Patient and caregiver identification for better safety

A standard that can identify the patient and the caregiver - the Global Service Relation Number (GSRN)

Geneva University Hospitals, Switzerland, can automatically capture all relevant information at the point-of-care for oncological treatment. Before administering medication, the caregiver scans the GS1 DataMatrix barcode on the bag. The caregiver also scans the GSRN from the GS1 DataMatrix on the patient’s wristband. More reliable access to product and patient information has helped to address and eliminate medication errors associated with incorrect patient, incorrect medication and incorrect timing. The hospital decided to deploy patient ID wristbands with GS1 GSRN across all hospital units to support other processes, such as patient transport, etc.

A standard fulfilling the 5 patient rights

- Right patient
- Right medication
- Right dose
- Right time
- Right route

GSRN is an approved ISO standard (CEN ISO TS 18530)

- The GSRN can be encoded in a GS1 DataMatrix; in a patient’s wristband or in a caregiver’s badge.
- The GSRN can be electronically used as a “key” in medical files, service registers, dossiers, invoices, and others.

St. James’s Hospital, Ireland, was early adopters of patient identification and identified patients with GSRN in their haemophilia programs already in the early 2000.

Learn more at www.gs1.org/healthcare