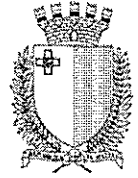




**CENTRAL PROCUREMENT & SUPPLIES UNIT
MINISTRY FOR HEALTH**

c/o SUB002 San Gwann Industrial Estate, San Gwann. SGN3000

Tel: (+356) 2540 4000 E-mail: info.cpsu@gov.mt



Dear CPSU Suppliers.

Re: CPSU implementing GS1 standards for pharmaceutical, medical device and medical consumable product identification and barcoding

As per last year notice, CPSU has made a strategic decision to align with the direction of more than 65 countries around the world and leverage the global GS1 standards for pharmaceutical, medical device and medical consumable product identification and barcoding for all products traded by our organisation.

The requirement to use GS1 standards is be applicable for products supplied either directly or via local distributors to CPSU. Please note that the requirement applicable should conform to the FMD (Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD) 2011/62/EU) which comes into effect in February 2019)

Brand owners, Importers and distributors who are responsible for labelling products will need to ensure this requirement is met. Any failure to comply with this by the 1st of February 2019 may result in the rejection of receiving supplies at CPSU. **Any wavering of this procedure needs pre-authorisation by CPSU Management.**

Each product requires the following details:

<u>Global Trade Item Number (GTIN) - BARCODE</u> (Issued in full compliance with GS1 standards)
<u>Batch/lot number</u>
<u>Expiry date</u>
<u>Serial Number</u>

For secondary level packaging of pharmaceutical products, the GS1 DataMatrix barcode is recommended.

For more information about the use of GS1 standards for the identification and marking of healthcare products refer to the AIDC Implementation Guideline for Healthcare (https://www.gs1.org/docs/healthcare/GS1_Healthcare_Implementation_Guideline.pdf) and the GS1 General Specifications.


Use of GS1 standards in healthcare:

- Provides visibility in the supply chain so that falsified medicines can be more easily detected, preventing these entering and/or staying in the supply chain.
- Enables the traceability of products—from manufacturing to treatment and in reverse - for fast and precise recalls
- Helps support a trustworthy and reliable healthcare system to ensure that patients have even greater surety in the processes of healthcare delivery.
- Allows healthcare provider clinical staff to spend more time focusing on the quality of care versus spending time on manual, labour-intensive and error-prone processes.
- Facilitates increased efficiency - saving time, reducing errors (and re-works), improving productivity and management of inventory as well as reducing and controlling costs


If you need further assistance about the requirements of CPSU please contact fabienne.borg@gov.mt. For GS1 standards related assistance, please contact your local GS1 Member Organisation (www.gs1.org/contact). For local companies, please contact GS1 Malta via e-mail janita.winters@gs1mt.org , 99294147.

I look forward to working with you to help improve patient safety and supply chain efficiency.

05 12 18



Ing. Karl Farrugia
Managing Director
Central Procurement and Supplies Unit (CPSU)


Ing Karl Farrugia
Managing Director
Sources & Supply Chain Management
Health Department, Ministry for Health (MfH)