeded the device's ability to scan successfully. Variability in scan time was observed across devices in all trials performed.

Journal of Medical Internet Research, vol.18,2016



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# GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

GS1 DataMatrix

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# Healthcare - Data carriers...



GS1-128	GS1 DataMatrix	EPC/RFID
<b>Preferred option if:</b>	<b>Preferred option if:</b>	<b>Additional option</b>
✓ Package allows (size)	✓ Larger amounts of data in a small space	✓ Non-line of sight
✓ Moderate amount of data	✓ Variable information at high production rates	✓ Large amount of data
	✓ Direct Part Marking	

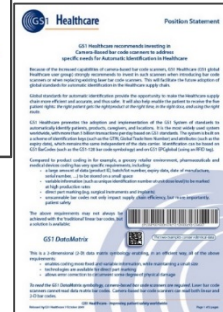
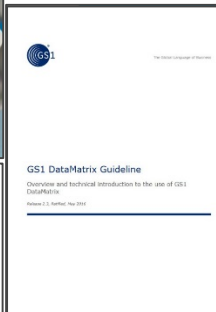
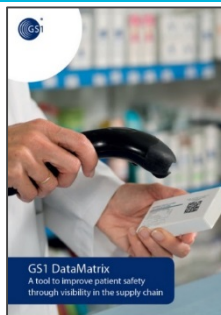
# GS1 DataMatrix support...



GS1  
DataMatrix

(01) 00012345678905

As we see more AIDC marking on small Pharmaceutical and Medical Device products (and/or on their packaging) we will see more GS1 DataMatrix due to its ability to efficiently and securely carry more data in smaller areas, and also due to its promotion for use by the GS1 Healthcare global members. Becoming familiar with the available support materials is advised...



**CHECK OUT:** <http://www.gs1.org/healthcare/library>  
[http://www.gs1.org/docs/barcodes/GS1\\_DataMatrix\\_Introduction\\_and\\_technical\\_overview.pdf](http://www.gs1.org/docs/barcodes/GS1_DataMatrix_Introduction_and_technical_overview.pdf)





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# GS1 AIDC in Healthcare

Barcode symbol quality - Verification

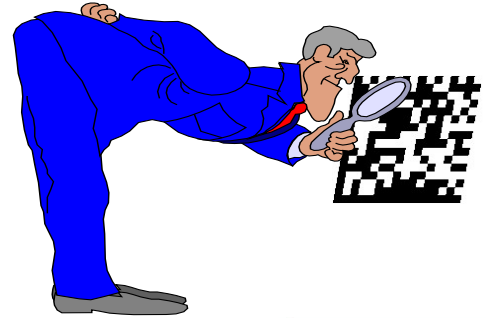
---



# Barcode symbol quality – Verification...



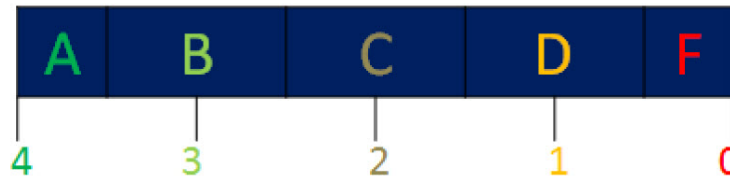
- Need an understanding that...
  - ...barcode scan failure causes delays and possible errors in the supply chain
  - ...you need to know what to verify... print and data
  - ...scanners are not quality verifiers
  - ...all need to follow GS1 & ISO/IEC standards



Symbol decode:

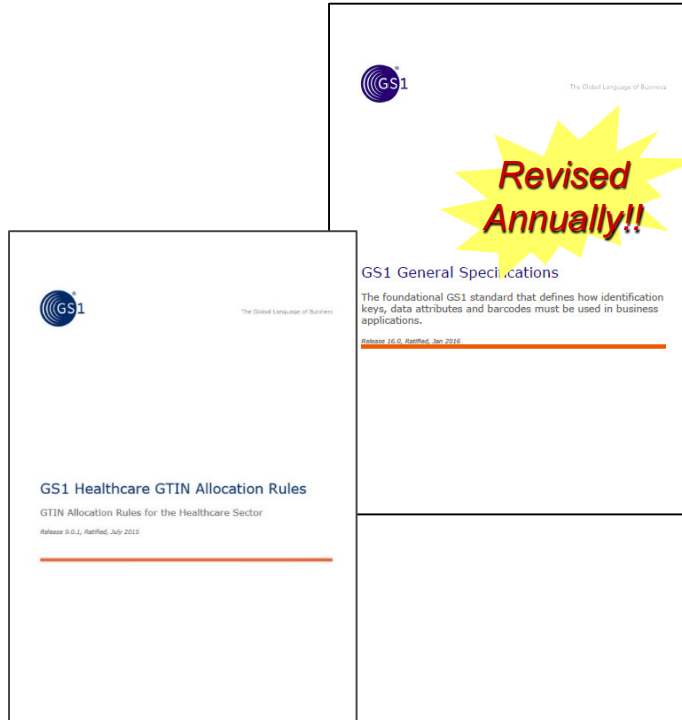
GS1 DataMatrix - (FNC1 & AIs)

**1**d2 01108576740020171714112010KMB11205201[GS]21CEB630078700



Minimum quality specification
1.5/06/660
1.5/08/660

# So... where can I find more information ?



## GS1 General Specifications – the ONE global standard for AIDC in Healthcare

- The core standards document of the “GS1 System”... describes how GS1 keys & data carriers should be used - Available online at: [http://www.gs1.org/docs/barcodes/GS1\\_General\\_Specifications.pdf](http://www.gs1.org/docs/barcodes/GS1_General_Specifications.pdf)

## GS1 Healthcare GTIN Allocation Rules – GTIN assignment in Healthcare

- A guide to GS1 ID Key assignment... the GS1 GTIN Allocation Rules presented in Healthcare related terms with Healthcare specific examples – Available online at: [http://www.gs1.org/docs/gsmf/healthcare/GS1\\_Healthcare\\_GTIN\\_Allocation\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.gs1.org/docs/gsmf/healthcare/GS1_Healthcare_GTIN_Allocation_Rules.pdf)

Many countries have already adopted GS1 Standards... and we anticipate many more!

# So... where can I find more information ?



## Find information & support at GS1 Global Healthcare on the web...

The screenshot shows the GS1 Global Healthcare website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'About', 'Standards', 'Industries', and 'News & Events'. Below this, the 'Healthcare' section is highlighted. A main heading reads 'Healthcare' with a sub-heading: 'As a patient you are entitled to the best care. The use of our standards in healthcare increases patient safety, drives supply chain efficiencies and improves the traceability of medicines.' There is a 'Join GS1 Healthcare' button. Below this, a section titled 'Our standards in action' features four columns of content, each with an image and a title: 'Saving Lives', 'Reducing costs', 'Sharing data', and 'Enabling traceability'. At the bottom, there are four more columns: 'Regulatory information', 'Standards', 'Join our conferences', and 'Case studies and more information'.

This grid contains 12 content cards, each with an image and text:

- Saving Lives**: Saving lives, Global Hospital Working Group (HPAC), Barcoding at the point of care.
- Reducing costs**: Saving money, Supply chain reforms (eProcurement).
- Sharing data**: Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN), Electronic Business Messaging (eCom).
- Enabling traceability**: Traceability, Product movement data (EPCIS).
- Regulatory information**: Medical Devices (UDI), Pharmaceuticals, GS1 Public Policy Database.
- Standards**: View all GS1 standards for healthcare.
- Join our conferences**: Register now! Mexico City, Mexico - 21-23 April 2015, View presentations and photos from previous events.
- Case studies and more information**: McKinsey report, Reference books, Case studies, Newsletters, Publications & position papers.

Check out: <http://www.gs1.org/healthcare>





The Global Language of Business

# The basics of identification and barcoding for traceability

## Manufacturer's Perspective

Pascal Aulagnet - Senior Manager Business Technology - Pfizer

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# The basics of identification and barcoding for traceability

Pfizer Global Serialization Program

African GS1 Healthcare Conference – Ethiopia

Pascal Aulagnet, Senior Manager Business Technology, **Pfizer Inc**

9<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 – Addis Ababa





**Disclaimer:** *This presentation outlines a general technology direction. Pfizer Inc. has no obligation to pursue any approaches outlined in this presentation or to develop or use any functionality mentioned in this presentation. The technology strategy and possible future developments are subject to change and may be changed at any time for any reason without notice.*

*The views and opinions expressed in this presentation and any related discussion(s) are solely those of the individual presenter(s) and may not express the views of and opinions of Pfizer Inc.*



# agenda

- Introduction
- GS1 Standards and focus on Identification and Barcoding
- Lesson Learned from European Falsified Medicines Directive Implementation



# Introduction – Pascal Aulagnet

- Member of GS1 Healthcare Leadership team
- 18 years experience in Healthcare (As consultant and Pfizer)
- 11 years experience with traceability, track& trace and logistic



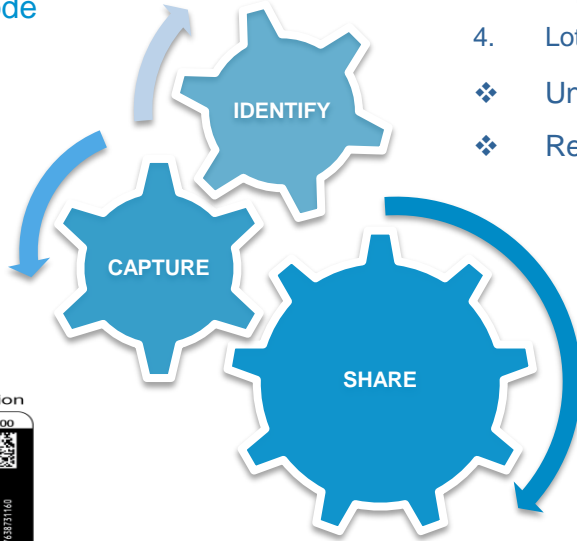
# GS1 Standards Application

## GS1 DataMatrix as Data Carrier

- ❖ High-density and smallest size barcode
- ❖ Small footprint fits on most package sizes



Label for square bottle with standard serialization



## Key Data Elements / Application Identifiers:

1. GTIN (01)
  2. Serial Number (21)
  3. Expiry Date (17)
  4. Lot Number (10)
- ❖ Unique identification of a unit
  - ❖ Regulated by most worldwide mandates

GTIN (01) 00300694210304	
SN (21) 100009876543	
EXP (17) YYMMDD	
LOT (10) L102034	



## Interoperability

1. GS1 GDSN for master data
  2. EDI for transaction data
- ❖ Common language between partners
  - ❖ Master data is DNA for Serialization



# Printing format of the 2D DataMatrix



- ✓ The European Delegated Regulation states that International Standards can be used for the 2D barcode format 
- ✓ International standards allow for the 2D barcodes to be produced in several different formats e.g. square and rectangular 
- ✓ International Standards also allow the 2D barcodes to be produced in a positive version (black on white) or a negative version (white on black\*)
- ✓ Different technologies produce either a positive or negative image and this will vary across MAHs
- ✓ Scanning equipment must be able to read all these variations according to International Standards

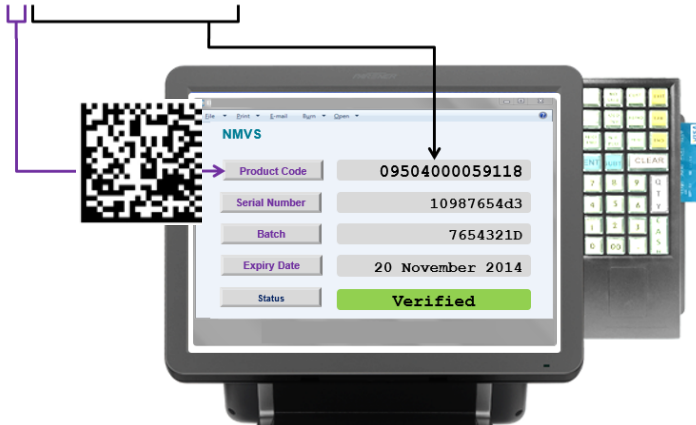
*\* other dark colours may also be used as long as there is a high contrast*

**Square, Rectangular, White & Black 2D barcodes must be accommodated**



# Encoded data order

]d2010950400005911817141100107654321D<GS>2110987654d3



Green = Encoding type used e.g. GS1  
Purple = Application Identifiers  
Blue = Group Separators

- ✓ GS1 standards define how data in the 2D barcode should be encoded
- ✓ Scanning and IT systems do not identify the content e.g. Product Code, based on its position in the encoded data. They use the Application Identifiers which “signpost” the data e.g.  
01 = product code, 17 = Expiry date, etc
- ✓ Mandating a specific order to encode the data serves no purpose as fields such as batch and serial number vary in length
- ✓ Failing to encode data using these standards will lead to scanning systems not being able to read the codes

**No specific order should be mandated**

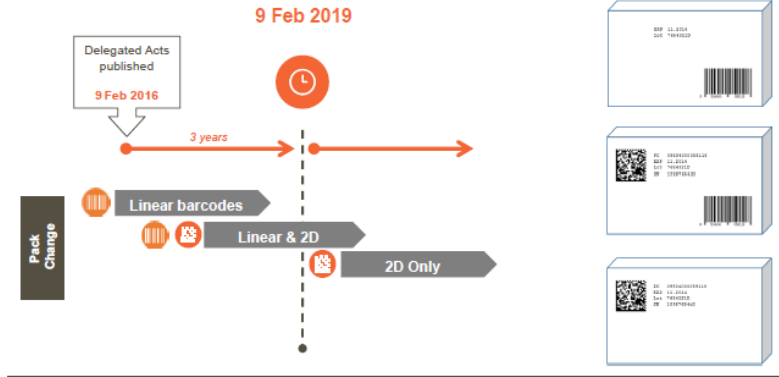
# Usage of Application Identifier



- ✓ Application Identifiers are encoded in the 2D barcode to signpost the data for the IT and scanning systems
- ✓ International Standards and good practice recommend they also appear on the human readable text to help if the barcode fails to scan, perhaps due to damage.
- ✓ Space and technical constraints can mean that these Application Identifiers can not always be included (which is also considered and allowed by International Standards)
- ✓ It should therefore be left to the MAH to determine whether to include the Application Identifiers following International Standards

**Application Identifiers in the human readable text should be at the discretion of the MAH, in accordance with International Standards**

# Transition Period for implementation



- ✓ When a legislation to introduce 2D Barcoding entry into force, stakeholders are only obliged as of this date to be capable to read the 2D DataMatrix code, existing linear barcodes need to be kept and cannot be removed before this date. And even after that date two scenarios must be foreseen:
- ✓ 1. For some of their products, MAHs may want to remove the linear barcodes after the implementation date in order to remove unnecessary information and to free up space.
- ✓ 2. For other products, the DataMatrix and the linear barcode will need to co-exist to ensure continued supply of shared packs and also taking into account any individual members of the pharmaceutical sector that might not have implemented the capability of DataMatrix read in time.

**Transition period should be allowed to let at the discretion of the Marketing Authorization Holder**



# Human Readable Information



- ✓ Complying with a specific order and layout for the data elements is not achievable due to physical, technical and other regulated requirements.
- ✓ We also can not comply with a specific order where the data is split over several faces of the pack, which is allowed by the DR, art 7(3)
- ✓ The order of these data elements does not impact on patient safety or usability of the product as long as the information is clearly laid out and legible.
- ✓ It may not always be possible to locate the headers for the human readable data elements beside the elements themselves but instead follow current common practice of locating these near to the data elements.

**The layout of the elements should not follow a specific order and header location should follow current common practice**

thank you!



# Contact Information

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The Global Language of Business

# The Basics of Identification and Barcoding for Traceability Manufacturer's Perspective

Ulf Suerig - Head Global Business Processes - Abbott

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ULF SUERIG, ABBOTT ESTABLISHED PHARMACEUTICALS  
GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN

# The Basics of Identification and Barcoding for Traceability



# GETTING PEOPLE BACK TO DOING THINGS THEY LOVE



Nutrition



Diagnostics



Medical devices



Medicines

# TACKLING CHALLENGING HEALTH NEEDS AROUND THE WORLD

Demand for healthcare rising in growing economies

People living longer

Innovation in personalized medicine

Prevalence of chronic conditions

People taking a more active role in healthcare decisions to live their fullest lives

65%  
OF SALES OUTSIDE THE U.S.

58%

OF SALES IN DEVELOPED MARKETS

42%


OF SALES IN EMERGING MARKETS

# Emerging Markets

**Abbott is the only global company whose pharma business is 100% focused on emerging markets.**







What does  
**Serialization & Traceability**  
implementation mean to us?

# New regulations are changing the information, symbols and data sharing requirements at the saleable unit

## Dynamic Coding



Human readable lot and expiry



GS1 DataMatrix with GTIN, lot, expiry

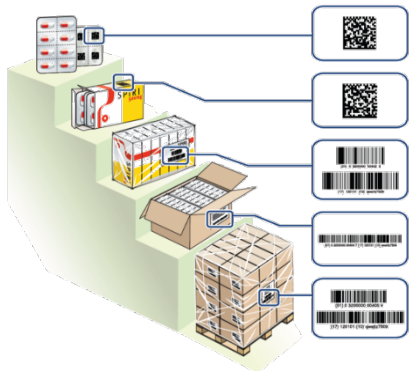
## Serialization



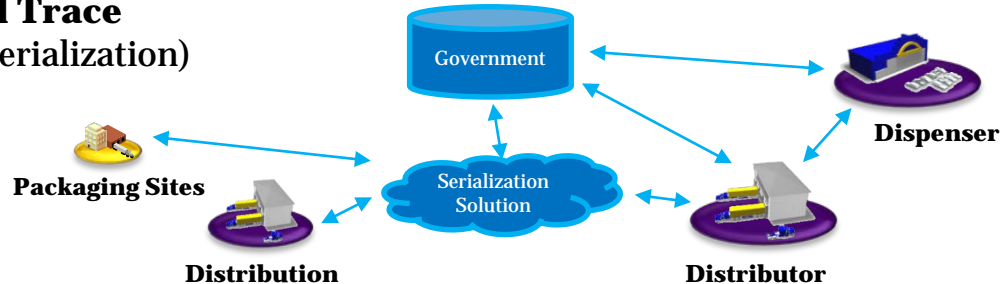
GS1 DataMatrix with GTIN, lot, expiry, SN



China – Code 128 with Chinese Product & Serial Number

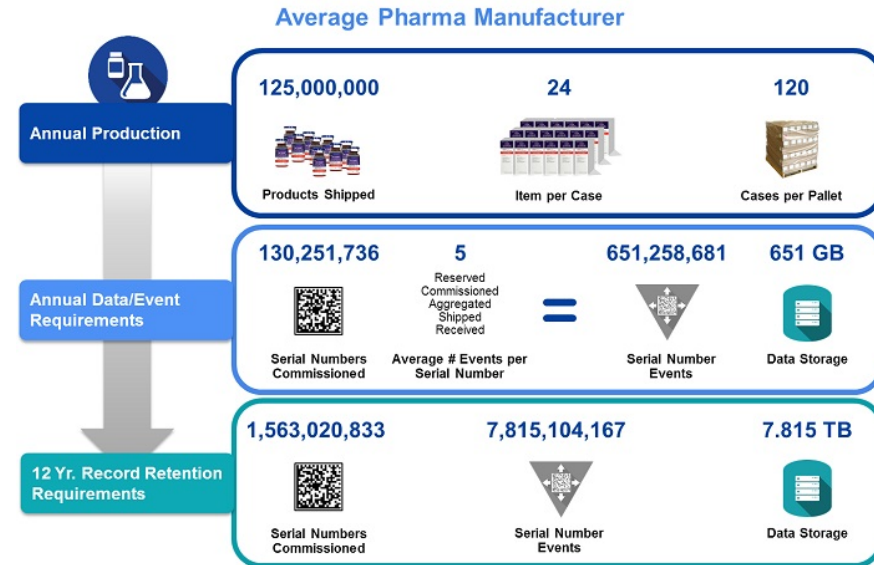


## Track and Trace (includes Serialization)



# Serialization & Traceability is equal to Complexity and Big Data

- The implementation of Serialization and Traceability will transform the supply of medicines
- The complexity will increase and therefore it is wise to invest in the design of the regulation
  - What are the objectives?
  - What kind of stakeholders are effected by the implementation?
  - What are the benefits of using global standards?
  - What are realistic timelines to implement Identification, Data Capture and Sharing Data?



# Data Integrity

- Understanding global standards is key to correctly design the technical specifications
- Based on this the right information can be exchanged between the different business partners
  - Manufacturers
  - Distributors
  - Pharmacies
  - Government agencies (for reporting)
- Build expertise on data and barcoding standards



vs.



# Data Security

- **Serialization & Traceability will provide high quality medicines via a secure supply chain to patients**
- **Data Security is essential for the data exchange and the reporting – this is valid for**
  - Authentication
  - Authorization
  - Encryption
  - Data Exchange and Data Sources



# Data Modeling & Reporting

- It is important to differentiate static and variable data and the different master data sources
- The model should be scalable and the end state (w/ or w/o track & trace) should be determined on a very early stage
- Design the data model for big data
- The reporting can have an extraordinary impact on the supply chain performance, depending on the level of reporting required – and esp. on small business partners



Simplicity is the ultimate  
Sophistication.

*Leonardo da Vinci*

# Challenges for the implementation of different coding systems

- **Equipment is not able to print all codes**

Longer lead times and efforts (verification and testing) driving up the cost

- **Additional information are difficult to print**

Size limitation to read a 2D code are existing as well as the number per lines printable by one print head

- **Upstream complications for external manufacturers**

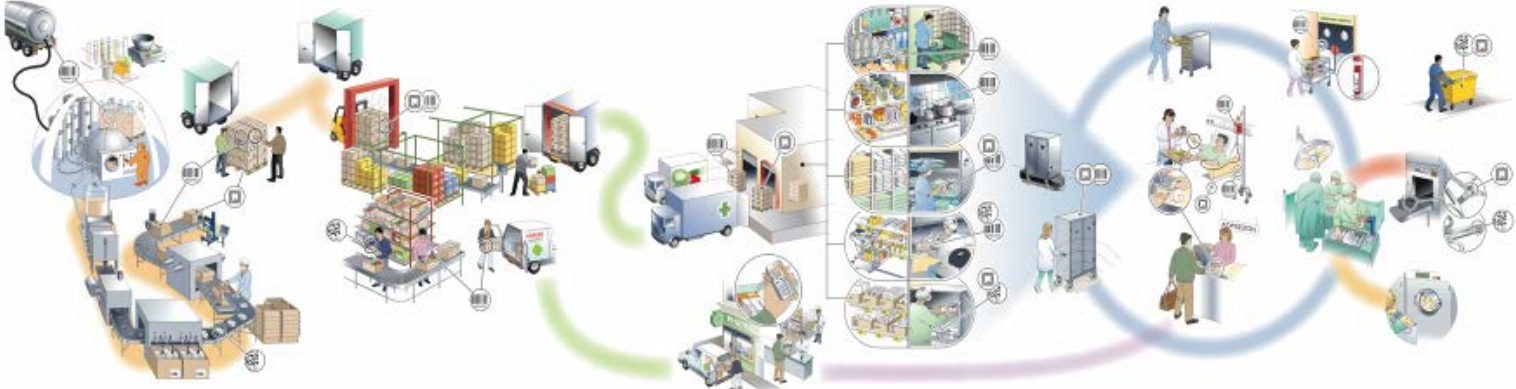
Same efforts for internal manufacturing needs to be implemented where sourcing is externalized

- **Centralized distribution of serial numbers**

The more we have non-standardized codes and centrally maintained serial numbers the higher the risk is for failures or data breaches



# Global Standards are a Key Success Factor for Serialization and Traceability







**Abbott**

# Audience Q&A time...



# ...and THIS WEEK do not miss...



...the “Q&A with the Experts” panels related to Standards & AIDC in Healthcare:

Thursday – 10 May

- 14:00 to 15:00 hrs

Understanding the difference between standardisation and technology -  
Chuck Biss, Senior Director AIDC Healthcare / Peter Alvarez, Senior Director,  
Identification and Data Strategy, Healthcare / Craig Alan Repec, Senior Manager, Supply  
Chain Visibility, EPCIS & RFID, all GS1 Global Office and Cyndi Poetker, Director of  
Enterprise Standards and Traceability, Abbott

- 15:00 to 16:00 hrs

Identification and bar coding - Chuck Biss, Senior Director AIDC Healthcare, GS1  
Global Office and Ulf Suerig, Head Global Business Processes, Abbott

# Networking Dinner on Wednesday, 19:30



## Yod Abyssinia

Bole Medhaniyalem Area,  
Addis Ababa,  
Ethiopia

**Bus departure:** meet in the main lobby at 19:00 pm

**Bus return:** beginning at 21:30 and will run on a loop  
with a last shuttle leaving at 22:30.

**Dress code:** business casual.

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR EVENT BADGE 😊**



# COFFEE BREAK



# Contact information...

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