

National Product Catalogue Supplier Statuses in Healthcare

Introduction

Quality healthcare product data is central to achieving the operational efficiencies, patient safety, and consumer benefits that we require in this digital age. As healthcare becomes more complex, the reliability on this data for integration into clinical and non-clinical systems, and the need to 'scan' products for validation or information, is now essential. One of the reports released following a study by the RMIT University identified that >\$100M¹ could be saved across the value chain by improving data quality.

GS1 Australia, in partnership with the Australian Digital Health Agency and the broader healthcare industry, has a series of initiatives underway to improve healthcare product data quality in the National Product Catalogue (NPC). One of these initiatives is to improve the visibility that industry has on the quality of supplier-published healthcare product data for both sides of the product data relationship (the supplier/publisher and the receiver).

Following industry consultation² and development of new data quality reporting, the supplier statuses in the table below are now being implemented. These statuses provide greater visibility so that receivers can prioritise their resources when undertaking data synchronisation and electronic trading activities, and clearly show when remediation action is required due to data quality problems.

Supplier statuses for NPC in healthcare

Status	Summary explanation
Healthcare Registered	Supplier/data publisher who has subscribed to the NPC but are yet to load any data. Colour code - White
Healthcare Loading	Supplier/data publisher has data loaded into NPC but data does not meet industry requirements defined by the Healthcare Buyer/Recipients. Colour code - White
Healthcare Ready	Data loaded by supplier/data publisher into NPC meets requirements defined by the healthcare buyer/recipients based on their product types. Colour code - Amber
Healthcare Live	Data in supplier/data publisher catalogue has met the industry requirements, has been verified by one or more healthcare buyer/recipients as fit for purpose and is being used. Colour code - Green

In addition to these new supplier statuses that indicate the level of readiness to synchronise, additional data quality scores will be implemented to identify where there are underlying issues with the quality of data within a supplier's catalogue data, once they have reached the *Healthcare Ready* and *Healthcare Live* statuses.³

¹ Healthcare Data Crunch 'Quantifying the benefits of accurate data in an electronically enabled supply chain'.

² Paper available at https://www.digitalhealth.gov.au/component/docman/doc_download/1891-data-governance-national-product-catalogue-supplier-statuses-position-paper?Itemid=

³ The details of these data quality scores will be explained in a separate document as part of the data quality improvement program joint initiative between the Australian Digital Health Agency, GS1 Australia and industry stakeholders.

Additional process steps between Healthcare Ready and Healthcare Live

**** Recipient Ready alert** - ensures data meets the needs of specific data recipients prior to recipient validation commencing. Buyer/recipients are responsible for setting any additional criteria that exceeds basic industry level validation (e.g. location specific pricing, price types, and other specifics as determined by recipient/buyers).

***** Recipient Validation** - post a 'Ready Alert' for a recipient, the verification/ review process commences to ensure that all items and prices requested/required are loaded, and that data is fit for purpose. Any discrepancies found are highlighted by the recipient to the supplier for immediate action. This process ensures data can be synchronised and that a 'Healthcare Live' status can be reached.

NPC in healthcare supplier statuses

Healthcare Registered

This status is applied to all supplier/data publisher who have subscribed, but are yet to load any data into the NPC.

A supplier/data publisher may be at any stage of early implementation including Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) allocation, sourcing and verifying data, loading items to be catalogued, reviewing against data requirements etc. prior to it reaching NPC. If details related to specific progress is sought by a buyer/recipient, this is best sought from the supplier/data publisher, especially where urgent action is required.

Colour code - White

Healthcare Loading

Supplier/data publisher has data loaded into NPC but data does not meet minimum requirements of healthcare recipients/buyers when validated using NPC data quality tools.

This status may also be the result of data that has been loaded but has not been maintained, and therefore no longer meets industry requirements; where new requirements have been added to meet the needs of healthcare buyer/recipients; where validation rules have been implemented in at the request of industry to enforce mandatory publication of data; or it could be the result of data changing over time and becoming outdated (such as Prosthesis Rebate Code list updates, changes to TGA Risk Class and ARTGID, or revisions of PBS lists).

Minimum requirements are expressed in [target data set](#), including whether fields are mandatory, required if applicable, or conditionally mandatory.

Colour code - White

Healthcare Ready

Data loaded by supplier/data publisher into NPC meets minimum requirements of healthcare recipients/buyers based on their product types.

This status is reached when the NPC data validation/data quality processes do not show any validation rule errors.

Where a supplier/data publisher has achieved this status, it indicates that their data has reached a point of readiness where buyer/recipients wishing to receive data should request data is published to them, triggering 'Recipient Ready'** and 'Recipient Validation'*** processes (see definitions above).

Colour code - Yellow

Healthcare Live

Data in supplier/data publisher catalogue has met all minimum requirements of healthcare recipients/buyers, and has been published to one or more data recipients/buyers who have verified the data related to the products they source, ensuring it is fit for purpose and meets any recipient specific needs, and have advised the supplier and GS1 that the data has been accepted for their use.

To maintain 'Healthcare Live' status, supplier/data publisher must maintain catalogue data, ensuring it is reviewed/updated regularly to ensure currency.

Colour code – Green

For further information

To find out more, email npc@gs1au.org or call GS1 Australia on (03) 9550 3467 or (03) 9550 3405 to speak to one of our experts.