

NETCARE GS1 PROJECT – PRESENTED BY
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Netcare South Africa

Project background and
status

Challenges experienced

Current Challenges



NETCARE SOUTH AFRICA– Who are we?

Netcare's South African operation consists of a network of:

- 52 Hospitals;
- 9530 registered Hospital beds;
- Mediacross, our primary healthcare, occupational health and employee wellness service.
- Netcare 911, our emergency medical service.
- National Renal Care, our Renal Dialysis service



All the quality care
you need.



Project Background and status

Supplier engagement commenced January 2016.

Focus on both medicines and surgical devices.

Initial phase focuses on product identification, accurate billing and movement of product through hospital.

Subsequent phase – batch and expiry tracking.

Future Phases :

- tracking of serial numbers for medicine.
- Solution to loan sets.



Challenges experienced:

Challenge:

- Inability to “Draw a line in the sand” and set a deadline for suppliers to become compliant, as patient access to medicines or devices can not be limited to due non compliance to Bar coding. No South African regulatory requirements in 2016 for a bar code.

Action:

- Preference given to similar or generic products, that have bar code when applying our product ranking methodology.



Challenge:

Many South African suppliers are multinational organizations importing product into South Africa, from several manufacturer's globally. The supplier is not able to provide a complete set of GS1 bar codes across all products or is able to provide a code, that is not a GS1 bar code.

Action:

- Netcare made the decision to accept multiple bar code formats for a limited period, but the requirement remains for GS1 compliance. This allowed Netcare the opportunity to review and implement business processes at Hospital level, without further delaying the project, however the non GS1 compliant bar codes can not be validated electronically.
- The GS1 South Africa team has worked very closely with our South African suppliers, and the international teams to on-board the global manufacturers.
- Suppliers made application to the manufacturer for permission to add a bar code label to packaging, applied for a GS1 bar code in South Africa.



Challenge:

Suppliers who used the bar code at secondary packaging level, but never the primary packaging level, and did not carry this information in their information systems. The Netcare project aimed at improvement of accuracy of billing to the patient, in phase 1. The nurse needs the primary packaging bar code, to charge a patient account, the supplier had published the secondary packaging code to Netcare.

Action:

- Re-educate the supplier on requirements and request additional data published to Netcare.
- To prevent project delays, we allowed select staff, at the project pilot sites, to scan the primary packaging bar code into SAP material. This was time consuming, but allowed the pilot phase to continue which addressed how the business process needs to change.



Current Challenges still being addressed:

- Introduction of Serialization and impact on transactional data.
- Loan sets.





THANK YOU

CARE

