

Medical device nomenclature in Médecins Sans Frontières



Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an international, independent, medical humanitarian organisation that delivers emergency aid to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics, healthcare exclusion and natural disasters. MSF offers assistance to people based only on need and irrespective of race, religion, gender or political affiliation.

Vinciane Cruyt – MSF International



Medical device nomenclature in Médecins Sans Frontières

- MSF is working in many different countries / 3 European Supply Centres (FR/BE/NL)
⇒ need for a common nomenclature “cross-country” / different languages
- Publish a yearly MSF catalogue of medical articles for the field missions: 10,000 medical articles
⇒ Terms need to be understood by all users world-wide



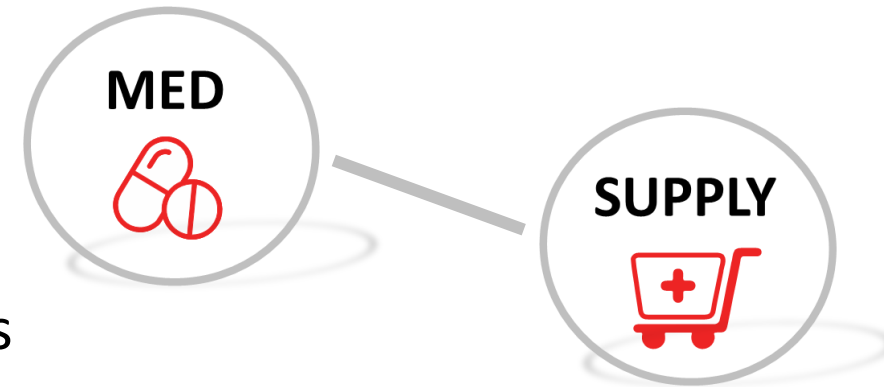
« embolectomy catheter »
« thrombectomy catheter »
« fogarty catheter »



« intubation device »
« endotracheal tube introducer »
« airway stylet »

Medical device nomenclature in MSF

- All actors in supply chain (manufacturer/supplier/end-user...) use same terms
 - ➔ avoiding misunderstandings or mistakes
 - ➔ avoiding duplication
 - ➔ improving the articles description
 - ➔ streamline and improve supply chain processes
- Enables assortment management
- Increases overall interoperability whilst reducing duplications of effort, costs, losses & time
- Enable product quality and visibility for **better quality of care**



Medical device nomenclature in MSF

- Different nomenclatures: difficult choice ...
- Choice of MSF in the past : GMDN nomenclature
 - Different languages!!!!
 - Used by manufacturers / regulatory institutions
 - Definition: very helpful!!
 - Continuous update
- Transition to EMDN
 - Challenge: mapping the two nomenclatures...=> thanks to WHO to take the lead for the mapping

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!