
Safer, More Efficient Care Starts With a Simple Scan

Endorsing the National Movement to Implement GS1 Global Standards in Healthcare

As sector stakeholders, we consistently seek opportunities for innovation and improvement within healthcare to increase effectiveness and traceability of the healthcare supply chain and most importantly, avoid preventable harm to patients.

We support a national healthcare strategy that creates a movement bringing together stakeholders from all areas of the sector who understand the impact that GS1 global standards can have on supply chain traceability, operational efficiency, and, most importantly, patient safety.

We sign this endorsement statement as a reflection of our support and commitment to helping advance awareness and adoption of GS1 global standards, continuing the momentum towards the implementation across Canada's healthcare system.

The adoption of GS1 global standards, including the GTIN - Global Trade Item Number (popularly known as a barcode number), is an exciting opportunity to save lives and taxpayer dollars.

Currently, GS1 standards are used over 6 billion times a day around the world in sectors such as retail and grocery. Although adoption of GS1 global standards in healthcare is still at an early stage, there is significant potential to achieve wide-scale adoption of GS1 global standards in the sector. We encourage healthcare leaders and policy makers to make adoption an important priority within their organizations.

As recommended by research into the impact of standards at a global scale, healthcare sector leaders must collaborate to "transform supply chain processes to create healthcare environments that are highly visible, proactively alert clinicians to risk, and protect patients from adverse events."¹

To further advance patient safety, the healthcare sector needs to promote and adopt GS1 standards through a series of measures, including:

- Positioning the role of senior leadership and government to support patient safety and create a safe-care culture.
- Establishing GS1 standards as the one global language for healthcare supply chain traceability.
- Driving the urgency of implementing supply chain reforms.

¹ Dr. A Snowdon, Visibility: The New Value Proposition for Health Systems https://issuu.com/worldhealthinnovationnetwork/docs/full_paper_-_win_visibility_thought?e=25657717/39177387) 2016

To join or receive ongoing communications about this movement please email healthcare@gs1.ca.org.

The undersigned organizations strongly endorse the movement to the adoption of GS1 global standards in healthcare.



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Endorsing the National Movement
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