



**Global Harmonization Working Party**

GHWP Towards Medical Device Harmonization

# GHWP Liaison Member Updates for GS1

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GS1

# GS1 is a global standards organisation



Neutral and  
not-for-profit

User-driven  
and governed

Global  
and local

Inclusive and  
collaborative



# Our vision



GS1 Healthcare envisions a future in which the healthcare sector achieves **harmonised implementation** of **global standards** in **business and clinical processes** enabling **interoperability**, optimal **quality** and **efficiency** of healthcare delivery to **benefit patients**.



Patient Safety



Supply Chain  
Security & efficiency



Traceability



Product Data

In healthcare GS1 standards help to improve..



**supply chain efficiency** **unique identification**  
**inventory management** **traceability**  
**sustainability** **reliable product information**  
*verification* **patient safety** **reduce medical errors**  
**reduce waste** **innovation** **medicine**  
**more time for patients** **improve recalls**





# How to implement UDI using GS1 standards?

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# Do not confuse



Enabled by

Example

**Standardisation** of the global unique identifier

Organisations such as GS1

GTIN

Risk-based **classification** of medical devices

National competent authorities

Class 3 medical devices under EU MDR

**Nomenclature** code

Organisations such as Global Medical Device Nomenclature Agency

GMDN nomenclature EMDN (under dev.)

# GS1 as UDI issuing entity



- On **7 June 2019**, GS1 was designated by the European Commission as issuing entity for Unique Device Identifiers (UDIs). Re-accredited in July 2024.
- GS1 has been accredited as a UDI issuing agency by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration since 2013
- Other regulators : e.g., Australia, Brazil, China, Saudi-Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey.

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EN

Official Journal of the European Union

L 149/75

## ANNEX

List of issuing entities designated to operate a system for assignment of UDIs pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/745 and a system for assignment of UDIs pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2017/746

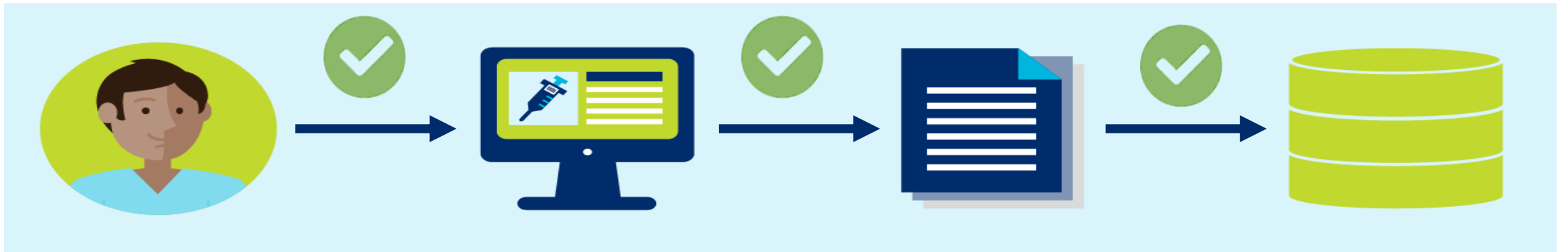
- (a) GS1 AISBL
- (b) Health Industry Business Communications Council (HIBCC)
- (c) ICCBBA
- (d) Informationsstelle für Arzneispezialitäten — IFA GmbH

# UDI and GS1



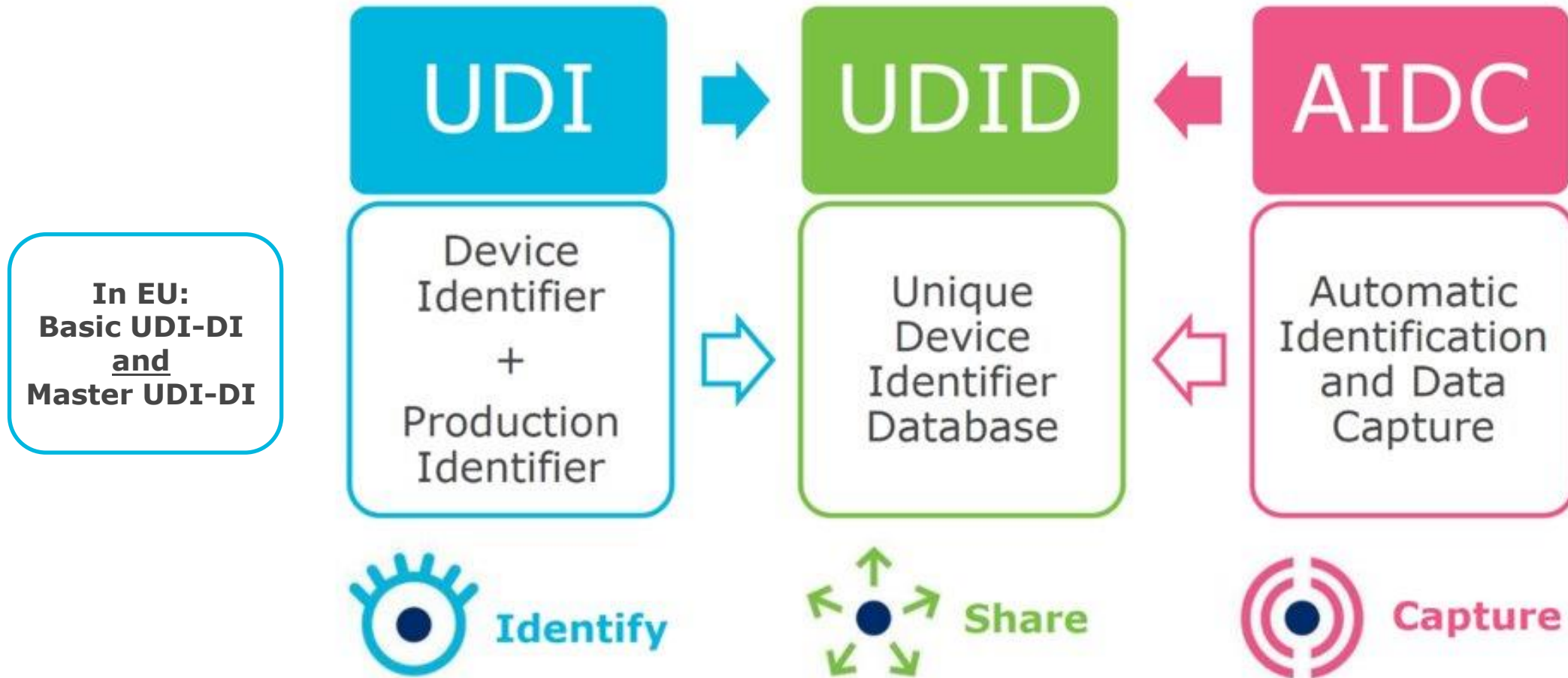
Medical devices manufacturers or authorised representatives use the **GS1 keys** (**GMN and GTIN**) to identify their devices in the UDI regulatory database

**Data quality is key !**





# UDI and the GS1 System of Standards





# Why UDI?

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# Why UDI? Patient safety and traceability



REGULATOR

- market surveillance, along across borders
- identification and documentation of devices placed on the market and used in hospitals
- customs control and fight falsified devices
- others: insurance, price control, tender requirements, inventory management



HOSPITAL / PROVIDER

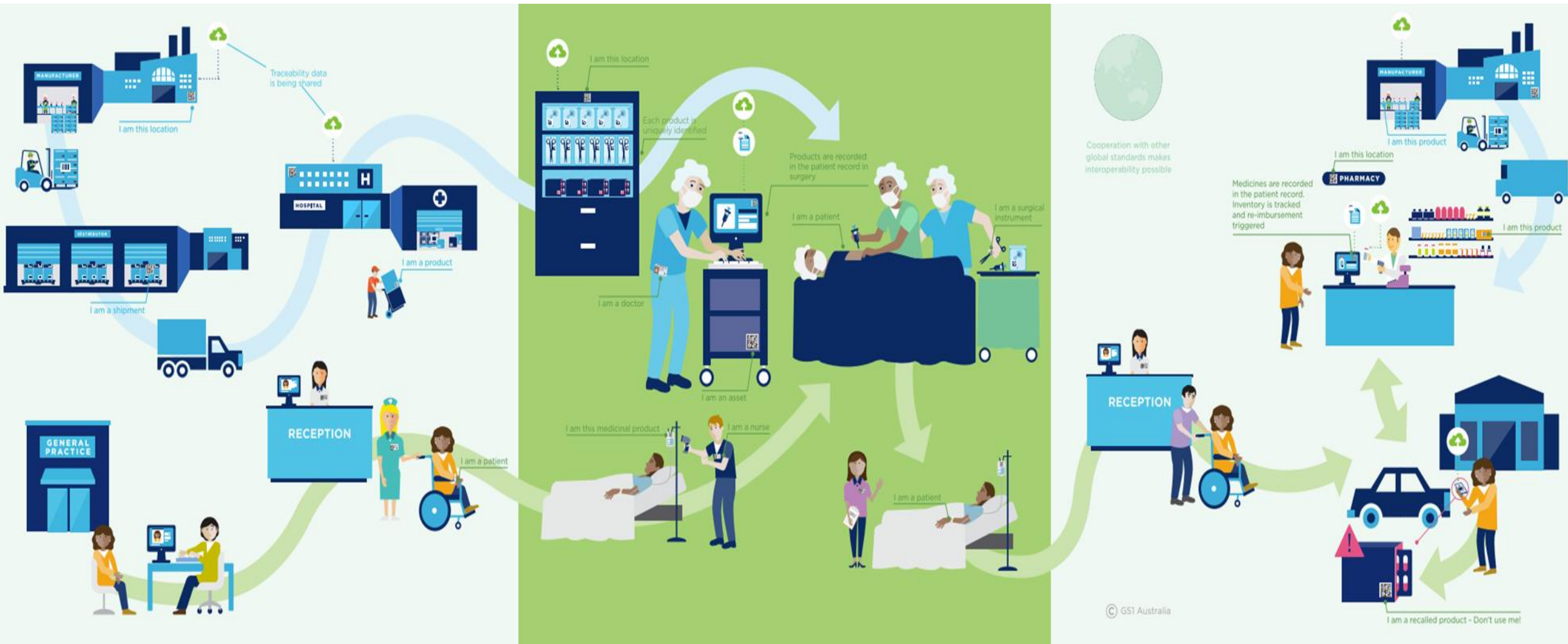
- electronic health records
- purchasing, inventory, invoicing
- safety alerts and fields safety corrective actions (FSCA)
- no relabelling and less medical errors



MANUFACTURER

- compliance with regulations and tender requirements
- costs optimisation
- data synchronisation and processes efficiency

# Beyond UDI Compliance



# The challenge of global implementation



- Multiple UDI-DIs for the same model of device
- **Different UDI Triggers: specific WG to be launched in Q1 2025 – stay tuned!**
- Impact of multiple standards for UDIs (one per issuing agency) on cost and time to implement in healthcare
- Different positions on the UDI carrier
- Differing codes / values for data fields in the UDI databases
- Different nomenclatures
- Exceptions
- Etc

This can create regulatory and administrative burden and can undermine successful implementation from manufacturers to healthcare providers.

# GS1 Resources



- [GS1 UDI webpage](#)
  - Mapping of regulation on UDI
  - UDI and GS1
  - UDI database GDSN mapping
- [Public Policy and Healthcare](#)
- [Position & Discussion paper](#)



# Contact Details

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