

Healthcare Transformation Group

HTG Suppliers,

In continuing efforts to promote industry wide collaboration and adoption of the GS1 Standards, the HTG is publishing guidelines to clarify our business requirements. As an industry we are all in varying states of implementation of the Standards, but feel the guidelines are critical in moving the Standards into critical aspects of our operations for day-to-day use. The guidelines are as follows:

1. A supplier must be able to provide Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) information in an electronic format.
2. A supplier must confirm their enrollment or plans to enroll with a certified Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN) data pool. If a GDSN solution is not attainable, a clearly defined interim plan to facilitate the transmission of GTINs is required. Along with all GS1 Industry participants, HTG members support receiving GTINs through the GDSN so focused efforts on a GDSN-centric solution is highly desired.
3. A supplier must confirm that their products are labeled with GS1 compliant barcodes with the embedded GTIN at the appropriate unit of use up to and including point of use. As representatives of all Healthcare Providers we have to ensure the frontline care provider can properly identify medication and products used in care administration, capture that information without manual data entry, and insure if shared with downstream systems it is done so in an accurate manner. Because the frontline is connected by many distribution points within the provider supply chain, through distribution, and ultimately back to the manufacturer's process that creates the product. We require all these connections be enabled with GS1 Data Standards to achieve the proper identification, capturing and sharing of information at the appropriate distribution point in the process.
4. A supplier must be able to transact using GTINs referenced on Purchase Order and Invoice documentation. Our expectation is that a supplier can receive a GTIN on a PO and that we receive it back on an Order Acknowledgement, Advanced Ship Notice and Invoice. In addition, it is expected that suppliers will send an 832 price file using GLNs and GTINs.
5. A supplier's operations (e.g. Customer Service, etc...) must be able to recognize a GTIN when referenced.
6. Suppliers should have the ability to transact and maintain customer accounts through the GLN.
7. Supplier should be enumerated in the GLN registry and GLNs maintained to assist providers with supplier changes such as acquisitions, mergers, etc.

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