

*To support the immediate implementation of the Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN) in healthcare and allow the proper registration of any healthcare product in GDSN, GS1 has released two GPC codes, one for drugs and another one for medical devices. Other classification systems are also supported in GDSN.*

### The need for reliable master data in healthcare

There are many systems across Healthcare companies and organisations that use and rely on supply chain information about products and supply chain partners, including eProcurement systems, distribution systems, billing/accounts payable, Barcode Point of Care (BPOC) systems, prescription drug pedigree systems and medical device reporting. The GS1 Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN) minimises data errors by eliminating human intervention and eliminates the need to maintain multiple catalogues. GDSN is built around more than 25 interoperable, GDSN-certified data pools and the GS1 Global Registry, GDSN's "information directory" guaranteeing the uniqueness of the registered items and parties.

### Product classification in healthcare

The accurate classification of products and services enables organisations to efficiently leverage electronic commerce capabilities, ensure visibility of spend analysis across the organisation, and optimise cost-effective procurement.

More than 20 classification systems exist worldwide, including UNSPSC (United Nations), CLADIMED (France), eClass (Germany), and NHS e-class (UK). The GDSN supports these classification systems by using the "Additional Classification Agency" attribute:

- additionalClassification
  - additionalClassificationAgencyName
  - additionalClassificationCategoryCode
  - additionalClassificationCategoryDescription

### Mandatory use of Global Product Classification (GPC)

To register Healthcare items in the GDSN, GS1 Standards have to be used to identify and classify the item:

- GLN – Global Location Number
- GTIN – Global Trade Item Number
- GPC – Global Product Classification

To support the immediate implementation of the Global Data Synchronisation Network (GDSN) in healthcare and allow the proper registration of any healthcare product in GDSN in a straightforward way, GS1 has released two GPC codes, one for drugs and another one for medical devices.

### GPC Code for Drugs: 10005845

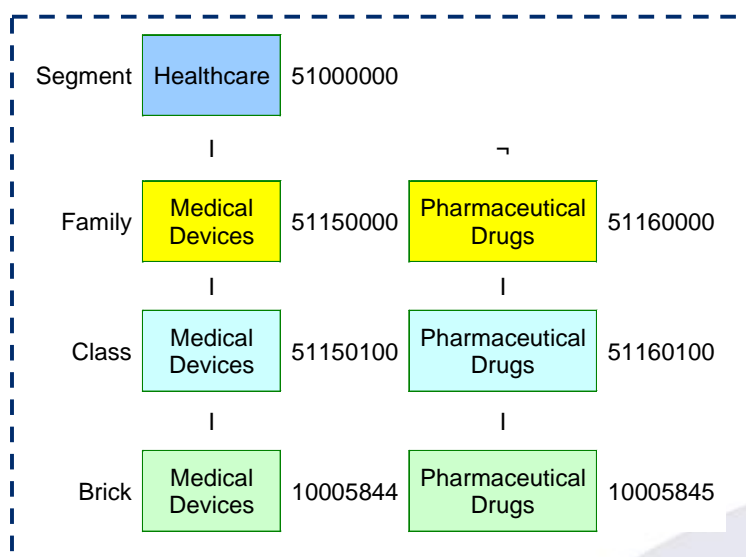
Definition: Any chemical compound used in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease, and that achieves its primary intended purposes through chemical action within or on the body.

Examples: Includes all drugs and biologicals and therapeutic nutritionals, both human and veterinary applications.

### GPC Code for Medical Devices: 10005844

Definition: Products, other than drugs, predominately designed and marketed for use in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of disease.

Examples: All medical equipment, devices and supplies, from cotton balls to MRI machines, e.g. IVDs, implants, surgical instruments, examination gloves, gauze pads, sutures, syringes, needles...for both human and veterinary applications. All branches of healthcare services are included: internal medicine, surgical, oncology, dental, emergency...



### More information

- For more information about GPC, please refer to [www.gs1.org/gdsn/gpc](http://www.gs1.org/gdsn/gpc);
- For more details about the most recent version of the GPC Standards, please refer to [www.gs1.org/gsm/kc/gpc/310809](http://www.gs1.org/gsm/kc/gpc/310809);
- For more information about the Product Classification Recommendation from the GS1; Healthcare Classification Work Team: [http://community.gs1.org/apps/org/workgroup/hc\\_gdsn\\_cwt/documents.php](http://community.gs1.org/apps/org/workgroup/hc_gdsn_cwt/documents.php)

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