



The Global Language of Business

MEDIA RELEASE

Standards Save: GS1 Canada endorses new research into patient safety

October 3, 2016 – GS1 Canada today endorsed the launch of new research showcasing how the adoption of global standards can open massive untapped potential for health system efficiency and patient safety.

The findings were announced as part of the launch of independent researcher Dr. Anne Snowdon's newest research paper, *Visibility: The New Value Proposition for Health Systems* for the World Health Innovation Network (WIN) at the Economic Club in Toronto. The report covers two years of research, including in-depth interviews with over 50 Canadian experts (including seven provinces and global leaders from the USA, Australia and the UK), a detailed review of hospital and government records, inclusion of prior Canadian and international research.

"This research shows that, as good as Canadian healthcare currently is, there are significant opportunities to make it even better, even safer, even more efficient." says John King, Chair of GS1 Canada's Healthcare Advisory Council, and former EVP of St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. "At every point in the healthcare supply chain, we have the ability to use standards to improve everyone's number one priority - patient safety."

The paper showcases a number of key areas where Canada needs to develop stronger policies and practices around global standards in healthcare if it is to join world leaders such as the UK and Australia.

GS1 Canada is currently working with healthcare executives and supply chain leaders to advance the movement to the adoption of GS1 standards across Canada's entire healthcare system.

"Healthcare providers and patient safety organisations will benefit from developing a greater understanding of global standards in healthcare and strategically aligning with international healthcare policies and directions," says Miguel Lopera, President and CEO of GS1.

"Where global standards have been successfully implemented in countries around the world they have increased patient safety, enabled the management of healthcare costs and reduced the risk of error and overall inefficiencies."

For more information, please visit www.gs1ca.org/jointhemovement

About GS1 Canada: GS1 Canada is a member of GS1, the world's leading supply-chain standards organisation. As a neutral, not-for-profit organisation, GS1 Canada enables its more than 20,000 subscribers – organisations of all sizes from more than 20 sectors across Canada – to enhance their efficiency and cost effectiveness by adopting electronic supply-chain best practices.

About GS1 Healthcare: GS1 Healthcare is a global, voluntary user community bringing together all Healthcare supply chain stakeholders, including manufacturers, distributors, Healthcare providers, solution providers, regulatory bodies and industry associations. The mission of GS1 Healthcare is to lead the Healthcare sector to the successful development

and implementation of global standards by bringing together experts in Healthcare to enhance patient safety and supply chain efficiencies. GS1 Healthcare members include over 80 leading Healthcare organisations worldwide. For more information about GS1 Healthcare, please visit www.gs1.org/healthcare

-ends-

For more information, contact:

GS1 Canada Media Contact

Karen Touma, Senior Director, Marketing & Communications, GS1 Canada
Phone: (416) 775-9641, Email: Karen.Touma@gs1ca.org

GS1 Global Media Contact

Tania Snioch, Director Healthcare, GS1
Phone: +32 2-788-7892, Email: tania.snioch@gs1.org

