# Healthcare National Product Catalogue (NPC) – Maintenance process & Scheduled Dataset review

In order to ensure that the NPC Dataset defined by and for the Healthcare Industry in Australia continues to meet their requirements, evolving with the changing needs for data, both a regular review and maintenance processes are needed.

## Maintenance process – Business as Usual changes

To meet the needs of industry NPC users there is a change management process in place that enables users to request changes to the dataset and associated validation rules. This process allows for requests to be submitted to GS1 Australia as the provider of the NPC, where the relevant teams who manage the platform assess whether a requirement impacts one or more users, escalating to the appropriate industry working group for review/approval as required prior to implementation.

Change requests may be requested by all subscribers to the NPC.

## Scheduled Dataset review (all item data requirements for AU Healthcare industry)

To ensure that the industry dataset remains relevant as a whole, a complete review of the industry dataset is carried out on a regularly basis with an agreed timeline of approximately every 3 years. This is an opportunity to highlight data attributes that are no longer required, but should also be an opportunity to complete a holistic review of data requirements to ensure that all needs are aligned and catered for. This process is in place to ensure that the NPC as a platform and that the user community are aligned in its purpose and use.

This process is managed by GS1 Australia with oversight from the Healthcare NPC Advisory Group which includes representatives from Australian Digital Health Agency, Health Jurisdictions, Private Health Providers, Wholesalers and Manufacturers/Suppliers. Associated industry groups & other health agencies may be invited to participate where they can add value to the process through additional insights related to data requirements and uses. To help guide the process & ensure all relevant stakeholders are engaged in it, a mission specific working group (Data Set review) will be set up to support each review process.

One of the most important success factors for this process is that all Healthcare Data Recipients using the NPC to commit some resources to the process. The process requires data recipients to review the dataset in detail against their business requirements for product data within all relevant systems and processes across their organisations – Existing, Planned and Future use. Where necessary leads from each business should engage with experts from other areas of their organisation (clinical including theatres & pharmacy, distribution, regulatory etc..). Consideration should be given to whether data attributes are required for certain product types, to support certain use cases and feedback should also be provided around whether data is mandatory or optional and therefore impact the need for systemised validation rules.

Another important success factor is ensuring that suppliers (those who publish data) are also engaged in the process, reviewing what data they are being asked to provide to their customers or users of their products nationally. Having this insight ensures that there is balance in the conversation regarding what data elements should be included and highlight to recipient organisations where the data in the NPC should/could be being used but currently is not.

The conclusion of the review process requires consensus from the whole of industry represented by the Healthcare NPC Advisory Group embers regarding changes, and commitment to then implement once all items are enabled. GS1 will roll out changes at the earliest possible opportunity following the agreement. Communication around the changes will occur to the whole of industry and user community across the process to ensure that all are informed.

Between the 3 yearly Entire Dataset Review process, any changes that are required (additions, changes or deletions) can be proposed as part of business as usual but should be accompanied by a business case that allows them to be reviewed for impact/benefits.

## Participants – Roles and responsibilities (summary)

### GS1 Australia
Coordinate, provide advice, manage process, publish outcomes, deliver agreed requirements

### Australian Digital Health Agency
Continue to provide industry governance, helping ensure industry consensus is reached, assist in communication and co-ordination as needed. This reflects the role of the Agency predecessor NeHTA in setting up the NPC as a piece of infrastructure to help support supply chain improvement in Australian Healthcare. Share responsibility with the user community as represented within the Healthcare NPC Advisory Group.

### Other Federal Health agencies
Where relevant, other health agencies may choose to participate in the process to ensure alignment to and support of their strategic activities and work programs

### Healthcare Data Recipients
Key stakeholders within process, review requirements to ensure dataset reflects all needs

### Healthcare NPC Advisory Group - HCNPCAG
Part of industry governance; inform process, represented organisations participate where needed, confirm final changes before implementation

### Data Set Review Working Group - DSRWG (Mission Specific)
Formed to guide the review process and inform requirements. Members can be diverse, not only representing those actively involved in publishing data or receiving data but may also include those in other functions where data is managed (in suppliers or in downstream areas within recipient organisations such as individual health services, pharmacy, theatre, ICT etc..)

### Healthcare Data Publishers/Suppliers
Informed and included within review process via HCNPCAG and DSRWG. Invited to participate in the review process as part of broader industry communication and feedback

### Certified Middleware providers & other GDSN Datapool providers
Work with their clients if required as part of the review. Informed of the results of the process via normal communication channels.

### Other GS1 Healthcare Advisory/User/Working Groups
Informed of activity and result, no direct input as groups though participants may choose to be involved.

## Summary Healthcare Industry Dataset Review process

| Step | Detail |
|------|--------|
| 1 | Dataset Review requirement generated |
| 2 | Preparation of dataset review template & supporting documentation |
| 3 | Communicate and Launch |
| 4 | Review by Data Recipients (including downstream users), Non-registered recipients who are planning to implement, Suppliers and other organisations who can provide insight to the process and data needs. |
| 5 | Compilation of feedback by GS1 |
| 6 | Working Group review of feedback and agreement in proposed |
| 7 | Industry Review & Consensus within HCNPCAG |
| 8 | Communicate and close review process |