Implementing global standards across the entire healthcare supply chain could save 22,000-43,000 lives and avert 0.7 to 1.4 million patient disabilities, according to the McKinsey report. Called “Strength in unity: The promise of global standards in healthcare”, the report is based on interviews with 80 thought leaders in the healthcare industry.

The report also found that rolling out a single, global standards-based system will:

- Keep tens of billions of dollars in counterfeit drugs out of the legitimate supply chain.
- Enable substantial safety benefits that would reduce healthcare costs by $40-100 billion.
- Cost significantly less than two or more systems.

61 global healthcare leaders have already endorsed the GS1 healthcare standards

**Sign now** “to support the adoption of the GS1 system of standards for healthcare on a global basis. As GS1 standards for healthcare were developed and became available over the last few years, healthcare communities across the globe have embraced them and advanced their implementation. GS1 standards enable streamlined supply chain processes and improve visibility – from manufacturers to patients.”

Please contact Ulrike Kreysa - ulrike.kreysa@gs1.org
Countries around the world are facing challenges regarding ensuring patient safety and reducing overall costs, which affect the entire healthcare supply chain, from manufacturers through to wholesalers, distributors, group purchasing organisations and healthcare providers. These challenges are related to counterfeiting, ineffective product recall, medication errors, and complex supply chains. A single, global standard for product identification and data exchange is critical in addressing these issues and ensuring patient safety and lower costs in the healthcare supply chain.

Overall healthcare costs have been rising for many years, and are expected to grow faster than national income in most countries. Stemming this growth has become a major policy priority. Healthcare trading partners are looking for ways to reduce and control costs. One of the most promising opportunities will come through optimising the supply chain by using global standards.

New research by McKinsey & Company, conducted with the participation of more than 80 healthcare industry leaders around the world, has estimated the benefits and value of adopting global standards in the healthcare supply chain – see the white paper at: www.gs1.org/healthcare/mckinsey

“We (the undersigned) support the adoption of the GS1 system of standards for healthcare on a global basis. As GS1 standards for healthcare were developed and became available over the last few years, healthcare communities across the globe have embraced them and advanced their implementation. GS1 standards enable streamlined supply chain processes and improve visibility – from manufacturers to patients.”

GS1 is a not-for-profit, global standards organisation with nearly 40 years’ experience in supply chain optimisation. The GS1 system of standards now spans more than 20 industry sectors, over a million companies in 150 countries and facilitates more than six billion daily transactions. Global adoption of the GS1 system of standards will clearly benefit patients and industry stakeholders worldwide.

Since 2004, the US FDA has required the use of a product identifier and bar code on pharmaceutical products sold in the US; the GS1 system is used by many companies to meet this legal requirement. The global initiative underway to standardise unique medical device identifiers (UDI) will also be able to utilise the GS1 standards. This initiative, involving medical device manufacturers, customers and supply chain partners, as well as governments, primarily aims to enhance patient safety with the added benefit of supporting greater efficiencies in healthcare delivery.

GS1 global standards can become the ONE language of choice for supply chain management and electronic commerce in healthcare and can improve patient safety, patient compliance and will support electronic health records. GS1 global standards ensure compatibility and interoperability of supply chain solutions, not only within an organisation but also within a country, region, and across sectors and borders.

The McKinsey white paper clearly lays out the case for global standards in healthcare. We encourage all industry stakeholders worldwide, including manufacturers, distributors, providers and regulators to adopt the GS1 global system of standards and realise improved patient safety and reduced overall healthcare costs.

The GS1 system of standards provides an effective globally harmonised and integrated framework to manage supply chain information. The undersigned organisations strongly endorse and support GS1 usage and implementation.
Global healthcare stakeholders support the adoption of GS1 standards
Global healthcare stakeholders support the adoption of GS1 standards

Mike Duffy
Executive Vice President, Global Manufacturing and Supply Chain
Medical Segment, Cardinal Health

Julie Tam
Vice President, Professional and Scientific Affairs
Canadian Generic Pharmaceutical Association

Neil Lawrence,
Programme leader AIDC technologies
The Department of Health UK

Francesc Miret
Operations Director
FEDERACIO FARMACEUTICA

Deborah Petretich Templeton
Chief, Care Support Services

Laurel Junk
Chair, Healthcare Transformation Group
Vice President Supply Chain, Kaiser Permanente
Global healthcare stakeholders support the adoption of GS1 standards

Xavier Alarcón
Planning and Purchasing Director
LOGARITME LOGISTIC SERVICES AIE

Kristian Lørum Siblitz
Vice President
Global Supply Chain

Ronald N. Bone
SVP, Distribution Support
Mckesson Pharmaceutical

Vance Moore
Senior Vice President - Operations

Pierre Guyot
CEO
Möllycke Health Care

Dan Sweeney
Novation, Senior Vice President, Information and Data Services

Kent Nicholson, President & CEO

By: James R. Francis
Division Chair
Mayo Clinic Supply Chain Management

Kent Nicholson, President & CEO

Tony DeFranzio
President and CEO
Mohawk Shared Services Inc.

Allison Grierson
Director Procurement
Department of Health

Excellence in the delivery of support services to NSW Health
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Mike Alkire
Chief Operating Officer
Premier healthcare alliance

Rob van Exan
Director, Immunization Policy, Public Affairs

Krunoslav Trkanjec
Specialist for Business Improvement & OBP SPOC

Anthony Dale
INTERIM PRESIDENT AND CEO
ONTARIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Brian Johnson
Chair Rx360 Consortium

Jeff Stevens - President
The Stephens Company Limited

Pfizer
Kevin Nepveux
VP, Global Technology Services

People caring for people

RX 360
An International Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Consortium

Sanofi Pasteur
Paul Broadbridge
Deputy Director, Procurement and Supply Chain Management Department for Health and Ageing

St. James's Hospital
Brian Fitzgerald
Interim CEO
St. James's Hospital

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Craig Doyle
Group Manager Procurement
St Vincent’s Health Australia

Peter C. Murray
Director Supply, Health Corporate Network

GS1 Global Office
Blue Tower, Avenue Louise 326, bte 10, Brussels, B-1050, Belgium
T +32 2 788 78 00 | F +32 2 788 78 99 | E contactus@gs1.org
www.gs1.org/healthcare

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