GS1 Australia

The Global Language of Business

Healthcare NPC Advisory Group

Dataset Review Finalisation

9th December 2020

Welcome & introductions

Healthcare NPC Advisory Group
Agenda

Subject	Who
Welcome and introductions	Co-Chair
GS1 Australia Limited Trade Practices Compliance Notice	Co-Chair/GS1
Summary of actions completed this pre-finalisation meeting	GS1
Review & discussion of feedback questionnaire	ALL
Confirmation of decisions & any follow up actions	Co-Chair/GS1
Summary of next steps	GS1
Meeting close	Co-Chair

Trade Practices Compliance Notice

GS1 Australia Trade Practice Compliance Notice

Participants on GS1 Boards, committees, task forces, work groups, or other similar bodies, must always remember the purpose of the Board, committee, task force, or work group is to enhance the ability of all industry members to compete more efficiently and effectively to provide better value to the consumer or end user. GS1 activity almost always involves the cooperation of competitors; therefore great care must be taken to assure compliance with trade practices laws in Australia and in other jurisdictions

This means:

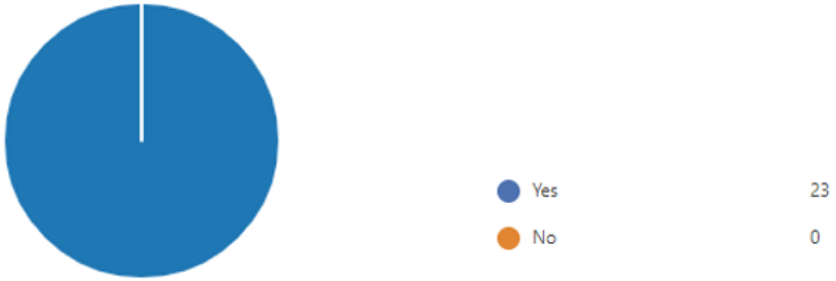
- Participation must be voluntary.
- There will no exchange of confidential information such as prices products.
- Meetings will have a pre-prepared agenda and recorded by minutes.
- All recommendations from any meeting are recommendations only. Individual companies remain free to make independent, competitive decisions.
- Any standards developed must be voluntary standards.
- If any participant believes the group is drifting toward impermissible discussion, the topic shall be tabled until the opinion of lawyer(s) with experience in trade practices law can be obtained.

Summary of actions completed this pre-finalisation meeting

Review & discussion of feedback questionnaire

Review of questions

Q1. We can then discuss any specific changes on the finalisation call, however to streamline the process of determining which fields should be Mandatory and which should be Optional do you agree with the use of the High, Medium, Low classifications being used as a guide?



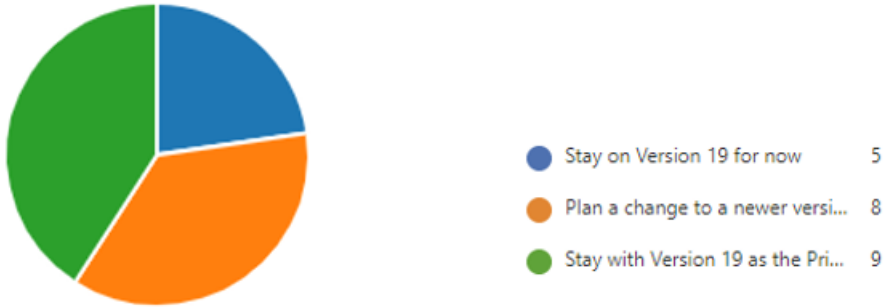
Q2. Provide any comments re Question 1 if required

No comments received

- ***GS1 proposal****– to complete the work to update the datasets for Medicines and Medical Devices (including subsegments) based on this approach. Any upgrade to Mandatory from existing Optional or Conditional will be communicated back to the group for further verification as needed*

Review of questions

Q3. The current agreed version for the UNSPSC is v19. There have been some small updates to the commodity codes (codes added/removed, updated descriptions) within the main segments for Drugs & Pharmaceuticals (51000000) and Medical Equipment, Accessories & Supplies (42000000), but the largest addition was within Healthcare Services (85000000) where ~70K have been added.



- Stay on Version 19 for now
- Plan a change to a newer version (version 23 is current version) & update the industry statement accordingly
- Stay with Version 19 as the Primary version but allow for Version 23 (or newer versions) so that when new products are added these can be provided (example - COVID Vaccines)

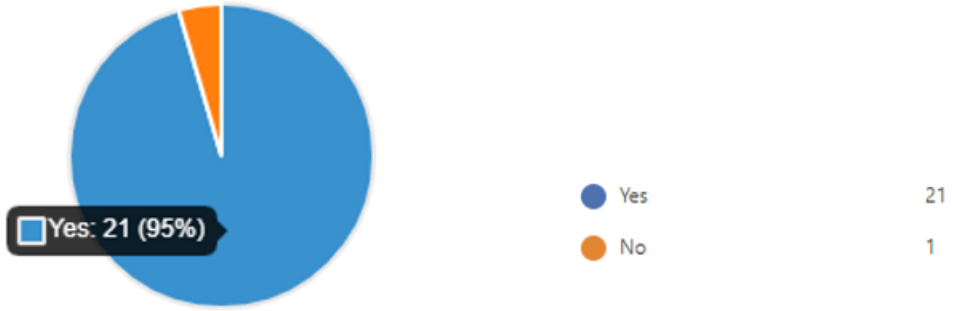
Review of questions

This would ensure that if utilising the Group Codes for Contract Tendering the Suppliers and recipients are on the same page especially when Suppliers have already migrated to Version later than 19.
It becomes a challenge managing catalogues across Australia and New Zealand when the two countries are on different versions (Aus = version 19; NZ = version 15). Is it possible for GS1 Aus to engage with GS1 NZ and get alignment to the same version.
work towards adoption of later version as a standard for a point in time (e.g. 2021, 2022 or whatever). We are not users, just taking a standards approach.
Whenever new UNSPSC versions are implemented, it would be great if the previous codes loaded are auto-migrated if they are consistent, to avoid data quality impacts. (Not sure if this currently occurs).
Would need to understand the impact of 1) not updating to a higher version 2) if a partial update can be done i.e. update only relevant sections in use; though hybrid versioning is not ideal 3) impact of a code not being available e.g. COVID-19 vaccine; noting UNSPSC not listed in the existing medication data set (?)
Having both options will allow for coverage of items not in v19, and allow publication to NPC without errors.

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Given the combined scores from stay on V19 and Stay on v19 but enable newer versions, our proposal is to keep v19 as the base version but ensure that newer (v23+) is supported*

Review of questions

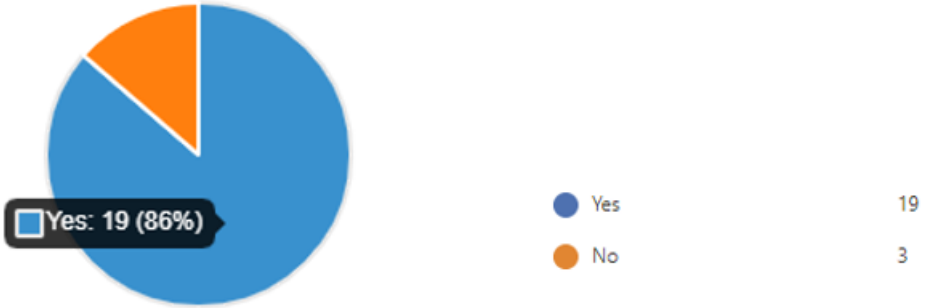
Q5. The current requirements within healthcare are only for GROSS WEIGHT with the exception of where data is being provided to wholesalers who need both Gross weight and Net Weight. Do you agree with Gross Weight remaining as required for all product categories and Net weight being available as optional (trading partner specific)?



- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Gross weight remains as mandatory for all products (physical) and Net Weight remains as TPS (to be called out in documentation & will not impact DQ scores)*

Review of questions

Q6. Dimensions of products are a requirement to support the majority of the supply chain processes in healthcare. Currently there remains a lot of 'dummy' data in these fields from some suppliers, undermining the ability for data to be used with confidence (one piece of data is wrong so it could all be wrong) and creating rework in every part of the supply chain. Do you agree that it should remain as a Mandatory requirement for all products with exceptions managed accordingly?



Q7. Please provide any comments re Question 6 above. We would like to hear your suggestions on how we can fix this as a user community.

Review of questions

may be useful to include a 'last updated/reviewed' field accompanying the dimensions, to assist/infer a level of trust in the provided data. Just an idea.
Agree but some of our height dimensions have greater value than the Case as they are bagged and folded into the case, this can cause issued with hierarchy calculations
Possibly a random audit of dimensions would be good... Perhaps your platinum level is only allocated to an external corroboration of their product sizes and weight?
will be needed more as warehouse management systems are deployed. Maybe share success stories and publish, other suppliers may then want to benchmark themselves
This attribute is utilised when managing storage real estate especially when operational areas are required to carry increasing amount of product lines
With regard to both questions 5 and 6 I believe the information would be more accurate if the fields are not mandatory. Sometimes it is difficult to obtain dimensions or there are conflicts in the dimension relationships that fail the validation - if products could be listed without mandatory dimensions I believe that would solve this problem. Publishers should continue to be strongly encouraged to complete these fields, but this would remove the possibility of non-accurate data being supplied to meet publishing requirements when all other mandatory information is available.
Dimensions shouldn't be mandatory
we do not use the weight or dimension data so have left these answers blank.
Notable challenges for dimensions are the tolerances for minor variances and the interchangeable interpretations of Width, Height and Depth. Some systems also use Length which adds further confusion, depending on how packaging is orientated or viewed.
Difficult to make this a mandatory field when the person setting up the code will never know this upfront or ever so best to leave clear
Difficult to comment but what is the procedure for reporting discrepancies at present? Are there any triggers/notifications for packaging changes?
Is there an option to make some levels of it mandatory where it is most vital and optional for others. Not all dimensions are available and we are then calculating from the base unit as best guess, which is not accurate data and becomes useless when it is taking up resource to work out.
Our intend is to move data quality accountability from us (end users) to the suppliers, set KPI's in agreements and actively measure quality. As a community it would be good to understand if other healthcare providers are doing the same, and if so, try and get alignment between the messages we provide to suppliers. If we are all aligned, suppliers will have to comply. (This is not just applicable for dimensions, but any other data attribute in the NPC which we set as mandatory)

- ***GS1 proposal** – Further discussion needed to find best approach/consensus*

Review of questions

Q8. ADDITION: Warranty Information has been requested - Do you agree with these attributes being added as OPTIONAL for Medical Device products?

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Optional field to be added to the dataset for Medical Devices, ensuring explanation is clear and that this is aligned to any global implementation of this data requirement in HC*

Review of questions

Q9. ADDITION: Allergen information has been requested - Do you agree with fields allowing for Allergens to be provided being added as OPTIONAL for Medicines products?

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Optional field to be added to the dataset for Medicines, ensuring explanation is clear and that this is aligned to any global implementation of this data requirement in HC. Seek input from TGA and other experts in confirming approach*

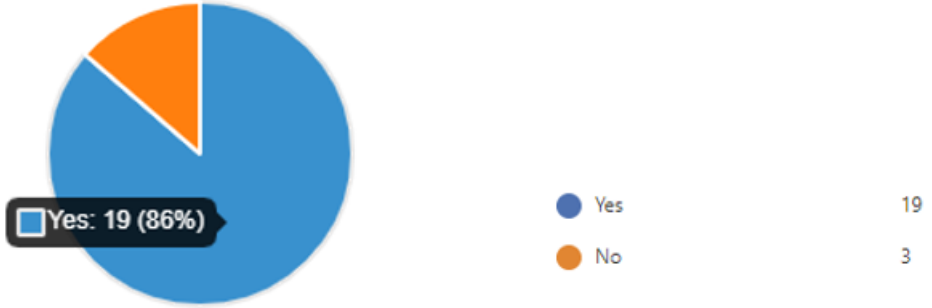
Review of questions

Q10. ADDITION: Materials contained within medical devices are increasingly important (especially for implants) and this has been requested - Do you agree with fields allowing for Material of a product (eg: specific metals) to be provided as OPTIONAL for Medical Devices (with recommendation for implants where applicable)?

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Optional field to be added to the dataset for Medical Devices, ensuring explanation is clear and that this is aligned to any global implementation of this data requirement in HC.*

Review of questions

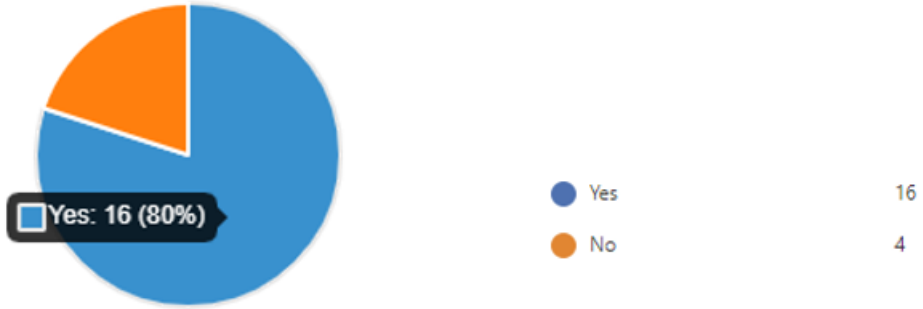
Q11. ADDITION: Global Harmonised System (dangerous & hazardous goods) has been requested - This is a regulatory requirement in some states, so do you agree with fields being added allowing for GHS fields to be completed as OPTIONAL for all product types?



- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Optional field to be added to the dataset for all relevant products, ensuring explanation is clear and that this is aligned to any global implementation of this data requirement in HC. Notes to be added where it is a mandatory requirement to report on and provide this information (ie ACT where it is a regulatory requirement within the territory)*

Review of questions

Q12. ADDITION: It has been raised that more information is needed regarding the SPONSOR of a product. There is currently a question asking if the catalogue owner (provider of the data) is the sponsor of the product in the Australian market (Y/N) but the point has been raised that where this is 'N' the name of the sponsor is required om some cases. Do you agree with a field for this purpose being added as OPTIONAL for all product types?



Q13. Please provide any comments regarding question 12 if required.

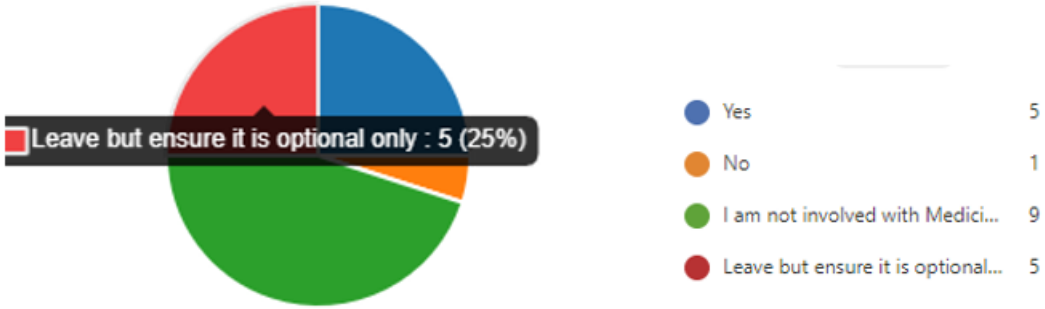
Review of questions

strongly agree. understanding the difference between manufacturer, sponsor, distributor etc. is very useful for determining who to contact for various reasons.
This should be mandatory! and should be stated who is the primary data originator.
what's the relevance ? Modern Slavery Act or other
sponsor and manufacturer may be the same or different however we need to be able to distinguish to help identify a medicinal product.
In order to drive data consistency in the NPC we will need to understand who in Australia is the sponsor or data owner of that particular product. Should not be OPTIONAL, but MANDATORY

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Optional field to be added to the dataset for all regulated healthcare products, ensuring explanation is clear and that this is aligned to any global implementation of this data requirement in HC. Suggest only required where the answer to existing Sponsor question (Are you the product sponsor) is No*

Review of questions

Q14. REMOVAL: It has been proposed that Controlled Narcotic Drug Number be removed. Do you agree that this can be removed from the dataset?



- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Further discussion needed to find best approach/consensus*

Review of questions

Q15. Anecdotal feedback has been that we need to make the dataset clearer and specify the actual fields and explain them better (example specify Material Safety Data Sheet, IFU or CMI as Optional, with an explanation of how to provide it).

Please provide us with your thoughts on this

- ***Target Dataset Link***
- ***Item Data 'cookbook' Link***
- ***Pricing data 'cookbook' Link***
- ***Code lists 'cookbook' Link***

Review of questions

The information is really confusing even for those of us who have been involved for a long time. A simpler dataset and a healthcare specific set of cook books would be great
agree with both simplification and explaining fields better. potentially an external document which providers elaboration or commentary, or an in-document comment box which expands on the information. just some ideas.
Clarity is always beneficial.
If a product has an SDS (MSDS is the old legislative term), It should be provided with the data.
the clearer the description of the field will allow for better input
I Agree this would assist with consistent information being provided.
Agreed, the item data dictionary typically does not contain sufficient guidance on how to provide information
This would be extremely helpful and would contribute to ensuring more accurate data is supplied and product validation is easier to achieve. Great suggestion thank you.
Better explanations would be helpful
examples along with definitions would help to understand what and how data is to be populated.
With any survey of data be sure to review not just the majority / weighting of responses, but who the benefit of the Y or N question. ie industry may say N but if the hospitals say Y then the decision maybe Y
Perhaps consider the groupings and cross of data information e.g. previous question to remove Controlled Narcotic Drug Number - information also covered by Schedule Code or cross over between ARTG and CMI number
Is there an option to upload these documents and have the information available to users without having to enter the information already contained in these docs in the data set.
I agree to provide additional information on the different fields and attributes, perhaps with an explanation where these fields are used for in the business and the possible impact if these data sets are not provided (in case they are OPTIONAL)

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– NPC Documentation (cookbooks) to be updated to ensure ease of use, greater simplicity, support accuracy etc..*

Review of questions

Q16. Do you have any other specific suggestions for improvements to the documentation or other NPC resources you feel would help to improve the process for suppliers and also help ensure the data can be trusted/used?

More open discussions within this forum help to ensure the process is understood and we work together to improve it
As stated before, platinum rating should only go to those with independently audited/corroborated data.
if there has been audits of the process, presentation of the results
Where there is multiple areas that require the same information auto populate from the initial data entry point i.e where an item is only available as a ctn shipped and invoiced quantity.
Overall reduction of mandatory columns would ensure the information supplied is accurate. In addition a map of relationships between the different columns would greatly assist - sometimes a correction is made to correct a validation error, but this in turn causes another error to related information.
Clear guidelines on fields that are dependent on the response to other fields
easy to access help associated with the field you are populating. resources on who and how data is being used. Continue with data quality reporting.
Listing real world examples of how the data would be displayed in the field is good
Aligning the data requirements for end users (I suppose that's the purpose of this) but perhaps also coordinating the NPC data requests to ensure we are using the same language towards the suppliers in order to get consistency and compliance. It comes also down to the end users of the NPC and the data, to ensure we drive suppliers accountability to deliver high quality data.

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Include feedback in the development of updated resources; Include points in future discussions around improving process and value*

Review of questions

Q17. The dataset review process has taken a lot of your time, do you have any suggestions on how this process could be improved in the future?

Move review tool on line to assist in automation of comments and calculations, e.g. percentage of responders who recommend a field be removed.
By all states and territories working together to assist. Also vendors need to take ownership of their data. We are looking at putting abatements/penalties in our contracts for vendors with poor NPC data.
the timeline for the frequency of the event is acceptable
the challenge for me was more around trying to co-ordinate with internal stakeholders for feedback
I think the process this year has been handled extremely well - a lot of work behind the scenes has gathered the required feedback and consolidated responses resulting in this final questionnaire to ensure all parties agree with the outcome. Well done to everyone involved and thank you for ensuring input is considered from all aspects of the industry.
perhaps shorter meeting but with more regularity
process was fine for us
Periodic surveys for continuous improvement. This beast is forever evolving so comms are important.
It's hard to comment across all use cases on all fields as majority may not be relevant to the individual
Perhaps divide this in particular sections and get an understanding within the different organisations who is looking after this. However, it is up to the business to understand the value of the NPC and data.

- ***GS1 proposal*** *– Incorporate into updated documentation for next Triennial DSR; work on improved ongoing dataset review/input/updating; make as automated as possible*

Confirmation of decisions & any follow up actions

Summary of next steps

Thank you all!