

Healthcare Transformation Group

July 9, 2012

Joint Statement from Geisinger, Intermountain Healthcare, Kaiser Permanente, Mayo Clinic and Mercy

Healthcare Transformation Group Responds to FDA Announcement

ST. LOUIS – We are pleased the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published the long awaited announcement on data standards for Unique Device Identifiers. While a specific standard was not specified by the FDA, the Healthcare Transformation Group (HTG) believes that simplicity and consistency is critical to realize the full potential of Unique Device Identifiers and thus supports the use of GS1 System of Standards as the standard in healthcare. The HTG looks forward to working with the FDA and the varied stakeholders in healthcare to implement GS1 Standards.

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Editor's Note: Earlier this month, the HTG hosted its 2nd Annual Summit with suppliers and software vendors in St. Louis, Mo. Nearly 70 participants joined together to review implementation status of standards and discuss ways to advance GS1 Standards in health care. HTG has targeted its Top 20 suppliers for GS1 adoption and will use implementation of GS1 Standards as a factor in contract decisions. The HTG's focus on patient safety and quality of care is driving all five HTG healthcare systems to ask their Top 20 suppliers to apply a GTIN barcode at the unit of use.

About the Healthcare Transformation Group (HTG)

In 2010, five healthcare systems — [Geisinger Health System](#), [Intermountain Healthcare](#), [Kaiser Permanente](#), [Mayo Clinic](#) and [Mercy](#) — formed an action-oriented collaboration to share best practices and drive needed positive change across the healthcare supply chain. The first focused initiative being addressed is the implementation of GS1[®] Standards. The collaboration, called the [Healthcare Transformation Group \(HTG\)](#), evolved as an extension of each member's involvement in healthcare's movement toward standards adoption. HTG members share this common foundation: accelerate change across the supply chain; enhance patient safety; improve supply chain efficiencies; drive the adoption of [GS1 Standards](#) with suppliers; and communicate in the marketplace through one voice.

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