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GS1 and IHTSDO Collaboration work

Development of guidance/principles for linking SNOMED CT and GTINs - for application at the national/local level

28 July 2016

Scope and purpose statement

The key purpose of this joint work is to develop international guidance/principles for linking SNOMED CT and GS1 GTINs (Global Trade Item Number). The primary area of focus is Medicinal Products with the purpose of enabling interoperability between clinical data of medicinal products to the data required for supply chain and regulation, e.g. by reading bar codes.

The guidance/principles will be based on best practice and input from stakeholders who have already undertaken this linkage work or related work.

The decision to undertake this work is based on feedback from IHTSDO member countries as well as GS1 member organisations that such guidance is needed to ensure a consistent approach and also avoid duplication of effort. At this time, it is not envisaged to develop or enrich a global database – each country has a different approach to terminology for medicinal products. Medicinal products are different in each country, thus GTIN allocation is mostly on a country basis.

Medical devices are excluded at this time, but it may be that the work could be further adapted to cover this area though it would then include other stakeholder groups.

Additional information:

1. This work is to be completed by December 2016
2. More information about the GS1/IHTSDO collaboration can be found at:
3. http://www.ihtsdo.org/about-ihtsdo/partnerships/gs1_or
<http://www.gs1.org/articles/1875/new-global-collaboration-between-gs1-and-ihtsdo>
or by contacting: info@ihtsdo.org
or Christian Hay, Sr Consultant Healthcare at christian.hay@gs1.org