



Healthcare industry news

2023 Year in Review



As we bid farewell to another year, it's customary for us to pause and reflect on the shared experiences of 2023. Indeed, it has been a remarkable year! Numerous members have embarked on transformative journeys in their supply chains, tirelessly worked on digitalising their clinical processes, or concentrated on the numerous regulatory changes globally.

We would like to express our gratitude to the incredible individuals and organisations we have had the honour of collaborating with and supporting across the sector. It has been a joy to support your innovative initiatives and work programs.

With 2024 on the horizon, the GS1 Australia healthcare team eagerly anticipate continuing to support and celebrate your successes in the upcoming year.

Welcome to GS1 Australia

We are pleased to have Michel Hulzebos join us as Director – Healthcare. He has an extensive background in healthcare in Europe and Australia, covering Pharmacy, Public Health and Private Health, with a focus mainly on digitisation of clinical supply chain and standards implementation. Michel, along with the rest of the team will be working with the industry to support our members and ensure all parties gain full advantage from their implementation and use of standards.



Some highlights and milestones from 2023

- The Therapeutic Goods Order 106 came into effect, potentially impacting all medicines. This standard for '[Medicines - serialisation and data matrix codes](#)' aligns Australia with other parts of the world and provides an important foundation for future traceability within the sector.
- [The GS1 Global Healthcare Strategy](#) was recently released after a detailed consultation period with representatives from around the world and across many stakeholder groups. With 7 core areas, the focus is very much on aiding digital transformation and supporting improved patient outcomes.
- The TGA commenced a [Recall Reforms Program](#) to investigate potential improvements to our processes and updates to the Uniform Recall Procedure for Therapeutic Goods (URPTG). They have published a discussion paper and are seeking feedback about potential improvements.
- The [Dual-labelled medicines transition to sole medicine ingredient names](#) began, with medicine sponsors having 3 years to update labels to show only the new name for these ingredients.
- The Australian Digital Health Agency released the long-awaited [National Healthcare Interoperability Plan](#). This important plan includes 44 actions across 5 priority areas and will be an important enabler for all digital transformation in Australian healthcare.
- The Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration has been working with the healthcare sector for several years in the development of a globally aligned [Unique Device Identification system to support Australian healthcare](#). The process is still ongoing but the TGA has a series of webinars and other information available to help inform all organisations who will be impacted.
- Becton, Dickinson and Company, one of the largest global medical technology companies in the world, shared how the precise identification of their products is helping improve patient safety around the world. [Their video demonstrates](#) how with the help of GS1 Standards, they have been able to identify billions of medical devices at each point in the supply chain, all the way to the patient.
- GS1 global healthcare community recently released [GS1 Healthcare Sustainability Strategy 2023-2027](#) which outlines how GS1 standards can support the achievement of more sustainable healthcare supply chains.
- The European Commission recently released updated timeframes across various parts of their [EUDAMED Roadmap](#). For any Manufacturers selling products in the EU, we recommend you review this information.
- GS1 Healthcare [released this video](#) to demonstrate how using GS1 standards and barcodes to record data in clinical systems improves the speed and accuracy of data capture, enables clinical decision support, and improves traceability and recall of medical products.



Need help?

Want to know more about the benefits of GS1 standards to your business?

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