

Purpose of the GS1 Digital Readiness Scorecard

Healthcare organizations globally are combining logistical and purchasing operations with clinical elements that result in better patient outcomes, reduced total cost of care, and improved patient outcome analytics. This movement to a clinically integrated supply chain relies on a solid foundation of healthcare leading practices that incorporate global standards.

Global standards are the foundation of effective supply chain management, resource efficiency and ultimately, patient safety, across the healthcare value chain, including procurement; inventory management; patient care; product recall; and business and clinical analytics.

The purpose of the GS1 Digital Readiness Scorecard is to provide all healthcare supply chain stakeholders with a set of criteria to use as a tool for self-assessment of current state of global standards adoption and/or planned capability, by business or clinical use case. The degree of criterion applicability to each use case is indicated as “high”, “medium” or “low”, to guide future planning and implementation priorities.

Core Enablers of a Clinically Integrated Supply Chain

At the foundational level of a clinically integrated supply chain is a set of core enablers that are applicable to all stakeholders in the healthcare supply chain, from manufacturer to patient record. Organizations that meet the criteria of global standards adoption for each applicable use case can be said to have enabled their trading partners and themselves to achieve a fully integrated supply chain. It is for this reason that the criteria for each type of stakeholder do not stand alone, rather, they must be considered in the context of all partners in order to achieve success.

Are you a Healthcare Provider or Shared Service Organization (SSO)?

Hospitals in Canada and worldwide are making changes in their operations to improve patient care, safety and outcomes. They are turning manual processes into digital ones and realizing the value of GS1 standards as critical enablers of this transformation.

GS1 standards are enabling healthcare providers to uniquely 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.

The use of GS1 standards has become a strategic priority for Canada’s healthcare sector — a decision that delivers near-term returns and a foundation for sustained success.

As you assess your organization’s digital readiness, consider what you need to do to meet the criteria and by when. What are you asking your trading partners to do and have you formalized the requirements in your tendering documents? How will you define success?

How to Use the GS1 Digital Readiness Scorecard

GS1 Digital Readiness Scorecards are available for Manufacturers, Distributors, Healthcare Providers, Shared Service Organizations, Group Purchasing Organizations, and Solution Providers. Choose the GS1 Digital Readiness Scorecard best suited for your organization.

Common supply chain and clinical processes (Use Cases) are labelled at the top column of each scorecard. On the left-hand side of the scorecard, Global Standards Criterion deemed to be key enablers for each use case are identified by row. The degree to which the criterion enables each use case is listed under the column heading “**Applicability**” and is defined as:

- **High:** Global standards deemed to play a **significant role** in enabling the use case.
- **Medium (Med):** Global standards play a **moderate role** in enabling the use case.
- **Low:** Global standards play a **minimal role** in enabling the use case.
- **N/A:** Not applicable

To use the GS1 Digital Readiness Scorecard, you can enter your information using drop down lists and entering comments into the note section of the form. Alternatively, you can print off a copy of the form and complete manually.

Identify your organization’s “**Capability**” as of today to use Global Standards as described for each use case as follows:

- **No:** Our organization **does not have** this capability.
- **Yes:** Our organization is **fully capable** to deliver on the criterion as described.
- **Partial:** Our organization has **some capabilities** needed to achieve the criteria as described but is not fully capable.

Wherever you identify “No or Partial” capabilities, make a note in the far right-hand column to identify critical capability gaps.

Contact GS1 Canada, healthcare@gs1ca.org to review your scorecard and discuss next steps to advance implementation efforts.



Global Standards Criteria	Business & Clinical Processes (Use Cases)												Notes and Readiness Planning
	Contract Management/ Item Master File		Order Management		Inventory Management		Product Recall		EMR/EHR Management		Analytics, Clinical Outcome Value-based Procurement		
	Applicability	Capability?	Applicability	Capability?	Applicability	Capability?	Applicability	Capability?	Applicability	Capability?	Applicability	Capability?	
1. We require all trading partners to provide GTIN and global standardized product attributes.	High		High		High		High		High		High		
2. We require manufacturers to barcode all product packaging hierarchies using GS1 barcodes that are compliant with the GS1 General Specifications .	Med		Med		High		High		High		High		
3. We are capable of using (i.e., scan, store, process) the GS1 DataMatrix barcode for Unit of Use, Primary and Secondary packaging levels.	Med		Med		High		High		High		Med		
4. We are capable of using (i.e., scan, store, process) variable data (e.g., lot number, expiry date, serial number) in barcodes.	N/A	---	Low		High		High		High		Low		
5. We are capable of using (scan, store, process) the GS1-128 barcode for Case and Pallet level.	N/A	---	Med		High		High		N/A	---	Low		
6. We use the GDSN to receive catalogue information for medical device products intended for use in the hospital.	High		Med		Med		Med		Med		N/A	---	
7. We use ECCnet Registry receive foodservice and pharmaceutical product data as defined by industry protocols.	High		Med		Med		Med		Med		Med		
8. We register Global Location Numbers (GLNs) (legal entity, bill to, ship to) in the national GLN Registry enabling exchange with trading partners.	Med		High		Med		Med		N/A	---	N/A	---	
9. We are capable of exchanging commercial transactions using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) ANSI.X12 version 6020 or 4010.	Low		High		Med		N/A	---	N/A	---	N/A	---	
10. Our EDI transactions include GTIN and GLN identifiers.	Low		High		Med		N/A	---	N/A	---	N/A	---	
11. Our Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) capabilities are established through a financial institution.	N/A	---	High		N/A	---	N/A	---	N/A	---	N/A	---	
12. We scan the GTIN and variable data into the electronic health record (EHR)/ electronic medical record (EMR).	Med		N/A	---	Low		High		High		High		
13. Our medical device equipment and hospital assets are identified and tracked using GS1 global standards.	Med		N/A	---	High		Med		Med		Low		
14. We receive product recalls using an integrated national platform based on global standards.	N/A	---	N/A	---	High		High		High		Med		